



Covid-19 Regulatory Update

 **Lexinfo**
Library & Legal Information Consultants

Covid-19 Regulatory Update: 11 May 2020

CONTENTS

BEE	2	INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	8
COMMUNICATIONS	2	LAND AND PROPERTY LAW	8
COMPETITION	2	MEDICAL LAW	8
CONFIRMED CASES	3	PERSONS AND FAMILY LAW	9
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES	5	PUBLIC SERVICE	9
CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE	5	SAFETY AND SECURITY	10
EDUCATION	6	SOCIAL SERVICES	10
EMPLOYMENT LAW	6	TRADE AND INDUSTRY	10
FINANCIAL LAW	7	WATER & SANITATION	10
IMMIGRATION	7		

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/>

Lexinfo Employment Law Alert



This newsletter provides bibliographical information published in resources such as the government gazette, judgments, journal articles and new publications on employment law issues. The Employment Law Alert is published weekly in .pdf format. The newsletter is distributed to subscribers on a Monday morning. The monthly subscription fee for a single user is only **R99** including VAT. Contact us on alert@lexinfo.co.za for more information.

Lexinfo CC : Library and Legal and Information Consultants
Tel 082 690 8890 | 084 559 2847 | Email: alert@lexinfo.co.za
PO Box 36216, Glosderry, 7702 | <http://www.lexinfo.co.za>

BEE

Media Release

Department of Tourism. Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane and Black Business Council meeting on the implementation of B-BBEE and the government's response to Coronavirus COVID-19. 08 May 2020.

“Tourism Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane and the Black Business Council (BBC) leadership held a virtual meeting on Thursday, 7 May 2020, to discuss amongst others the implementation of Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) and the government's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The high-level and frank engagement, led by Minister Kubayi-Ngubane and the BBC President Sandile Zungu, further discussed the state of transformation in the tourism sector and the measures the Department has taken to accelerate transformation. Regrettably, this critical and necessary discussion comes at a time when the world is facing an unprecedented crisis that has put the economy on a tailspin.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-mmamoloko-kubayi-ngubane-and-black-business-council-meeting-implementation-b-bbee>

[Back to Contents](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Electronic Communications, Postal and Broadcasting Directions issued under Regulation 10 (8) of the Regulations made under the Act: Amendment of [GN417 GG 43164 of 26 March 2020](#), as amended by the Electronic Communications, Postal and Broadcasting Amendment Directions published in [GN451 GG 43209 of 6 April 2020](#) to remove ban on mobile number porting.

GN 516 GG 43299 p3 8May2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43299_8-5_ComDigitalTechnology.pdf

Media Release

Department of Communications. Communications and Digital Technologies congratulates SABC on greater market share. 08 May 2020.

“The Ministry of Communications and Digital Technologies congratulates the South African Broadcasting Cooperation (SABC) on attaining substantially increased viewership and greater market share. The latest Broadcast Research Council (BRC) data show improved figures for the SABC News Channel which now leads the 24-hour news market in the country. The data also shows a 42% and 40% improvement in market share performance in the national (including DTT) and DSTV news markets, respectively. This is a substantial improvement in performance compared to previous years. The Ministry appreciates the crucial role that the public broadcaster is playing in keeping the public informed during this period of the novel Coronavirus pandemic. More importantly, the fact-checking that has been central in curbing myths, and disinformation during this period of COVID -19 has not gone unnoticed.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/communications-and-digital-technologies-congratulates-sabc-greater-market-share-8-may-2020>

[Back to Contents](#)

COMPETITION

Media Release

Competition Commission. Face mask distributor to pay R11 million for inflating prices. 29 April 2020.

The Competition Commission has referred to the Competition Tribunal for confirmation as an order a consent agreement with a distributor of face masks and personal protection gear, among others, after the company inflated prices of essential hygienic items during the Covid 19 disaster. In terms of the agreement, MATUS, a company with offices in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban and satellite branches in Port Elizabeth and Mbombela, has agreed to pay an administrative penalty of R5.9 million after it admitted to inflation of its gross profit margins with regards to essential hygienic products.”

