



Covid-19 Regulatory Update

01 April 2020

Covid-19 related guidelines and regulations available at <https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/guidelines>.

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AVIATION

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued in terms of Regulations 10 (7) of the Regulations made in under Section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 in the Public Transport Services: Amendment to [GN412 GG 43157 p3 26Mar2020](#). Substitution of Direction 5.

GN438 GG 43189 p3 31Mar2020

http://www.gpwnline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43189_31-3_Transport.pdf

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COURTS

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued by the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services in terms of Regulations 10 of the Regulations published under [GN318 in GG 43107 of 18 March 2020](#) to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID 19 in all courts, court precincts and justice service points in the Republic of South Africa. The Directions are in force for the duration of the national state of disaster.

CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE*Media Release***Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane calls for harsh action against perpetrators of violence against women and children during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown period. 30 Mar 2020.**

“The Minister in the Presidency responsible for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities Maite Nkoana-Mashabane is concerned about the increasing incidences of violence against women and children amid the lockdown period. This comes after a Kwa Zulu-Natal granny was raped and murdered, allegedly by men posing as soldiers who said they were going around sanitising homes.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-maite-nkoana-mashabane-calls-harsh-action-against-perpetrators-violence-against>

[Back to Contents](#)**EDUCATION***Media Release***Minister Senzo Mchunu urges public servants to enrol for online senior management programme during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 31 Mar 2020.**

“Public servants and other interested professionals invited to enrol for online senior management programme during lockdown. The Minister for the Public Service and Administration, Mr Senzo Mchunu has urged persons who are keen to join the public service senior management service (SMS) to enrol for the compulsory online Nyukela Pre-Entry into the SMS programme run by the National School of Government (NSG), during this period of the national lockdown. Any individual (in the public or private sector) intending to apply for a Senior Management position in the public sector after 31 March 2020 should enrol for the course.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-senzo-mchunu-urges-public-servants-enrol-online-senior-management-programme-during>

[Back to Contents](#)**EMPLOYMENT***Media Releases***Minister Thulas Nxesi on Labour intervention measures during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 31 Mar 2020.**

“Inevitably, there will be challenges and the need to take remedial action. This is the case in relation to leave arrangements. As the Department of Employment and Labour we are receiving concerns from workers and unions that some employers are seeking to shift the burden of the lockdown onto the workers, using their annual leave as the first line of response to the lockdown. We are also getting complaints from workers that their employers have instructed them to take unpaid leave during this lockdown. We do understand that in terms of the leave determination, employers can compel employees to take leave at any time as they deem fit. However, this is a unique situation, that requires all of us to act in a manner that promotes social solidarity.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-thulas-nxesi-labour-intervention-measures-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-31>

Public Service and Administration on implementation of 2018 wage agreement. 31 Mar 2020.

“Government has noted the uncertainty with regard to the 2018 Public Service Wage Agreement as well as continuous concerns from all parties involved and enquiries from the media. To this effect, the Ministry for the Public Service and Administration would like to highlight a number of issues currently facing the country, all of which have a bearing on everything happening in the country now, namely; the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic and the recent downgrading of South Africa’s credit ratings to junk status by Moody’s, piling more anguish on the economy which is already in recession. While these developments have brought much more pressure on depleted State resources, the Department of Public Service and Administration continues to look for solutions, including from more engagements between Government and Labour to try and deal with realities confronting us.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/public-service-and-administration-implementation-2018-wage-agreement-31-mar-2020-0000>

*Media Statement***Employers urged to comply with lockdown regulations.**

2020 Mar 31 SA News.

“Employment and Labour Minister Thulas Nxesi has pleaded with employers to comply with the labour laws and the COVID-19 regulations. Addressing reporters during a social cluster press briefing on Tuesday, the Minister revealed that some employers were still not adhering to the relevant laws. These ranged from some employers forcing

employees to take leave, to employers providing non-essential services obtaining fraudulent operating and trading certificates. "Inevitably, there will be challenges and the need to take remedial action. This is the case in relation to leave arrangements," said the Minister."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/employers-urged-comply-lockdown-regulations>

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ENERGY

Media Release

Minister Gwede Mantashe assesses mining compliance to Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown regulations. 31 Mar 2020.

"The Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy Mr Gwede Mantashe (MP) today, 31 March 2020, conducted unannounced mine visits at three colliers in Mpumalanga which supply coal to Eskom. This was done to assess compliance by mining companies to the nationwide lockdown regulations. The Minister also used the visits to assess the implementation of the directive and guiding principles issued by the Department to all mines on how to manage risks associated with COVID-19 at an operational level, in line with provisions in the Mine Health and Safety Act."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-gwede-mantashe-assesses-mining-compliance-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown>

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ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in terms of Regulations 10 (8) of the Regulations made in under Section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 and to alleviate, contain and minimise the effects of the national state of disaster.

