

South Africa

Covid-19 responses across various sectors

Date	Authority	Sectors	Summary	Source
2020/03/15	Government	General	Owing to the magnitude and severity of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been classified a national disaster and a national state of disaster has been declared.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43096_15-3_CoOperativeGovTradAff.pdf
2020/03/18	Government	General	Media Statement by the National Treasure on the escalation of procurement scams amid Covid-19 environment.	http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/2020031801%20Media%20statement%20-%20Escalating%20scams%20amid%20COVID19%20environment.pdf
2020/03/18	Government	General	New Regulations in terms of the Disaster Management Act in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic has been published. This includes the addition setting out the steps necessary to prevent an escalation of the disaster or to minimise the effects of the disaster.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43107_18-3_COGTA.pdf
2020/03/19	Government	General	Treasury Instruction No. 8 of 2019/2020 - Emergency Procurement in response to National State of Disaster	http://www.treasury.gov.za/legislation/pfma/TreasuryInstruction/National%20Treasury%20Instruction%2008%202019-2020%20-%20Emergency%20Procurement%20in%20response%20to%20National%20State%20of%20Disaster.zip

2020/03/19	Government	General	New Consumer and Customer Protection and National Disaster Management Regulations and Directions have been published effective from 19 March 2020. The purpose of the Regulations is to: (a) promote concerted conduct to prevent an escalation of COVID-19 and to alleviate, contain and minimise the effects thereof; and (b) protect consumers and customers from unfair commercial practices.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43116_19-3_DTI.pdf
2020/03/24	Government	General	New regulations make it possible for persons who acquire COVID-19 through occupational exposure to the disease to claim compensation under the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 1993.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43216_08-04_Labour.pdf
2020/03/24	Government	General	New regulations, to exempt a category of agreements or practices between designated retail tenants and retail property landlords from the application of the Competition Act, 89 of 1998, have been published. The regulations provide, among others, for: (a) the promotion of concerted conduct to prevent an escalation of the national disaster; (b) the alleviation, containment and minimisation of the economic and social effects of the national disaster; and (c) the management of finances for the retail property sector during the national disaster.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43134_24-3_DTI.pdf
2020/03/24	Government	General	The President has addressed the country to announce further measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Coronavirus Command Council has decided to enforce a nation-wide lockdown from midnight on Thursday, 26 March 2020, until midnight on Thursday, 16 April 2020. The supply of goods remains continuous and supply chains remain intact.	
2020/03/25	Government	General	Members of the public may send suggestions on how the National Treasury can deal with the COVID-19 virus to COVID-19@treasury.gov.za.	http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/Advisory%20-%20NT%20SETS%20UP%20COVID-19%20EMAIL.pdf

2020/03/26	Government	General	The Minister of Trade and Industry has announced that all businesses that will be allowed to provide essential services are required to seek approval from the Department in order for them to trade during the lockdown period. Businesses must seek such approval by applying to the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission through their Bizportal website.	No source document
2020/03/26	Government	General	New directives have been issued relating to municipal services during the 21-day lockdown to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in South Africa. The purpose of the directives is, among others, to ensure: (a) provision of water and sanitation services; (b) waste management, cleansing and sanitation; (c) isolation and quarantine; and (d) monitoring and enforcement.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43147_25-3_COGTA.pdf http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43184_30-3_Cogta.pdf
2020/03/26	Government	General	Key amendments to the Disaster Management Act in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic has been published. This includes the addition of new regulations setting out the expected code of conduct among those within the borders of South Africa during the upcoming 21-day national lockdown, starting on Thursday 27 March 2020 at midnight until 16 April 2020 at 24:00.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43107_18-3_COGTA.pdf http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43148_25-3_COGTA.pdf

2020/03/27	Government	General	Key amendments to the Disaster Management Act in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic has been published. It makes provision for operations of non-essential services to be performed remotely from employees' homes and outside the Republic. Private vehicles may carry a maximum of 60% of its licensed capacity; all other vehicles may carry to a maximum of 50% of the licensed capacity. Persons will be allowed to claim compensation for loss and damage arising out of any bona fide action or omission by an enforcement officer under these Regulations. Baby products and personal toiletries have been added to the list of Essential Goods. Several additional essential services have been added.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43168_26-3_COGTA.pdf http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43148_25-3_COGTA.pdf http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43107_18-3_COGTA.pdf
2020/03/27	Government	General	The purpose of the Directive is to facilitate the availability and use of digital technologies to combat the spread of COVID-19 in South Africa, though, among others, (a) ensuring the smooth operations of the electronic communications industry (telecommunications infrastructure and services) as essential services during the disaster period; and (b) enabling electronic communications service licensees and other service providers to rapidly deploy networks and facilities as contemplated in the Electronic Communications Act, 2005, thus increasing the demand and usage of electronic communications services.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43164_26-3_Telecommunications.pdf
2020/03/27	Government	General	Directions have been issued regarding temporary measures in respect of cross-border road transport in order to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19. Despite any permit issued, no person may provide cross-border road passenger transport for the duration of lockdown. Cross-border freight movement will, however, continue to and from South Africa's neighbouring countries.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43158_26-3_Transport.pdf

