



Covid-19 Regulatory Update

 **Lexinfo**
Library & Legal Information Consultants

Covid-19 Regulatory Update: 02 June 2020

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Index to Covid-19 regulations and notices: <https://juta.co.za/covid-19-legislation-update/2020/05/21/index/>

Lexinfo Practice Management Alert



Practice Management Alert

 **Lexinfo**
Library & Legal Information Consultants

This newsletter is published bi-monthly and focuses on issues such as client care, innovation, legal technology, management, leadership, remote working, work-life balance, knowledge management, libraries, succession, management, skills development, artificial intelligence, human resources, libraries, marketing and branding.

The latest edition, March to April 2020, is now available. This edition contains valuable references to various international resources and case studies on the challenges and possible solutions for legal practices in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. The March to April 2020 edition can be purchased for only R99 including VAT.

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BEE

Media Comment

Hunter, Qaanitah. Covid-19: DA in court to fight transformation criteria for government relief.

2020 Jun1 News24

“The DA will on Monday ask the Gauteng High Court in Pretoria to declare it impermissible and unlawful for government to use Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) status, race, gender, age or disability as criteria for determining who will receive aid from government amid the Covid-19 pandemic.”

<https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/covid-19-da-in-court-to-fight-transformation-criteria-for-government-relief-20200601>

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COMMUNICATIONS

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. President engages SANEF on COVID-19 response.

2020 Jun 1 SA News

“President Cyril Ramaphosa has, in a virtual meeting on Sunday, engaged with members of the South African National Editors’ Forum (SANEF) on the country’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting took place at a time when the country and the rest of the world are immersed in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the meeting, the President engaged editors on South Africa’s ongoing measures to manage the spread of COVID-19 through the risk-adjusted strategy. The President commended the media in South Africa for its contribution to the national effort to confront the crisis, which has helped to inform and empower South Africans, stimulate public debate and promote accountability.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/president-engages-sanef-covid-19-response>

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COMPETITION

Media Release

Competition Commission South Africa. Face masks supplier found guilty of excessive pricing. 1 June 2020.

“The Tribunal found Babelegi’s price increases and mark-ups were unreasonable in that they “... bear no reasonable relation to the prices charged and mark-ups prior the Complaint Period as the appropriate and sensible benchmark of what competitive prices and mark-ups would be under conditions of normal and effective competition”.”

<http://www.compcor.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/FACE-MASKS-SUPPLIER-FOUND-GUILTY-OF-EXCESSIVE-PRICING.pdf>

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CONFIRMED CASES

Media Statements

SA Government News Agency. COVID-19 cases spike to 32 683, with 40 more deaths recorded.

2020 Jun 1 SA News

“The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa has risen by 1 716 cases on Sunday bringing the total number of infections to 32 683. In addition, 40 people succumbed to COVID-19 related disease, putting the death toll to 683 in the last 24 hours. The Western Cape remains the hotspot with the highest number of cases at 21 382 in the country, followed by Gauteng with 4 003 cases and then Eastern Cape with 3 927. KwaZulu-Natal has 2 545 cases, Limpopo 177, North West 175, Mpumalanga 121, Northern Cape 69, and six are unknown. Health Minister, Dr Zweli Mkhize, said they have conducted 725 125 tests and 16 809 recoveries to date.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/covid-19-cases-spike-32-683-40-more-deaths-recorded>

Western Cape. Premier Alan Winde. Update on the coronavirus by Premier Alan Winde - 1 June 2020.

As of 1pm on 1 June, the Western Cape has 10 135 active cases of Covid-19, with a total of 22 087 confirmed cases and 11 431 recoveries.

Total confirmed Covid-19 cases: 22 087

Total recoveries: 11431

Total deaths: 521

Total active cases (currently infected patients): 10 135

Tests conducted: 160 448

Hospital admissions: 958 of which 181 are in ICU or high care.”
<https://coronavirus.westerncape.gov.za/news/update-coronavirus-premier-alan-winde-1-june>

Reports

National Institute of Communicable Diseases. Covid-19 Daily Update: 1 June 2020.
<https://www.nicd.ac.za/covid-19-update-74/>

National Institute of Communicable Diseases. Covid-19 Daily Report: 1 June 2020.
<https://www.nicd.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/COVID19-Daily-Report-National-Public-1June2020.pdf>

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CONSTRUCTION

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions for the Resumption of Construction and Related Services in Post School Education and Training Institutions.

