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Government Notice No. 485 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, 2020 —

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 homemade 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) A person entering and exiting Botswana shall have a valid 72 hours PCR negative test;
- (b) A traveller entering Botswana may at his/her own cost be required to undertake immediate COVID-19 testing and isolation or quarantine within the COVID zone of entry;
- (c) A non-citizen and a non-resident traveller who does not meet the requirements of paragraph 3 (a) shall not be allowed entry into Botswana; and
- (d) Travel by all Government employees, parastatals and State owned entities is suspended for regional and international meetings, workshops and conferences until further notice.

4. COVID-19 TESTS FOR INTER-ZONAL TRAVEL

The Director may require a person who applies for an inter-zonal permit to take a COVID-19 test where the applicant —

- (a) Is travelling from a COVID-19 high risk zone or area;
- (b) Returns from a COVID-19 high risk zone or area to a COVID-19 low risk zone or area; or
- (c) Transits a COVID-19 high risk zone or area.

Where a person's COVID-19 test results are positive an inter-zonal permit shall not be issued.

For purposes of this paragraph "high risk zone or area" means a COVID zone or area which the Director determines has a high number of COVID-19 cases.

5. 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) to access 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 (c) (i), "immediate member of the family" means a spouse, son, daughter, siblings or parent.

6. GATHERINGS

All public gatherings of more than 2 people are prohibited:

Provided that parties shall not be held.

7. MEETING

- (a) Every meeting shall have a host or convener. The host or convener of a meeting shall be responsible for the adherence to COVID-19 protocols for persons attending the meeting;
- (b) A meeting, workshop or conference shall have a maximum of 50 persons;
- (c) A person shall not travel across COVID zones for purposes of a meeting, workshop or conference; and
- (d) Notwithstanding paragraph (c) a convener or facilitator may apply for a permit to cross COVID zones for purposes of a meeting, workshop or conference.

8. SOCIETIES

A maximum of 50 individuals may meet for the following societies —

- (a) Faith based organizations, which shall have a maximum of two religious services per week;
- (b) Any club, company, partnership or association registered by the Registrar of Societies; and
- (c) All central committees of political parties.

9. FAITH-BASED ORGANISATION SERVICES

Faith-based organisation services shall —

- (a) Have a maximum of 50 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 two religious services per week.

10. FUNERALS

- (a) A funeral and a memorial service shall have a maximum of 50 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.

11. CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL OCCASIONS

A maximum of 50 individuals and a distance of 1 – 2 metres shall be maintained at cultural and traditional occasions such as —

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

12. 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 a shop;
- (e) Pharmacy;
- (f) Government service department; and
- (g) Memorial service.

13. 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 50 persons are allowed;
- (c) To ensure strict hand washing and surface cleaning for all equipment used during burial;
- (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. 320 of 2020 is hereby revoked.

DATED this 9th day of November, 2020.

DR. MALEBOGO KEBABONYE,
Director of Health Services.

Government Notice No. 486 of 2020

EMERGENCY POWERS ACT (Cap. 22:04)

EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID-19) REGULATIONS, 2020 (Cap. 22:04 (Sub. Leg.))

Lifting of Prohibition of Entry into and Exit from Botswana

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that His Excellency the President, in accordance with regulation 30G of the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020, has authorised the lifting of the prohibition of entry into and exit from Botswana set out in the Schedule with respect to —

- (a) persons entering and exiting Botswana;
- (b) the processing of visas at ports of entry and at any embassy;
- (c) to places of entry, exit, landing and loading and examination of goods in Botswana; and
- (d) the take-off and landing of aircraft.

For the avoidance of doubt —

- (i) a traveller entering Botswana —
 - (aa) shall present a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) negative test result not older than 72 hours from the time of departure from country of origin at the port of entry, and
 - (bb) may at his/her own cost be required to undertake immediate COVID-19 testing and isolation or quarantine within the COVID zone;
- (ii) a traveller exiting Botswana shall present a PCR negative test result not older than 72 hours from the time of exit from Botswana at the port;
- (iii) a non-citizen and a non-resident traveller who does not meet the requirements of paragraph (i) (aa) shall not be allowed entry into Botswana.

SCHEDULE

Operation of Ports of Entry

Date of Operation	Port of Entry
9th November, 2020	Sir Seretse Khama International Airport Kasane International Airport Maun International Airport
1st December, 2020	PG Matante International Airport Kazungula border post Kazungula ferry border post Ngoma border post Ramokgwebana border post Martins Drift's border post Ramatlabama border post Tlokwenj border post Mamuno border post Pioneer border post Mohembo border post

DATED this 9th day of November, 2020.

DR. MALEBOGO KEBABONYE,
Director of Health Services.

