



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | LOCKDOWN **PHASE III**

Issue 31 | Friday, 15 May 2020

Day 44

Permit Still Needed For Movement

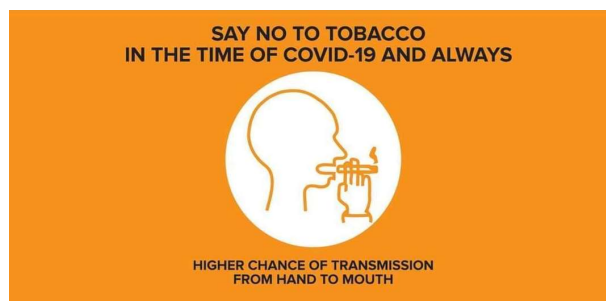
~Dr Tshipayagae



Director of Health Services Dr Malaki Tshipayagae has emphasized the use of permits contrary to the statement he released earlier, as part of easing of restrictions for the phase 3 of the lockdown.

Speaking during a media briefing to clarify the issue, he said there was an oversight on the regulations made when the announcement was made. He said after being advised by the legal team, they decided to review and retract the decision. Lockdown was initially announced to end on the 22nd May 2020 and therefore the status quo of the current lockdown phase remains.

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

4,408,618

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 14/05/20

CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

14/05/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	12394
Negative Cases	12370
Positive Cases	24
Total Deaths	1
Recoveries	17
Active Cases	6

Permit Still Needed For Movement

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Dr Tshipayagae further mentioned that pink permits will still be required as 'back to work permits' and will last for 14 days. He said the permit will be valid for travel to work and grocery shopping. Pink permits will also allow one to go for a funeral or a farm across the zones. Dr Tshipayagae said after the 20th May 2020, a green permit will be used as an inter-zonal permit. He revealed that as of today, businesses that were running at 25% staff complement will as of now move to have a 50% staff complement.

He further revealed that there has been a challenge with respect to testing of truck drivers at the borders, looking at the risk of importation of the virus. He said initially, they had required a 72 hour COVID-19 negative test in order to allow them entry into the country, a position that since been retracted. "The 14 days quarantine is still being upheld for international arrivals and we are still very committed to keeping the disease at bay. We have been working with other stakeholders like Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry and Transport and Communication on how best to go about it", he said.

He lamented that truck drivers will continue to be tested before entering the country as a way of monitoring the spread of the virus.



Food supplies continue until situation improves

The Minister of Local Government and Rural Development Hon. Eric Molale says Government will continue with food supplies to vulnerable families until COVID-19 is contained and fully under control.

Speaking during a media briefing yesterday, Minister Molale said this was part of the Government's efforts to support and mitigate the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable families. Minister Molale said the plan was to give people supplies for a period of three months depending on the situation. He however said should the situation improve, the programme will end in May 2020.

UPDATE ON FOOD SUPPLIES TO VULNERABLE FAMILIES

by Gabriel Seeletso Coordinator of Social Protection packages for COVID-19.

Household assessed is at 487 047

Households recommended for assistance 371 390

Households assisted with food packages 317 787

The Lockdown Extended in Phases

Phase I

The current lockdown conditions period will be extended by one week, from May 1st to May 8th, 2020. During this period, the Government will 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

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

Plans on track to get primary schools hygiene measures

The Local Government ministry has come up with an action plan to implement hygiene and sanitation measures in all the 755 primary schools across the country to curb COVID-19 infections.

The assistant minister Mr Kgotla Autlwetse said his ministry will ensure provision of water and refurbishment of ablution blocks in all primary schools, installation of water basins and sanitisers where pupils can wash their hands as often as required. He said those contracted to undertake

the projects, should have completed them on or before May 29, 2020 well in time before schools resume.

