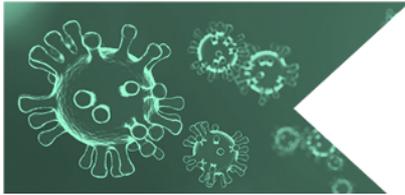


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SAMED COVID-19 NEWS

south african medical technology industry association

COVID-19 news from SAMED, Government and Abroad.

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B4SA Webcast: Level 4 restrictions, economic impact and progress update

After the five-week national lockdown, the transition to level 4 restrictions creates some hope but also raises serious risks for the nation's health, the rule of law, business' survival and the individual livelihoods of many South Africans.

Business for South Africa (B4SA) invites you to attend its webcast on:

- Economic impact of Covid-19 and the transition to level-4 regulations
- Progress updates on B4SA's work in areas including: health, economy, labour and civil society
- Commentary on the current level-4 regulations
- Recommendations for the responsible, data-led and risk-adjusted restoration of economic activity

Webcast details:

Date: 6 May 2010

Time: 13:00 - 14:00

Webcast link: <https://themediiframe.net/10033553>

Please log in a few minutes before the start of the event.

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SAMED ON COVID-19

The [SAMED Library](#) is a dedicated resource for all COVID-19 related updates, regulations, notices and news. All SAMED COVID-19 updates and related information can be found [here](#).

meeting to aid us in understanding the COVID-19 impact on members.

Member Forum: Competition Law and Pricing

07 May 2020



south african medical technology industry association
advancing innovation responsibly



Speaker: Heather Irvine
Competition Lawyer
Bowmans

Join us for a short webinar on competition law issues raised by COVID-19, which will cover the following topics:

- The recent exemptions for collaboration in the healthcare industry passed by Minister Patel;
- What competitors can do: pro-competitive joint ventures (e.g. joint sourcing of products/inputs and logistics)
- What competitors can't do: discussion of selling prices, collectively bargaining against customers, collective boycotts
- Potential complaints to the competition authorities about abuses by dominant purchasers?

Please Note: This would be a general info session and there will be no discussion of specific sellers, prices or buyers on the call.

Date: 07 May 2020, Thursday

Venue: Virtual Meeting

Time: 11:00 – 12:00

**Click this link
to Join**

Please only click the link at the above, specified date/time.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

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PLEASE PARTICIPATE: BSA COVID-19 products and company information portal.

This effort is part of the broader SAMED collaboration with the Minister of Health via Business Unity South Africa's "Business for South Africa" initiative (BSA). During the current pandemic, up-to-date information is critical to ensure all key stakeholders in the value chain make the best-informed decisions at the right time.

The information collected on the covid19manager.co.za platform will be used to ensure supplier verification, regulatory compliance, product availability, reasonable pricing and providing the accurate and most up-to-date logistical information to the procurement department division at BSA to place orders from you and/or assist with ramping up local production. It is an automated process to help facilitate the overwhelming demand currently being experienced in South Africa during the weeks to come. The SAMED office, IDC, the dti, Minister of Health and the BSA procurement team will have access to the data. No data will be shared with other suppliers.

NOTE: THIS IS A LIVE SYSTEM SO PLEASE UPDATE YOUR STOCK QUANTITIES AND LEAD TIME AS AND WHEN THEY CHANGE.

Please see the following [link to the video](#) for an explanation of how to use the portal and click on <https://covid19manager.co.za/> to add your company and product information.

You will most likely be contacted by a member of the BSA procurement team should your information provided need to be verified or an order need to be placed. In this regard, we have put in place a security measure. The BSA procurement team will always supply you with your security code that only you have access to on the portal. See the video for reference as to where to find this code. Please never share or read this code to anyone but only have them read it back to you for validation. If at any point you feel your security code is compromised please let Tanya Vogt (tanya@samed.org.za) know and it will be reset.

We are extremely appreciative of the support and commitment of our members in fighting this pandemic.

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DO YOU HAVE A COVID-19 QUESTION OR QUERY?

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) relating to Essential Goods, clearance and movement of goods and service rendered by customs under the COVID-19 lockdown

- What is the difference between critical supplies and essential goods?
- What do we need to know about the importation of critical supplies or essential goods to the national state of disaster (COVID-19 pandemic)?
- Do I need to apply for the VAT exemption under rebate item 412.11?
- Where can I find the certificate issued in terms of Schedule 1(8) of the Value Added Tax Act, 1991, item 412.11/00.00/01.00 (RE: SARS Essential Goods List)?

Find the answer to these and other questions [here](#).

