



Covid-19 Regulatory Update

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Library & Legal Information Consultants

Covid-19 Regulatory Update: 12 June 2020

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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>

ALCOHOL

Media Comment

Matiwane, Zimasa. 34,000 hospital beds occupied because of alcohol, says Bheki Cele.

2020 Jun 11 TimesLive

"Cele claimed that 34,000 hospital beds around the country "are currently occupied because of alcohol-related cases". "Yes, it cannot be banned forever - but for now we should have not opened it [sales]," he said. "Alcohol revenue is R1.6bn, but it costs the government R38bn to provide medical services for alcohol cases, so that revenue does not help us."

<https://www.timeslive.co.za/politics/2020-06-11-34000-hospital-beds-occupied-because-of-alcohol-says-bheki-cele/>

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CONFIRMED CASES

Reports

National Institute for Communicable Diseases. National COVID-19 daily report: 11 June 2020.

<https://www.nicd.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/COVID19-Daily-Report-National-Public-11June2020.pdf>

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CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

Internet Article

Deochand, Ektaa; Mafuma, Tendai and Baduza, Mbalenhle. COVID-19: Constitutional Conundrums as lockdown court challenges mount.

2020 Jun 11 Spotlight

The following issues are discussed: [De Beer and Others v Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs \(21542/2020\) \[2020\] ZAGPPHC 184 \(2 June 2020\)](#); pending legal challenges relating to the National Command Council and public participation.

<https://www.spotlightnsp.co.za/2020/06/11/covid-19-constitutional-conundrums-as-lockdown-court-challenges-mount/>

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EDUCATION

Media Comment

Savides, Matthew. School year to run until December 15, with only 13 days off for holidays.

2020 Jun 11 TimesLive

"The school year will officially come to a close on December 15, according to a government gazette published on Thursday.

The basic education department said in the document that there would also be just 13 days of school holidays between now and the end of the year, excluding public holidays.

According to the gazette, the new school terms are:

term 1: Jan 15 – March 18;

term 2: June 8 (postponed from June 1) – August 7;

term 3: August 12 - September 23; and

term 4: October 5 – December 15."

<https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-06-11-school-year-to-run-until-december-15-with-only-13-days-off-for-holidays/>

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LOCKDOWN

Internet Article

Naicker, Isayvani. The voices missing from South Africa's response to COVID-19.

2020 Jun 11 The Conversation

"The government has recently moved from a strict lockdown to a differential risk-adjusted model of alert levels.

The five risk-adjusted levels are guided by a set of criteria. These include the level of infections and rate of transmission, the capacity of health facilities, the implementation of public health interventions and economic and

social impact. Built into the model is the possibility of a differentiated approach to deal with those areas that have far higher levels of infection and transmission. Decision makers in the Department of Health say they are currently implementing what is practical and implementable. This, it's envisaged, would be done in a way that's "coherent and aligned to many factors". The question is: why are ordinary citizens not involved in decisions about what is practical and implementable, coherent and aligned?"

<https://theconversation.com/the-voices-missing-from-south-africas-response-to-covid-19-139403>

Media Release

SA Government News Agency. Cabinet considers recommendations regarding Level 3.

2020 Jun 11 SANews

"Cabinet, at its ordinary meeting on Wednesday, has received an updated report from the National Coronavirus Command Council (NCCC).

The NCCC tabled several recommendations about the enhanced risk-adjusted alert level 3 of the national lockdown. South Africa entered level 3 lockdown on 01 June 2020.

South Africa's infection rate increased by 2 430 to 55 421 on Wednesday, as the country ramps up testing for COVID-19. The country has tested close to a million people, an increase of 30 330 tests in the past 24 hours.

Cabinet decided to defer approval of the recommendations pending a full health assessment report from the Ministerial Health Advisory Committee on COVID-19.

The NCCC is expected to receive the full presentation by early next week."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/cabinet-considers-recommendations-regarding-level-3>

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TOBACCO

Media Release

Mhlongo, Onalenna. Man appears in court for illegal tobacco sales

2020 Jun 11 SANews

"A 29-year-old male has appeared at the Ngcobo Magistrates Court on charges of contravening the Disaster Management Act regulations. ... "During the execution of a search warrant at Ebumnandini Hardware, which also operates as a supermarket, the following successes were achieved.

"One male suspect, aged 29 years, was arrested after he was found selling tobacco. He was also found in possession of a firearm, a magazine and several rounds of ammunition," the South African Police Service (SAPS) said on Wednesday.

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/man-appears-court-illegal-tobacco-sales>

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TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition: Amendment of Regulations and withdrawal of Directions relating to the COVID-19 National State of Disaster with effect from date of publication (11 June 2020).

- Amendment of:
 - COVID-19 Block Exemption for the Retail Property Sector
 - COVID-19 Export Control Regulations
- Expiry of:
 - Directions regarding the Sale of Clothing, Footwear and Bedding during Alert Level 4
- Withdrawal of:
 - Directions regarding Call Centres providing Essential Services
 - Directions regarding the Sale of Cars and Emergency Automobile Repairs during Alert Level 4

RGN667 GG 43432 p3 11Jun2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43432_11-6_TradeIndustCompetition.pdf

Media Comments

Cape high court to hear hair salons application on Friday.

2020 Jun 11 IOL

"The Western Cape High Court will on Friday hear an urgent application asking that the coronavirus lockdown regulation barring hair and other personal care salons from reopening be struck down.

The application will be heard at 10am, said the DA spokesperson on trade and industry, Dean Macpherson.

The DA approached the court this week to have the ban set aside, arguing that it is irrational and unconstitutional.”
<https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/western-cape/cape-high-court-to-hear-hair-salons-application-on-friday-49271975>

Cele, S'thembile. Government considering opening cinemas during level 3.

2020 Jun 11 TimesLive

“Minister of trade, industry and competition Ebrahim Patel has handed a lifeline to the cinema industry. In newly gazetted amendments to regulations, he says he is also mulling over the possibility of opening cinemas. Amongst the amendments is the announcement that earlier directives on what kinds of clothing and bedding could be sold - which caused a controversy – have now lapsed, meaning that all types of items can now be sold. Directives on workplace protocols at call centres and car repair centres, as well as regarding the sale of cars, have been withdrawn and replaced with directives issued by minister of employment and labour Thulas Nxesi last week. Patel has also eased restrictions on some medications, which under previous regulations required a permit to purchase. This was done in order to allow the government to procure medicines needed in the fight against the coronavirus.”

<https://www.timeslive.co.za/politics/2020-06-11-government-considering-opening-cinemas-during-level-3/>

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