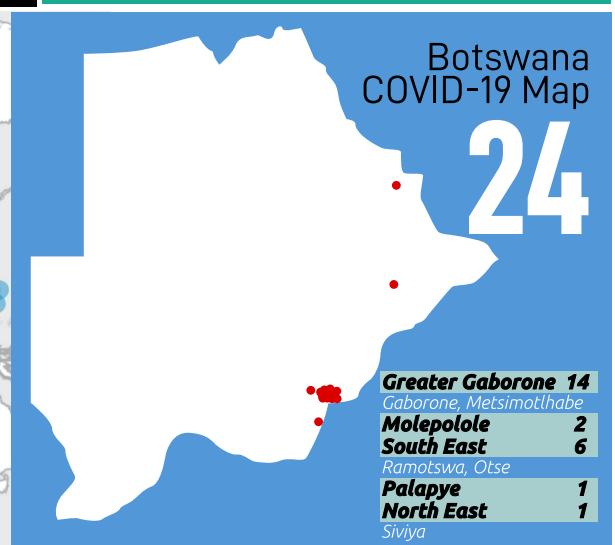
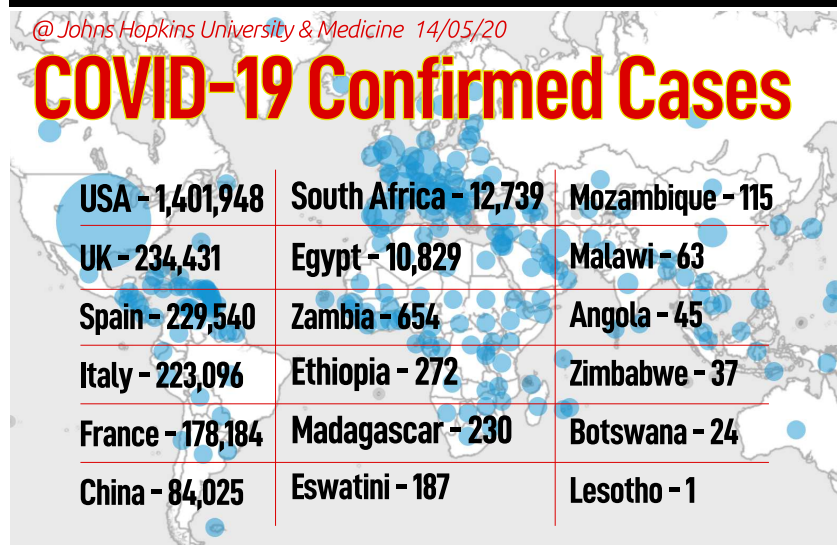
The following will be implemented by the Ministry;

- Hand wash basins will be put at strategic points to avoid congestion during the hand hygiene time
- Water system toilets will be installed in primary schools. Where there is water shortage, the ministry will ensure provision by bowers for such schools.

- People employed as Green scorpions under the Ipelegeng programme will be engaged to ensure the public adheres to the use of masks. They will also be trained to facilitate temperature scanning and sanitisation at schools.

- Cleaners at all primary schools will be increased from 1,269 with additional of 2, 265 to assist with regular cleaning and disinfection of school toilets and classrooms.

TRUCK MONITORING		11-12 MAY 2020
BORDER	Arrival	Departure
Tlokweng	36	32
Ramatlabama	68	62
Martin's Drift	44	110
Pioneer	19	46
Mamuno	50	44
Kazungula Road Border	28	41
Kazungula Ferry	46	63
Ngoma	1	0
Ramokgwebana	0	11
Mohembo	1	1
Sub Total	293	410
Total		703



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What young people need to know about COVID-19



Did you know?

- COVID-19 is a serious respiratory disease which affects **people of all ages**.
- **Young people** exposed to COVID-19 are **as likely as old people** to become infected and contagious.