<http://www.compcom.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/FACE-MASK-DISTRIBUTOR-TO-PAY-R11-MILLION-FOR-INFLATING-PRICES.pdf>

Competition Commission. Competition Tribunal confirms R11 million for inflating prices. 06 May 2020.

“The Competition Commission welcomes the decision of the Competition Tribunal to confirm as an order the R11 million consent agreement with a distributor of face masks and personal protection gear.”

<http://www.compcom.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/COMPETITION-TRIBUNAL-CONFIRMS-R11-MILLION-FOR-INFLATING-PRICES.pdf>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. KZN pharmacy admits to excessive pricing of face masks.

2020 May 8 SA News

“A pharmacy based in KwaZulu-Natal has admitted to excessive pricing of face masks in a consent agreement with the Competition Commission. The Commission received information relating to the inflated prices of face masks by the Mandini Pharmacy in March. “A Commission investigation found that Mandini Pharmacy ordered face masks from a supplier with the intention to resell to its customers. It did not sell face masks before March 2020 but decided to source face masks due to the sudden demand and panic-buying brought on by the state of national disaster,” the Commission said. The Commission found that the gross profit margin in respect of the face masks for March 2020 is a contravention of section 8(1)(a) of the Act read together with Regulation 4 of the Consumer Protection Regulations.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/kzn-pharmacy-admits-excessive-pricing-face-masks>

[Back to Contents](#)

CONFIRMED CASES

Media Releases

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 8 895 confirmed cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 08 May 2020.

“As of today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa is 8895.

- Eastern Cape: 989;
- Free State: 133;
- Gauteng: 1851;
- KwaZulu-Natal: 1253;
- Limpopo: 43;
- Mpumalanga: 60;
- North West: 42;
- Northern Cape: 27;
- Western Cape: 4497;
- Unknown: 0; and
- Total: 8895.

Testing Data: A total of 307 752 tests have been conducted to date with 15 599 tests done in the past 24 hours

We are also pleased to report that, as of 5 May, 8 216 605 citizens have been screened across the country.

As of 7th May we had 435 patients in hospital of which 45 were in high care, 77 were in ICU and, of those, 40 were being ventilated. Our hospitalization rate remains at 5% of all COVID- 19 diagnosed patients. Reported COVID-19

Deaths: Regrettably, we report 17 more COVID-19 related deaths: 3 from Eastern Cape, 3 from Gauteng, 2 from KZN and 9 from Western Cape. This brings the total national deaths to 178.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-total-8-895-confirmed-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-8-may-2020>

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 9 420 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 09 May 2020.

“There are 525 new confirmed COVID-19 cases, with the total number of confirmed cases at 9 420.

- Eastern Cape: 1078;
- Free State: 134;
- Gauteng: 1910;
- KwaZulu-Natal: 1308;
- Limpopo: 51;
- Mpumalanga: 61;
- North West: 41;
- Northern Cape: 28;
- Western Cape: 4 809;
- Unknown: 0;
- Total: 9 420;
- Total Deaths: 186; and
- Recoveries: 3 983.

We are saddened to report 8 new deaths, 7 from the Western Cape and 1 from KwaZulu Natal. We have also been advised that one of the deceased was a nurse at Tygerberg Hospital in Cape Town. We pay special tribute to this health worker.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-total-9-420-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-9-may-2020-0000>

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 10 015 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 10 May 2020.

“As of today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa is 10 015.

- Eastern Cape: 1218;
- Free State: 135;
- Gauteng: 1952;
- KwaZulu-Natal: 1353;
- Limpopo: 54;
- Mpumalanga: 61;
- North West: 45;
- Northern Cape: 29;
- Western Cape: 5168;
- Unknown: 0; and
- Total: 10015.

