

Covid-19 Regulatory Update

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Covid-19 Regulatory Update: 04 May 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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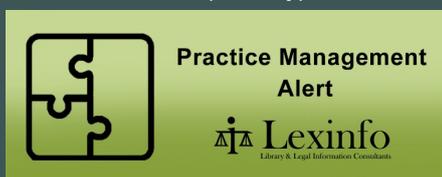
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AGRICULTURE

Media Releases

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development. Departure of fifth break-bulk reefer citrus shipment to Japan and China, 1 May. 01 May 2020.

“The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development is pleased to announce the fifth break-bulk vessel shipment of citrus from South Africa to China and Japan amid the Covid-19 outbreak. The vessel is planned to depart during the course of the day. This is the first break-bulk vessel shipment in the 2020 export season adding to the four shipments that were exported in the 2019 season. The 2019 was a historical year as the South African citrus industry marked its maiden break-bulk shipment of citrus through a specialised reefer vessel to Japan and China.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/departure-fifth-break-bulk-reefer-citrus-shipment-japan-and-china-1-may-1-may-2020-0000>

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development. Minister Thoko Didiza on 2020 grain harvest. 01 May 2020.

“The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Ms Thoko Didiza, MP is pleased to announce that South Africa will have sufficient staple grains supply in 2020/21 marketing year, which starts in May 2020 and ends in April 2021. The data released by the department this afternoon shows that this year’s summer grains harvest could amount to 17.5 million tonnes, which is a 31% increase from 2019 and the second biggest harvest in the history of this country. This is a testimony to the hard work and resilience of the South African farming community and investments made in the sector. Amid the unprecedented uncertainty and our collective fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, we are assured of sufficient food supply for the country at reasonable price levels.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-thoko-didiza-2020-grain-harvest-1-may-2020-0000>

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AVIATION

Media Release

Department of Public Enterprises. Public Enterprises on SAA Leadership Compact. 01 May 2020.

“Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. The challenges facing South African Airways has required the Leadership of the all stakeholders to rise above the crisis created by both the weaknesses within SAA and COVID 19, and agree on a long-term vision and strategy to mitigate the impact on employees, tourism, the aviation industry more broadly and become a catalyst for economic development and job creation. This requires an absolute focus on becoming internationally competitive for safety, quality, and cost. It will not be the old SAA but the beginning of a new journey to a new restructured airline, which will be a proud flagship for South Africa. The process that the Minister and SAA workers have embarked upon is bold and audacious. A Leadership Compact has been signed by all parties that commits to taking a new approach, to acknowledging that there will be a major performance-based culture change for all leadership, management and employees as the transition to a new airline takes place.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/public-enterprises-saa-leadership-compact-1-may-2020-0000>

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COMMUNICATIONS

Media Release

Department of Communications. Minister Jackson Mthembu: G20 Digital Ministers meeting on Coronavirus COVID-19. 30 April 2020.

“We would like to thank the G20 Saudi Presidency for this excellent initiative, which once again confirms the wisdom of multi-lateralism. The world is looking to the influential G20 economies to provide leadership in responding to the COVID-19 crisis...In South Africa, we had the fortune to learn lessons from other countries, enabling us to act before the disease became too prevalent. It is really clear that one of the most powerful tools at our disposal is our ICT sector. We need to provide up to date and accurate medical information, statistics, as well as information about new government regulations, to inform all of our citizens about the crisis. The response of communications service providers has been decisive, agreeing early on, to provide zero rated services for health and education purposes. This has helped many citizens, who would otherwise have struggled in this regard. It has also ensured many of our young people are able to continue their schooling during the crisis, despite challenges regarding those in rural and poor areas.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-jackson-mthembu-g20-digital-ministers-meeting-coronavirus-covid-19-30-apr-2020>

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CONFIRMED CASES

Media Releases

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 5 647 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 30 April 2020.

“As at today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa is 5647, an increase of 297 cases from yesterday. The total number of tests conducted to date is 207 530 of which 10 403 were done in the last 24 hours.

The provincial breakdown is as follows:

- Eastern Cape: 647;
- Free State: 116;
- Gauteng: 1446;
- KwaZulu-Natal: 980;
- Limpopo: 32;
- Mpumalanga: 36;
- North West: 31;
- Northern Cape: 17;
- Western Cape: 2342;
- Unknown: 0; and
- Total: 5647.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-total-5-647-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-30-apr-2020-0000>

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 5 951 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 01 May 2020.

