



home affairs

Department:  
Home Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## Attention: Home Affairs stakeholders, Government Departments, Asylum seekers and refugees

### VALIDITY OF ASYLUM SEEKER AND REFUGEE PERMITS DURING THE LOCKDOWN PERIOD

This communication serves to inform all stakeholders of the Department of Home Affairs' decision emanating from the President's announcement with regards to lockdown level 1 and all the applicable permits related to asylum seekers and refugees.

All permits/visa issued to refugees and asylum seekers are deemed valid until 31 January 2021. In this regard there is no need for asylum seekers and refugees to extend a permit/visa since the **Minister of Home Affairs has extended all permits/visas and deemed them valid until 31 January 2021**. All the rights, benefits and obligations of asylum seekers and refugees remain the same. The refugee and asylum seeker permits that expired during lockdown will not be subject to any penalties.

The Refugee Reception Centres have closed since the commencement of lockdown and all the applicable levels. The Refugee Reception Centres will remain closed until 31 January 2021 or until the Republic of South Africa declares them open.

All stakeholders, refugees and asylum seekers will be notified when the Refugee Reception Centres are declared open.

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*This communique is to be read alongside the statement made by the Minister of Home Affairs on the 30th of September 2020 that states that, 'the Department of Home Affairs is extending the validity period of legally issued visas which expired during the lockdown period to 31 January 2021'. The statement can be found on [www.dha.gov.za](http://www.dha.gov.za)*

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Department of Home Affairs



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# Government Gazette Staatskoerant

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
REPUBLIEK VAN SUID AFRIKA

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## GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

## DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

NO. 664

10 JUNE 2020

## DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002

**AMENDMENT OF DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 10(8) OF THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 27(2) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

I, Dr Pakishe Aaron Motsoaledi, the Minister of Home Affairs, having issued Directions published in *Government Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020, as amended by Government Notice No. R. 518 of 9 May 2020, hereby, in terms of regulation 4(8), read with regulation 4(10) of the Regulations made in terms of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) and published in *Government Gazette* No. 43258, Government Notice No. 480 of 29 April 2020, as amended by Government Notice No. 608 of 28 May 2020, issue the Directions set out in the Schedule regarding temporary measures in respect of the entry into or exit from the Republic for emergency medical attention for a life-threatening condition, the evacuation of South African nationals to the Republic, the repatriation of foreign nationals to their countries of nationality or residence or the return of South African nationals to their place of employment or study outside of the Republic, as well as the extension of the validity period of an asylum seeker permit issued, and refugee status granted, in terms of the Refugees Act, 1998 (Act No. 130 of 1998), in order to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19

  
DR PAKISHE AARON MOTSOALEDI, MP  
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

DATE:

10/6/2020

## SCHEDULE

**Definitions**

1. In these Directions, unless the context otherwise indicates—

“Directions” means the Directions published in *Government Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020; and

“Regulations” means the Regulations made in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) and published in *Government Gazette* No.

43258, Government Notice No. R. 480 of 29 April 2020, as amended by Government Notice No. 608 of 28 May 2020.

### **Substitution of paragraph 15 of the Directions**

2. The Directions are amended by the substitution for paragraph 15 of the following paragraph:

#### **"15. TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS FOR CITIZENS AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS**

15.1 South African citizens and permanent residents are advised, for the duration of the national state of disaster, and subject to further advisories, other applicable regulations or directives to—

- (a) refrain from non-essential travel to high risk countries; and
- (b) exercise caution in relation to any other travel outside the Republic.

15.2 A South African citizen contemplated in regulation 41(2)(d) of the Regulations who, at own cost and subject to the capacity available on international flights permitted for evacuation and repatriation, intends to travel to his or her place of employment, study or residence outside of the Republic must provide the Department of Home Affairs, at least five working days in advance of the intended date of travel, with—

- (a) a copy of his or her valid South African passport;
- (b) a letter of confirmation of admissibility or the validity of the visa or permit, issued by the relevant diplomatic or consular mission or authority of the receiving country;
- (c) where transiting through another country, proof of permission to transit through such country; and
- (d) proof of the means of travel and the intended date of departure,

which information may be authenticated by the Department when considering the request to leave the Republic.

15.3 A South African citizen or a permanent resident who, for any reason, has been outside the Republic during the period of the national state of disaster must for purposes of admission, upon his or her return to the Republic, be subjected to such prescribed screening or examination procedure as the immigration officer, in consultation with a port health official or medical practitioner, may determine, and must be referred for isolation or quarantine, as the case may be."

