



Covid-19 Regulatory Update

03 April 2020

Covid-19 related guidelines and regulations: <https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/guidelines>.
 Covid-19 Directives and notices relating to legal practitioners:
<http://www.derebus.org.za/directives-covid-19/> / <https://lpc.org.za/>

CONTENTS

AVIATION.....	1
COMMUNICATIONS.....	2
EMPLOYMENT	2
ENERGY	2
FINANCIAL LAW.....	2
FRAUD	3
GENDER EQUALITY	3
LAND AND PROPERTY LAW	3
LOCKDOWN REGULATIONS	4
MEDICAL LAW.....	5
RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS.....	5
STATISTICS.....	5
TAXATION	6
TOURISM.....	6
TRANSPORTATION	6
WATER	7

AVIATION

Media Statements

SA Government News Agency. Chartered flight denied entry into SA.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“A passenger that arrived in a private charter aircraft at OR Tambo International Airport has not been allowed to disembark, the Ministry of Transport said on Thursday. “At approximately 12:30pm on Wednesday, a private charter aircraft landed at OR Tambo International Airport from Harare, Zimbabwe, with one passenger on board,” said the ministry. The flight was not cleared by the Department of Transport as is required, in terms of the current protocols of the country’s 21-day lockdown.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/chartered-flight-denied-entry-sa>

SA Government News Agency. Cargo ships, airfreight, port regulations relaxed.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“Cargo ships and airfreight companies will be able to dock and land on South African shores to deliver essential services, Trade, Industry and Competition Minister Ebrahim Patel said on Thursday. The regulations, implemented by government during the 21-day National State of Disaster COVID-19 enforced lockdown, have been amended by Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma. “All cargo have now been allowed into the country and to be offloaded from ships. This applies to essential goods and other goods, subject to sanitising and disinfection,” said Patel at a briefing of Ministers from the COVID-19 National Command Council.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/cargo-ships-airfreight-port-regulations-relaxed>

[Back to Contents](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Contact tracing will not be used to spy on citizens.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“Minister of Communications, Telecommunications and Postal Services Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams has assured South Africans that contact tracing in COVID-19 cases will not be used to spy on citizens. Addressing the COVID-19 National Command Council media briefing on Thursday in Tshwane, the Minister said contact tracing will be used to attain information that can assist government in minimising the spread of the virus. “When we say we are going to use cell phone numbers, it doesn’t meant we are going take anybody’s number. Those that test and are found to be positive...it is those people that the Department of Health will seek permission from the Electronic Communications Network Service (ECNS) licences to access their geolocation,” the Minister said.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/contact-tracing-will-not-be-used-spy-citizens>

[Back to Contents](#)

EMPLOYMENT

Media Release

Department of Employment and Labour. Employment and Labour on employers not adhering to Coronavirus COVID-19 measures. 02 April 2020

“Employers not adhering to measures put in place to stem COVID-19 during lockdown will face shut down The Department of Employment and Labour blitz inspections in Standerton, Mpumalanga Province, led to the closure of Pax Agricultural Primary Co-operation Limited. The employer was found not complying with occupational health and safety (OHS) Act standards, and not adhering to Covid-19 regulations. The blitz inspections were triggered by a number of anonymous complaints which were reported to the Department. The inspection found that, the employer failed to conduct risk assessment in order to implement precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus (Covid-19).”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/employment-and-labour-employers-not-adhering-coronavirus-covid-19-measures-2-apr-2020-0000>

[Back to Contents](#)

ENERGY

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Eskom conducts more maintenance work as demand drops.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“As South Africa enters day 7 of a nationwide COVID-19 lockdown, Eskom has announced that it will double maintenance work at its plants. “With the COVID-19 national lockdown in full effect, Eskom has experienced a significant reduction in demand for electricity. Electricity usage has dropped by between 7 500MW and 9 000MW since the lockdown came into effect last week. This has allowed Eskom to operate without the need to implement load shedding,” said the power utility. The utility is making use of the low demand to carry out important short-term maintenance of generation infrastructure.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/eskom-conducts-more-maintenance-work-demand-drops>

[Back to Contents](#)

FINANCIAL LAW

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Consumers advised to make use of credit life insurance.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“The National Credit Regulator (NCR) has advised consumers to make use of their credit life insurance, which can provide some relief for those unable to earn an income as a result of COVID-19. “As South Africa is battling with the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, many consumers have been left with the inability to earn an income,” said the NCR, adding that some citizens were unemployed, while others are receiving less income due to reduced working hours. President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a national 21-day lockdown to curb the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, which came into effect at midnight on 26 March 2020.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/consumers-advised-make-use-credit-life-insurance>