We note with concern that the Western Cape and Eastern Cape combined comprises 84% of the total new cases. A total of 341 336 tests have been conducted to date with 17 257 tests done relative to the last report. This is a record high for a 24-hour cycle of testing. Regrettably, we report 8 more COVID-19 related deaths: 3 from Western Cape, 1 from Eastern Cape, and 4 from Gauteng. This brings the total national deaths to 194.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mini-arwe-lindiwe-zulu-briefs-media-social-development-response-coronavirus-covid-19-level-4>

North West Health. North West Health on Coronavirus COVID-19 cases. 09 May 2020.

“The total number of COVID-19 confirmed cases in the North West Province as at Friday, 08 May 2020 is 42.

- Bojanala District: 30;
- Rustenburg Municipality: 17;
- Madibeng Municipality: 12;
- Moretele Municipality: 01;
- Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District: 08;
- JB Marks Municipality: 04;
- Matlosana Municipality: 04;
- Ngaka Modiri Molema District: 02;
- Mahikeng Municipality: 02;
- Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District: 01;
- Lekwa Teemane Municipality: 01;
- Unallocated: 01; and
- Deaths: 0.

Recoveries: 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.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/north-west-health-coronavirus-covid-19-cases-9-may-2020-0000>

Western Cape Office of the Premier. Premier Alan Winde update on Coronavirus COVID-19 on 8 May. 08 May 2020.

“As of 1pm on 8 May, the Western Cape has recorded 4584 confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection.

- Total confirmed COVID-19 cases: 4584;
- Total recoveries: 1518;
- Total deaths: 87; Total active cases (currently infected patients): 2979; and
- Total number of tests: 53476.

The Western Cape has recorded an additional 11 COVID-19 deaths-bringing the total number of deaths from the virus in the province to 87. We extend our condolences to their loved ones at this time. We are also deeply saddened to announce the death of a Tygerberg Hospital nurse, Ntombizakithi Ngidi. We extend our deepest condolences to her family, friends and her colleagues at this time and we honour her service to the people of this province.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-update-coronavirus-covid-19-8-may-8-may-2020-0000>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Correctional services centres record three deaths.

2020 May 8 SA News

“Correctional services centres across South Africa have 172 confirmed cases of COVID-19, with three deaths and 59 recoveries. A total of 95 officials have tested positive for COVID-19, with 77 inmates also being affected by the virus.

“Currently, our COVID-19 preventative measures are stretched to the brink. We have managed thus far, but the spread of the virus continues. We ought to act decisively and prevent this invisible killer from rapidly multiplying in our centres,” Minister of Justice and Correctional Services Ronald Lamola said.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/correctional-services-centres-records-three-deaths>

[Back to Contents](#)

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Government Gazettes

Correctional Services Act 111 of 1998

Placement on parole of selected categories of sentenced offenders for the purpose of addressing, managing and combatting the spread of the COVID-19 virus in all Correctional Centres in the Republic.

Proc19 GG 43298 p3 8May2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43298_08-05_CorrectServices.pdf

Media Releases

Department of Correctional Services. Minister Ronald Lamola: Special Coronavirus COVID-19 parole dispensation statement. 08 May 2020.

“Comparatively speaking, other institutions nationally and worldwide, discharging the risk of people within their remit of responsibility, closed off their facilities and sent people back into the community. This is not something the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) can do with ease, simply because the interest of justice and society demand the complete opposite from us. The DCS has continually adopted a conscientious approach in implementing its Covid-19 Disaster Management Response Strategy across all its centres and offices. This strategy entails prevention, containment, treatment and recovery. We are confronted however, with the glaring impossibility of maintaining physical distancing in our centres due to overcrowding.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-ronald-lamola-special-covid19-parole-dispensation-statement-8-may-2020-0000>

The Presidency. Presidency on placement on parole of selected categories of sentenced offenders during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 08 May 2020.