Disaster Management Tax Relief FAQ's for Employees' Tax, ETI and Provisional Tax

- Who are qualifying taxpayers?
- What are the requirements to claim the tax relief?
- What is the Employment Tax Incentive (ETI) tax relief?
- What is the Employees' Tax Deferral?

Find the answer to these and other questions [here](#).

COVID-19 UPDATES, NOTICES, LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

B4SA Buyer's guide: Procedure for evaluating potential PPE suppliers

Business for South Africa's mandate is to enable an effective and coordinated response by business, together with other stakeholders, including Government, to the COVID-19 crisis facing South Africa. In the wake of the coronavirus crisis, and with the increase in the need for and use of medical devices and equipment to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, including personal protective equipment (PPE), it is paramount that the availability of medical services and equipment is secured. To this end, BSA has established a Public Health Workgroup, and within this stream, a team has been established dedicated to the sourcing and procurement of PPE and medical devices in accordance with South Africa's legislative and regulatory frameworks.

Download the PPE Buyer's Guide [here](#).

1 - 7 May B4SA Procurement Portal Update:

- 6000 applicants through B4SA PPE portal
- PPE order book is almost ZAR 1bn
- 13.5 million N96 Masks
- 35.5 million surgical masks
- 900 000 sterile gloves
- 20 000 goggles
- 100 000 gowns
- 500 000 sanitizers (950ml bottles)
- 200 ventilators

Download the B4SA Update [here](#)

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SAHPRA Medical Device Hotline

SAHPRA has launched a COVID-19 Medical Device Hotline to deal with COVID-19 related queries.



SAHPRA COVID-19 Medical Device Hotline

Commencing on Tuesday 14 April 2020,
The SAHPRA Medical Device Hotline will be active. Direct all COVID-Related queries relating to Medical Devices to the following Hotline numbers.

084 220 8037

072 993 2273

078 281 6334

Hours of Operation: (Excluding weekends and public holidays)

08:00 – 16:00



Download this notice, [here](#).

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The potential negative impact of COVID-19 on economy & measures to combat it

A joint committee on trade and industry was briefed by the Minister of Trade and Industry on government's response to the potential negative impact of the coronavirus on the economy and the measures considered to mitigate against it. He explained that the overall approach was to "flatten the curve" of infection, preventing an uncontrolled outbreak that overwhelms the healthcare system, while taking steps to responsibly re-open the economy in phases.

South Africa's gross domestic product (GDP) was expected to fall by around six percent in 2020. The re-opening of the economy would involve three systems: 1) a risk assessment (from level 1 to level 5), 2) a classification of industries according to the risk of transmission, the impact of continued lockdown, broad value and linkage of the sector and promotion of community wellbeing, and 3) enhanced public health protocols and social distancing measures.

The re-opening of the economy would involve three systems:

1. A risk assessment (from level 1 to level 5)
2. Classification of industries according to the risk of transmission, the impact of continued lockdown, broad value and linkage of the sector and promotion of community wellbeing, and
3. Enhanced public health protocols and social distancing measures. Minister Patel gave a general outline of the implications of lowering the risk assessment to level 4 on different economic sectors.

In particular, he noted some e-commerce would be allowed, but the regulations had not been completed in time and consultations were taking place. Further lowering the risk assessment to level 3 was conditional on avoiding a spike in infections under level 4. It was absolutely critical to increase the rate of testing for COVID-19. Finally, he said that there would be opportunities as well as problems in the new post-COVID-19 economic landscape.

Download the minutes [here](#).

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WHO Medical Devices May 2020 Newsletter

This issue of the newsletter covers the following topics:

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- IVD laboratory testing guidance

Download the newsletter [here](#).

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Freight Service Provider

Pioneer Freight has service offerings in relation to the movement of sea and air freight cargo and the import and export clearance thereof. They have a global network of agents and can assist with cargo from wherever to wherever, with a simplified and personal approach.

If you would like to make use of their services, contact Caroline Bresele on 021 386 5946 or Caroline@pioneerfreight.co.za

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BSA Update: Heed Mandatory Health Regulations for Level 4

Business for South Africa is urging employers to be meticulous in their implementation of the Level 4 restrictions that came to effect on 1 May 2020, as South Africa enters a new phase of its response to COVID-19 in terms of further regulations promulgated under the Disaster Management Act, 2002. The Regulations repeal and replace the previous lockdown regulations of 18 March 2020, as amended.

The Regulations provide a more detailed framework for businesses to know whether and the extent to which they are permitted to operate if they decide to return to work. It is vital for employers to pay attention to health protocols and hygiene restrictions, that for the first time, are subject to a degree of standardization across sectors.

