

GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

NO. 318

18 MARCH 2020

**DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002**

**REGULATIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF SECTION 27(2)(I) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002.**

I, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, designated under Section 3 of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) ("the Act"), having declared a national state of disaster, published in Government Gazette No. 43096 on 15 March 2020, in terms of Section 27(2) of the Act, after consulting the relevant Cabinet members, hereby make the Regulations set out in the schedule hereto regarding the steps necessary to prevent an escalation of the disaster or to alleviate, contain and minimise the effects of the disaster.



**DR NKOSAZANA DLAMINI ZUMA, MP**  
**MINISTER OF COOPERATIVE**  
**GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL**  
**AFFAIRS**

DATE: 17. 03. 2020.

## SCHEDULE

### Definitions

1. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates—

**'adequate space'** means not more than one person per square meter of floor space;

**'COVID-19'** means the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov) which is an infectious disease caused by a virus, which emerged during 2019 and was declared a global pandemic by the WHO during the year 2020 that has previously not been scientifically identified in humans;

**'Criminal Procedure Act'** means the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No. 51 of 1977);

**'enforcement officer'** includes a member of the South African Police Service, the South African National Defence Force and a peace officer as defined in section 1 of the Criminal Procedure Act;

**'donor'** means an individual, corporation or organisation that is a contributor of cash, kind and/or other assets;

**'gathering'** means any assembly, concourse or procession of more than 100 persons, wholly or partially in open air or in a building or premises;

**'isolation'** means separating a sick individual with a contagious disease from healthy individuals without that contagious disease in such a manner as to prevent the spread of infection or contamination;

**'liquor'** means—

(a) any liquor product, as defined in section 1 of the Liquor Products Act, 1979 (Act No. 60 of 1989);

(b) beer or traditional African beer; or

(c) any other substance or drink declared to be liquor under the Liquor Act, 2003 (Act No. 59 of 2003), but does not include methylated spirits;

**'national state of disaster'** means the national state of disaster declared by Government Notice No. R. 313 of 15 March 2020;

**'partial care facility'** means a facility offering partial care as defined in section 1 of the Children's Act, 2005 (Act No. 38 of 2005);

**'quarantine'** means separating asymptomatic individuals potentially exposed to a disease from non-exposed individuals in such a manner as to prevent the possible spread of infection or contamination;

'**school**' means a school as defined in section 1 of the South African Schools Act, 1984 (Act No. 84 of 1996); and

'**the Act**' means the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002).

'**WHO**' means the World Health Organisation.

### **Release of resources**

2. (1) The Department of Defence must, for the duration of the declared national state of disaster, within its available resources—

(a) release and mobilise any available resources, including human resources, stores, equipment, ships, aircraft platforms, vehicles and facilities; and

(b) ensure the delivery of essential services,

as may be required, to prevent, limit, contain, combat and manage the spread of COVID-19.

(2) National organs of state must, within their available resources release their personnel for the rendering of emergency services, as contemplated in section 27(2)(b) of the Act.

(3) Institutions within national, provincial and local government must make resources, other than funding, available to implement these Regulations or directions issued in terms of section 27(2) of the Act regarding the national state of disaster.

(4) Institutions within national, provincial and local government must—

(a) make funding available; and

(b) as far as possible, without affecting service delivery in relation to the realisation of the rights contemplated in sections 26 to 29 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, shift funding,

within its budget to implement these Regulations or directions issued in terms of section 27(2) of the Act, regarding the national state of disaster.

(5) The National Treasury and provincial treasuries must take the necessary steps in terms of applicable legislation to implement these Regulations or directions issued in terms of section 27(2) of the Act, in relation to the national state of disaster.

(6) Donor funding received to assist with the national state of disaster must be—

- (a) paid into the Reconstruction and Development Fund, established by the Reconstruction and Development Fund Act, 1994 (Act No. 7 of 1994); and
- (b) used strictly for purposes of implementing these Regulations and directions issued in terms of section 27(2) of the Act in relation to the national state of disaster.

### **Prevention and prohibition of gatherings**

3. (1) In order to contain the spread of COVID-19, a gathering is prohibited.

(2) An enforcement officer must, where a gathering takes place—

- (a) order the persons at the gathering to disperse immediately; and
- (b) if they refuse to disperse, take appropriate action, which may, subject to the Criminal Procedure Act, include arrest and detention.

(3) The assembly of more than 50 persons at premises where liquor is sold and consumed is prohibited.

### **Refusal of medical examination, prophylaxis, treatment, isolation and quarantine**

4. (1) No person who has been clinically, or by a laboratory, confirmed as having COVID-19, or who is suspected of having contracted COVID-19, or who has been in contact with a person who is a carrier of COVID-19, may refuse consent to an enforcement officer for—

- (a) submission of that person to a medical examination, including but not limited to the taking of any bodily sample by a person authorised in law to do so;
- (b) admission of that person to a health establishment or a quarantine or isolation site; or
- (c) submission of that person to mandatory prophylaxis, treatment, isolation or quarantine or isolation in order to prevent transmission:

Provided that if a person does not comply with the instruction or order of the enforcement officer, that person must be placed in isolation or quarantine for a period of 48 hours, as the case may be, pending a warrant being issued by a magistrate, on application by an enforcement officer for the medical examination contemplated in paragraph (a).

(2) A warrant contemplated in subregulation (1) may be issued by a magistrate, if it appears from information on oath or affirmation by an enforcement officer —

- (a) that a person is confirmed as having been infected with COVID-19;

(b) who is on reasonable grounds suspected of having contracted COVID-19, or who has been in contact with, or on reasonable grounds suspected to have been in contact with a person who is a carrier or infected with COVID-19.

