



# PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | LOCKDOWN **PHASE 1**

Issue 23 | Monday, 04 May 2020

Day 32

Pic. @BWGovernment

## Government Commits To Welfare Of Workers

**H**is Excellency the President of the Republic of Botswana, Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi has assured Batswana of government's commitment to the welfare of workers as evidenced by the robust measures put in place to cushion workers and companies during the on-going lockdown imposed by COVID-19.

The President outlined in his message to observe International Labour Day that the government's strategy would ensure that workers do not lose their jobs and companies do not collapse during the crisis. Similarly, he said the government was

To page 2

*"Our factory machines shall grind again, our productive forces shall once again get back to work and contribute meaningfully towards the rebuilding of our economy. When that time comes, I urge our labour force to give their all and ensure that we rise again," ~ President Masisi*

### CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

03/05/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	8636
Negative Cases	8613
Positive Cases	23
Total Deaths	1
Recoveries	8
Active Cases	14

SAY NO TO TOBACCO  
IN THE TIME OF COVID-19 AND ALWAYS



HIGHER CHANCE OF TRANSMISSION  
FROM HAND TO MOUTH

# Government Commits To Welfare Of Workers

From page 1

working on an Economic Stimulus Package that will be implemented post the COVID-19. "Allow me to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to all workers across Botswana for the significant contribution that they continue to make towards the socio-economic development of this country. Their commitment and dedication to work truly demonstrates clear patriotism towards their country," President Masisi said.

Of importance, he said was the working conditions of employees as they border on social justice and socio-economic progress for all which determined the political and economic stability of any country. He said it was therefore important to create decent working conditions, decent jobs, to ensure security in the work place and provide social protection for families.

The President said it was disheartening that labour day was commemorated at a solemn moment when the impact on the global economy had been severe as the world was witnessing markets plunging to historic low levels.

He however expressed optimism that the battle against COVID-19 shall be won. "Our factory machines shall grind again, our productive forces shall once again get back to work and contribute meaningfully towards the rebuilding of our economy. When that time comes I, urge our labour force to give everything their all and ensure that we rise again," he said.



## 8636 COVID-19 Tests Conducted in Botswana

The number of people who tested for COVID-19 in Botswana stands at 8636. According to an update from Botswana National Health lab, the first batch of tests were done on the 23rd of March 2020 and 3 positives cases including a death case were reported on the 30th of March 2020.

Of the 8636 tests conducted 8613 have tested negative and 23 tested positive of the deadly Virus while 8 recovery cases have been registered. The global cumulative number of confirmed cases as reported by Johns Hopkins University is currently at 3,500,552, with the United States of America continuing to register the highest number of new confirmed cases.

President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi response to COVID-19, was to extend the national lockdown by one week starting from 1st May to 7th May 2020 and a further two weeks during which the lockdown would be sequentially eased. It is anticipated that final lockdown will be on the 22 of May 2020.

During the extension, the government will decide on a strategy to ease restrictions depending on how citizens follow guidelines designed to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

## The Lockdown Extended in Phases

### Phase I

The current lockdown conditions period will be extend by one week, from **May 1st to May 7th, 2020**. During this period, The Government will also develop and finalize regulations for a phased lifting of lockdown rules in low risk sectors.

### Phase II

Starting from **May 8th to May 14th**, Government, will lift in a phased manner, some lockdown rules while at the same time introducing additional plans for further lifting of the remaining lockdown rules.

### Phase III

From **May 15th to May 22nd**, which will be the final week of the lockdown extension, Government will lift the remaining rules from the original lockdown rules implemented on March 30th, 2020.

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.

## Nurses Hailed For Their Dedication

**P**resident of the Botswana Nurses Union (BONU) Obonolo Rahube has hailed all health workers for their continued dedication to their profession.

Speaking in the event of the Workers Day he said "it is not surprising that during Labour Day we find ourselves working because that's the nature of our job."

Mr Rahube indicated that this year's Labour Day was to be celebrated

under the theme 'End Covid19 and gear towards Botswana's economic independence' is totally different as it finds the world engulfed in Covid-19 pandemic.

"This was supposed to be a day to remember and efforts we put in daily at work but we find ourselves having to triple our efforts in the fight against Covid-19."

Mr Rahube explained that Labour Day is so much more than celebrating



**Mr Obonolo Rahube**  
**BONU President**

worker's rights, and union achievements, but "recognizing that by working together we can raise each other up, and do so much good in this world."

*It is important for the public to remember that when someone coughs or sneezes, they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain the virus. If you are too close to someone, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus, if the person coughing or sneezing has the disease.*

*Therefore, the use of masks/face coverings is critical and effective when used in combination with specified personal hygiene practices and social distancing.*

## Flu symptoms? Then avoid public or shared space

The public has been reminded to avoid being in public or shared spaces (meeting rooms, where people work in large numbers) if one is showing flu like symptoms. As explained by the Director of Health Services Dr Malaki Tshipayagae during a press briefing, when one is showing flu like symptoms, they should first contact the National Health Line 16649 which will give them appropriate advice.

### COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

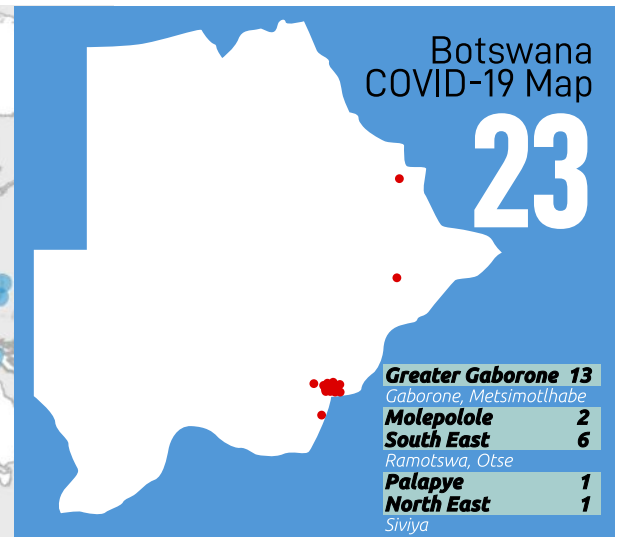
# 3,494,671

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 03/05/20

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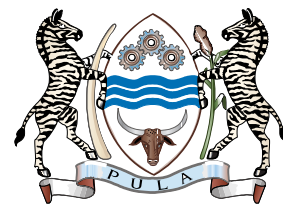
## COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 1,154,340	South Africa - 6,783	Mozambique - 80
Spain - 216,582	Egypt - 6,465	Malawi - 39
Italy - 210,717	Madagascar - 149	Angola - 35
UK - 187,840	Ethiopia - 135	Zimbabwe - 34
France - 168,518	Zambia - 124	Botswana - 23
China - 83,959	Eswatini - 112	Namibia - 16



### EDITORIAL TEAM

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



Republic of Botswana

# APPLY ONLINE

[www.gov.bw](http://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

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