These directions apply to

- Construction of new buildings, facilities and services required for or to enable teaching, learning and research;
- Maintenance, extension, upgrading or refurbishment of existing buildings, facilities and services required for or to enable teaching, learning and research; and
- Student housing developments.

GN617 GG 43378 p3 01Jun2020 **[NB These Directions appear to be incomplete]**

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43378_01-6_HighEduTrain.pdf

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. NHBRC regional offices to resume, satellites phased in.

2020 Jun 1 SA News

“While the National Home Builders’ Registration Council (NHBRC) provincial offices will resume full service operations next Monday, satellite offices will be phased in gradually. The satellite offices are in Tzaneen, Witbank, Bethlehem, Thulamela, Mafikeng, Klerksdorp and Newcastle. Acting Chief Executive, Otsile Maseng, said the approach was to ensure that the NHBRC safeguards the health and safety of its employees. This, he said, was to also ensure that its offices are compliant and suitable to accommodate employees and customers.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/nhbrc-regional-offices-resume-satellites-phased>

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EDUCATION

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

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GN617 GG 43378 p3 01Jun2020 **[NB These Directions appear to be incomplete]**

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43378_01-6_HighEduTrain.pdf

- Directions issued in terms of Regulation 4(3) of the Regulations made under the Act regarding the Re-Opening of Schools and Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 in the National Department of Basic Education, all Provincial Education Departments, all Education District Offices and All Schools in the Republic of South Africa as published in [GenN302 in GG 43372 of 29May2020](#): Amendment. GenN304 GG 43381 p3 01Jun2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43381_01-6_BasicEducation.pdf

Media Comment

SAHRC takes Western Cape to court over reopening of schools.

2020 Jun1 eNCA

"The SA Human Rights Commission is taking legal action against the Western Cape government on Monday. The commission wants the province's decision to reopen schools, reversed."

<https://www.enca.com/news/sahrc-challenge-wc-reopening-schools>

Media Release

Department of Basic Education. Minister Angie Motshekga: Coronavirus Covid 19 readiness for re-opening of schools. 01 June 2020.

"On 30 May 2020, the Council of Education Ministers (CEM) received three critical reports – the first, on the state of readiness from a research consortium coordinated by the National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT); the second, on the state of delivery of water tanks and water supply by Rand Water; and the third, a technical report from the Heads of Education Departments Committee (HEDCOM) on the state of readiness for the phased-in reopening of schools. Based on these reports, it became clear that the sector was at different levels of readiness. In the main, it was for this reason that the CEM determined that the sector requires more time to mop-out its state of readiness for school reopening, in order to comply with the health and safety standards on COVID-19... the sector has agreed that effective teaching and learning, is expected to resume on 08 June 2020."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-angie-motshekga-coronavirus-covid-19-readiness-re-opening-schools-1-jun-2020-0000>

Media Statements

SA Government News Agency. Orientation underway ahead of schools reopening on 8 June.

2020 Jun 1 SA News

"Following the postponed reopening of schools to 8 June 2020, schools around the country are set to use the first week of June to induct and orientate teachers on the COVID-19 school environment, and to ensure the readiness of each facility for the arrival of learners. On Sunday, Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga took a decision to delay the reopening of schools by a week, following a series of consultations with stakeholders in the education sector."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/orientation-underway-ahead-schools-reopening-8-june>

SA Government News Agency. Schools to reopen on 8 June.

2020 Jun 1 SA News

"Schools will reopen on 8 June 2020 for grade 7 and 12 learners to allow for the orientation and training of teachers. The Council of Education Ministers (CEM) took a decision to continue to reopen schools on 01 June 2020, but with School Management Teams (SMT), teachers and non-teaching staff only arriving to prepare for the arrival of learners. "Provincial and district officials should ensure that health, safety, and social distancing requirements, are strictly adhered to when teachers arrive. This whole coming week must be used for the proper orientation and training of teachers, the mopping and ramping of all supply chain matters, and final touches to the readiness of each facility for the arrival of learners," said the Basic Education Department (DBE)."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/schools-reopen-8-june>

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Protocol

Western Cape Government. Environment Affairs and Development Planning. Directorate: Waste Management. Protocol for Managing Waste from Offices and Premises of Businesses and Institutions during the Covid-19 Pandemic. 29 May 2020.