**Insertion of paragraph 17E in the Directions**

3. The following paragraph is hereby inserted in the Directions after paragraph 17D:

**"17E. SERVICES TO BE RENDERED BY DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS  
UNDER ALERT LEVEL 3**

The following additional services will be rendered by the Department of Home Affairs during Alert Level 3 of the period of the national state of disaster, in addition to the services mentioned in paragraph 17D:

- (a) late registration of birth; and
- (b) solemnisation and registration of marriages."

**Insertion of paragraphs 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 in the Directions**

4. The following paragraphs are hereby inserted in the Directions after paragraph 17:

**"18. PASSENGER MANIFEST**

18.1 The owner or person in charge of a conveyance, authorised by the relevant Cabinet member, to enter, or depart from, the Republic, must provide to the Departments of Home Affairs and International Relations and Cooperation a list with details (manifest) of passengers and crew on that conveyance before such entry or departure..

18.2 Any changes to the list referred to in paragraph 18.1 must be provided to the Department of Home Affairs prior to the arrival or departure of such a conveyance.

18.3 The owner or person in charge of a conveyance must ensure that all passengers carried on the conveyance are admissible in the country of disembarkation.

**19. EXTENSION OF VALIDITY PERIOD OF ASYLUM SEEKER PERMIT AND  
REFUGEE STATUS**

An asylum seeker permit lawfully issued in terms of section 22 of the Refugees Act, 1998 (Act No. 130 of 1998) and a refugee status granted in terms of section 24 of the Refugees Act, 1998, which expired from 15 March 2020, or is to expire or which status

was to be withdrawn during the period of the national state of disaster, is deemed to have been extended up to and including 31 July 2020.

#### **20. EXTENSION OF VALIDITY PERIOD OF LESOTHO SPECIAL PERMIT**

A Lesotho Special Permit lawfully issued in terms of section 31(2)(b) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No. 13 of 2002) which has expired is deemed to have been extended up to and including 31 July 2020.

#### **21. DECLARATION OF UNDESIRABILITY**

21.1 A person whose visa has expired from 15 March 2020 and has remained in the Republic during the period of the national state of disaster will not be declared an undesirable person in terms of the Immigration Act, 2002 upon leaving the Republic during the period of the national state of disaster up to and including 31 July 2020.

21.2 Any declaration of undesirability that has been issued to any person who departed the Republic on or after 15 March 2020 is hereby set aside.

#### **22. VISITS TO LINDELA HOLDING FACILITY**

Visits to Lindela Holding Facility are not allowed, except for provision of consular services by the relevant diplomatic or consular mission of the persons detained in the Facility.”.

#### **Short title and commencement**

5. These Directions are called Second Amendment Directions to the Directions published in *Government Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020 and commence on the date of publication thereof in the *Government Gazette*.





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GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

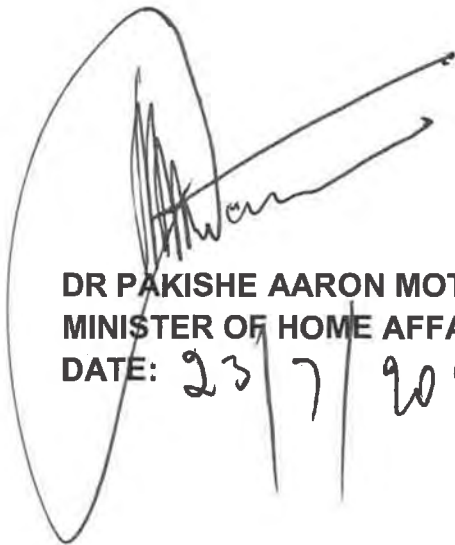
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31 JULY 2020

**DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002**

**AMENDMENT OF DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 10(8) OF THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 27(2) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

I, **Dr Pakishe Aaron Motsoaledi**, the Minister of Home Affairs, having issued Directions published in *Government Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020, as amended by Government Notice No. 518 of 9 May 2020 and Government Notice No. 664 of 10 June 2020, hereby, in terms of regulation 4(8), read with regulation 4(10) of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) and published in *Government Gazette* No. 43258, Government Notice No. R.480 of 29 April 2020, as amended by Government Notices No. R.608 of 28 May 2020, No.714 of 25 June 2020 and No.763 of 12 July 2020, issue the Directions set out in the Schedule in order to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19.