“President Cyril Ramaphosa has authorised the placement on parole of selected categories of sentenced offenders as a measure to combat the spread of COVID-19 in correctional facilities, which are considered high-risk areas for infection. The President has taken this step in response to a call by the United Nations to all countries to reduce prison populations so that social distancing and self-isolation conditions can be observed during this period. In South Africa, as in many other countries, correctional facilities have witnessed outbreaks of coronavirus infections among inmates and personnel.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/presidency-placement-parole-selected-categories-sentenced-offenders-during-coronavirus>

Western Cape Community Safety. MEC Albert Fritz on release of parolees during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 08 May 2020.

“The Minister of Community Safety, Albert Fritz, has expressed concern over President Cyril Ramaphosa’s announcement that 19 000 prisoners will be considered for parole and has requested further details on the conditions of their release. The release of prisoners on parole aims to address overcrowding in prisons to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. During a subsequent press conference, Minister Lamola noted that the final decision to grant parole rested with the relevant parole board. Minister Fritz said, “I call on Minister Lamola to provide greater clarity on the steps that will be taken to ensure that the whereabouts of those granted parole are monitored by the parole officer and SAPS so that all our residents are protected.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-albert-fritz-release-parolees-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-8-may-2020-0000>

[Back to Contents](#)

CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

Admission of Guilt Fines

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Determination of Admission of Guilt Fines in respect of offences committed in terms of the Disaster Management Act Regulations, 2020:

Gauteng Province

- District of Pretoria. 3 April 2020
https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/Gauteng_Province/Determination_of_Admission_of_Guilt_Fines_-_Offences_in_Terms_of_the_Disaster_Management_Act_Regulations_2020_-_District_of_Pretoria.pdf
- Magisterial District of Tshwane Central, Tshwane North and Tshwane East. 7 May 2020.
https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/Gauteng_Province/Determination_of_Admission_of_Guilt_Fines_in_Respect_of_Offences_Committed_in_Terms_of_the_Disaster_Management_Act_Regulations_2020.pdf

KwaZulu-Natal Province

- Administrative Region 6, KwaZulu-Natal. 4 May2020.
 - Judicial Circular 11 of 2020: https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/Kwazulu-Natal_Province/Determination_of_Admission_of_Guilt_Fines_in_Respect_of_Offences_Committed_in_Terms_of_Regulations

[Promulgated Under the Disaster Management Act 2002 Published in Government Gazette 43258 Dated 29 April 2020 in Administrative Region 6 - Kwazulu-Natal.pdf](#)

- [Admission of Guilt Fines: https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/Kwazulu-Natal Province/Determination of Admission of Guilt Fines in Respect of Offences Committed in Terms of Regulations Promulgated Under the Disaster Management Act 2002 Published in Government Gazette 43258 Dated 29 April 2020.pdf](https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/Kwazulu-Natal%20Province/Determination%20of%20Admission%20of%20Guilt%20Fines%20in%20Respect%20of%20Offences%20Committed%20in%20Terms%20of%20Regulations%20Promulgated%20Under%20the%20Disaster%20Management%20Act%202002%20Published%20in%20Government%20Gazette%2043258%20Dated%2029%20April%202020.pdf)
- **Administrative Region 7, KwaZulu-Natal. Magisterial District of Pietermaritzburg. 1 May 2020.**
[https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/Kwazulu-Natal Province/Administrative Region 7 - Kwazulu Natal - Ad Hoc Dertermination of Admission of Guilt Fines in Terms of Section 575a of the Criminal Procedure Act 1977 Act 51 of 1977.pdf](https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/Kwazulu-Natal%20Province/Administrative%20Region%207%20-%20Kwazulu%20Natal%20-%20Ad%20Hoc%20Dertermination%20of%20Admission%20of%20Guilt%20Fines%20in%20Terms%20of%20Section%20575a%20of%20the%20Criminal%20Procedure%20Act%201977%20Act%2051%20of%201977.pdf)

