



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 102 | Friday, 21 August 2020

Day 141

Presidential Task Team Back To Full Complement

As Dr Masupu & Dr Matshaba Fully Recover



Presidential COVID-19 Task Team National Coordinator Dr Kereng Masupu and Scientific Advisor to the Presidential COVID-19 Task Team, Dr Mogomotsi Matshaba have reported for duty.

The two were among the Task Force members who tested positive for COVID-19 on the 7th of August 2020.

Dr Masupu and Dr Matshaba have fully recovered from COVID-19 and have been cleared to return

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

22,511,187

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 20/08/20



Republic of Botswana

**CORONAVIRUS IS STILL
A SERIOUS THREAT!**



CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL OCCASIONS

A maximum of 50 individuals and a distance of 1 - 2 metres shall be maintained at cultural and traditional occasions such as - (a) *Go isa mafoko*; (b) *Patlo*; (c) *Magadi*; or (d) *Kgoroso*. Food shall not be served.

* Published on 13th August 2020

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

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

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to work by the medical team. The two returned to work on Wednesday (19/08/2020) following a 12 day recovery period.

They were evaluated at Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital, and were deemed fit for work following the new definition of recovery that Botswana has adopted.

New definition of a COVID-19 recovery - New developments and findings in the scientific community have revealed that once infected with COVID-19, the virus that is detected beyond 10 days following infection is described as a DEAD VIRUS.

Following this medical finding, all individuals with COVID-19 in Botswana, will be declared "a recovery" 10 days after their initial positive test for COVID-19, so long as they are also assessed medically well by a licensed medical provider.

From the 13th of August 2020, Botswana has registered 136 recoveries from a total of 427 positive Botswana cases.

Meanwhile the Presidential Task Force wishes to advise the public to vigilantly observe all COVID-19 regulations, particularly staying away from all public places where one feels symptoms of flu.

The public is further advised to limit movement unless absolutely necessary, practice social distancing, washing of hands frequently with soap and water, wearing of masks correctly and registering at service points.



STOP THE VIRUS! WASH YOUR HANDS.



Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.



Lather your hands by rubbing them together with soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.



Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy birthday" song from beginning to end twice.



Rinse hands well under clean, running water.



Dry hands using a clean towel or air dry them.



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HAVING FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS?

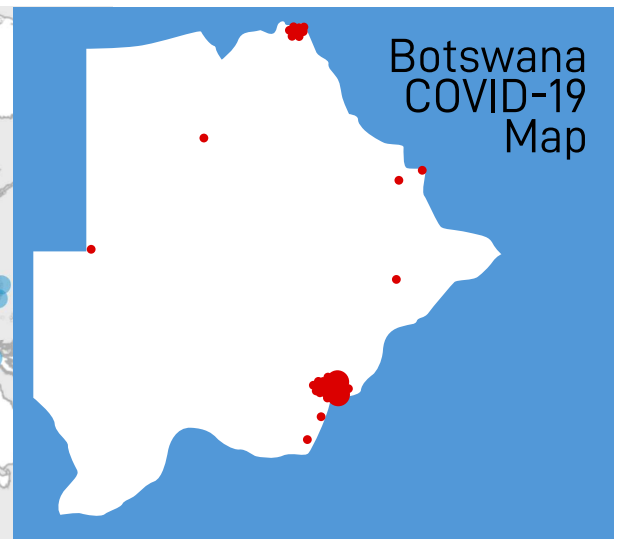
CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR AND
PLEASE STAY HOME AND
AVOID CROWDS.

Own your space. Own your health!

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 20/08/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 5,559,547	Egypt - 96,914	Malawi - 5,240
South Africa - 596,060	China - 89,549	Namibia - 4,912
Spain - 377,906	Ethiopia - 35,863	Eswatini - 4,110
UK - 324,196	Madagascar - 14,154	Mozambique - 3,115
France - 256,534	Zambia - 10,372	Angola - 2,044
Italy - 256,118	Zimbabwe - 5,745	Lesotho - 996



Botswana
COVID-19
Map

EDITORIAL TEAM

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VISITING HOURS SUSPENDED AT PRINCESS MARINA HOSPITAL

Following an announcement of positive COVID-19 cases at Princess Marina Hospital (PMH), the national referral hospital has made a decision to suspend all visitation hours with effect from Tuesday 18th August 2020.



