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Government Notice No. 284 of 2020

EMERGENCY POWERS ACT
(Cap. 22:04)

EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID-19) REGULATIONS
(Cap. 22:04 (Sub. Leg.))

Directions for the Prevention of the Spread of COVID-19

THE Director of Health Services hereby gives the following direction under regulation 16 (4) (c) of the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulations —

1. MOST EFFECTIVE PREVENTION

The most effective prevention of transmission of COVID-19 is frequent hand wash with clean water and soap for at least 40 seconds.

2. USE OF MASKS IN PUBLIC PLACES

A person shall wear a cloth face mask or home made item that covers the nose and mouth or another appropriate item that covers the nose and mouth when in a public place.

3. TRAVEL

- (a) All persons coming to Botswana from high risk countries (as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO)) shall not be allowed entry into the country until further notice;
- (b) Issuance of Visa at Ports of entry and at all Embassies for any person from high risk areas is suspended with immediate effect until further notice;
- (c) Current visas of persons from high risk countries are cancelled with immediate effect until further notice;
- (d) International travel by all Government employees, parastatals and State owned entities is suspended with immediate effect until further notice; and
- (e) Travel for regional and international meetings, workshops and conferences are cancelled until further notice.

4. TRAVEL ACROSS COVID ZONES

- (a) A person shall not undertake non-essential travel;
- (b) A person shall not travel across COVID zones without a permit;
- (c) A person may only travel across COVID zones to —
 - (i) attend a funeral of an immediate member of the family, or
 - (ii) travel to a farm, ranch, garden, ploughing field (*masimo*) or cattle post (*moraka*):

Provided that the person has been issued with a permit under the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulations; and

- (d) For purposes of paragraph 4 (c) (i), “immediate member of the family” means a spouse, son, daughter, siblings or parent.

5. GATHERINGS

All public gatherings of more than 75 people are prohibited:

Provided that parties shall not be held.

6. LOCAL MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

- (a) A meeting, workshop or conference shall have a maximum of 75 persons;
- (b) A person shall not travel across COVID zones for purposes of a meeting, workshop or conference; and
- (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) a convener or facilitator may apply for a permit to cross COVID zones for purposes of a meeting, workshop or conference.

7. FUNERALS

- (a) A funeral and a memorial service shall have a maximum of 75 persons; and
- (b) Funeral and memorial services shall not last more than 2 hours and food shall not be provided at such services:

Provided that food may be provided for members of the household.

8. FAITH-BASED ORGANISATION SERVICES

Faith-based organisation services shall —

- (a) Have a maximum of 75 persons;
- (b) Not last more than 2 hours;
- (c) Not make provision for food or allow for the sale of food; and
- (d) Have a maximum of four religious services per week and each service may be held on Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

9. CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL OCCASIONS

Cultural and traditional occasions shall have a maximum of 50 persons. Cultural and traditional occasions include —

- (a) *Go isa mafoko*;
- (b) *Patlo*;
- (c) *Magadi*; and
- (d) *Kgoroso*.

10. SOCIAL DISTANCING

A distance of 1 – 2 metres between individual persons shall be maintained in a —

- (a) Gathering;
- (b) Bank;
- (c) Restaurant, including take-away restaurant;
- (d) Supermarket and shop;
- (e) Pharmacy;
- (d) Government service department; and
- (e) Memorial service.

11. GENERAL ADVICE TO THE PUBLIC

- (a) To frequently wash hands with soap and clean water;
- (b) To ensure easy access to clean water and soap for hand washing at any public gathering where a maximum of 75 persons are allowed;
- (c) To ensure strict hand washing and surface cleaning for all equipment used during burials;
- (d) To clean high touch areas with disinfectants. (examples of high touch areas are doors, elevators, counters, etc.);
- (e) To cover the nose and mouth with a tissue or flexed elbow when sneezing or coughing;
- (f) To avoid direct contact with anyone with cold or flu symptoms;
- (g) To avoid handshakes, hugs and kisses when greeting each other;
- (h) To ensure continued safety of other users of health facilities, individuals who have cold or flu symptoms (cough, fever, sore throat) and have had contact with returning travellers shall —
 - (i) Call the number 16649,
 - (ii) Not use public transport, and
 - (iii) If using a private vehicle or on foot, alert health facility officers on arrival before entering the facility; and
- (i) Information from any other source other than the Director of Health Services and the World Health Organization should not be relied on by the public as credible and correct information.

Government Notice No. 183 of 2020 is hereby revoked.

DATED this 16th day of July, 2020.

DR. M. TSHIPAYAGAE,
Director Health Services.

Government Notice No. 285 of 2020

EMERGENCY POWERS ACT
(Cap. 22:04)

EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID-19) REGULATIONS
(Cap. 22:04 (Sub. Leg.))

Lifting of Restrictions for Cultural and Traditional Occasions

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that His Excellency the President in accordance with regulation 30G of the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020, has authorised that cultural and traditional occasions shall maintain a maximum of 50 persons for occasions such as —

- (a) *Go isa mafoko*;
- (b) *Patlo*;
- (c) *Magadi*; and
- (d) *Kgoroso*.

and shall maintain a distance of 1 – 2 metres between each person.

DATED this 16th day of July, 2020.

DR. MALAKI TSHIPAYAGAE,
Director of Health Services.