

Covid-19 Regulatory Update

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Covid-19 Regulatory Update: 22 April 2020

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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/>

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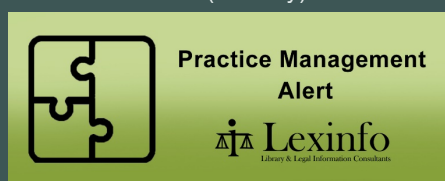
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AGRICULTURE

Media Releases

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development. Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development requests list of specific agricultural production inputs during Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. 21 April 2020.

“The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development requests all interested wholesalers, distributors, or agribusiness outlets to provide a list breakdown of specific agricultural production inputs they have in stock. This will assist in the emergency procurement these inputs to enable smallholder and communal farmers to complete the current production cycle. The department intends to procure by means of issuing purchase vouchers to approved farmers. Farmers will purchase from the nearest wholesaler, distributor or agribusiness outlet.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/saps-offers-reward-information-mhlabayaxega-mntungwa-khumalo-21-apr-2020-0000>

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development. Minister Thoko Didiza on farmers receiving essential service permits during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 21 April 2020.

“Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Minister Thoko Didiza, (MP), notes the statement by the Democratic Alliance (DA) on farmers receiving essential service permits directly from the department. The Minister is reminding the DA and the entire citizenry, that before President Cyril Ramaphosa announced the lockdown, she established a task team, which includes most of industry role players in the Agricultural Sector and senior officials from the department. This task team meets regularly to deal with challenges faced by all role players in the food value chain and all other issues pertaining to the industry during this lockdown.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-thoko-didiza-farmers-receiving-essential-service-permits-during-coronavirus-covid>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. SA participates at G20 virtual meeting of Ministers of Agriculture.

2020 Apr 21 SA News

“Agriculture Minister Thoko Didiza today participated in the G20 virtual meeting of Ministers of Agriculture. In her submission, Minister Didiza made the meeting aware that primarily all the countries are concerned about protecting the well-being of their citizens from the devastating novel Coronavirus. The containment measures taken thus far has seen countries closing their borders, increasing testing of citizens and treating those that are sick. Minister Didiza emphasised that a number of economies are facing serious challenges and more workers have lost their jobs and their livelihoods. She said the agricultural community had noted the negative impact some of these measures have on food security of nations particularly those that rely on imports for a range of foodstuffs. “At the same time we have noted that, a number of countries have allowed the agriculture and agribusinesses to remain as essential services. Albeit under strict hygiene conditions.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-participates-g20-virtual-meeting-ministers-agriculture>

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CONFIRMED CASES

Media Releases

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 3 465 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 21 April 2020.

“As at today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa is 3 465. The total number of tests conducted to date is 126 937, of which 5427 were done in the last 24 hours.

The provincial breakdown is as follows:

- Gauteng: 1199;
- Western Cape: 1010;
- KwaZulu – Natal: 671;
- Eastern Cape: 345;
- Free State: 106;
- Limpopo: 27;
- North West: 24;
- Mpumalanga: 24;
- Northern Cape: 16; and
- Unallocated: 43.

Today we visited the Eastern Cape where we have observed a rapid rise in the number of confirmed cases and this raised a concern. The biggest risk of spread that has been identified is the cultural practices occurring at funerals. We engaged with the provincial executive led by Premier Oscar Mabuyane together with the Health MEC Sindiswa Gomba.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-total-3-465-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-21-apr-2020-0000>

North West Health. North West releases Coronavirus COVID-19 statistics. 21 April 2020.

“The total number of COVID-19 confirmed cases in the North West Province as announced by Minister of Health Dr. Zweli Mkhize on Monday, 20 April 2020 is 25. Rustenburg in Bojanala Platinum District is the Provincial Epicenter with 12 of the 25 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Three patients are in hospital... Thirteen COVID-19 confirmed positive persons have recovered. Ten recovered persons are in Bojanala District, two in Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District and one in Ngaka Modiri Molema District.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/north-west-releases-coronavirus-covid-19-statistics-21-apr-2020-0000>

Western Cape Office of the Premier. Premier Alan Winde on COVID-19 Coronavirus cases in Western Cape as of 21 April. 21 April 2020.

“As of 17h00 on 20 April, the Western Cape has recorded 974 confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection.

- Total confirmed COVID-19 cases: 974;
- Total recoveries: 221;
- Total deaths: 17;
- Total active cases (currently infected patients): 736;
- Patients in hospital: 39 of which are 17 in ICU;
- Total tests conducted: 18931.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-covid-19-coronavirus-cases-western-cape-21-april-21-apr-2020-0000>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Correctional Services records two COVID-19 recoveries.

2020 Apr 21 SA News

“The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) has recorded two recoveries from COVID-19, one in East London, in the Eastern Cape and another in Kutama Sinthumule, in Limpopo... However, 3 new confirmed COVID-19 cases of officials were recorded, bringing the total number of cases in DCS to 114 thus far. The department’s head office also had one official who tested positive. “Prevention measures for officials are being flagged as the numbers continue to increase, hence a comprehensive care response to all positive cases remains pivotal,” said the department.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/correctional-services-records-two-covid-19-recoveries>

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COURTS

Government Gazette

Superior Courts Act 10 of 2013

Directives issued by Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng in terms of Section 8(3)(b) of the Act for the Management of Courts during the extended lockdown period.

