



# PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | LOCKDOWN

Issue 15 | Wednesday, 22 April 2020

Pic: Cpl Kabo Motingwa



## 8 days to go

COVID-19 Tollfree Lines  
16649

0800 600 111 | 0800 600 740

**E**ighteen (18) days have passed since the national extreme social distancing, and Botswana complied with the lockdown protocols.

With only a week left before the end of the twenty-eight (28) days lockdown, Botswana has recorded at least a total of 20 positive cases and one death.

The question that will have to be addressed is, will Botswana gradually ease regulations in various sectors to restart economic activities after the national extreme social distancing or an extension to the 28 days judging by the new confirmed cases?

Total Confirmed Cases Worldwide

# 2,531,804

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 21/4/20

### CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

21/04/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	5021
Negative Cases	5001
Positive Cases	20
Total Deaths	1
New Confirmed Cases	0

PREVENT THE SPREAD  
OF THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



WASH HANDS AFTER  
BLOWING YOUR NOSE



Pic: Cpl Kabo Motingwa

## Why Extension?

The latest announcement of five (5) positive confirmed cases has resulted in a total of six (6) local transmission cases. This obscures and worsen the national threat level. This new development calls for a change in strategy from community testing to a more focused contact tracing.

The results of this focused exercise will inform the development of a relevant national emergency COVID-19 response plan.

Of the 4 683 lab tests performed, 4 663 of them have tested negative which is a virtuous hope to the nation.

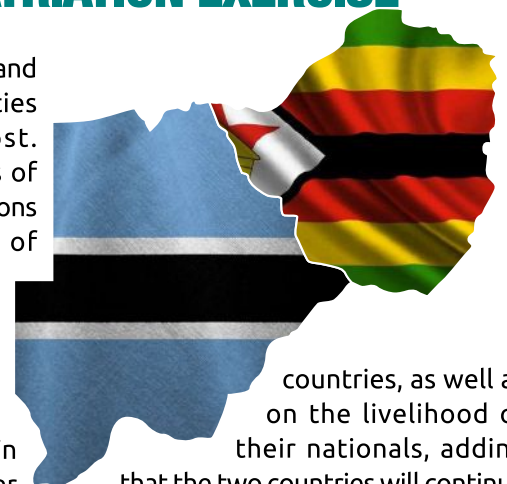
## BOTSWANA AND ZIMBABWE CONDUCT REPATRIATION EXERCISE

**B**otswana and Zimbabwe have jointly started a repatriation exercise following requests from Zimbabwean nationals who wanted to be assisted to return home amid the Covid-19 pandemic and the lockdown measures put in place.

A statement from Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation says in the spirit of solidarity and the upholding existing good relations between the two countries, on 16th of April 2020, two hundred and fifty-five (255) Zimbabweans were voluntarily

repatriated from Botswana by road and received by Zimbabwean Authorities at Ramokgwebana border post. In appreciating the consequences of the lockdown on movement restrictions and in keeping with the spirit of exercise, none of the repatriated individuals was charged for breaching immigration rules.

The statement further highlighted that Botswana and Zimbabwe remain committed to work closely together in responding to the outbreak of Covid-19 and mitigating its impact on both



countries, as well as on the livelihood of their nationals, adding that the two countries will continue to collaborate voluntarily repatriations when necessary.

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 20/4/20

## COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 804,194	South Africa - 3,465	Madagascar - 121
Spain - 204,178	Egypt - 3,333	Zambia - 70
Italy - 183,957	Morocco - 3,186	Mozambique - 39
France - 156,495	Algeria - 2,811	Zimbabwe - 25
UK - 130,164	Nigeria - 665	Botswana - 20
China - 83,853	Tanzania - 254	Namibia - 16

HOW TO PUT ON, USE, TAKE OFF AND DISPOSE OF A MASK

To remove the mask: **remove it from behind** (do not touch the front of mask); **discard immediately in a closed bin**; **clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water**



THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.





Dr Alex Kalonji

# okavango faces pandemic challenges

**O** *okavango DHMT Head Dr Alex Kalonji says his district is faced with a mammoth task in fighting three health issues at the same time.*

In an interview with the Presidential (Covid-19) Task Force Bulletin, the DHMT Head said they are working around the clock to prevent Covid-19, fight malaria as well as preparing for waterborne diseases as water along Okavango river rises.