The purpose of these directions are [sic] to curtail the threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and to alleviate, contain and minimise the effects of the national state of disaster, and to ensure fair processes, especially relating to licensing processes, public participation processes, appeals processes, reporting requirements and the provision of waste management services during the lockdown period, which are not possible due to the restrictions placed on the movement of people

RGN439 GG 43190 p3 31Mar2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43190_31-3_EnvirAffForFish.pdf

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HOME AFFAIRS

Media Release

Home Affairs on office hours during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 31 Mar 2020.

"The Department of Home Affairs says during the lockdown all of its offices will open from 10h00 to 14h00, Monday to Friday, except those offices that are located in Thusong Centres, to continue offering essential services to citizens. Accordingly, only limited services are being offered, namely: (1) Issuing of Temporary Identity Certificates; (2) Issuing of Death Certificates and (3) Re-issuing of Birth Certificates. These limited services were announced earlier, on 25 March 2020, at the Media Briefing of the JCPS (Justice, Crime Prevention and Security) Cluster, ahead of the lockdown."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/home-affairs-office-hours-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-31-mar-2020-0000>

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in terms of section 27(2) of the Act to address, prevent and combat the spread of the COVID-19: [Amendment of GN399 of 25 March 2020](#) by substitution of Direction 6.7.

RGN432 GG 43184 p3 30Mar2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43184_30-3_Cogta.pdf

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MEDICAL LAW

Media Releases

Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane on ensuring heightened care and access to information for persons with disabilities during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 30 Mar 2020.

“The Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane urges every citizen to play their part in ensuring heightened care and access to information for persons with disabilities. Government wants to remind the public that persons with disabilities are among those who are particularly vulnerable to the negative impact of COVID-19, especially during this period of State of Disaster and the national lockdown. Persons with disabilities, the elderly, those in frail care, and children with disabilities continue to remain at the periphery of society and are isolated from activities during the best of times.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-maite-nkoana-mashabane-urges-citizens-play-their-part-ensuring-heightened-care-and>

Premier Alan Winde urges communities to support the fight against Coronavirus COVID-19. 31 Mar 2020.

“As at 00h01 on 31 March 2020, the Western Cape had recorded 348 cases of COVID-19 across the province. Western: 118; Southern: 104; Northern: 17; Tygerberg: 23; Eastern: 14; Klipfontein: 7; Mitchells Plain: 5 and Khayelitsha: 1”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-fight-against-coronavirus-covid-19-31-mar-2020-0000>

Premier David Makhura extends condolences to family of 79-year old male who lost his life due to Coronavirus COVID-19. 31 Mar 2020.

“The Gauteng Provincial government is deeply saddened by the passing of a 79-year-old male who has tested positive for COVID-19. This is the first death of COVID-19 in Gauteng. “I wish to convey our heartfelt condolences and express our collective grief to the family and friends of the deceased,” Premier said. The deceased was admitted in a private hospital in Mogale City, West Rand on Saturday, the 28 of March 2020 and passed on yesterday, the 30th of March 2020.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-david-makhura-extends-condolences-family-79-year-old-male-who-lost-his-life-due>

Media Statement

SA records five COVID-19 deaths.

2020 Mar 31 SA News.

“To date, the country has conducted 39 500 tests. The first recorded death was that of a 48-year-old woman in the Western Cape, with the second being an 85-year-old from the Free State, who had attended the Divine Restoration Church Ministries conference, where a number of infections were detected. The third death was that of a Gauteng man, who succumbed to respiratory distress two days ago. Two deaths have also been recorded in KwaZulu-Natal -- a 74-year-old man in Ladysmith and a 46-year-old woman with chronic asthma and hypertension.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-records-five-covid-19-deaths>

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PUBLIC FINANCE

Government Gazette

Public Finance Management Act 1 of 1999

Exemptions relating to the National State of Disaster.

GN437 GG 43188 p3 31Mar2020

http://www.gpwnline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43188_31-3_NatTreasury.pdf

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SOCIAL SERVICES

Media Release

Premier Sihle Zikalala on Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown regulations compliance at pension paypoints in Port Shepstone. 30 Mar 2020.

“KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala has expressed appreciation to all stakeholders for pulling in one direction as the nation fights against the spread of Covid-19...Premier Zikalala, who was accompanied by KZN Social Development MEC Mrs Nonhlanhla Khoza, visited a number of pension pay points in Port Shepstone on Monday to monitor and ensure that grant payments to the elderly and people with disabilities were processed smoothly. “We observed that people were being sanitised and adequate preparations seemed to be in place. All MECs were on the ground visiting the pension pay-points.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-sihle-zikalala-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-regulation-compliance-pension>

*Media Statement***Congestion at grant pay points improving, says Minister.**

2020 Mar 31 SA News.

“The South African Social Services Agency (SASSA) has managed to overcome the teething problems experienced on the first day of grant payments, says Social Development Minister Lindiwe Zulu. The payments on Monday, during the 21-day lockdown to curb the spread of COVID-19, saw snaking queues and social-distancing not being observed at pay points as millions collected their monthly grants. Addressing reporters at a social cluster ministerial briefing on Tuesday, Social Development Minister Linidwe Zulu said: “Yesterday we started quite well from a point of view of ensuring that the SASSA grants are paid through the South African Post Office (Sapo), through the banks, through every retailer where they could either access their money or buy their groceries.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/congestion-grant-pay-points-improving-says-minister>

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TAXATION*Media Statement***R2.4bn SARS refunds to lockdown-hit SMMEs, businesses.**

2020 Mar 31 SA News.

“The South African Revenue Service (SARS) has paid out R2.4 billion to taxpayers in refunds since the commencement of the COVID-19 enforced lockdown on 26 March. In a statement, the revenue collector said this was in an effort to balance the safety of its staff, taxpayers and traders, while ensuring that the country’s economy is able to function. This comes as many countries around the world continue to battle with the economic and health impact arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/r24bn-sars-refunds-lockdown-hit-smmes-businesses>

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TRADE AND INDUSTRY*Media Release***Trade and Industry cancels certificates of companies not providing essential services during Coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown. 31 Mar 2020.**

“During the course of its review of the Essential Service list of applications, the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) has established that certain companies not designated as Essential Services have either fraudulently or negligently applied on the Bizportal website (www.bizportal.gov.za). As was made clear when the automated certificate was issued by the CIPC, that the provision thereof was based on information provided by the registered Company itself, and that possession thereof does not in itself constitute the right to continue operating during the lockdown period.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/trade-and-industry-cancels-certificates-companies-not-providing-essential-services-during>

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TRANSPORTATION*Government Gazettes***Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002**

- Directions issued in terms of Regulations 10 (7) of the Regulations made in under Section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 in the Public Transport Services: Amendment of [GN412 published in GG 43157 of 26 March 2020](#). Substitution of Direction (3).
GN436 GG 43186 p3 31Mar2020
http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43186_31-3_Transport.pdf
- Directions issued in terms of Regulations 10 (7) of the Regulations made in under Section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 in the Public Transport Services: Amendment to [GN412 GG 43157 p3 26Mar2020](#). Substitution of Direction 5.
GN438 GG 43189 p3 31Mar2020
http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43189_31-3_Transport.pdf

*Media Releases***Minister Naledi Pandor on South Africans stranded abroad during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 31 Mar 2020.**

“The Covid 19 pandemic is unprecedented and is giving rise to problems and challenges that governments across the world are struggling to deal with. Over the last two months the world has changed dramatically and this impacts on governance challenges. As DIRCO we have to focus on many fronts. The most important one is ensuring that we play our part in curtailing the spread of the virus in our population, so as to protect the most vulnerable amongst us. International travel restrictions as part of a social distancing strategies have been implemented by many countries in the world. These travel restrictions are accompanied by national strategies that limits movements of people through lock-downs to prevent transmission of Covid 19.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-naledi-pandor-south-africans-stranded-abroad-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown>

Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula’s Aviation and Maritime update during the national lockdown. 31 Mar 2020.

“All international and domestic passenger flights are still prohibited, irrespective of the risk category of the country of origin, except those flights especially authorised by the Ministry of Transport, for the evacuation of South African Nationals in foreign countries. With regard to the repatriations, the repatriation of foreign nationals from South Africa back to their respective countries is allowed, provided the following conditions are adhered to:

- Foreign Countries must charter their aircraft to South Africa without passengers except with the crew and
- The crew is not be allowed to disembark.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-fikile-mbalula-updates-aviation-and-maritime-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown>

Media Statement

Talks with taxi industry continue as SA fights COVID-19.

2020 Mar 31 SA News.

“Government t is continuing its talks with the taxi industry on crucial matters, including the possible introduction of a subsidy for the sector, Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula said on Tuesday. Speaking at a media briefing held at the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) head office in Pretoria, the Minister said a meeting with the taxi industry has raised various issues. Issues raised by the industry, which was represented at the meeting by the South African National Taxi Council (Santaco) and the National Taxi Alliance (NTA), included subsidies and the number of persons allowed in a taxi over the course of the country’s 21-day national lockdown. The Minister was updating the nation on Day 5 of South Africa’s lockdown, which got underway at midnight on Thursday, 26 March.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/talks-taxi-industry-continue-sa-fights-covid-19>

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