**DR PAKISHE AARON MOTSOALEDI, MP  
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS**

DATE: 23/7/2020.

## SCHEDULE

### Definitions

1. In these Directions, unless the context otherwise indicates—

“**Directions**” means the Directions published in *Government Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020 as amended by Government Notice No. 518 of 9 May 2020 and Government Notice No. R.664 of 10 June 2020; and

“**Regulations**” means the Regulations made in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) and published in *Government Gazette* No. 43258, Government Notice No. R. 480 of 29 April 2020, as amended by Government Notice No. 608 of 28 May 2020, Government Notice No. 714 of 25 June 2020 and Government Notice No. 763 of 12 July 2020.

### Amendment of paragraphs 12.3, 19, 20 and 21.1 of the Directions

2.1 Paragraphs 12.3, 19, 20 and 21.1 of the Directions are hereby amended by the substitution for the date 31 July 2020 referred to in these paragraphs, of the date 31 October 2020, as the date until which the validity of visas and permits is extended and the date until which a person may leave the Republic without being declared as undesirable, respectively.

2.2 A holder of a visa or permit must adhere to the terms and conditions of his or her visa and any activity not endorsed onto such visa or permit is prohibited.

### Short title and commencement

3. These Directions are called the Fourth Amendment Directions to the Directions published in *Government Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020 and commence on the date of publication thereof in the *Government Gazette*.



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**GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS****NO. 1029****30 SEPTEMBER 2020****DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002****AMENDMENT OF DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 4(8) OF THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 27(2) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

I, **Dr Pakishe Aaron Motsoaledi**, the Minister of Home Affairs, having issued Directions published in *Government Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020, as amended by Government Notice No. 518 of 9 May 2020, Government Notice No. 664 of 10 June 2020, Government Notice No. R.763 of 12 July 2020, Government Notice No. 843 of 31 July 2020 and Government Notice No. 923 of 25 August 2020 hereby, in terms of regulation 4(10) of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) and published in *Government Gazette* No. 43258, Government Notice No. R.480 of 29 April 2020, as amended, issue the Directions set out in the Schedule in order to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19.



**DR PAKISHE AARON MOTSOALEDI, MP**

**MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

## SCHEDULE

### Definitions

1. In these Directions, unless the context otherwise indicates—

“**Directions**” means the Directions published in *Government Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020, as amended by Government Notice No. R. 518 of 9 May 2020, Government Notice No. 664 of 10 June 2020, Government Notice No. 749 of 3 July 2020, Government Notice No. 843 of 31 July 2020 and Government Notice No. 923 of 25 August 2020; and

“**Regulations**” means the Regulations made in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) and published in *Government Gazette* No. 43258, Government Notice No. R. 480 of 29 April 2020, as amended by Government Notices No. R.608 of 28 May 2020, No. R.714 of 25 June 2020, No. R.763 of 12 July 2020, No. R.846 of 31 July 2020, No. R.891 of 17 August 2020 and No. R.999 of 18 September 2020.

### Repeal of paragraphs 5 and 23 of the Directions

2. Paragraphs 5 and 23 of the Directions is hereby repealed.

### Amendment of paragraphs 12.3, 19, 20 and 21.1 of the Directions

**3.1** Paragraphs 12.3, 19, 20 and 21.1 of the Directions are hereby amended by the substitution for the date 31 October 2020 referred to in these paragraphs, of the date 31 January 2021, as the date until which the validity of visas and permits is extended and the date until which a person may leave the Republic without being declared as undesirable, respectively.

**3.2** A holder of a visa or permit must adhere to the terms and conditions of his or her visa and any activity not endorsed onto such visa or permit is prohibited.

### Amendment of paragraph 15 of the Directions

**4.** The Directions are hereby amended by the deletion of paragraphs 15.2 and 15.3 of the Directions.

**Substitution of paragraph 16 of the Directions**

5. The Directions are amended by the substitution for paragraph 16 of the following paragraph:

**“16. OPENING AND CLOSURE OF SOME PORTS OF ENTRY**

16.1 All land ports, except for those referred to in paragraph 16.2, will be opened with effect from 1 October 2020.

16.2 The 35 land ports of entry listed in Annexure “A” remain closed for processing of any person who wishes to enter into, transit through or depart from, the Republic during Alert Level 1 of the period of the national state of disaster.