[Back to Contents](#)

FRAUD

Media Release

Department of Social Development. Social Development warns NPO sector of Coronavirus Covid-19 scam and fraud. 02 April 2020

“As South Africa enters the 6th day of the lockdown to contain the further spread of COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Social Development is warning members of the public, and the Non-Profit Organisations (NPO) sector in particular to remain vigilant of a scam that purports to “accredit and convert NPO certificate to NGO certificate to qualify for an international funding worth millions of rands”. To date, a number of NPOs registered in terms of the NPO Act (Act No. 71 of 1997) have fallen prey to this elaborate scam which seeks to fraudulently gain access to organisations’ finances. The scammers prey on the NPOs desperate for funding and charges them R 1 999 for conversion of their certificates to NGO certificates. They have re-created a fake NGO certificate in which they ask registered NPOs to submit ID copies of members, their proof of residence, tax exemption letter, bank account, bank confirmation letter and a photo of the NPO Director.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/social-development-warns-npo-sector-covid-19-scam-and-fraud-2-apr-2020-0000>

[Back to Contents](#)

GENDER EQUALITY

Media Release

Commission for Gender Equality. Gender Equality on essential operations during Coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown. 02 April 2020

“Foremost, the Gender Commission wishes to re-iterate that our country (South Africa) is an open democracy, committed to fundamental human rights which include the right to equality and the inherent dignity of the person. Amidst the declared disaster regulations and various government interventions, we ought to observe and defend these rights. The Gender Commission therefore wishes to convey to members of the public and stakeholders alike that the Commission is available to exercise its legislative role (during the lockdown), in the spirit of co-operative governance, firmly established by the Constitution of South Africa. It is therefore that during the national lockdown, the Gender Commission will be able to carry out its legislative mandate, with reference to the provisions of Section 11 of the CGE Act which gives us (Gender Commission) an obligation to investigate gender related complaints. In the current climate, the Commission declares its resolve and vigilance on immediate issues”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/gender-equality-essential-operations-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-2-apr-2020-0000>

[Back to Contents](#)

LAND AND PROPERTY LAW

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Sisulu calls for a suspension of evictions.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“The Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Lindiwe Sisulu, has appealed to municipalities and private property owners to suspend evictions during the current lockdown as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Last month, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a 21-day lockdown as part of efforts to mitigate the spread of the virus. “The Minister and senior management of the Department of Human Settlements had a video conference meeting with leaders of community organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations. During the meeting, [the Minister] was informed of ongoing evictions, including in eThekweni Metro,” the Ministry of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation said in a statement on Thursday.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sisulu-calls-suspension-evictions>

[Back to Contents](#)

LOCKDOWN REGULATIONS

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Amendment to Regulations issued in terms of Section 27(2) of the Act regarding the steps necessary to prevent an escalation of the disaster or to alleviate, contain and minimise the effects of the disaster as published in [RGN 318 GG 43107 p3 18Mar2020](#) and amended by [RGN398 GG 43148 p3 25Mar2020](#) and [RGN419 GG 43168 p3 26Mar2020](#). Regulations 11A, 11B, 11C and Annexure B, C and D are amended and 11G is substituted. Chapter 3 on Contact Tracing is inserted.

RGN446 GG 43199 p3 2Apr2020

http://www.gpwnline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43199_02-4_COGTA.pdf

Media Release

Department of Cooperative Governance. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma announces amendments to lockdown regulations. 02 April 2020

“In a quest to reinforce the national response and following extensive consultations with the Ministers responsible for the COVID-19 interventions and the National Coronavirus Command Council (NCCC), the Minister of COGTA, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, has gazetted further amendments to the Regulations on the COVID-19 lockdown.

These amendments will enhance national integrated response measures while also clarifying the application of the regulations relating to government’s measures to reduce the risk of infection and curtail the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus while maintain the integrity of the lockdown. Movement in so far as funerals are concerned is being clarified in the amendment regulations.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-nkosazana-dlamini-zuma-announces-amendments-lockdown-regulations-2-apr-2020-0000>

Media Statements

SA Government News Agency. Government gazettes revised regulations as COVID-19 cases climb.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“As South Africa marked day 7 of its 21-day national lockdown, government has announced revised regulations that govern this phase – all in a bid to flatten the Coronavirus infection curve. South Africa now has 1 462 confirmed cases of COVID-19, with five recorded deaths. Two other deaths are yet to be confirmed. The amended regulations include the limitations on public transport, movement of people between provinces, movement of goods and repatriation of people across countries.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/government-gazettes-revised-regulations-covid-19-cases-climb>

SA Government News Agency. Military Ombud ready to assist the public on conduct of SANDF.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“The South African Office of the Military Ombud has assured citizens that it remains open to assist those who feel aggrieved by the conduct of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) in the execution of their duties.