“As at today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa is 5951. The total number of tests conducted to date is 217 522, of which 9992 were done in the last 24 hours. We are also pleased to announce the new figures for recoveries which stand at 2382 as at 29 April 2020.

The Provincial Breakdown is as follows:

- Eastern Cape: 691;
- Free State: 118;
- Gauteng: 1507;
- KwaZulu Natal: 1006;
- Limpopo: 34;
- Mpumalanga: 35;
- North West: 35;
- Northern Cape: 18;
- Western Cape: 2507;
- Total: 5951; and
- Reported Deaths: Regrettably, we are saddened to report a further 13 COVID-19 related deaths from the Western Cape, Gauteng, KwaZulu Natal and the Eastern Cape. This brings the total of COVID-19 related deaths to 116.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-total-5-951-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-1-may-2020-0000>

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 6 336 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 02 May 2020.

“As at today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa is 6336. The total number of tests conducted to date is 230 686, of which 13 164 were done in the last 24 hours. This is the highest number of tests done in a 24-hour cycle to date.

Province Cases:

- Eastern Cape: 732;
- Free State: 121;
- Gauteng: 1598;
- KwaZulu Natal: 1051;
- Limpopo: 36;
- Mpumalanga: 40;
- North West: 35;
- Northern Cape: 23;
- Western Cape: 2700;
- Total: 6336; and
- Reported Deaths, Recoveries and Comments:

Regrettably, we are saddened to report a further 7 COVID-19 related deaths from the Western Cape and Free State. This brings the total number of deaths to 123. We wish to express our condolences to the families of the deceased and salute the health care workers who treated the deceased patients.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-total-6-336-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-2-may-2020-0000>

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 6 783 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 03 May 2020.

“As at today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa is 6783.

Province total cases:

- Eastern Cape: 774;
- Free State: 122;
- Gauteng: 1624;
- KwaZulu-Natal: 1076;
- Limpopo: 37;
- Mpumalanga: 46;
- North West: 36;
- Northern Cape: 24;
- Western Cape: 3044;
- Unknown: 0;
- Total 6783; and
- Reported Deaths: Regrettably, we report a further 8 COVID-19 related deaths: 2 from Western Cape, 4 from the Eastern Cape and 2 from Gauteng. This brings the total deaths to 131.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-total-6-783-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-3-may-2020-0000>

North West Health. North West Health on Coronavirus COVID-19 confirmed cases on 29 April. 30 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 Wednesday, 29 April 2020 is 29... Sixteen COVID-19 confirmed positive persons have recovered. Thirteen recovered persons are in Bojanala District, two in Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District and one in Ngaka Modiri Molema District.

The breakdown of cases is as follows:

- Bojanala Platinum District: 21;
- Rustenburg: 15;
- Hartebeespoort: 4;
- Brits: 2;
- Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District: 05;
- Klerksdorp: 02;
- Potchefstroom: 03;
- Ngaka Modiri Molema District: 02;
- Mahikeng: 02;
- Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District: 01;
- Bloemhof: 01; and
- Unallocated: 0.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-anroux-marais-mourns-loss-prof-denis-goldberg-30-apr-2020-0000>

North West Health. North West Health update on 100 Coronavirus COVID-19 statistics. 01 May 2020.

“The total number of COVID-19 confirmed cases in the North West Province as at, Thursday 30 April 2020 is 31. This represents an increase of two cases from previously reported cases... A total of 20 COVID-19 confirmed positive persons have recovered. Sixteen recoveries are in Bojanala, two in Dr. Kenneth Kaunda and one each in Ngaka Modiri Molema and Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati. We thank all our healthcare workers for their continued dedication and commitment to serve people of the North West Province.

- Bojanala Platinum District: 23;
- Rustenburg: 15;
- Hartebeespoort: 4;
- Brits: 2;
- Unallocated (Madibeng): 02;
- Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District: 05;
- Klerksdorp: 04;
- Potchefstroom: 01;
- Ngaka Modiri Molema District: 02; and
- Mahikeng: 02.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/north-west-health-update-100-coronavirus-covid-19-statistics-1-may-2020-0000>

Western Cape Office of the Premier. Premier Alan Winde update on Coronavirus COVID-19 on 22 April. 30 April 2020.