North West Province

- **District of Mahikeng. 6 May 2020.**
[https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/North West Province/Determination in Terms of Section 57 5 of the Criminal Procedure Act No 51 of 1977 of Amounts of Admission of Guilt Payable for Offences in Terms of the Disaster Management Act 2002 and Regulations as Amended During Alert Level 4.pdf](https://www.judiciary.org.za/images/Determinations/North%20West%20Province/Determination%20in%20Terms%20of%20Section%2057%205%20of%20the%20Criminal%20Procedure%20Act%20No%2051%20of%201977%20of%20Amounts%20of%20Admission%20of%20Guilt%20Payable%20for%20Offences%20in%20Terms%20of%20the%20Disaster%20Management%20Act%202002%20and%20Regulations%20as%20Amended%20During%20Alert%20Level%204.pdf)

[Back to Contents](#)

EDUCATION

Media Comment

Ngqakamba, Sesona. Coronavirus: WC education dept advises principals, management to hold back from returning on Monday.

2020 May 10 News24

<https://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/coronavirus-wc-education-dept-directs-principals-management-to-hold-back-from-returning-on-monday-20200510>

Media Release

Western Cape Agriculture. MEC Ivan Meyer on Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute ongoing learning. 10 May 2020.

“Following the suspension of formal classes on 18 March 2020 and the closure of hostels on 20 March 2020 at the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute (EATI), management has engaged students and parents to clarify the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown on the 2020 academic year. Management and academic staff have implemented alternative interventions to ensure the continuation of the educational programme for its Higher Education and Training and Agricultural Skills Development streams. A particular focus is placed on the final year candidates registered for the Bachelor of Agriculture (B Agric) offered in conjunction with the University of Stellenbosch (SU), the new three-year Diploma programme and the Learnership with its focus on Work-Integrated-Learning.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-ivan-meyer-elsenburg-agricultural-training-institute-ongoing-learning-10-may-2020-0000>

[Back to Contents](#)

EMPLOYMENT LAW

Media Comment

Smith, Carin. SAA retrenchment notices were unfair, court rules.

2020 May 8 Fin24

‘In the absence of a business rescue plan, the issuing of Section 189 notices commencing a consultation process over proposed retrenchments at South African Airways was procedurally unfair, the Labour Court found on Friday.’

<https://www.fin24.com/Companies/Industrial/saa-retrenchment-notices-were-unfair-court-rules-20200508>

Media Release

Department of Employment and Labour. Minister Thulas Nxesi condemns employers who are not passing on Coronavirus COVID-19 relief benefits to workers. 08 May 2020.

“The Minister of Employment and Labour Thulas Nxesi has come out blazing against employers who have received Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) Covid-19 Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme benefits from the UIF but are not passing on the money to workers. The Minister has described this practice as callous and insensitive to the needs of workers, especially when many people are facing financial distress due to the Coronavirus pandemic lockdown. The UIF has been inundated with calls from workers complaining that employers have not paid them their benefits despite having received funds from the UIF.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-thulas-nxesi-condemns-employers-who-are-not-passing-coronavirus-covid-19-relief>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. UIF pays R9.5 billion to workers.

2020 May 8 SA News

"The Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) has disbursed almost R9.5 billion through the COVID-19 Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme (TERS). "This is a critical infusion and further creates a safety net for workers who may ordinarily not be paid because of the lockdown as a result of the Coronavirus [COVID-19] pandemic," said Minister of Employment and Labour Thulas Nxesi said on Thursday. The payments have benefitted 1 937 558 workers. "We serve the people of this country and it is particularly at this point that we demonstrate the nature of a caring government thus ensuring that to the extent possible, no person is left behind," said Nxesi."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/uif-pays-r95-billion-workers>

[Back to Contents](#)

FINANCIAL LAW

Media Releases

Western Cape Community Safety. MEC Albert Fritz appoints Board of Trustees for Chrysalis Academy. 10 May 2020.

"The Minister of Community Safety, Albert Fritz, has re-appointed Chrysalis Academy's Board of Trustees for a further term. Minister Fritz thanks the Trustees which include Dr Marlene le Roux, Solly Moeng, Dr Don Pinnock and (Retired) Judge Deon van Zyl, for their service thus far and looks forward to working more closely with the Board in future.

