

PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

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ith Botswana been plunged into a fuel crisis, there has been evidence that most motorists are not adhering to COVID-19 guidelines and protocols.

Due to fuel crisis a number of motorists gather at fuel stations awaiting to fuel their automobiles. The same behavior has been noticed at some funerals across the country where people attend in large numbers disregarding the Covid-19 set protocols.

The Director of Health Services has noted with concern that some members of the public continue to ignore

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

11,495,412

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 06/07/20





GENERAL PUBLIC URGED TO ADHERE TO COVID-19 REGULATIONS

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these regulations. He said overcrowding exacerbate the spreading of COVID-19.

He urged the general public to exercise restraint and abide by the Covid-19 regulations. In an interview with the Presidential Covid-19 Task Force Bulletin, Dr Malaki Tshipayagae said the latest developments are worrying.

He said people should either stay in their vehicles while awaiting to fuel or keep a distance of 1 to 2 meters, adding that they should wear face masks all the time when in public.

He said the petrol stations should also enforce these regulations. Dr Tshipayagae said any person who seek a service should be wearing a mask failing which they should not be assisted.

Dr Tshipayagae said as for funerals, the grieving process through which the bereaved mourn the passing of a loved one, it is important to adhere to the COVID-19 guidelines and practice social distancing with attendants being less than 50 as this would minimize the possible spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

He strongly advised that the bereaved families should take the responsibility to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus infection among mourners who are gathered to pay their last respects.

He said they should always have an attendance register, sanitizers, clean water and soap for handwashing. He also urged the general public to be more responsible, saying during this Covid-19 era, they cannot all attend funerals. He said people can always

go pass their respects afterwards because the families would still need support beyond the funeral. He said epidemiologically there is evidence that there is an increased risk of transmission of COVID-19 where families and communities come together following the death of a loved one.

He said the public should understand that the most important thing is to contain the pandemic and therefore protect the public against the scourge. The Director of Health Services also said people should wear the mask correctly. Dr Tshipayagae said he has observed that people do not wear the mask properly or not at all.

Dr Tshipayagae said those found contravening the Covid-19 regulations will be charged P 5000.00

Botswana records 39 New Positive cases

The COVID-19 global statistics continue to rise across the world with Botswana registering 39 new cases. The global Covid-19 positive cases stand at over 11.5 million.

Botswana recorded 39 new confirmed cases of coronavirus since the 3rd of July 2020. The Director of Health Services Dr Malaki Tshipayagae and COVID - 19 Task Force Team Deputy National Coordinator Professor Mosepele Mosepele briefed the nation last night and highlighted that the new numbers brings the total number of Batswana confirmed cases to 55.

Dr Tshipayage said the new 38 positive cases are foreign nationals recorded at the ports of entry while 1 is a Motswana. The two Doctors informed the nation that to date 47 860 tests have been conducted.

Professor Mosepele said 28 981 tests were conducted at Point of Entries while 18, 879 tests were local. Meanwhile 243 cases were transferred back to their respective countries and 31 patients recovered from the deadly virus.



WHO: access to HIV medicines severely impacted by COVID-19 as AIDS response stalls

Seventy-three countries have warned that they are at risk of stock-outs of antiretroviral (ARV) medicines as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a new WHO survey conducted ahead of the International AIDS Society's biannual conference.

Twenty-four countries reported having either a critically low stock of ARVs or disruptions in the supply of these life-saving medicines.

The survey follows a modelling exercise convened by WHO and UNAIDS in May which forecasted that a six-month disruption in access to ARVs could lead to a doubling in AIDS-related deaths in sub-Saharan Africa in 2020 alone.

In 2019, an estimated 8.3 million people were benefiting from ARVs in the 24 countries now experiencing supply shortages. This represents about one third (33%) of all people taking HIV treatment globally. While there is no cure for HIV, ARVs can control the virus and prevent onward sexual transmission to other people.

