



PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE COVID-19 BULLETIN

COVID-19 | LOCKDOWN

Issue 7 | Thursday, 09 April 2020



"There are choices and opportunities to see us through this pandemic, at the same time, we can choose to be complacent. But a responsible government like ours will choose to take the pandemic head on as we intend to."
~ Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi.

DAY 7
OF 28

Attitude determines victory against COVID-19

President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi has warned the nation of the negative impact COVID-19 can have on the country if there is no adherence to preventive measures set to curb the spread of COVID-19. *Continues on next page*

"Attitude towards addressing this pandemic will determine efficacy of our response. Therefore as a people we are the greatest weapon to COVID-19,"

P21 Million

The amount contributed to date by various companies and individuals towards the COVID-19 Relief Fund established in March 26, 2020.



CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

08/04/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	2078
Negative Cases	2072
Positive Cases	6
Total Deaths	1
New Confirmed Cases	0

Government response to COVID-19

Economic Measures

- Economic rescue package to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on companies and Employees

317,640

The number of people who recovered from COVID-19 worldwide

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Protective Measures

- Social distancing
- Restrictions on travel in and outside the country
- Limitation of social gathering
- Early closure of schools across the country

Preventive Measures

- Public education on hygiene
- Minimising person to person contact through social distancing and reduction of movement of people including cancellation of non-essential travel by government employees
- Restriction of people to and from affected countries
- A mandatory quarantine for citizens and residents returning from high risk countries
- Establishment of a national command centre
- Closure of some ports of entry and only specified 9 border posts remain open for emergency operations

Attitude determines victory against COVID-19

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He said government was closely monitoring Botswana working in different diplomatic missions abroad.

"So far there are no reported cases of Botswana in this diplomatic missions who have tested positive for COVID-19. We care for them, and I ask that we keep them in our prayers," he said.

He explained that Botswana as a developing country does not have sufficient infrastructure and the technical expertise to deal with the pandemic particularly in the way that more advanced countries were attempting even though they were overwhelmed.

He noted that following through audit of the country health system, there had been notable shortage of nurses, doctors and the necessary equipment to comprehensively deal with the challenge of a full blown outbreak in the country.

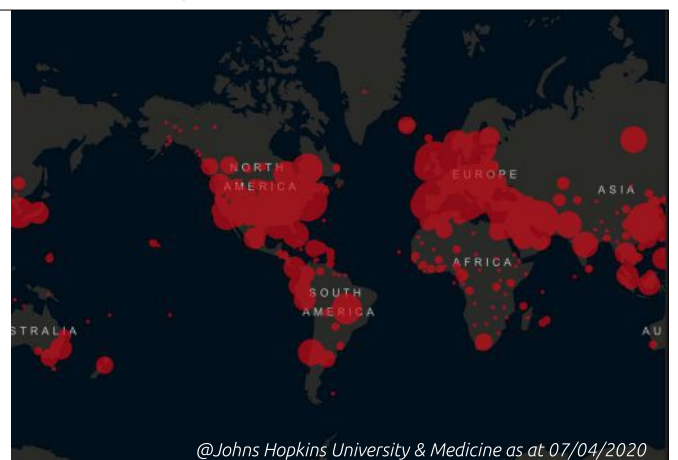
Botswana's nurse to population ratio 1:300, Doctor 1:2000 against WHO recommendation of nurse 1:8 and Doctor 1:1000

Emergency Powers Act (Cap. 22:04)

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 both.

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 402,923	South Africa - 1,749
Spain - 146,690	Democratic Republic of Congo - 180
Italy - 139,422	Zambia - 39
France - 110,070	Namibia - 16
China - 82,809	Zimbabwe - 11
UK - 61,455	Botswana - 6



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

Access to strategic ports important

Emphasis has been paid on the need for Botswana to have access to strategic ports as countries intensifies the fight against COVID-19.

Having taken into consideration that Botswana is a landlocked country, the President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi said his recent official visit to Namibia was mainly to discuss critical COVID-19 measures taken in the respective countries sharing issues.

Access to strategic ports was also discussed given the country as a landlocked country, in the event that the current routes become overwhelmed or inaccessible for the country's supply," he said during the state of public emergency address on Wednesday.

He explained that while the country needed to keep regional borders open, it was important for regional leaders to agree on reasonable restrictions as well.



Port of Walvis Bay, Namibia

Prime Minister Johnson remains in ICU

The British Prime Minister Boris Johnson remains in intensive care but is responding to treatment, Downing Street has said. He remains in 'good spirits' after spending his third night in hospital, his spokesman said. The PM was admitted to St Thomas' in London on Sunday night for tests after continuing to display symptoms of COVID-19, the disease caused by the Coronavirus.. He was subsequently moved to intensive care on Monday night after his condition worsened.

Downing Street said Mr Johnson was no longer working while following the advice of doctors. He is receiving just the 'standard oxygen treatment' and is 'breathing without any other assistance', his spokesman said. Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, who has been asked to step in for the PM where necessary, once again chaired the government's daily coronavirus meeting on Wednesday morning. Source: Skynews

Selebi Phikwe on Lockdown

Picture: Thato Motlhapeng



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