The Trustees are collectively responsible for the governance of the Chrysalis Academy.

Their duties include:

- Ensuring that annual external audits are completed;
- Compiling and distributing annual reports;
- Approving budgets; and
- Developing annual and three year strategic plans."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-albert-fritz-appoints-board-trustees-chrysalis-academy-10-may-2020-0000>

Western Cape Provincial Treasury. Western Cape Treasury adopts a whole-of-government response to Covid-19. 10 May 2020.

"The Covid-19 pandemic facing South Africa requires a whole-of-government and whole-of-society response. That is why the Provincial Treasury, working together with all departments in the Western Cape government, is working hard to support a full-scale response to Covid-19. In the immediate term, Provincial Treasury has taken a number of steps to support key departments like Health, Social Development and Public Works and Transport with streamlined decision-making around supply chain matters to ensure that critical procurement decisions are made as fast as possible, while ensuring full compliance under the emergency procurement protocols put in place by National Treasury."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/western-cape-treasury-adopts-whole-government-response-covid-19-10-may-2020-0000>

[Back to Contents](#)

IMMIGRATION

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued by Minister of Home Affairs in terms of Regulation 4(8), read with regulation 4(10) of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19. Amendment to the Directions published under [RGN480 in GG 43258 dated 29 April 2020](#). Directions regarding temporary measures in respect of entry into or exit from of the Republic for emergency medical attention for life threatening condition, for the return of South African citizens and the repatriation of foreign nationals to their countries of nationality or residence in order to prevent and combat spread of COVID-19.

RGN518 GG 43301 p3 9May2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43301_9-5_HomeAffairs.pdf

[Back to Contents](#)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Media Releases

The Presidency. President Cyril Ramaphosa chairs a virtual consultative meeting with Heads of State and Government of countries neighbouring South Africa to discuss responses to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, 8 May. 08 May 2020.

“President Cyril Ramaphosa has convened and will chair a virtual consultative meeting with Heads of State and Government of countries neighbouring South Africa to discuss responses to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The meeting will take place today, Friday, 08 May 2020 and aims to afford countries to share views on coordinated responses to curb the spread of COVID-19. Amongst other issues on the agenda will be consular and immigration matters, economic impact of the COVID-19 on countries as well as financial support and international pledges.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-chairs-virtual-consultative-meeting-heads-state-and-government>

The Presidency. President Cyril Ramaphosa: Virtual consultative meeting with Heads of State and Government of countries neighbouring South Africa on responses to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. 08 May 2020.

“While the numbers of infections in Africa at this time is lower than elsewhere in the world, we expect that the peak of infections in Africa is still to come. We are concerned about the impact the virus will have on our societies, our economies and our public health systems. We therefore thought it would be important to meet as neighbouring countries – at the level of heads of state and government – to share information on our respective responses and to look at how we can better coordinate our efforts. This virus does not respect borders, nor distinctions of nationality.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-virtual-consultative-meeting-heads-state-and-government-countries>

[Back to Contents](#)

LAND AND PROPERTY LAW

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Businesses, individuals may now relocate premises.

2020 May 8 SA News

“Citizens and businesses wishing to move premises during the COVID-19 lockdown can now do so. This comes after Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Minister, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, issued and gazetted a set of amendments of the directions to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in South Africa.

The directives are known as the “Directions on the once-off movement of persons and the transportation of goods for purposes of relocation”. The once off movement of premises commenced on Thursday, 7 May, and will conclude on 7 June 2020.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/businesses-individuals-may-now-relocate-premises>

[Back to Contents](#)

MEDICAL LAW

Circular

Council for Medical Schemes. Circular 33 of 2020: Understanding medical scheme reserves. 7 May 2020.

“The Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) has noted the recent discourse around granting medical schemes the green light to tap into their reserves to fund coronavirus (COVID-19) claims, allowing their solvency to be below the legislated 25% level. To this extent, the CMS would like to unpack the purpose of reserves, what they are composed of, and CMS’ role in their governing.”