“Update on the coronavirus by Premier Alan Winde- record number of tests conducted in 24-hour period. As of 1pm on Thursday 30 April, the Western Cape had 2371 confirmed COVID-19 positive cases... We are also saddened to announce a further six deaths in the province- bringing the total number to 46. We send our condolences to their family and friends at this time.

- Total confirmed COVID-19 cases: 2371;
- Total recoveries: 657;
- Total deaths: 46;
- Total active cases (currently infected patients): 1668;
- Total number of tests: 35867;
- Patients in hospital: 96 with 31 in ICU.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-update-coronavirus-covid-19-22-april-30-apr-2020-0000>

Western Cape Office of the Premier. Premier Alan Winde update on Coronavirus COVID-19 on 2 May. 02 May 2020.

“As of 1pm on 2 May, the Western Cape has recorded 2783 confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection... he Western Cape has recorded an additional four COVID-19 deaths-bringing the total number of deaths from the virus in the province to 52. We send our condolences to those who have lost their loved ones.

- Total confirmed COVID-19 cases: 2783;
- Total recoveries: 779;
- Total deaths: 52;
- Total active cases (currently infected patients): 1952;
- Total number of tests: 39901; and
- Patients in hospital: 114 with 39 in ICU.
- Unallocated: 98.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-update-coronavirus-covid-19-2-may-2-may-2020-0000>

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EDUCATION

Media Releases

Department of Basic Education. Minister Angie Motshekga: Basic Education Sector recovery plans for the reopening of schools, following the Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown adjustment of regulations. 30 April 2020.

“This morning the National Coronavirus Command Council held a meeting to consider the plans for the basic education sector in the context of the COVID-19. Prior to the presentations of the plans at Cabinet we presented the plans at the National Coronavirus Command Council... In all the meetings the principle of opening of schools at the right time was accepted once all the conditions have been met. They proposed that in order to deal with social distancing they requested the department to use community and town halls, platooning and shifting. They requested the department to provide Personal Protection Equipment. The department should provide awareness campaign to parents particularly in rural areas. They also proposed that the phased in reopening should also include special schools.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-angie-motshekga-basic-education-sector-recovery-plans-reopening-schools-following>

Department of Higher Education, Science and Technology. Minister Blade Nzimande: Measures to phase out the Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown and phasing in of PSET strategic functions. 30 April 2020.

“The essence of our challenge can be put thus: We are constrained by the very same challenges we seek to address, poverty inequality and unemployment. The very problems we seek to solve are the obstacles standing on our way. From the moment the President declared the COVID-19 pandemic to be a national disaster on Sunday 15 March, the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, in conjunction with institutions, have put all our post-school educational institutions on early recess, and effectively suspended academic activity... Firstly, whatever we do in the PSET sector, our responsibility is to lower the infection curve. Secondly, we must save the 2020 academic year, but not at the expense of lives. Thirdly, our efforts to save the academic year must avoid worsening the infection curve.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-blade-nzimande-measures-phase-out-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-and-phasing-pset>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. New guidelines for school grounds amid COVID-19.

2020 Apr 30 SA News

“When Grade 7 and 12 learners return to schools on the proposed date of 1 June 2020, school as they knew it, will be a thing of the past. As government sets out to curb the spread of the Coronavirus, school grounds and hallways will look very different, with learners donning compulsory face masks and gloves. Sanitiser will also be a common feature

on school premises, under the guidelines proposed by the Department of Basic Education for the reopening of schools. If given the nod by Cabinet, from the 1 June 2020, schools will reopen - subject to compliance with health and safety measures and the department's guidelines for schools on maintaining hygiene during the COVID-19 pandemic."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/new-guidelines-school-grounds-amid-covid-19>

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EMPLOYMENT LAW

Media Comment

Van der Merwe, Marelise. Coronavirus safety regulations for mines to be published this month, court rules.

Fin24 May 01 2020

"A code of practice setting minimum standards for health and safety in mines during the coronavirus pandemic must be put in place this month, the Labour Court [Judge Andre van Niekerk] has ruled. "In a judgment issued on Friday 1 May, the court set aside government's decision not to require employers to prepare and implement a code of practice on the Covid-19 pandemic, or issue guidelines in terms of the Mine Health and Safety Act."

<https://www.fin24.com/Companies/Mining/coronavirus-safety-regulations-for-mines-to-be-published-this-month-court-rules-20200501>

Order of Court available on request from alert@lexinfo.co.za.

