

PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 84 | Tuesday, 28 July 2020

Day 117

Botswana Records The Second COVID-19 Related Death

~ Dr Tshipayagae

otswana has recorded another death of COVID-19 related death, taking the national total to 2.

Director of Health Services Dr Malaki Tshipayagae said out of 66,744 tests conducted, 739 tested positive with 119 being citizens and people residing in the country while 620 were imported cases from Botswana's Point of Entries.

Dr Tshipayage regrettably said the deceased is a 72-year-old Motswana who had a surgery and later tested positive of COVID-19 and unfortunately succumbed to the virus. The patient was later admitted at Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital. "We have 63 recoveries and 54 Active cases which

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16,330,977

CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS 27/07/2020 Lab Tests Performed & resulted 66 744 **Negative Cases** 66 005 **Total Positive Cases** 739 **Local Positive Cases** 119 Total Deaths Recoveries 63 **Active Cases** 54 Transferred Out 620

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does not include imported cases as we transferred them back to their countries of origin", explained the Director of Health Services.

Dr Tshipayagae said the Presidential Task Force Team noted with disappointment that during the President's Holidays people were flouting public health guidelines and hosted parties.

He pleaded that people must adhere to COVID-19 guidelines and protocols at all times as this would assist in containing the spread of the virus in the process saving lives.

Since first appearing in China last year, the virus has spread to at least all countries.

The pandemic has killed more than 636,400 people worldwide, with an excess of 15.63 million cases and over 8.91 million recoveries.

REVOKE LICENSES OF OUTLETS THAT VIOLATE COVID-19 REGULATIONS

Head of Secretariat at Botswana Alcohol Industry Association (BAIA) Mr Jacob Sesinyi has urged authorities to take stern action against entities that do not uphold the Covid-19 regulations.

Mr Sesinyi told the Presidential (Covid-19) Task Force Bulletin in an interview that licenses of entities that break the law should be revoked. "Majority of liquor traders who abide by the regulations should not suffer at the expense of the few well known culprits," charged Sesinyi.

He said the Liquor Board, Bye-law and Botswana Police Service should take to task all the outlets that violate the law. Mr Sesinyi said if action is not taken to the few that are violating the regulation, chances are that a blanket decision to suspend liquor trading might be taken. He reiterated that majority of liquor traders are cooperating, adding that he has never seen any wholesale nor bottle store violating the Covid-19 regulations.

Mr Sesinyi said if the situation does not subside government should consider selling of alcohol on take away basis at all outlets. He said if the privilege given to the liquor industry is abused, the consequences will be felt across board, highlighting that the impact will be felt on those who sell liquor and their relatives as well as the economy.

BAIA secretariat said some liquor outlets are emerging as fertile breeding grounds for COVID-19. Mr Sesinyi said he fully support the idea of drinking at home because the very act of drinking is unsuited with wearing a mask, a principal way of limiting the spread of infection.

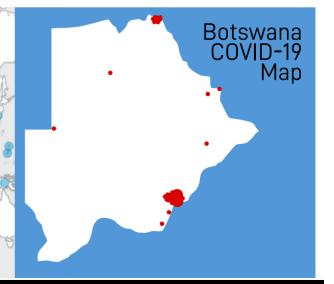
He however said BAIA has come up with interventions to remedy the situation. He said they urge bar owners to report those who drink alcohol inside and outside their premises. Mr Sesinyi further said they have informed sales representatives to report incidents that violate Covid-19 regulations to the police and produce a weekly report on the same.