“We noted that the Department of Defence released a statement taking note of various allegations of abuse by deployed members of the SANDF who are supporting government’s efforts to contain the Coronavirus pandemic. In the statement the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans denounces any type or form of abuse committed by deployed soldiers against members of the public during the 21 days lockdown period,” said the office in a statement on Wednesday.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/military-ombud-ready-assist-public-conduct-sandf>

SA Government News Agency. New COVID-19 regulations for funerals.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“New regulations governing who may attend a funeral under the Coronavirus-enforced lockdown have been put in place by the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta). Cogta Minister Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma has gazetted further amendments to the regulations on the COVID-19 lockdown in order to flatten the infection curve. The amendments allow certain individuals to move between provinces, metropolitan and district areas for the purposes of transporting a body for burial purposes. The amendment also limits the individuals who are permitted to travel to funerals. The regulations now outline a process on how people -- who wish to travel between provinces or metropolitan and district areas to attend a burial or cremation -- can obtain a permit.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/new-covid-19-regulations-funerals>

SA Government News Agency. Over 2000 arrests for non-compliance with COVID-19 rules.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“Law enforcement agencies have arrested 2 289 suspects for non-compliance with COVID-19 National State of Disaster regulations, Police Minister Bheki Cele said on Thursday. Speaking at a media briefing held in Pretoria, the Minister urged the public to observe and comply with the regulations. “They must stick with them so that we are not forced to enforce the law. From the 27 [March 2020], until midnight, 2289 people have been arrested for breaking those regulations, especially alcohol and traffic offenses,” said the Minister.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/over-2000-arrests-non-compliance-covid-19-rules>

MEDICAL LAW

Media Statements

SA Government News Agency. Confirmed Covid-19 cases rise to 1462.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the country, as of Thursday, stands at 1 462. The Minister of Health, Dr Zweli Mkhize, announced the increase in cases at Universitas Hospital in the Free State, where he met with the COVID-19 task team in the province. A mass screening and testing is now underway there. Five deaths have been recorded, with two yet to be confirmed. The Free State became a hotbed for COVID-19 infections after several people, who attended a Divine Restoration Ministries church conference, tested positive.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/confirmed-covid-19-cases-rise-1-462>

SA Government News Agency. Home Affairs allows repatriation, medical travel.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“Patients who are facing life-threatening diseases are now allowed to enter South Africa or go abroad for medical treatment. This is just one of several revised regulations announced by Home Affairs Minister Aaron Motsoaledi, as South Africa marks day 7 of its 21-day national lockdown aimed at slowing the spread of novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Furthermore, repatriation of South African citizens will be permitted. However, citizens will be screened for COVID-19 before repatriation can take place. Those who test positive will not be allowed to travel.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/home-affairs-allows-repatriation-medical-travel>

SA Government News Agency. Labour clarifies reports on North West official.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“The Department of Employment and Labour is not aware of any of its officials in its North West provincial office having tested positive for the Coronavirus (COVID-19). “The Department of Employment and Labour in North West wishes to put it on record that until today, the department is not aware of any official from the provincial office who has tested positive for the virus,” it said in a statement on Thursday. This comes after the Public Servants Association (PSA) released a statement alleging that one of the department’s officials had tested positive and that the department acted recklessly in handling the matter.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/labour-clarifies-reports-north-west-official>

[Back to Contents](#)

RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Cargo ships, airfreight, port regulations relaxed.

2020 Apr 2 SA News

“Cargo ships and airfreight companies will be able to dock and land on South African shores to deliver essential services, Trade, Industry and Competition Minister Ebrahim Patel said on Thursday. The regulations, implemented by government during the 21-day National State of Disaster COVID-19 enforced lockdown, have been amended by Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma. “All cargo have now been allowed into the country and to be offloaded from ships. This applies to essential goods and other goods, subject to sanitising and disinfection,” said Patel at a briefing of Ministers from the COVID-19 National Command Council.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/cargo-ships-airfreight-port-regulations-relaxed>

[Back to Contents](#)

STATISTICS

Media Release

Department of Higher Education and Training. Ministers Blade Nzimande and Zweli Mkhize postpone impact of Covid-19 on South Africans survey. 02 April 2020

“The below media briefing has been postponed until further notice. We apologize for the inconvenience...”