Copy available from alert@lexinfo.co.za

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LIQUOR

Media Release

KwaZulu-Natal Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs. MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube on re-opening KwaZulu-Natal liquor sales under Coronavirus COVID-19 alert level 3. 01 June 2020.

"Today, a total of 8000 liquor licence holders in this province are expected to sell alcohol, only for off-consumption purposes. Our entity, the KZN Liquor Authority has proactively notified licensed premises about Regulations governing the sale of alcohol during COVID-19 Level 3. Critically, I wish to announce that where any licence holder is found to have violated any of the provisions contained in the regulations or the sale of liquor in terms of the KZN Liquor

Licensing Act, the KZN liquor authority will recommend the suspension of the license until the end of lockdown or for three months. We are nursing hopes that license holders will adhere to these regulations which are aimed at ensuring the health and safety of customers, workers, liquor traders and the people of this province as a whole.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-nomusa-dube-ncube-re-opening-liquor-sales-1-jun-2020-0000>

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SAFETY AND SECURITY

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Spotlight on children's rights.

2020 Jun 1 SA News

“The Minister of Social Development, Lindiwe Zulu, will today host a virtual meeting aimed at giving children a voice in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic. “As the Coronavirus pandemic continues to spread across South Africa, causing major disruptions in family life, concerns about the safety and wellbeing of children have significantly increased, with many of them currently out of school for an extended period of time,” the Department of Social Development said. To give children a voice in this unprecedented time, Zulu will host a virtual meeting with child ambassadors, who represent all nine provinces.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/spotlight-children%E2%80%99s-rights>

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SOCIAL SECURITY

Analysis

Seekings, Jeremy. Feeding poor people: The national government has failed.

2020 Jun 2 Groundup

- “The national government had no plan to ensure food reached poor households.
- It has been left to civil society – individuals and organisations, as donors and as volunteers – to try to fill the gap, with assistance from provincial and local governments.
- Civil society deserves massive praise for its effort, but it has not even been able to fill the gap left by the suspension of the school feeding programme.
- The total number of food parcels distributed is less than one-tenth of what has been needed urgently.
- Because of the suspension of national school feeding, much less food has been distributed in total under the lockdown than before it.”

<https://www.groundup.org.za/article/feeding-poor-people-national-government-has-failed/>

Media Release

South African Social Security Agency. SASSA on paying over 100 thousand R350 COVID-19 grant clients by end of May. 01 June 2020.

“The South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) has kept the promise to pay at least 100 000 clients who applied for the Special COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress. By 31 May 2020, 116 867 clients were paid for the Special COVID-19 SRD Grant. In addition, to date, over 3,5 million were checked to confirm if they are either active SASSA grant recipients, are on the UIF database or receive an NSFAS stipend. “We have received approximately 13 million enquiries/applications about the temporary special COVID-19 SRD grant as at Monday, 25 May 2020. About 6.3 million of these were valid complete applications. The rest were either duplicate applications, incomplete, had inconsistent data, or were just pure enquiries”, said Busisiwe Memela, SASSA CEO.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/sassa-paying-over-100-thousand-r350-covid-19-grant-clients-end-may-1-jun-2020-0000>

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TOBACCO

Media Comment

BATSA wants court case on banning of cigarettes heard on June 22.

2020 Jun 1 IOL

“British American Tobacco SA, Japan Tobacco International SA and eight others with an interest in the industry on Monday served notice on the government that it was filing papers in the Cape Town High Court to have the continued ban on cigarette sales set aside.

Law firm Webber Wentzel signalled that it was seeking urgent relief and gave the government until the end of the week to indicate if it planned to oppose papers.”

TRANSPORTATION

Media Release

Department of Public Enterprises. Public Enterprises on SAA Business Rescue Plan. 01 June 2020.

“The draft Plan has been prepared by the Business Rescue Practitioners and is meant to be discussed by various stakeholders including creditors, employees, and Government. President Cyril Ramaphosa on Sunday told members of the South African National Editors’ Forum that he saw a good future for the airline, which enjoys support right across the continent. The aviation industry plays a pivotal role in the battle against the Corona virus as Johannesburg could be a hub to distribute Covid-19 medical supplies. A viable aviation industry would also anchor many efforts to revive our economy and create jobs.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/public-enterprises-saa-business-rescue-plan-1-jun-2020-0000>

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