Media Releases

Department of Employment and Labour. Employment and Labour dispels myths that it has reached deadline for Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown relief claims. 30 April 2020.

"The last two days have seen a spike in the Department of Employment and Labour's online traffic with resultant slowness of the entire system as people seem to be chasing the lockdown claim deadline for COVID-19 relief scheme administered by the Unemployment Insurance Fund. "We would like to make it clear that we have not reached the deadline yet. The period will depend on the Memorandum of Understanding signed, but it shall not exceed 3 months, which is the period given for the Covid-19 TERS relief benefit", said Director-General Thobile Lamati. This means that in all intents and purposes, employers should continue applying for lockdown relief benefits for the foreseeable future until the department indicates otherwise."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/employment-and-labour-dispels-myths-it-has-reached-deadline-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown>

Department of Employment and Labour. Employment and Labour provides UIF contact details for ordinary unemployment benefits. 01 May 2020.

"In order for our client-base to receive speedy and correct information to their unemployment insurance enquiries, the Department of Employment and Labour has resorted to providing contact details which they can call or send their enquiries. All those who have enquiries related to ordinary unemployment benefits such as maternity, illness, death, adoption, and or are retrenchments can call the specific official allocated to their nearest labour centre office. Clients must also make sure that they have their details such as identity numbers ready when they call. [Labour Law contact numbers.](#)"

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/employment-and-labour-provides-uif-contact-details-ordinary-unemployment-benefits-1-may>

Department of Employment and Labour. Minister Thulas Nxesi: Directions for Coronavirus COVID-19 Alert Level 4. 03 May 2020.

"My main task today is to provide information on the preparations for the move to stage 4 of the lockdown and the partial return to workplaces tomorrow. This is the focus of today. However, the Deputy Minister will also provide additional information regarding the Department's other services. Government has said that the easing of the lockdown will be a carefully phased process based on a risk assessment and the necessary levels of preparation. Therefore, in returning to work it cannot be business as usual. With this in mind, as the Minister of Employment and Labour, I issued a Direction - in terms of Regulation 10 (8) of the Regulations issued by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in terms of Section 27 (2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002). The Direction sets out the measures that employers are required to take to prevent the transmission of COVID19 in workplaces."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-thulas-nxesi-directions-coronavirus-covid-19-alert-level-4-3-may-2020-0000>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Companies called to observe COVID-19 regulations.

2020 May 1 SA News

"Parliament's Presiding Officers have called on companies to ensure that workers are protected and strictly observe COVID-19 regulations as well as all labour laws. "All efforts must be made to ensure conducive environments which are safe and hygienic for the workers," Presiding Officers, Thandi Modise and Amos Masondo said. This call was

made as certain sectors of the country's economy opens and various categories of workers are set to return to workplaces today, following weeks of complete lockdown, to slow down the rate of COVID-19 infections."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/companies-called-observe-covid-19-regulations>

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ENERGY AND MINING

Media Comment

Van der Merwe, Marelise. Coronavirus safety regulations for mines to be published this month, court rules.

Fin24 May 01 2020

"A code of practice setting minimum standards for health and safety in mines during the coronavirus pandemic must be put in place this month, the Labour Court [Judge Andre van Niekerk] has ruled. "In a judgment issued on Friday 1 May, the court set aside government's decision not to require employers to prepare and implement a code of practice on the Covid-19 pandemic, or issue guidelines in terms of the Mine Health and Safety Act."

<https://www.fin24.com/Companies/Mining/coronavirus-safety-regulations-for-mines-to-be-published-this-month-court-rules-20200501>

Order of Court available on request from alert@lexinfo.co.za.

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Mining sector ordered to prepare safety standards.

2020 May 2 SA News

"The Labour Court has ordered employers in the mining industry to prepare and implement a code of practice for health and safety standards. The standards must be prepared in terms of section 9(2) of the Mine Health and Safety Act, in accordance with guidelines to be published by the Chief Inspector of Mines in the Government Gazette by 18 May 2020. The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) said it welcomed the legal certainty provided by the order granted in the Labour Court on Friday, 1 May. "The order resolves the existing uncertainty as to whether the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy and Chief Inspector of Mines are empowered, under the Mine Health and Safety Act, to introduce enforceable measures to deal with the outbreak of COVID-19 at mines.

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/mining-sector-ordered-prepare-safety-standards>

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FINANCIAL LAW

Media Releases

Department of Sports, Arts and Culture. Sports, Arts and Culture update on Coronavirus COVID-19 Relief Fund Adjudication Process. 01 May 2020.

