

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

# GOVERNMENT GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

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Government Notice No. 216 of 2020

EMERGENCY POWERS ACT  
(Cap. 22:04)

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

**Lockdown of Greater Gaborone Zone**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that His Excellency the President has declared a lockdown for the Greater Gaborone Zone as defined in the Schedule; with effect from 12th June, 2020 at midnight until further notice.

On evidence submitted to His Excellency the President by the Director of Health Services, that the risks posed by COVID-19 have increased in the Greater Gaborone Zone, a lockdown is hereby declared for the Greater Gaborone Zone in accordance with regulation 5 (1) and (4) of the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020.

For the avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding the lifting of restrictions by Government Notices issued by the Director of Health Services, during this period of the lockdown the following regulations shall apply –

(a) 6 –

“During the period of a lockdown –

- (a) all businesses and offices may only continue their business operations by allowing their employees to work remotely from home except employees designated as essential service providers; and
- (b) all persons employed within the public service, parastatals and any other state owned entity, unless specifically designated as essential service providers, shall work remotely from home.”;

(b) 7 –

“(1) During the period of a lockdown every person shall remain confined to their place of residence, inclusive of the yard space to avoid contact outside his household except –

- (a) to attend an urgent meeting of Cabinet;
- (b) to attend an urgent meeting of the National Assembly;
- (c) to attend an urgent meeting of a council;
- (d) to attend an urgent meeting of the National Task Force on COVID-19;
- (e) if the person is an essential service provider in the discharge of his duties; or
- (f) if the person, not being an essential service provider, leaves his place of residence to access essential supplies as provided under subregulation (2) and shall be required to fill out Form A or B as set out in Schedule 1.

(2) Subject to subregulation (1) (e), a person may leave his place of residence between the hours of 0800 hours and 2000 hours to access the following essential supplies at the nearest –

- (a) butchery;
- (b) funeral parlour;
- (c) general dealer;
- (d) bakery;
- (e) maintenance or hardware services;
- (f) tuckshop;
- (g) health facility;
- (h) medical aid services;
- (i) restaurant or takeaway;
- (j) supermarket;
- (k) fuel filling station;
- (l) pharmacy or chemist;
- (m) agricultural shop;
- (n) designated place for the collection of social protection packages,
- (o) bank; or
- (p) insurance company

(3) Notwithstanding subregulation (1), a person may leave his place of residence between the hours of 0800 hours and 2000 hours to assist the elderly or the sick in accessing the facilities provided under subregulation (2) (g), (h), (l) and (n).

(4) For purposes of subregulation (2), a person means an individual from a household, except when rendering assistance under subregulation (3).

(5) A meeting of Cabinet, National Assembly, Council and National Taskforce on COVID-19 shall at all times adhere to the social distancing requirements issued by the Director of Health Services as published in the Government Gazette.

(6) A trader or supplier under subregulation (2) shall –

- (a) ensure that all customers and staff maintain physical social distancing requirements issued by the Director of Health Services;
- (b) determine the number of persons that may be permitted in the establishment at any one time; and
- (c) place any distance markers that may be required to ensure that the social distancing requirements issued by the Director of Health Services are complied with.

(7) The provisions of this regulation shall continue to apply after the lockdown.

(8) A person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding P5 000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both movement of persons during lockdown.”;

(c) 8 –

“8. (1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling or containing the spread of COVID-19, the country is hereby divided into COVID zones as set out in Schedule 5.

(2) A person shall not undertake non-essential travel between COVID zones until further notice.”;

(d) 9 –

“(1) A permit issued in terms of –

- (a) section 5 (1) (b) of the Road Transport (Permits) Act for hire or reward to use a vehicle to convey any person by means of a motor vehicle;
- (b) section 6 (1) (e) of the Road Transport (Permits) Act to carry passengers and baggage for hire or reward or on own account;
- (c) section 10 (3) of the Road Transport (Permits) Act which is a short-term permit;
- (d) regulation 10 (a) of the Road Traffic Regulations for road worthiness; and
- (e) regulation 11 (1), (2) and (3) of the Road Traffic Regulations for conversion of foreign licence, is suspended until further notice.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subregulation (1), during the lockdown the Minister responsible for transport shall issue temporary permits for the purposes of subregulation (3).

(3) The following persons shall be permitted to access public transport –

- (a) essential service providers; or
- (b) persons accessing essential supplies at regulation 7 (2).

(4) A person issued with a temporary permit under subregulation (2) shall –

- (a) wash their hands with clean water and soap or use hand sanitiser;
- (b) observe the social distancing requirements of being at least two metres apart from each other; and
- (c) comply with directions for the prevention of spread of COVID-19 issued by the Director of Health Services as published in the Government Gazette.”;

(e) 15 –

“(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of regulation 9 (1), the Minister shall issue temporary permits for the purposes of subregulation (2).

(2) The following persons shall be permitted to access public transport –

- (a) essential service providers; and
- (b) persons accessing essential supplies at regulation 7 (2).

(3) A person issued with a temporary permit under subregulation (2) shall –

- (a) regularly wash his hands with clean water and soap or use hand sanitiser;
- (b) observe the social distancing requirements of being at least two metres apart from each other; and
- (c) comply with directions for the prevention of spread of COVID-19 issued by the Director of Health Services as published in the Government Gazette, and shall ensure that passenger comply with this subregulation.

(4) Regulation 22 shall apply to any renewal of a licence or permit under the Road Traffic Act and the Road Transport (Permits) Act.