Know the symptoms of COVID-19:

- Fever
- Cough
- Difficulty in breathing



Stay safe: Protect yourself and others

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and clean water (for at least 20 seconds) OR if there is no soap and water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (20-30 seconds).
- Cover your mouth and nose with a flexed elbow or use tissue and then throw it away when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who has a fever or cough.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Avoid crowded places. If you have to go to public places, adhere to social distancing, 2 meters between people every time, everywhere.
- Avoid non-essential travel and crowded public places where you might interact with people who are infected. Many infected people have no symptoms.

If you feel sick

If you have fever, a cough and difficulty breathing, you should seek medical care immediately. **BUT call by phone first, do not go to the hospital first.**

Call any of the following numbers 16649, 3632756, 3632757 and 3632206 for guidance on what to do.
Call 997 in an emergency.



Stay informed: Know the facts about COVID-19

Only get information from a reliable source: **World Health Organization** (www.who.int), Facebook (World Health Organization) and Twitter pages (@WHO), **Government of Botswana** Facebook and Twitter pages (@BWGovernment), the **official COVID-19 update** page @Covid-19_Mohw. Don't hit the forward button before checking the source!

Facts

1. People of all ages CAN be infected by the coronavirus
2. Cold weather CANNOT kill the coronavirus
3. The coronavirus CAN be transmitted in areas with hot & humid climates
4. The coronavirus CANNOT be transmitted through mosquito bites
5. Taking a hot bath or drinking warm water DOES NOT kill coronavirus
6. Spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body WILL NOT kill viruses that have already entered your body

Look after your physical and mental health

It is normal to feel stressed, confused and anxious during a crisis. Here are things you can do:

- Listen to music, read a book.
- Exercise regularly. WHO recommends 30 minutes physical activity for adults every day and 1 hour for children.
- Eat healthy.
- Get plenty of sleep.
- Avoid drugs and alcohol use.
- If you are a young person Living with HIV, pick up your ARVs from your nearest pharmacy and make sure you don't run out.
- Access and use condoms and other contraceptives.
- Get off social media if it makes you anxious. You are over it!
- Only read information from trusted sources.
- Don't spread rumours.
- Stop stigma - stigma and discrimination is a barrier to an effective response to COVID-19.
- Support yourself and people around you - reach out to your local networks and encourage them to take care of themselves and their loved ones.

Being home doesn't have to be boring

- Until coronavirus is eliminated, the safest place to be is at home.
- Connect with your family and friends by using technology creatively.
- Engage with your favorite art/culture/entertainment virtually!
- Learn a new skill, participate in household chores.
- Enroll for a free online course if you can.
- Don't be afraid to discuss the coronavirus with friends and family.
- Be creative! Join Tik Tok Challenge if you can.
- Keep things in perspective.
- Be kind to yourself and others.



Stop stigma and know your rights

- This is a time of solidarity and unity. We are a PROUD and UNITED Nation.
- Do NOT tease anyone about being sick. Remember that the virus does not follow geographical boundaries, ethnicities, age or ability or gender.

Listen up! To date there is no cure for COVID-19.

Young people: OUR valuable resource during crises and public health emergencies. Young people of today are the most connected generation in history so you can spread the correct message on COVID-19 to every corner of our society. Young people of today are the most innovative generation in history, so you can develop new ways of communicating correct information about the Coronavirus. (#keepingBWsafe)

U-Report is a mobile messaging service that enables adolescents and young people to get information on COVID-19.

To access U-Report, simply SMS "JOIN" to 16015 through B-Mobile/Orange platforms OR if you have questions on COVID-19

U Report is now on WhatsApp!! To become a U-Reporter text JOIN to +267 77094972 from any network

Join the weekly conversation on **Don't Get it Twisted** radio show at 6:30pm on YARONA FM, 106.6FM, Catch YARONA FM on DSTV Channel 197, or download YARONA FM app on Google Play Store #aintwisted



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Republic of Botswana

OUR FUTURE IS IN OUR MASKS

Do the right thing. Wear yours!

#LetsDefeatCOVID19Together

#AreFenyengCOVID19Mmogo

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