Dr Kalonji said they have registered 254 cases of Malaria since January 2020, including one death. He said public education is continuing to sensitise the residents about the importance of spraying at residential areas.

In addition to the fight against Malaria, Dr Kalonji said the building up of water in the Okavango river comes with health challenges such as diarrhoea and bilharzia.

He however said they are encouraging people to stay away from the water.

However, for Covid-19, Dr Kalonji said Okavango Sub District does not have a suspected case, adding that they currently have 41 people in the quarantine sites, with 30 people having so far been discharged from quarantine sites in Okavango.

## SADC regional response to COVID-19

**The Southern African Development Community (SADC) recorded its first case of COVID-19 in early March, and since then, the numbers have been increasing.**

As of 15th April, 2020, fourteen (14) of the sixteen (16) SADC Member States have been affected by COVID-19 - Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In addition to the measures put in place by Member States, SADC has put, and will continue putting in place regional measures that are critical in responding to the COVID-19. So far, SADC has undertaken ten (10) regional coordinated actions to contain the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate its social and economic impacts on the region.

These regional actions pertain to strengthening Disaster Risk Management; suspension of regional face-to-face meetings; coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the SADC Protocol on Health, utilization of the SADC Pooled Procurement Services for pharmaceuticals and medical supplies and the adoption of regional Guidelines on Harmonisation and Facilitation of Cross Border Transport Operations across the Region during the COVID-19. Other actions include, mobilisation of regional support towards containment and mitigation of the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the SADC region; and partnering with

the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to ensure continuity of education and learning programmes.

The SADC Secretariat is also monitoring and analysing the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 on SADC economies as well as providing weekly Regional Status reports and daily updates on the status of COVID-19 in the region. SADC

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are dry cough, tiredness and fever. Some people may develop more severe forms of the disease, such as pneumonia. The best way to confirm if you have the virus producing COVID-19 disease is with a laboratory test. You cannot confirm it with this breathing exercise, which can even be dangerous.

World Health Organization #Coronavirus #COVID19

### FACT:

Being able to hold your breath for 10 seconds or more without coughing or feeling discomfort DOES NOT mean you are free from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) or any other lung disease.



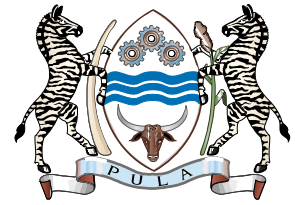
**COVID-19 virus can be transmitted in areas with hot and humid climates**

From the evidence so far, the COVID-19 virus can be transmitted in ALL AREAS, including areas with hot and humid weather. Regardless of climate, adopt protective measures if you live in, or travel to an area reporting COVID-19. ~ WHO

### EDITORIAL TEAM

**Editorial Advisor:** Pearl Ramokoka | **Editor:** Treasure Mothobi

**Content Producers:** Lorato Okaile | Donnell Kutlapeye | Chandapiwa Baputaki | Fortune Ketlaetse



Republic of Botswana

**APPLY ONLINE**

**www.gov.bw**

# COVID-19 E-PERMIT APPLICATION SYSTEM

## Applying for Permits for Exceptional Movement of Persons during the State of Public Emergency

### Stage 1 | Registration

- I. Log on to [www.gov.bw](http://www.gov.bw)
- II. Applicant's Details A (Personal details)
- III. Contact details of 2 household members  
(Fill out your contact details)

### Stage 2

- I. Click on Category of Permit (Fill appropriate Part)
- II. Essential Services (State)
- III. Transport of Essential Goods
- IV. Special Permit (Select reason)

### Stage 3

- I. Notification by sms if Approved
- II. Notification by sms if pending
- III. Notification by sms if not approved

**-NB APPLY THE NEXT DAY IF NOT APPROVED**

### Please Note

**I. The best Permit is to stay home and save lives**

### Contact

0800 600 111 | 0800 600 740 | 16649

#### EDITORIAL TEAM

**Editorial Advisor:** Pearl Ramokoka | **Editor:** Treasure Mothobi  
**Content Producers:** Lorato Okaile | Donnell Kutlape | Chandapiwa Baputaki | Fortune Ketlhaetse