"On 25 March 2020 Minister Nathi Mthethwa announced a R150 Million relief fund for the sector, in response to the dire circumstances faced by athletes and artists due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic.

- **Sports:**

The sport sector adjudication committee was the first to be appointed and to resume the process of adjudication. They were the first to complete the process due to the limited number of applications that were received from the sector, which was just over 300. Over 90 athletes were approved by the adjudicators and have subsequently received their funding. The remaining applications are still being processed and upon completion, the Department will finalise the sporting sector relief funding process.

- **Arts & Culture:**

By the deadline of 6 April 23h59, the Department had received 6, 000 submissions. After processing the data, approximately 5, 000 were COVID-19 Relief Fund applications. The adjudication process has overseen 1, 000 out of these 5, 000 applications. Of these 1, 000 applications, 105 have been approved and are being processed for payment."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/sports-arts-and-culture-update-coronavirus-covid-19-relief-fund-adjudication-process-1-may>

South African Post Office. Deputy Minister Thembi Siweya and MEC Boitumelo Moiloa launch SA Post Office's new cashless ATMs, 4 May. 01 May 2020.

"Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Ms Thembi Siweya will be joining Ms Boitumelo Moiloa, MEC of Social Development, Northwest Province and Ms Colleen Makhubela, Chairperson of the Board of the SA Post Office in the launch of SA Post Office's new cashless ATMs solution that will serve as an additional social grants payment platform located within communities. The introduction of this solution is opportune in regards to the country's response to the Covid-19 pandemic in regards to social distancing."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/deputy-minister-thembi-siweya-and-mec-boitumelo-moiloa-launch-sa-post-office%E2%80%99s-new-cashless>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. AU raises \$25m for COVID-19 Response Fund.

2020 Apr 30 SA News

“The African Union (AU) has raised \$25 million for the COVID-19 Response Fund and an additional \$36.5 million to the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. AU Chairperson, President Cyril Ramaphosa, made the announcement during a virtual meeting with Chairpersons of the AU Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on Wednesday. Earlier this month, the regional body established the AU COVID-19 Response Fund in a drive to raise additional funds for the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. The continental body also set out an intensive lobbying of the international community, including the international financial institutions, for a comprehensive, robust economic stimulus package for Africa.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/au-raises-25m-covid-19-response-fund>

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LOCKDOWN REGULATIONS

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued by Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs relating to once-off movement of persons. The purpose of these directions is to regulate the once-off movement of persons who were not at their place of residence or work before the lockdown period and who could not travel between provinces, metropolitan and district areas during the lockdown, and are permitted in terms of regulation 16(5), on a once-off basis, to return to their places of residence or work.

GN482 GG 43261 p3 30Apr2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43261_30-4_Cogta.pdf

Media Releases

Department of Cooperative Governance. Minister Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma on directions of once off movement of persons during Coronavirus COVID-19 alert level 4. 30 April 2020.

“The Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA), Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, has in terms of section 27(2)(f) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) and after consultation with relevant Cabinet members, issued directions in the schedule relating to the once off movement of persons in line with Regulation 16 (5), which provides that: a) Any person who was not at their place of residence, or work before the lockdown period and who could not travel between provinces, metropolitan and district areas during the lockdown, will be permitted, on a once-off basis, to return to their places of residence or work and will be required to stay in such place until the end to the Alert Level 4”.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-nkosazana-dlamini-zuma-directions-once-movement-persons-during-coronavirus-covid>

Western Cape Office of the Premier. Joint statement on meeting of Premier Alan Winde and opposition leaders in the Western Cape Legislature on Coronavirus COVID-19. 01 May 2020.

“A key topic of discussion included the need for all political parties in the province to encourage their constituents to take responsibility for stopping the spread. This includes following good hygiene practices at all times, and obeying the regulations of the lockdown level we’re in. It was noted by many leaders that they had witnessed transgressions in communities, particularly in areas such as Du Noon, Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain, Langa and Witzenberg, and that these needed to be addressed through greater communication and enforcement.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/joint-statement-meeting-premier-alan-winde-and-opposition-leaders-western-cape-legislature>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Week-long provincial movement dates announced.