<https://www.medicalschemes.com/files/Circulars/Circular33of2020.pdf>

Guideline

Council for Medical Schemes. PMB definition guideline: COVID-19. Version 2. (Updated version). 5 May 2020.

https://www.medicalschemes.com/files/PMB%20Benefit%20definition%20guidelines/PMB_definition_guideline-COVID-19_v2_6_May_2020.pdf

Media Release

Western Cape Office of the Premier. Premier Alan Winde: National Health Laboratory Services delays escalated to President Cyril Ramaphosa. 08 May 2020.

“Among the problems being experienced is a shortage of reagents and test kits which need to be imported from overseas. Policy decisions, such as the decision by the Department of Labour that a person must test negative before being allowed to return to work and other government departments requesting testing for their staff members, place additional strain on the system and further compound the problem. We have requested that the President urgently

intervene to support the NHLS and obtain the reagents and test kits required, and to address issues in the policy space.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-national-health-laboratory-services-delays-escalated-president-cyril>

[Back to Contents](#)

PERSONS AND FAMILY LAW

Media Release

Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities. Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane on access to menstrual and hygiene products during the Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 08 May 2020.

“The Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD) together with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Water Aid Southern Africa, Footprints Foundation and Langelihle Youth Foundation formed solidarity partnerships in ensuring that menstrual and hygiene products are made available for vulnerable women and girls in indigent households, shelters, informal settlements and quarantine spots during the lock-down period and beyond. As part of the social impact resulted from regulations to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus, there is general increase in the need for sanitary products for destitute families.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-maite-nkoana-mashabane-access-menstrual-and-hygiene-products-during-coronavirus>

[Back to Contents](#)

PUBLIC SERVICE

Media Release

Department of Public Service and Administration. Minister Senzo Mchunu: Level 4 risk adjusted measures in the public service in response to COVID-19. 08 May 2020.

“The work of the Ministry and Department of Public Service and Administration is informed by these basic values and principles governing Public Administration and place the Ministry and Department at the centre of building a capable, ethical and developmental state. This requires us to modernise government focusing on, amongst others, innovation and efficiency. The enactment of the Public Service Act, 1994 ushered in a new era in the South African public service premised on transformation and a new democratic dispensation. In seeking to entrench the Constitutional values and principles, the public service adopted the Batho Pele principles with the vision of “A better life for all South Africans by putting people first”.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-senzo-mchunu-level-4-risk-adjusted-measures-public-service-response-covid-19-8-may>

Media Statements

SA Government News Agency. Home Affairs urged to procure protective equipment.

2020 May 8 SA News

“The Department of Home Affairs has been directed to urgently procure personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline officials. This follows visits by members of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs to various Home Affairs offices across the country. It was reported that a number of offices, especially in the Limpopo, Western Cape and Mpumalanga provinces were closed, due to the shortage of PPEs and thermometers. PPE equipment is required to ensure that frontline officials are able to deliver services in a safe environment. In addition, PPE forms part of the necessary and required tools used in adhering to the Department of Health and World Health Organization (WHO) protocols in fighting COVID-19.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/home-affairs-urged-procure-protective-equipment>

SA Government News Agency. Measures in place for public servants to return to work.

2020 May 8 SA News

“With 511 public servants in South Africa having tested positive for COVID-19, departments have been urged to implement health and safety measures that ensure the containment and management of the virus in the public service. Of the 511 total cases, two – a doctor and a nurse – have died from the virus, Public Service and Administration Minister Senzo Mchunu revealed on Friday. Expressing concern at the numbers, the Minister said the pandemic would test to the maximum the State’s capability to efficiently provide services. Mchunu made the remarks while addressing reporters on the department’s Level 4 adjusted measures response to COVID-19.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/measures-place-public-servants-return-work>

[Back to Contents](#)

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Media Release

Western Cape Community Safety. MEC Albert Fritz on Western Cape Safety Plan officers continue to support Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 08 May 2020.