GenN246 GG 43241 p3 21Apr2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43241_21-04_OfficeChiefJustice.pdf

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CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

Media Release

Western Cape Community Safety. MEC Albert Fritz condemns looting and incidents of malicious damage to property. 21 April 2020.

“The Minister of Community Safety, Albert Fritz, condemns the numerous lootings and incidents of malicious damage to property which have taken place across the province. During the lockdown, there have been reports of malicious damage to trucks and lootings of liquor and food stores. Minister Fritz said, “At present, we find ourselves facing a humanitarian crisis because of the lockdown and the economic challenges that follow are only going to exacerbate these challenges further. It is a struggle for many to put food on the table. This is a very big concern for us and our government has taken many steps to assist as much as we can. However, I must be clear, acts of criminality will not be tolerated. We urge all our residents to abide by the law at all times. I am engaging with Cabinet on the urgent solutions to address the spate of lootings.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/albert-fritz-condemns-looting-malicious-damage-property-21-apr-2020-0000>

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EDUCATION

Media Release

Department of Basic Education. Basic Education expands STEM digital school during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 21 April 2020.

“The FREE STEM Lockdown Digital School has expanded into community television in order to reach an even bigger audience. Starting tomorrow, Tuesday 21 April 2020, the COVID-19 learner support programme will be available on two DSTV channels; 1KZN (261) and Soweto TV (251) to increase access. The school is supporting learners who are learning from home because of the coronavirus which resulted in the lockdown which started on March 26. The initiative has been running since the Lockdown was put in place. The digital learning and teaching school, not to be confused with the Reading Club, has been conducting classes via the Africa Teen Geeks YouTube Channel, Facebook Page and Zoom.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/basic-education-expansion-stem-digital-school-during-covid-19-coronavirus-lockdown-21-apr>

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EMPLOYMENT LAW

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. UIF pays out COVID-19 benefits to workers.

2020 Apr 21 SA News

“A total of 606 462 employees who have lost their income as a result of the lockdown imposed to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 will receive their benefit from the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF). To date, the UIF has received just over 55 268 applications from employers representing about 1 601 767 employees. In total, the UIF has over 1 800 000 employers registered on its database representing more than 8 million workers. Of the received applications, the UIF has processed 37 673 employer applications which means that 606 462 employees will receive their benefit.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/uif-pays-out-covid-19-benefits-workers>

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FINANCIAL LAW

Media Releases

The Presidency. President Cyril Ramaphosa: additional Coronavirus COVID-19 economic and social relief measures. 21 April 2020.

“Firstly, an extraordinary health budget to respond to coronavirus, Secondly, the relief of hunger and social distress, Thirdly, support for companies and workers, Fourthly, the phased re-opening of the economy. The impact of the coronavirus requires an extraordinary coronavirus budget – of around R500 billion – to direct resources towards fighting the pandemic. This will include the reprioritisation of around R130 billion within the current budget.

The rest of the funds will be raised from both local sources, such as the Unemployment Insurance Fund, and from global partners and international finance institutions. To date, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, BRICS New Development Bank and the African Development Bank have been approached and are working with the National Treasury on various funding transactions.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-additional-coronavirus-covid-19-economic-and-social-relief>

The Presidency. President Cyril Ramaphosa engages African business leaders on continental impact of Coronavirus COVID19 pandemic, 22 Apr. 21 April 2020.

“In line with decision of the Extended African Union Bureau meeting held on the 3rd April 2020, President Cyril Ramaphosa will on Wednesday, 22 April 2020, chair a virtual meeting of business leaders on the continent to discuss the continental impact of the COVID19 pandemic and the response to this challenge... The engagement aims to foster business support for the African Union's Joint Continental Strategy for the COVID-19 outbreak; and will discuss the development of a continent wide initiative to assure the resilience of the African economy, and Africa's joint capacity to manage the economic consequences of the pandemic.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-engages%2%A0african-business-leaders-continental-impact-coronavirus>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Global concert raises over US\$127 million for COVID-19 support.

2020 Apr 21 SA News

“The One World, Together at Home global concert - organised to raise funds to fight the COVID-19 pandemic - has raised over US\$127 million. The eight-hour concert which took place on Saturday was co-organised by the World

Health Organisation (WHO) with Global Citizen's Hugh Evans and musician Lady Gaga. "I'd like to start by thanking the many musicians, comedians and humanitarians who made Saturday's 'One World, Together at Home' concert an enormous success. So humbled, and the whole WHO community is very grateful for the support that poured over 8 hours. "The event raised more than US\$127 million to support several organizations responding to COVID-19, including US\$55 million for WHO's Solidarity Response Fund."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/global-concert-raises-over-us127-million-covid-19-support>

Statement by the President

The Presidency. Statement by President Cyril Ramaphosa on further economic and social measures in response to the COVID-19 epidemic. 21 April 2020.