(5) A driving test provided under section 39 of the Road Traffic Act and regulation 13 of the Road Traffic Regulations, except a driving test carried out for the purpose of obtaining a driver’s licence for a freight truck, is suspended until further notice.

(6) Section 84 of the Road Traffic Act which empowers the police to inspect, remove and detain vehicles involved in accidents shall not apply until further notice.

(7) Regulation 126 of the Road Traffic Regulations which restricts the movement of certain vehicles at night shall not apply to freight trucks carrying essential services until further notice.”.

(f) 16—

“(1) Until further notice, a gathering of more than two persons is hereby prohibited:

Provided that this regulation shall not apply to a meeting of Cabinet, a meeting of the National Assembly, a council meeting or a meeting of the National Taskforce on COVID-19.

(2) All religious places of worship shall be closed until further notice.

(3) Until further notice, the number of persons attending a funeral shall not exceed 50.

(4) All persons at a funeral, irrespective of their number, shall —

- (a) be provided by the host with clean water and soap to wash their hands or with hand sanitiser;
- (b) observe the social distancing requirements of being at least two metres apart from each other; and
- (c) comply with directions for the prevention of spread of COVID-19 issued by the Director of Health Services as published in the Government Gazette.”;

(g) 18 —

“Until further notice, a person other than a legal practitioner or medical practitioner shall not visit or be permitted to visit —

- (a) any place of quarantine or isolation station;
- (b) a patient in a hospital or facility, except a responsible adult in the case of a minor;
- (c) a detainee in a prison or police cell;
- (d) any rehabilitation centre; and
- (e) refugee camp or centre for illegal immigrants.”;

(h) 19 —

“Until further notice —

- (a) the following shall only operate as a take-away service for essential service providers between the hours of 0800 hours and 2000 hours —
  - (i) a restaurant, and
  - (ii) a takeaway; and
- (b) the following shall operate between the hours of 0800 hours and 2000 hours —
  - (i) butchery,
  - (ii) funeral parlour,
  - (iii) general dealer,
  - (iv) bakery,
  - (v) maintenance and hardware services,
  - (vi) tuckshop,
  - (vii) health facility,
  - (viii) medical aid services,
  - (ix) supermarket,
  - (x) fuel filling station,
  - (xi) pharmacy or chemist,
  - (xii) agricultural shop, or
  - (xiii) designated place for the collection of social protection packages.”;

(i) 20 —

“(1) All schools shall be closed until further notice.

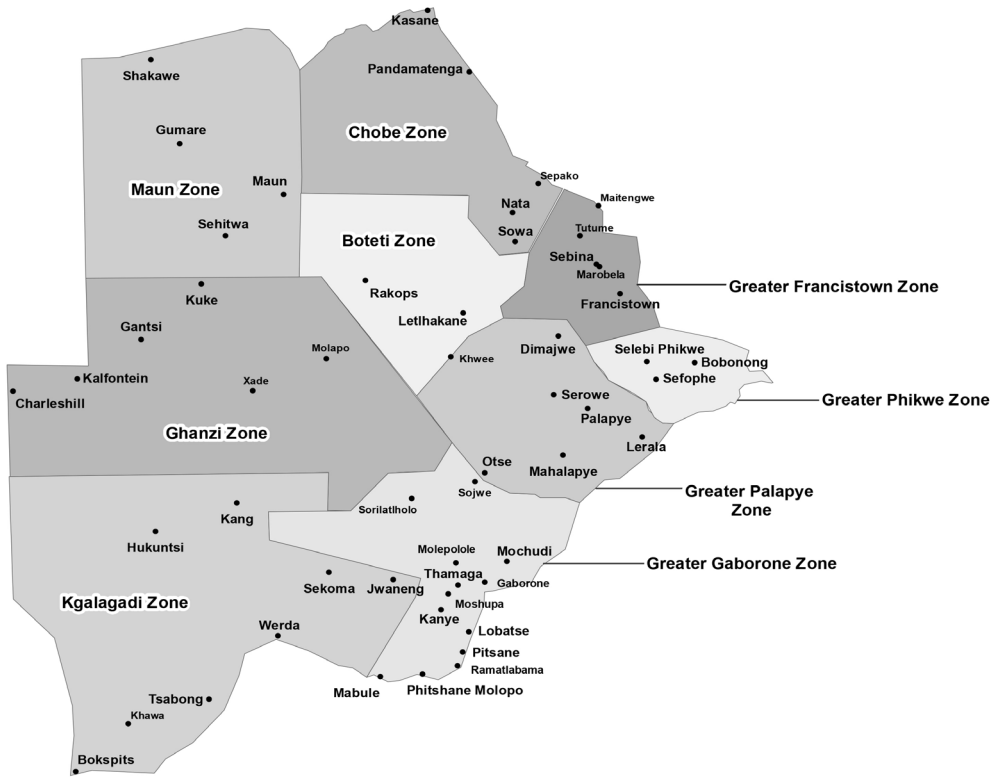
(2) For purposes of this regulation, “school” means a pre-primary school, primary school, post primary school, driving school and tertiary institution, including a university.”; and

(j) 21 —

“(1) A liquor licence issued in terms of the Liquor Act is hereby suspended until further notice, all liquor stores shall remain closed and no liquor shall be sold.

(2) For purposes of this regulation, “liquor” includes all traditional beers.”.

SCHEDULE



DATED this 12th day of June, 2020.

DR. MOKGWEETSI ERIC KEABETSWE MASISI,  
*President.*