2020/03/27	Government	General	Measures to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the public transport services have been published. The purpose is to provide for: (a) improved hygiene control and disinfection facilities on all public transport vehicles and public transport facilities including ranks, terminals and train stations; and (b) implementation of a monitoring and enforcement system in all public transport facilities.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43157_26-3_Transport.pdf
2020/03/28	Government	General	A new Directive called COVID-19 Temporary Relief Scheme, 2020, has been published to outline temporary measures to alleviate the adverse effects of COVID-19 through a special benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Fund ("UIF"). To qualify for the temporary financial relief scheme, a company must: (a) be registered with the UIF; (b) comply with the application procedure for the financial relief scheme; and (c) the company's closure must be directly linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43161_26-3_Labour.pdf
2020/03/29	Government	General	The National Crime Combating Forum under the South African Police Services (SAPS) has published instructions to its members on containment and management of COVID19. The instruction provides guidance to members of the SAPS on the implementation and enforcement of Regulations and directives issued in terms of the Disaster Management Act, 2002. This may be relevant in demonstrating how the SAPS is likely to interpret and enforce the Lockdown Regulations and directives thereto.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43148_25-3_COGTA.pdf
2020/03/30	Government	General	A media statement relating to an online portal to register businesses that provide essential goods and services during the lockdown period has been published. Most of the companies are in the food supply, medical and pharmaceutical services and transport services. A further update will be provided on communication platforms as to the number of registered businesses during the lockdown period.	http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=7187

2020/03/30	Government	General	New regulations, to exempt certain categories of agreements or practices in the hotel industry from the application of the Competition Act, 89 of 1998, has been published in response to the declaration of COVID-19 as a national disaster. The regulations provide, among others, for: (a) the promotion of concerted conduct to prevent an escalation of the national disaster; and (b) identification and provision of appropriate facilities for persons placed under quarantine, by the hotel industry	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43175_27-3_DTI.pdf
2020/03/30	Government	General	The Department of Trade and Industry has issued guidelines for the completion of the permit to perform essential services during the COVID-19 lockdown period. All staff permitted to work during the lockdown period must always carry an original “permit to perform essential service” and a photo identification issued by the Department of Home Affairs.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43148_25-3_COGTA.pdf http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43168_26-3_COGTA.pdf
2020/04/01	Government	General	A new Directive has been issued outlining measures to address and minimise the effects of COVID-19 on environmental and waste management services. The Directive provides, among others, for: (a) the extension of timeframes relating to licences and environmental authorisations; (b) the prohibition on the processing of applications for the transfer of waste management licences during the lockdown period; and (c) the assistance to data providers in complying with reporting requirements.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43190_31-3_EnvirAffForFish.pdf

2020/04/01	Government	General	Municipalities and municipal entities have been conditionally exempted from the timeline provisions of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003, and any regulations made thereunder, until such time that the national state of disaster has lapsed. The conditional exemption is granted to ensure effective and efficient service delivery and minimise any potential delay in decision making.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43181_30-3_NatTreas.pdf http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/20200330%20Media%20statement%20-%20MFMA%20Exemption%20Notice.pdf
2020/04/02	Government	General	Critical amendments to the Lockdown Regulations have been published. The amendment allows for all Cabinet Ministers to issue Directives required by their relevant portfolios during the national lockdown period. Changes have been made to the requirements for movement of persons cross-border and in respect of funerals/cremations. Taxis are allowed to now carry 70% of their licenced capacity. New essential goods and services have been added. Provision is made for the establishment of a COVID-19 Tracing Database.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43199_02-4_COGTA.pdf
2020/04/02	Government	General	Relevant institutions falling within the ambit of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999, have been exempted from complying with deadlines relating to the annual financial statements, accounting officers' reporting responsibilities and tabling of financial reports in legislatures. The deadlines are extended by a month or two months after the national lockdown has lapsed.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43188_31-3_NatTreasury.pdf