The general position under Alert Level 4 remains that every person is confined to his or her place of residence” subject to exceptions listed in a table of permitted industries and activities. Thus, the movement of persons is still strictly regulated and constrained to performing or obtaining permitted services or purchasing essential goods, as well as the travel required for these purposes.

The major addition to the new Regulations is clarification as to what employers are required to do if they intend to (and are permitted to) reopen. Regulation 16 provides that all businesses and entities, in both the public and private sector, must develop a plan for phased reopening which meets the standards of health protocols and required physical distancing measures. The nature of the plan depends on the size of the business. Small businesses will probably not require written plans. Medium and large businesses must take specific account of the factors listed under items 1-6 of Annexure E to the Regulations.

Each business must designate a COVID-19 compliance officer to oversee the implementation of the workplace plan and adherence to the applicable health protocols. These include mandatory physical distancing measures, such as enabling remote working, restricting face-to-face meetings, ensuring that there is adequate space between employees, and taking special measures for employees over the age of 60 and other employees with known or disclosed health conditions which place them at a higher risk if they are infected with COVID-19.

All businesses are expected to provide hand sanitiser which must be accessible to staff and customers.

Businesses need to further note that everyone will be required to wear a mask or another item which covers their nose and mouth, on public transport, when they enter premises, and whenever they are in a public place. Where an employee has contact with the general public as part of their duties at work, it is the employer’s obligation to ensure that they are provided with a suitable mask.

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The Solidarity Fund uniting South Africa against COVID-19

The Solidarity Fund provided more details on its purpose and mandate of mobilising and coordinating efforts and resources from all South Africans and the international community to assist most vulnerable South Africans to deal with the impact of Covid19 and the consequences of measures intended to slow its rate of infection. One of its key focus areas is a Health Response with direct support for the healthcare system, augmenting both the private and government healthcare sectors to ensure they have what they need, as well as enabling emergency supplies.

Details on how to donate are available on the Fund’s website www.solidarityfund.co.za

For more information email info@solidarityfund.co.za

For offers of supply of Medicines and Medical Devices send

to covid19supplies@businessresponsecovid19.co.za

If you are seeking PPE for your hospital, clinic, or NGO please email your request

to covid19requests@businessresponsecovid19.co.za

COVID-19 EVENTS**Africa Healthcare Federation Live Webcast****LIVE WEBCAST****FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY FOR PRIVATE HOSPITALS INVOLVED IN COVID19**

Wednesday 6th May 2020, 5:00pm to 6:30pm (East African time)

Private Healthcare Associations, Federations, Organisations and Professional in Africa are encouraged to participate.



Moderator
Dr. Amit N. Thakker,
President,
Africa Healthcare Federation
Kenya



Dr. Mark Hellowell,
PhD. Professor at Edinburgh and
WHO Consultant
United Kingdom



Dr Albert Tuyishime,
Rwanda Biomedical
Center Manager of the
COVID19 Response Team
Rwanda



Dr. Tryphine Zulu,
Senior Manager for
Disease Risk and
Medicines Management
South Africa



<https://bit.ly/2VQ5QYW>



www.africahf.com



[@AfricaHealthFed](https://twitter.com/AfricaHealthFed)



Africa Healthcare Federation

SAVE THE DATE & REGISTER!

Date: Wednesday 6th May 2020

Time: 5:00pm to 6:30pm East African Time

TOPIC: Financial sustainability for private hospitals involved in COVID19

Registration link: <https://bit.ly/2VQ5QYW>

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EKA Work Sessions

A special session is arranged relating to UIF / **TERS benefit** that can be claimed, as well as the **labour law implications of Covid-19**. Yvonne, from Elsabe Klinck and Associates, will take attendees through the requirements of labour law (e.g. can you send employees on unpaid leave?), how to regularise your UIF status and how to claim from the TERS if you are unable to pay staff or had been unable to do so in the past- and/or coming months.

WHEN: 7 May 2020, 18:00 - 20:00

COST: R500, excl. VAT

BOOKINGS: eugenia@elsabeklinckassociates.co.za

Download the **EKA Worksession form** [here](#).

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BSA Risk Assessment Presentation

Business for SA has performed a comprehensive risk assessment of the significant strategic risks arising from the COVID-19 crisis. The risk assessment has gone beyond the conventional two-dimensional approach to depicting risk and has taken a four-dimensional view by including considerations of risk interconnectedness and velocity. This enables consideration of the contagion effect of risks and will assist to identify and highlight those risks which, when addressed, will have the greatest effect on mitigating the other risks. **To view the full document,** [click here](#).