PMH Public Relation Officer Ms Florence Setlhabi told the Presidential Task Force Bulletin in an interview that the whole essence is to stop possible cross infection of COVID-19.

"We want to make sure that we stop the possibility of visitors spreading the virus from the hospital if there is any, as well as protecting admitted patients and staff from possible COVID-19 spread from outside," Ms Setlhabi explained.

She however said the hospital management will closely monitor the situation and will reopen the visitation once the status quo normalizes. Ms Setlhabi said at this time enquiry can be done through telephone at 3621400, adding that where necessary next of kin will be called by the hospital.

Ms Setlhabi said although visitation of admitted patients is suspended, all specialist clinics are up and running. She also said non-emergency operations are suspended until further notice.

The hospital mouthpiece said all students from various learning institutions using Princess Marina Hospital for training purposes will not be allowed to practice until the situation subside.



Second COVID-19 Vaccine Trial in South Africa

South Africa has launched a second Covid-19 vaccine trial. The vaccine from US-based biotechnology company Novavax is being trialed in a study by the University of Witwatersrand.

Professor of Vaccinology Shabir Madhi said the trial would involve 2,900 participants and would help determine whether the medications being tested elsewhere work in an African context.

Current studies show that the Novavax vaccine, when administered on non-human primates, enabled protection from coronavirus, according to health experts.

Scores of trials are being conducted around the world with experts estimating that there could be a successful candidate in the market in 12-18 months, if everything runs smoothly.

The Novavax clinical trial is the second major trial in South Africa, another vaccine trial which started in June, a partnership between Wits University and the UK's Oxford University, is still underway. South Africa currently has the highest rate of coronavirus infections in Africa and some of the highest rates of confirmed cases in the world.

While the disease spread has slowed down in recent weeks, leading to an easing of even more lockdown restrictions, local health experts say there are concerns about a second wave of infections, as seen in some parts of the world.

The government is calling on citizens to continue taking the necessary precautions to prevent that from happening.
South Africa BBC



Republic of Botswana

ABRIDGED COVID-19 REGULATIONS



USE OF MASKS IN PUBLIC PLACES

A person shall wear a cloth face mask that covers the nose and mouth when in a public place.



TRAVEL

All persons coming into Botswana from high risk countries (as defined by the World Health Organization), shall not be allowed entry into the country until further notice. This excludes returning citizens and residents as well as those performing essential services.



GATHERINGS

All public gatherings of more than 2 people are prohibited. Strictly, no parties shall be held.



MEETING

Every meeting shall have a host or convener and should be a maximum of 50 persons. The host or convener of a meeting shall be responsible for the adherence to COVID-19 protocols. No interzonal travel for meetings unless the traveller is the convener.



FAITH-BASED ORGANISATIONS

Faith-based organizations shall - (a) have a maximum attendance of 50 persons; (b) not make provision for food or allow for the sale of food; and (c) have a maximum of two religious services per week.



FUNERALS

(a) Funerals and memorial services shall have a maximum of 50 persons in attendance; and (b) Funerals and memorial services shall not last more than 2 hours and food shall not be provided at such services.



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SOCIETIES

The following societies may meet - (a) faith-based organizations; (b) any club, company, partnership or association registered by the Registrar of Societies; and (c) political parties, including central committees of political parties with a maximum of 50 persons in attendance.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

A distance of 1 - 2 metres between individual persons shall be maintained in a - (a) Gatherings; (b) Banks; (c) Restaurants, including take-away restaurants; (d) Supermarkets and shops; (e) Pharmacies; (f) Government service departments; and (g) Memorial services.