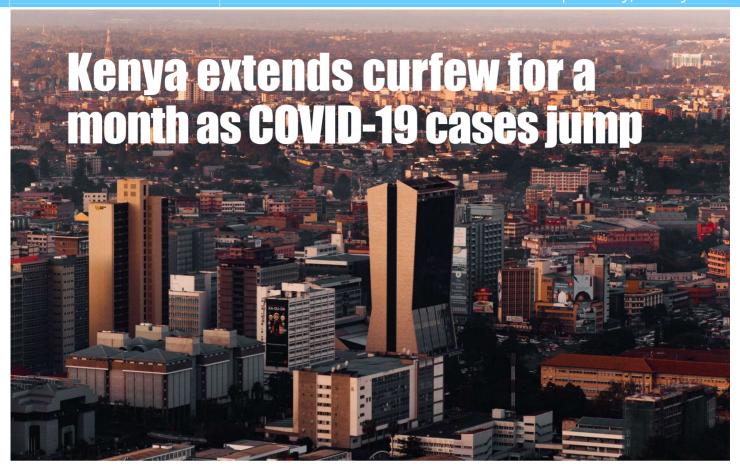
Mr Sesinyi cautioned carwashes owners to discourage their patrons to drink alcohol in their outlets, adding that alcohol consumers should take responsibility and comply with the regulations.

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 4,262,674	Egypt - 92,062	Zimbabwe - 2,512
South Africa - 445,433	China - 86,715	Eswatini - 2,207
UK - 301,705	Ethiopia - 14,547	Namibia - 1,843
Spain - 272,421	Madagascar - 9,690	Mozambique - 1,669
Italy - 246,286	Zambia - 4,552	Angola - 932
France - 217,801	Malawi - 3,664	Lesotho - 505
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Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta extended a nightly curfew on Monday for 30 days to curb the spread of COVID-19 and banned alcohol sales in restaurants but stopped short of locking down the country again despite a surge in cases. The curfew had been due to be lifted on Aug the 6th or 7th.

Kenya has so far reported 17,975 cases of infection with the new coronavirus and 285 deaths from the related disease COVID-19. The health ministry said on Sunday it had reported 960 more cases, the biggest daily jump since the first case was confirmed in March.

"The harsh reality my friends is that we are at war. At war with an invisible enemy who is relentless," President Kenyatta said in a televised address.

President Kenyatta said the government had also shortened restaurant operating times by an hour, and ordered bars to stay closed indefinitely, but stopped short of re-imposing a full lockdown.

"We cannot have a policeman at every street and in every village to enforce the rules. We need, as citizens, to hold ourselves and one another accountable," he said.

The outbreak has hit the economy, with the finance ministry projecting growth will slow to 2.5% this year from 5.4% last year.

President Kenyatta said that among other measures, the health ministry would be authorised to convert government amenities such as schools and sports facilities into quarantine and isolation centers if needed.

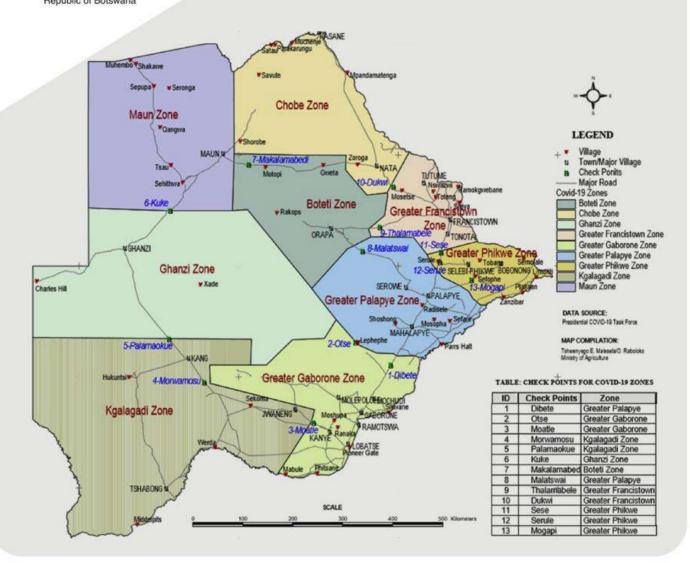
He asked police to enforce the curfew rule regardless of who they found breaking it, without mentioning anyone by name.

Last week, the head of the senate committee overseeing the government's response to the coronavirus crisis quit his post after police said he flouted an overnight curfew to enjoy drinks with others in a Nairobi bar.

REUTERS



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 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!