Given the technical nature of the assessment set out in this report BSA would encourage the participation of the presentation sessions as per the slots below:

Tues, 05 May; 07:30 to 08:30am

Tues, 12 May; 07:30 to 08:30am

Wed, 06 May; 07:30 to 08:30am

Wed, 13 May; 07:30 to 08:30am

Thurs, 07 May; 07:30 to 08:30am

Thurs, 14 May; 07:30 to 08:30am

To enrol for any of the above sessions please contact: Daniella de Gouveia: +27 66 307 0846 or

Daniella.de.Gouveia@businessresponsecovid19.co.za

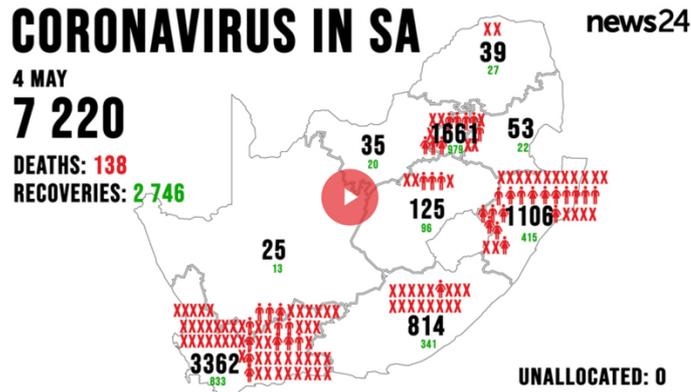
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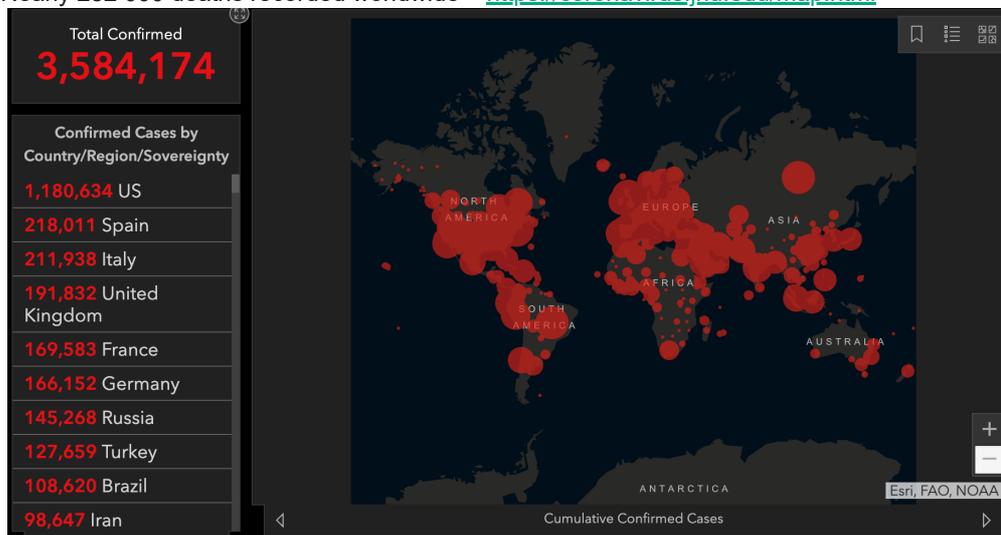
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TRACKING THE PANDEMIC



<https://m.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/coronavirus-new-cases-spike-by-437-as-death-toll-rises-to-138-20200504?isapp=true>

Nearly 252 000 deaths recorded worldwide – <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>



ECONOMICS, POLITICS, EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL

With some 1.5 million South Africans returning to work this week, [businesses are required to comply with strict new health and safety regulations](#) to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Businesses re-opening must put a range of measures in place – including provision of masks, distancing and disabling or covid-proofing finger-based biometric access systems – before restarting work, minister of labour Thulas Nxesi said during a briefing at the weekend. Failure to do so could result in criminal prosecution.

CLINICAL & SCIENCE NEWS

South African [health workers started receiving a century-old Bacillus Calmette-Guerin \(BCG\)](#) tuberculosis vaccine on Monday in a trial to see whether the formula can protect against coronavirus. Trials started at Tygerberg hospital in Cape Town, where BCG booster shots were administered to 250 health care workers, while another 250 received a dummy formula, or placebo.

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SAMED is the voice of the South African medical technology industry. The not-for-gain was formed in 1985 and aims to provide members with a collective, objective and credible platform to engage with stakeholders. SAMED's members include individual medical technology companies, associate members and associations.

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