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THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

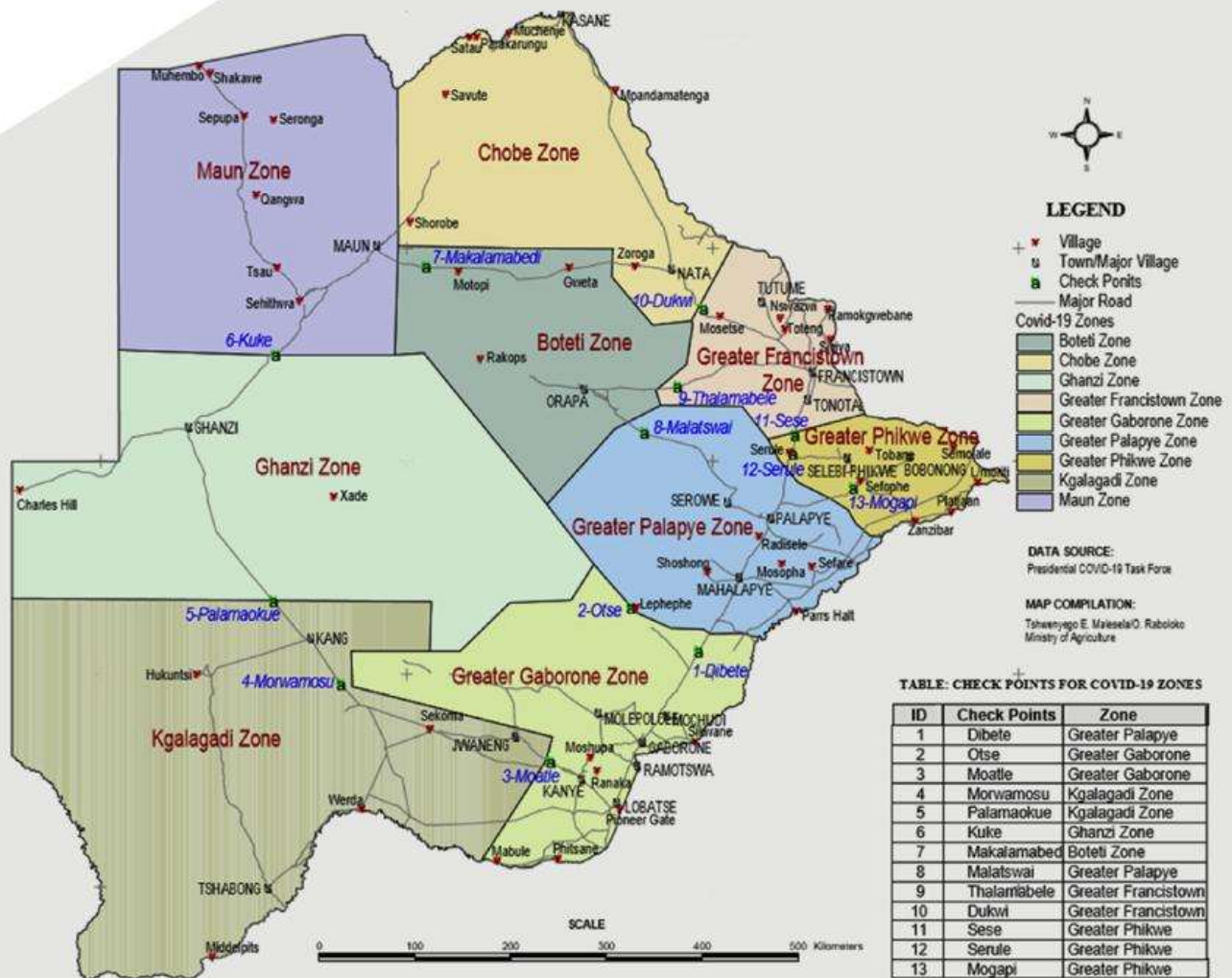
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COVID-19 ZONAL MAP



KNOW YOUR ZONES

Extreme Social Distancing ended on 20th May 2020 signaling the end of the three phases which were introduced to curb the spread of the virus in the country. The Presidential Task Force has developed a surveillance plan to monitor the disease. This resulted in the different zones to create cohorts for easier monitoring, easier tracing of contacts of positive cases and to avoid uncontrollable spread across the country.

The Inter-Zonal permit is therefore a requirement for people to travel from one zone to the other. Thirteen law enforcement check points have been designated across the country to monitor movements of people.

The nine (9) COVID -19 Zones are as follows;

1. Greater Gaborone zone
2. Greater Palapye zone
3. Greater Selibe Phikwe Zone
4. Greater Francistown
5. Boteti zone
6. Chobe zone
7. Maun zone
8. Gantsi zone
9. Kgalagadi zone