“The Minister of Community Safety, Albert Fritz, commends the 500 newly deployed law enforcement officers, appointed through the Western Cape Safety Plan, who are continuously supporting the enforcement of the lockdown. The law enforcement officers are working with SAPS and SANDF as part of a joint effort.

Between 27 April and 3 May 2020, the Law Enforcement Advancement Plan (LEAP) law enforcement officers:

- Attended to 117 COVID-19 related complaints;
- Held 6 roadblocks;
- Stopped and Searched 1599 persons;
- Searched 4206 vehicles;
- Searched 81 houses;
- Participated in 42 joint operations;
- Issued 1386 notices including section 341, section 56 and traffic notices; and
- Arrested 8 persons.

Minister Fritz said, “I commend the 500 deployed law enforcement officers who are providing continuous support to the joint command of SAPS and SANDF. These officers have been deployed in 8 clusters including Khayelitsha, Lentegeur, Nyanga (including Bishop Lavis), and Delft (including Blue Downs).”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-albert-fritz-western-cae-safety-plan-officers-continue-support-coronavirus-covid-19>

[Back to Contents](#)

SOCIAL SERVICES

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued by Minister of Social Development in terms of Regulation 4 (5) of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19. Amendment to the Directions issued under [GN430 in GG 43182 of 30 March 2020](#) as amended by [RGN455 in GG 43213 of 07 April 2020](#).

RGN517 GG 43300 p3 9May2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43300_9-5_SocialDevDep.pdf

[Back to Contents](#)

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Media Release

Western Cape Economic Development and Tourism. Western Cape on expanding e-commerce under Alert Level 4 lockdown. 08 May 2020.

“Today (08 May 2020), I have written a letter to Minister of Trade and Industry, Ebrahim Patel with an attached submission, requesting him to issue additional directives alongside the Alert Level 4 Regulations to permit online retailers to sell all goods, the delivery of those goods directly to customers and for the importation of those goods to be allowed. The e-commerce industry in South Africa represents an expansive supply chain of businesses across retail and logistics sectors, and provides an online platform for businesses, especially SMMEs to access and compete in markets where they would ordinarily not have been able to trade. The sector employees at least 40 000 people in South Africa and given the fact that e-commerce can facilitate trade with minimal human interaction, it could potentially employ a lot more if allowed to expand under Alert Level 4.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/western-cape-expanding-e-commerce-under-alert-level-4-lockdown-8-may-2020-0000>

[Back to Contents](#)

WATER & SANITATION

Media Release

Department of Water and Sanitation. Minister Lindiwe Sisulu on investigation into maladministration at Water and Sanitation. 08 May 2020.

“We faced huge financial mismanagement in the water sector, with the result that many of our top officials at national and municipal levels are under investigation. All current investigations will be fast-tracked and ensure there will be follow-through consequences. If needed, we will also call in forensic investigators to assist us,” Human Settlements,

Water and Sanitation Minister Lindiwe Sisulu. We have followed through on our commitment to the nation made at the Water and Sanitation Budget Vote, which took place on 16 July 2019. Minister Sisulu appointed a team of eminent persons assisted by National Treasury approved investigators, to investigate allegations of maladministration at the Department of Water and Sanitation. We can now report to the nation that the first phase of investigations has been concluded.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-lindiwe-sisulu-investigation-maladministration-water-and-sanitation-8-may-2020>

[Back to Contents](#)

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS RESEARCHED AND PROVIDED IN GOOD FAITH. WHILST EVERY CARE IS TAKEN IN THE COMPILATION OF THE **COVID-19 REGULATORY UPDATE**, LEXINFO CC CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED, NOR FOR THE OMISSION OF ANY INFORMATION, NOR FOR ANY DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE USE IN ANY WAY OF SUCH INFORMATION.

For Subscription Information: | Tel 082 690 8890 | Email: alert@lexinfo.co.za | Fax: 086-589 3696 | PO Box 36216, Glosderry, 7702