(3) The warrant may impose restrictions on the powers of the enforcement officer as the magistrate may deem fit.

(4) A warrant issued in terms of this regulation remains in force until —

(a) it is executed;

(b) it is cancelled by the person who issued it or, if such person is not available, by any person with like authority;

(c) the expiry of ninety days from the date of its issue; or

(d) the purpose for the issuing of the warrant has lapsed, whichever occurs first.

(5) No person is entitled to compensation for any loss or damage arising out of any *bona fide* action or omission by an enforcement officer under this regulation.

### **Places of quarantine and isolation**

5. (1) The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure must identify and make available sites to be used as isolation and quarantine facilities as the need arises.

(2) The Members of the Executive Council responsible for public works must identify and make available sites to be used as isolation and quarantine facilities within each province, as the need arises.

(3) The accounting officers of municipalities must identify and make available sites to be used as isolation and quarantine facilities within their local areas, and provide the list to the Department of Health for resourcing.

### **Closure of schools and partial care facilities**

6. Schools and partial care facilities must be closed by 18 March 2020 until 15 April 2020, which period may be extended for the duration of the national state of disaster by the cabinet member responsible.

### **Suspension of visits**

7. All visits by members of the public to—

(a) Correctional Centres;

- (b) Remand Detention Facilities;
  - (c) Holding Cells;
  - (d) Military Detention Facilities; and
  - (e) Department of Social Development facilities, including Child and Youth Care Centres, shelters, One Stop Centres, and Treatment Centres,
- are suspended for a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, which period may be extended for any period, but not beyond the duration of the national state of disaster by the cabinet member responsible.

### **Limitation on the sale, dispensing or transportation of liquor**

8. (1) All on-consumption premises selling liquor, including taverns, restaurants and clubs, must be closed with immediate effect, or must accommodate no more than 50 persons at any time: Provided that adequate space is available and that all directions in respect of hygienic conditions and limitation of exposure to persons with COVID-19, are adhered to.

(2) All premises selling liquor which provide accommodation must implement measures to stop the spread of COVID-19: Provided that adequate space is available and that all directions in respect of hygienic conditions and limitation of exposure to persons with COVID-19 are adhered to.

(3) No special or events liquor licenses may be considered for approval during the duration of the national state of disaster.

(4) All on-consumption premises selling liquor referred to in subregulation (1) must be closed —

- (i) between 18:00 and 09:00 the next morning on weekdays and Saturdays; and
- (ii) from 13:00 on Sundays and public holidays.

(5) All off-consumption premises selling liquor must be closed —

- (i) between 18:00 and 09:00 the next morning on weekdays and Saturdays; and
- (ii) from 13:00 on Sundays and public holidays.

### **Emergency Procurement Procedures**

9. Emergency procurement for institutions is subject to —

- (a) the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999), and the applicable emergency provisions in the Regulations or Instructions made under section 76 of that Act; and
- (b) the Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003), and the applicable emergency provisions in the Regulations made under that Act.

### **Authority to issue directions**

**10.** (1) The Minister of Health may—

- (a) issue directions to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in any area of the Republic of South Africa, which directions may include the—
  - (i) recruitment and training of human resources from the Department of Health, and other entities responsible for the handling of COVID-19 mortal remains;
  - (ii) deployment of human resources from the Department of Health to identified sites to render services;
  - (iii) sourcing of human resources from the Expanded Public Works Programme retired health professionals and Non-Governmental Organisations to render services in identified sites;
  - (iv) provision of health equipment, sanitation materials and medical supplies;
  - (v) identification and establishment of mortuaries that will accommodate all COVID-19 mortal remains;
  - (vi) disposal of COVID-19 mortal remains; and
- (b) vary the directions referred to in paragraph (a) as the circumstances require.

(2) The Minister of Justice and Correctional Services may—

- (a) issue directions to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in all Correctional Centres and Remand Detention Facilities in the Republic of South Africa;
- (b) after consultation with the Chief Justice, where appropriate, issue directions to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in all courts and court precincts in the Republic of South Africa; and
- (c) vary the directions referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) as the circumstances require.

(3) The Ministers of Basic and Higher Education may —

- (a) issue directions to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in all schools and institutions of higher learning; and



## Offences and penalties

11. (1) For purposes of regulation 3, any person who—

- (a) convenes a gathering;
  - (b) permits more than 50 persons at premises where liquor is sold and consumed; or
  - (c) hinders, interferes with, or obstructs an enforcement officer in the exercise of his or her powers, or the performance of his or her duties in terms of these Regulations,
- is guilty of an offence and, on conviction, liable to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) A person is guilty of an offence if that person fails to comply with or contravenes the provisions of regulations 6 and 9 of these Regulations.

(3) A person convicted of an offence mentioned in subregulation (2) liable on conviction to a fine or to imprisonment not exceeding six months or to both a fine and imprisonment.

(4) Any person who intentionally misrepresents that he, she or any other person is infected with COVID-19 is guilty of an offence and on conviction liable to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(5) Any person who publishes any statement, through any medium, including social media, with the intention to deceive any other person about—

- (a) COVID-19;
  - (b) COVID-19 infection status of any person; or
  - (c) any measure taken by the Government to address COVID-19,
- commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(6) Any person who intentionally exposes another person to COVID-19 may be prosecuted for an offence, including assault, attempted murder or murder.

## Commencement

12. These Regulations come into operation on the date of publication.