“Ministers of Higher Education, Science and Innovation and Health to release the results of the first round of public survey on the impact of Covid-19 Virus The Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande, and the Minister of Health, Dr Zweli Mkhize, will release the results from the first round of the public survey looking at the impact of the COVID-19 on South Africans. On Friday 27 March 2020 – the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)- an entity of the Department of Science and Innovation - announced the launch the public survey to better understand what the South African public knows about Covid-19, the state of readiness to deal with this global pandemic and how they feel about it.”

TAXATION*Draft Bills***Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Bill**

“To provide for tax relief in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic, to provide for the tax treatment of certain trusts for tax relief in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic; to provide for non-withholding of employees’ tax for tax relief in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic; to amend the Employment Tax Incentive Act, 2013, so as to amend certain provisions to provide for tax relief in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.”

Comments invited by 15 April 2020,

<http://www.treasury.gov.za/public%20comments/DMTRB2020/Draft%20Disaster%20Management%20Tax%20Relief%20Bill%20-%201%20April%202020.pdf>

Explanatory Memorandum:

<http://www.treasury.gov.za/public%20comments/DMTRB2020/Draft%20Explanatory%20Memorandum%20on%20the%20Draft%20Disaster%20Management%20Tax%20Relief%20Bill%20-%201%20April%202020.pdf>

Media Statement: http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/20200401%20Media%20statement%20-%20Publication%20of%20COVID-19%20Draft%20Tax%20Bills%20for%20public%20comment.pdf

Draft Disaster Management Relief Administration Bill

“To provide for tax measures in order to assist with alleviating cash flow burdens on tax compliant small to medium sized businesses arising as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown and to provide for matters connected therewith.”

Comments invited by 15 April 2020,

<http://www.treasury.gov.za/public%20comments/DMTRB2020/Draft%20Disaster%20Management%20Tax%20Relief%20Administration%20Bill%20-%201%20April%202020.pdf>

Media Statement: http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/20200401%20Media%20statement%20-%20Publication%20of%20COVID-19%20Draft%20Tax%20Bills%20for%20public%20comment.pdf

[Back to Contents](#)**TOURISM***Government Gazette***Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002**

Directions issued by Minister of Tourism in terms of Regulation 10(8) of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19. The purpose of this Direction is to provide guidance on the implementation of the provisions relating to the rendering of essential services referred to in Annexure B paragraph B item 23 to the Regulations published in [RGN398 GG 43148 p3 25Mar2020](#).

GenN235 GG 43200 p3 2Apr2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43200_02-4_Tourism.pdf

[Back to Contents](#)**TRANSPORTATION***Government Gazette***KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport: Supply Chain Management**

Urgent Notice regarding Tenders: Suspension of Site Meetings & Tender Closings during the Lockdown.

GN442 GG 43192 p23 3April2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43192_03-04_NatGovernment.pdf

*Media Release***Department of Transport. Minister Fikile Mbalula rescinds 100% loading direction. 02 April 2020**

“The Ministry and Department of Transport have been engaged with the process of consultations with the view of finding a solution to a challenge raised by the taxi industry resulting from reduction to permitted loading capacity, intended to promote social distancing within public transport, which includes taxis. The unintended consequence of this reduction was an industry operating at a loss as a result of these regulations. The regulations on COVID-19 Lockdown prescribed a 50% loading capacity. Proposals for a 70% loading capacity for minibus taxis were duly considered as well as a proposal for a 100% loading capacity, with the compulsory mitigation measure of the prescribed N95 Respiratory Mask as a pre-condition for all passengers.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-mbalula-rescinds-100-loading-direction-2-apr-2020-0000>

WATER

Media Release

Department of Water and Sanitation. Water and Sanitation delivers water tankers to Gauteng during Coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown. 02 April 2020

“The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in Gauteng has stepped up efforts to relieve water shortages by delivering 852 water tanks and 20 tankers to water-stressed communities that have the least capacity to avert the rapid spread of the coronavirus in the province and thus flattening the curve. In a united effort to curb the spread of the virus pandemic, the Department is working collaboratively with Rand Water and municipalities to provide water to desperate communities in the most densely populated informal settlements to reduce chances of the virus passing from one person to the other.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/water-and-sanitation-delivers-water-tankers-gauteng-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-2>

[Back to Contents](#)

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