2020 May 1 SA News

“As South Africans woke up to partially relaxed COVID-19 lockdown regulations, those who wish to travel between provinces, will be allowed to do so between 1 and 7 May. The once-off movement of persons comes as thousands of categorised employees began returning to work on Friday. This comes after Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma this week shifted the lockdown from level 5 to level 4. South Africa has been on lockdown since 27 March. Announcing the lockdown last month, President Cyril Ramaphosa said the lockdown, which has had a negative impact on the country’s economy, was for government to adequately address and reduce the spread of the infectious virus.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/week-long-provincial-movement-dates-announced>

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MEDICAL LAW

Government Gazette

Medicines and Related Substances Act 101 of 1965

Exclusion of Schedule 2, Schedule 3 and Schedule 4 Substances from operation of certain provisions: Exclusion from requirement in section 22A(6)(f) of the Act that such substances may be dispensed for no longer than six months.

RGN481 GG 43260 p3 30Apr2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43260_30-4_Health.pdf

Media Releases

Western Cape Provincial Government. Premier Alan Winde briefs media on new CTICC hospital, 30 Apr. 30 April 2020.

“Today, Premier Alan Winde and Department of Health officials will hold a digicon to detail the plans for the new CTICC hospital, which will create over 800 additional beds for COVID-19 patients. They will also detail the province's screening and testing efforts and the broader health response to the pandemic, ahead of the level four lockdown coming into place.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-briefs-media-new-cticc-hospital-30-apr-30-apr-2020-0000>

The Presidency. President Cyril Ramaphosa receives PPE worth R1 billion for healthcare workers, 30 Apr. 30 April 2020.

“President Cyril Ramaphosa will today, Thursday, 30 April 2020, receive on behalf of government a R1 billion consignment of critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) donated by global internet group, Naspers South Africa. The handover will take place at the Takealot Distribution Centre in Kempton Park. The Naspers donation is a significant contribution to healthcare and to the partnership between government, the private sector and civil society at large in the fight against COVID-19.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-receives-ppe-worth-r1-billion-healthcare-workers-30-apr-30-apr>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. SA looks into demarcation processes to contain COVID-19.

2020 Apr 30 SA News

“South Africa will look into the creation of triage centres at health facilities in a bid to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. With governments worldwide confronted with tough decisions on ways to combat the spread of the virus, Health Minister, Dr Zweli Mkhize, said the country is going forward with its preparedness strategy. “Our preparedness needs to be focused on creating triage centres in hospitals, clinics, so that people who walk into hospitals or clinics, who have respiratory symptoms, must be separated from the rest of the people,” said the Minister on Thursday.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-looks-demarcation-processes-contain-covid-19>

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MORTALITY

Report

Uys, Barend P. (comp.) Opinar-20200428-COVID-19 and mortality in South Africa: The mortality risk of Covid-19 within the South African reality. – Opinar, 2020.

Extract from conclusion: “It is estimated that approximately 10% of all COVID-19-related deaths will occur in the age groups younger than 50 years, whereas 90% of all COVID-19 -related deaths will occur in the age groups 50 years and older. Because the COVID-19 infection fatality rate differs so significantly between people younger and older than 50 years, different strategies must be developed and implemented for the respective age groups....Annually, hundreds of children in South Africa younger than 5 years die from malnutrition. It is estimated that approximately 37 times more children younger than 5 years will die compared to COVID-19. The responsible management of existing malnutrition risks requires lockdown regulations to be adapted to allow nursery schools, day-care centres and schools to reopen, feeding programmes to be resumed, and people to work and earn an income to prevent children from dying.”

<https://www.opinar.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Opinar-20200428-COVID-19-and-mortality-in-South-Africa-1.pdf>

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SAFETY AND SECURITY

Media Releases

Western Cape Agriculture. MEC Ivan Meyer on Witzenberg Coronavirus COVID-19 response plan. 03 May 2020.

“On Thursday, 30 April 2020, I met with key stakeholders in Witzenberg to present the cabinet approved Western Cape Government Integrated Covid-19 Response Plan for the Witzenberg region. This plan is in response to the rapid increase in the number of Covid-19 positive cases in the Witzenberg region and follows consultation with various Provincial Departments, the Mayors and Deputy Mayors of Witzenberg and Cape Winelands District Municipalities, Agri Western Cape, the Witzenberg Business Initiative and relevant law enforcement agencies. The Integrated Covid-19 Response Plan responds to the current health, law enforcement and workplace challenges in the Witzenberg area and requires all of us to work towards curbing the further spread of the Covid-19 virus in the Witzenberg region.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-ivan-meyer-witzenberg-coronavirus-covid-19-response-plan-3-may-2020-0000>

Western Cape Community Safety. MEC Albert Fritz on additional safety resources to support municipalities during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 03 May 2020.