2020/04/03	Government	General	A new Government Directive has been issued to amend the COVID-19 rules regulating the accommodation used for persons rendering essential services, quarantine, isolation and the lockdown. The list of places that must remain closed to the public is extended to include hotels, lodges and guest houses; private and public game reserves; and holiday resorts. Only approved hotels within the airport precincts of OR Tambo, King Shaka and Cape Town International Airports will be allowed to host airline crew.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43200_02-4_Tourism.pdf
2020/04/07	Government	General	Regulations have been issued to allow small, medium and micro-sized enterprises that operate grocery stores including corner shops, spaza shops, and fruit and vegetable stores, to comply with the lockdown regulations. The grocery store owners must comply with certain hygiene conditions and at all times carry a permit to perform essential services.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43208_06-04_SmallBusDevelopment.pdf
2020/04/08	Government	General	Amendments have been published to the regulations published by the Department of Social Development to prevent and mitigate the spreading of COVID-19. The amendments, among others, allow the movement of children of divorced parents between co-holders of parental responsibilities if allowed in terms of a court order or a registered parenting plan.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43213_07-04_SocialDev.pdf
2020/04/09	Government	General	The South African Nursing Council has determined that nurse practitioners who wish to restore their names to the register for the sole purpose of rendering health services during the COVID-19 national state of disaster do not have to pay a restoration fee.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43223_09-04_Health.pdf
2020/04/09	Government	General	Due to the impact of COVID-19, a collective agreement has been concluded in the National Textile Bargaining Council . The purpose of the collective agreement is to ensure that workers are not left without an income during the lockdown.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43210_07-04_Labour.pdf

2020/04/09	Government	General	A new Directive detailing measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 with regards to human resources has been issued. The Directive provides for, among others: (a) additional health personnel to be recruited or seconded and deployed in strategic areas; (b) a shortened recruitment process in relation to critical COVID-19 related posts; (c) the sourcing of all retired health personnel, community services personnel, extended public works programme workers, Community Based Organisations and NGOs to fill positions on a temporary basis to assist in responding to the pandemic; and (d) accommodation providers to inform the Department of Health of visitors from outside the Republic residing on their premises by 9 April 2020.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43217_08-04_Health.pdf
2020/04/17	Government	General	Amendments have been made to the Lockdown Regulations. The amendments provide, among others, for: (a) the extension of the closure period of schools and partial care facilities; (b) the amendment of the definition of lockdown to mean from 23H59 on 26 March 2020 until 23H59 on 30 April 2020; (c) the movement of children from one parent to another on condition that a court order or parental responsibilities agreement exists; and (d) the addition of new essential goods and services	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43232_16-04_Cogta.pdf
2020/04/20	Government	General	The Presidency has declined the request of the Gauteng Liquor Forum, for its members to sell alcohol during the declared national state of disaster. Alcohol is not considered an essential good or item; but considered a hindrance to the fight against the coronavirus.	http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/press-statements/ban-sale-alcohol-remain-force
2020/04/20	Government	General	A new COVID-19 Directive has been issued prescribing temporary measures to manage the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on the functionality of higher education institutions. The Directive designates the procurement of goods such as desktops, laptops, modems and other devices, among others, as essential goods, and the transportation of such goods as an essential service.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43237_17-04_HighEduTrain.pdf

2020/04/23	Government	General	In an address to the nation, the President has indicated that Government will implement a risk-adjusted strategy to the easing of lockdown measures from 1 May 2020. The national coronavirus alert level will be lowered from level 5 to level 4 to allow some businesses to resume operations under specific conditions.	https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-south-africas-response-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-23-apr-2020
2020/04/23	Government	General	Media Briefing by Minister of Finance following the President's Address to the Nation on R500bn package of economic measures	http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/20200424%20Media%20Advisory%20-%20MoF%20briefs%20media%20on%20R500bn%20package%20of%20economic%20measures.pdf
2020/04/24	Government	General	Loan Scheme for SMEs	http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/20200424%20Loan%20guarantee%20National%20Treasury.pdf
2020/04/25	Government	General	Comments were invited by 27 April 2020 on a schedule of services to be phased in per the COVID-19 risk adjustment strategy. The document serves as a draft framework to bring different sectors of the economy back to work. On Level 4 the sale of tobacco products and personal information and communication technology products such as cellphones will be allowed.	https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202004/goods-services-movement-1.pdf

2020/04/28	Government	General	Instruction Note 3 of 2020/21 and Circular 101 on COVID-19 emergency procurement measures, published by National Treasury, has been replaced. The new measures provide a national regulatory approach to procure goods centrally, in response to the rapid changes in demand for specialised products and will be published shortly.	http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/20200428%20Media%20Statement%20-%20Measures%20for%20COVID-19%20emergency%20procurement.pdf
2020/04/28	Government	General	National Treasury Instruction 05 of 2020/2021 prescribes emergency procurement procedures to deal with COVID-19 pandemic and avoid the abuse of the supply chain management (SCM) system to deal with Disaster. It addresses the procurement of PPE items and cloth masks for ease of supply to SMME's and create an environment for stimulation of local supply and manufacturing.	http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/Instruction%205.pdf
2020/04/29	Government	General	The COVID-19 Directive applicable to higher education institutions has been amended to extend the list of essential goods for institutions in the higher education and training, science technology and innovation sectors to include, among others, printed materials, electronic devices and stationery to support learning and teaching; raw materials and technical products used in research; and the production of radio-pharmaceutical products, radioactive isotopes and devices that are used in the nuclear medicine industry.	http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43255_29-04_HighEduTrain.pdf http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43237_17-04_HighEduTrain.pdf