<http://www.presidency.gov.za/speeches/statement-president-cyril-ramaphosa-further-economic-and-social-measures-response-covid-19>

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HOUSING

Media Release

North West Office of the Premier. Premier Job Mokgoro launches post lockdown housing development programme, 22 Apr. 21 April 2020.

"Premier of the North West Province, Prof Tebogo Job Mokgoro will tomorrow, Wednesday, 22 April, launch a post lockdown housing development programme for the 57 identified families in Coleridge, Vryburg. This after Premier Mokgoro's recent visit to Vryburg where he launched the mass screening, testing and contact tracing campaign for Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District, where he noted with great concern the plight of Coleridge residents who are staying in houses that are in a state of collapse, with asbestos roofs. In his effort to address this condition which is also contributing negatively towards residents adhering to the lockdown regulations and general basic hygiene practices, Premier Mokgoro called on business people around the province to join forces and help build stable houses for these residents, amongst them a 101 year old woman whose house is inhabitable and need urgent assistance."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-job-mokgoro-launches-post-lockdown-housing-development-programme-22-apr-21-apr-2020>

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LOCKDOWN REGULATIONS

Statement by the President

The Presidency. Statement by President Cyril Ramaphosa on further economic and social measures in response to the COVID-19 epidemic. 21 April 2020.

<http://www.presidency.gov.za/speeches/statement-president-cyril-ramaphosa-further-economic-and-social-measures-response-covid-19>

Western Cape: Provincial Legislature Committee Meeting Minutes

Adhoc Standing Committee on Covid-19 (WCPP). Election of Chairperson and Committee business.

Chairperson: Ms M Wenger (DA). 17 April 2020.

Extract from minutes: "The Secretary to the WCPP convened the first Ad-Hoc Committee on COVID-19 meeting, which was also the first official meeting of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament conducted on a virtual platform. It would hold regular meetings in order to fulfil its mandate of performing oversight over the work of the provincial executive authority as it responded to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the work of any provincial department, provincial organ of state or provincial entity involved in activities dealing with the pandemic."

<https://pmg.org.za/committee-meeting/30101/?via=homepage-feature-card>

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MEDICAL LAW

Media Release

North West Health. MEC Madoda Sambatha joins field workers on Coronavirus COVID-19 mass screening and testing, 22 to 23 Apr. 21 April 2020.

"North West Health MEC, Madoda Sambatha will this week join field workers in Lichtenburg and Deelpan for the roll-out of COVID-19 mass screening and testing as follows:

- Wednesday, 22 April 2020
Meeting point: Dltsohotla Municipal Chamber
Screening: Blyderville, Lichtenburg

Time: 10h00

- Thursday, 23 April 2020
Meeting point: Deelpan Tribal Office
Screening: Deelpan, Ratlou Local Municipality
Time: 10h00.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-madoda-sambatha-joins-field-workers-coronavirus-covid-19-mass-screening-and-testing-22>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Eastern Cape boosts capacity to fight COVID-19.

2020 Apr 21 SA News

“Health Minister Zweli Mkhize paid the Eastern Cape a visit on Tuesday where he met with the Premier Oscar Mabuyane and Health MEC Sindiswa Gomba. Mkhize was taken through the province’s contingency plans to fight the outbreak of the Coronavirus. “We just came here to Cecilia Makiwane hospital to look at the progress of the work in converting the old hospital into new additional beds which will be available to admit patients with COVID-19. We have also been made aware that there is additional space for a field hospital to be set up here. “We need to anticipate an increasing number of patients that will land up in the hospital and so the way the province has worked on this issue is quite encouraging,” said the Minister.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/eastern-cape-boosts-capacity-fight-covid-19>

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STATISTICS

Media Release

Statistics South Africa. Statistics South Africa releases rapid response business report conducted during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 21 April 2020.

“The results of a rapid response survey conducted by Stats SA during the lockdown was released today. Businesses were asked how the current crisis affected their operations in the two-week period from 30 March to 13 April 2020. 707 businesses in the formal sector responded to the survey, outlining the pandemic’s impact on turnover, trading, workforce, imports and exports, purchases, prices, and business survival. According to the report, five in six businesses surveyed experienced a drop in turnover over the reference period. 85,4% of businesses surveyed reported turnover below the normal range. Respondents in the construction, real estate and other business services, and transport industries were the most affected by lower than expected turnover.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/statistics-south-africa-releases-rapid-response-business-report-conducted-during>

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WATER & SANITATION

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Over 1200 tankers bring water to the Free State.

2020 Apr 21 SA News

“In an effort to curb COVID-19 infections, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has dispersed 1265 tankers and 134 water trucks throughout the Free State province. This is to ensure people are able to wash their hands, a critical measure in preventing the spread of the virus. The department is not only supplying municipalities with water tanks and trucks, a team from the Free State provincial department is also testing the water on a daily basis for its quality... The department has also procured close to 8 000 hand sanitisers and 2 400 bars of soap that will be disseminated to all municipalities in the Free State. The hand sanitisers and soaps are earmarked for homeless centres and vulnerable households.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/over-1200-tankers-bring-water-free-state>

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