A failure of suppliers to deliver ARVs on time and a shut-down of land and air transport services, coupled with limited access to health services within countries as a result of the pandemic, were among the causes cited for the disruptions in the survey.

The findings of this survey are deeply concerning," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

Sport Industry lost heavily in Revenue due Coronavirus.

~Sedimo

The coronavirus pandemic sent shockwaves around the world, leading to a public health emergency that plunged the global economy into what financial experts, say it could lead to a Great Depression.

Botswana also experienced the harsh reality of the pandemic and sport was one the sectors adversely affected.

Addressing members of the Media, Botswana National Sports Commission Chief Executive Officer, Mr Falcon Sedimo said the sports industry lost heavily in sports revenue due coronavirus. He said the sporting value chain has been affected negatively from athletes' perspective, sporting teams, leagues and stadium revenue.

He said the commission is feeling the impact of the virus also on the sport sponsorship. He noted that there are major consequences on sponsors as companies are no longer getting the mileage they envisaged when they invested in sporting activities.

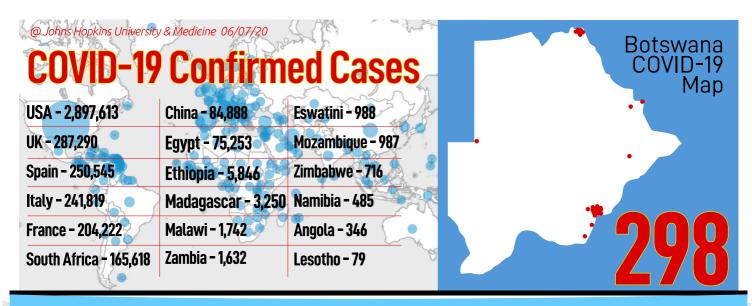
He said there are no benefits for sponsors from sporting events which is the fundamental factor for most organizations.



Mr Sedimo said although there are experiencing a mammoth task and a vague future ahead, taking into account possible future investments on sport required to accomplish the gradual return to a new normal.

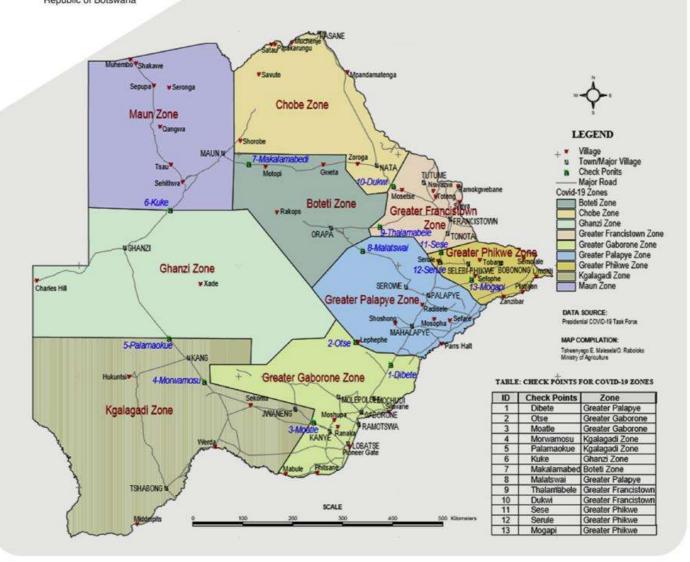
On a positive note he explained that Government did set-up a COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Fund which assisted them immensely as most athletes received sustenance allowances of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pula, (P 2,500.00).

He mentioned that they paid some football players directly from BNSC. He thanked government for the role it played in ensuring that there is continuity in sporting activities.





COVID-19 ZONAL MAP



KNOW YOUR ZONES

Extreme Social Distancing ended on Wednesday 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 survellance 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



CORONAVIRUS IS STILL A SERIOUS THREAT!

FROM"I" TO "US"...

Team building means marching in step. Let US all:

- · Sanitise.
- Maintain social distancing.
- · Wear masks.
- Remember to bSafe. Use the app.

Own your space. Own your health!