“The Minister of Community Safety, Albert Fritz, has written to the Mayors of each district and local municipality in the province to assist them with additional security resources during the lockdown. These resources will boost both rural and urban safety during the lockdown through tasks including queue management to promote social distancing and patrolling. The security resources available to municipalities include:

- Already assigned Chrysalis Academy graduates; and
- Peace officers that were trained by the Department of Community Safety (DOCS).”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-albert-fritz-additional-safety-resources-support-municipalities-during-coronavirus>

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SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Media Release

Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries. Environment, Forestry and Fisheries distribution of food parcels to small-scale and interim relief fishers during Coronavirus COVID-19. 03 May 2020.

“The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries in partnership with FishSA, and major fishing corporations and the SA Fishing Development fund are distributing over 10 000 food parcels to distressed small-scale and interim relief fishers across the country. To date 1 500 parcels have been distributed to assist fishers in the Overberg Region, and Southern Cape from Witsand in the west, to Bitou in the east. From 4 May, registered small-scale fishers in Cape Town Metro, West Coast, and Northern Cape will benefit. The Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal’s turn will be during the week of the 11th May.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/environment-forestry-and-fisheries-distribution-food-parcels-small-scale-and-interim-relief>

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SOCIAL SERVICES

Media Release

South African Social Security Agency. SASSA on date changes for paypoint social grants payments. 30 April 2020.

“Lessons learnt from the last payment cycle during the National Lockdown have compelled SASSA to review the payment dates going forward. As from the month of May 2020 Disability and Older Persons Grants will be paid from the 3rd day of the month. All other grants will be paid from the 6th of every month. The grant payment for April 2020 was brought forward to the 30 March 2020 and the first two days were dedicated to people with disabilities and older persons to ensure compliance with the State of Disaster requirements. Child Support grant beneficiaries could not wait for the 1st of April and descended upon payment channels as early as 30 March. This posed health challenges and it became difficult at some stores and ATM’s to maintain social distancing... Age Pension and Disability Grants will be available from Monday, 04 May 2020. For all other grant types’ money will be available from the 6th of May 2020 onwards.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/sassa-date-changes-paypoint-social-grants-payments-30-apr-2020-0000>

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STATISTICS

*Media Release***Statistics South Africa. StatsSA releases Coronavirus COVID-19 behavioural and health perception survey results. 01 May 2020.**

“Respondents were staying indoors and only left their houses to get food or medicine, according to the COVID-19 behavioural and health perception survey results released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). The survey was conducted in the week of 13 to 26 April 2020. More than half (60,1%) of respondents were very concerned or extremely concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on their own health. Many of the respondents (93,2%) were very concerned or extremely concerned about the possible economic collapse of the country due to the COVID-19 epidemic, while 79,7% were concerned about the civil disorder that may result as a consequence of the COVID-19 virus. The report further shows that respondents adhered to the call not to go out to public meetings, with almost all (99,0%) reporting not attending any public events, e.g. church services.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/statssa-releases-coronavirus-covid-19-behavioural-and-health-perception-survey-results-1>

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TAXATION

*Media Statement***National Treasury. Publication of the revised COVID-19 Draft Tax Bills for urgent public comment. 1 May 2020.**

“National Treasury and the South African Revenue Service (SARS) publish, for public comment, the revised 2020 Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Bill and 2020 Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Administration Bill. These Bills give effect to the media statement issued by National Treasury on 24 April 2020 regarding further tax measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, following the address by President Cyril Ramaphosa on 21 April 2020.”

http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/20200501%20Media%20statement%20-%20Publication%20of%20the%20revised%20COVID-19%20Draft%20Tax%20Bills%20for%20public%20comment.pdf

*Revised COVID-19 Draft Tax Bills***Revised Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Administration Bill, 2020**

“To provide for tax measures in order to assist with alleviating cash flow burdens on tax compliant micro and small to medium sized businesses arising as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and measures taken under the Disaster Management Act, 2002; to provide for the employees’ tax treatment of donations to the Solidarity Fund; to provide for a change in the value-added tax category of vendors to effect monthly returns and refunds and to provide for matters connected therewith.”

Comments due by 15 May 2020.

<http://www.treasury.gov.za/public%20comments/Covid19%20Bills/Revised%20Draft%20Disaster%20Management%20Tax%20Relief%20Administration%20Bill%20-%201%20May%202020.pdf>

Revised Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Administration Bill, 2020

“To amend the Income Tax Act, 1962, so as 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; to make new provision for the tax treatment of certain organisations for tax relief in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic; to provide for an exemption from liability to pay skills development levy under the Skills Development Levies Act, 1999; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.”

Comments due by 15 May 2020.

<http://www.treasury.gov.za/public%20comments/Covid19%20Bills/Revised%20Draft%20Disaster%20Management%20Tax%20Relief%20Bill%20-%201%20May%202020.pdf>

Revised Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Bill, 2020.

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TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Media Release

Western Cape Economic Development and Tourism. Western Cape on support to businesses to open safely during Coronavirus COVID-19 Alert Level 4. 30 April 2020.

"We note the release last night (29 April 2020) of the Covid-19 Risk Adjusted Strategy regulations by the Department of Cooperative Governance and Cooperative Affairs (COGTA), which will allow for the start of the opening up of our economy following the last five weeks of hard lockdown across South Africa. We are pleased to see that a number of the suggestions that we submitted on Monday (27 April 2020) to COGTA have been included in the final version of the regulations that were released.

These include:

- Allowing exports of wine and agro-processed goods, both of which are critical job and GDP contributors to the provincial economy
- Permitting hardware stores to open for the general public and not just for emergency traders
- Permitting the BPO sector to serve a wider market, including the international market."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/western-cape-support-businesses-open-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19-alert-level-4-30-apr>

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TRANSPORTATION

Media Release

Department of Transport. Minister Fikile Mbalula: Coronavirus COVID-19 Alert Level 4 transport directions. 01 May 2020.

"Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma has published Regulations that give effect to the Alert Level 4 of the Risk Adjusted Strategy to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, which comes into effect today. As mandated by these Regulations, we have made adjustments to our Directions in order to ensure alignment with Level 4. These adjustments have been informed by consultations we have undertaken with industry bodies and authorities in the taxi, bus, rail, aviation and maritime sectors. Our mandate as a sector is that of a catalyst, which enables mobility in the economy and social setting. However, we are enjoined to execute this mandate responsibly and in a manner that ensures that the preservation of human life remains sacrosanct."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-fikile-mbalula-coronavirus-covid-19-alert-level-4-transport-directions-1-may-2020>

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WATER & SANITATION

Media Releases

Department of Water and Sanitation. Minister Lindiwe Sisulu places Amatola Water Board under legal administration. 02 May 2020.

"Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Lindiwe Sisulu has met with her advisors and received the updated reports regarding intensified processes applied to resolving the cases of irregular expenditure in the Department of Water and Sanitation and addressing the findings of the investigation in some of the entities over which the Ministry of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation holds jurisdiction. The Minister received comprehensive updates about enduring problematic developments at both the Amatola Water Board in the Eastern Cape, and Lepelle Northern Water in Limpopo... The decision by Minister Sisulu is not taken lightly. It is informed by the need to have a solvent institution that strives for reliable delivery of water to the citizens of the Eastern Cape. Sisulu would like to thank the interim board for their work. Decisions that were taken by the board will remain valid and in force."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-lindiwe-sisulu-places-amatola-water-board-under-legal-administration-2-may-2020>

Department of Water and Sanitation. Water and Sanitation on rains providing much needed water to fight Coronavirus COVID-19 in Northern Cape. 30 April 2020.

"Water storage in the Northern Cape Province is this week at 136.6 million cubic metres or 92.7% of the full storage capacity of 147.3million m3. The increased dam levels are expected to boost the government's campaign for water availability in its fight against the Coronavirus as all citizenry are required to wash their hands frequently in order to minimize the spread of the virus. The Douglas Storage Weir on the Vaal River is currently at 18.196 million m3 or 112%. The full supply capacity of the Weir is 16.245 million m3. Boegoeberg Dam on the Orange River is at 22.032 million m3 or 106.9%, Spitskop Dam on the Harts River is at 59.611 million or 103.1% full, with the Vaalharts Weir at 36.745 million m3 or 72.5% full."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/water-and-sanitation-rains-provide-much-needed-water-fight-coronavirus-covid-19-northern>

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