**Insertion of paragraphs 17G and 17H in the Directions**

6. The following paragraphs is hereby inserted in the Directions after paragraph 17F:

**“17G. SERVICES TO BE RENDERED BY DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS  
UNDER ALERT LEVEL 1**

17G.1 The following additional services will be rendered by the Department of Home Affairs during Alert Level 1 of the period of the national state of disaster with effect from 1 October 2020, in addition to the services mentioned in paragraphs 17D, 17E and 17F:

- (a) applications for identity cards or documents;
- (b) applications for all types of passports; and
- (c) visa services in terms of the Immigration Act, including submission of applications through VFS Global, in the following categories:
  - (i) visitor’s visa, as contemplated in section 11(1)(a);
  - (ii) visitor’s visa, as contemplated in section 11(1)(b);
  - (iii) visitor’s visa, as contemplated in section 11(2);
  - (iv) visitor’s visa, as contemplated in section 11(6);
  - (v) study visa, as contemplated in section 13;
  - (vi) treaty visa, as contemplated in section 14;
  - (vii) business visa, as contemplated in section 15;



- (viii) crew visa, as contemplated in section 16;
- (ix) medical treatment visa, as contemplated in section 17;
- (x) relative's visa, as contemplated in section 18;
- (xi) general work visa, as contemplated in section 19(2);
- (xii) critical skills work visa, as contemplated in section 19(4);
- (xiii) intra-company transfer work visa, as contemplated in section 19(5);
- (xiv) retired person visa, as contemplated in section 20;
- (xv) corporate visa, as contemplated in section 21;
- (xvi) exchange visa, as contemplated in section 22;
- (xvii) waiver of prescribed requirement, as contemplated in section 31(2)(c);  
and
- (xviii) appeal or review contemplated in section 8 against a decision on application for a temporary residence visa.

17G.2 The services mentioned in paragraph 17G.1, including applications for a visitor's visa, as contemplated in section 11(1)(a) of the Immigration Act, will also be rendered at the South African Missions abroad.

17G.3 The application process for Lesotho Exemption Permits and Zimbabwean Exemptions Permits will open with effect from 1 October 2020.

### **Insertion of paragraph 23A in the Directions**

7. The following paragraph is hereby inserted in the Directions after paragraph 23:

#### **"23A. APPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS TRAVEL**

23A.1 Any person, from a country listed as having a high COVID-19 infection and transmission rate, who wishes to, with effect from 1 October 2020, undertake a business travel into the Republic as contemplated in regulation 75(5) of the Regulations may, in writing, apply to the Minister of Home Affairs and demonstrate reasons for his or her request to enter the Republic for business purposes during the period of the national state of disaster.

23A.2 An application referred to in paragraph 23A.1 must be made to email [Covid19BusinessTravel@dha.gov.za](mailto:Covid19BusinessTravel@dha.gov.za) and supported by—

- (a) a copy of passport and/or temporary residence visa;
- (b) proof of business activities to be undertaken in the Republic;
- (c) proof of travel itinerary; and
- (d) proof of address or accommodation in the Republic.

23A.3 Any person who is allowed entry into the Republic will be subjected to the prescribed screening procedures and isolation or quarantine rules, as the case may be, which include—

- (a) provision of a valid certificate of a negative test obtained not more than 72 hours before the date of travel; and
- (b) in the event of failure to submit a certificate as proof of a negative test, such person will be required to quarantine at his or her own costs.

23A.4 The list of such countries determined as having a high COVID-19 infection and transmission rate will be published, from time to time, on the website of the Department of Home Affairs.”

#### **Short title and commencement**

8. These Directions are called the Sixth Amendment Directions to the Directions published in Government *Gazette* No. 43162, Government Notice No. 416 of 26 March 2020 and commence on the date of publication thereof in the Government *Gazette*.

**Annexure "A"**  
**List of closed ports of entry**

**LAND PORTS**

<b>NEIGHBORING COUNTRY</b>	<b>PROVINCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>NAME OF PORT (REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA)</b>
REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA	Limpopo	Zanzibar
	Limpopo	Platjan
	Limpopo	Pontdrift
	Limpopo	Stockpoort
	North West	Derdepoort
	North West	Swartkopfontein Gate
	North West	Bray
	North West	Makopong
	North West	Makgobistad
	Northern Cape	MC Carthys Rest
	Northern Cape	Middelputs
	Northern Cape	Gemsbok
	Northern Cape	TweeRivieren
KINGDOM ESWATINI	KwaZulu-Natal	Onverwacht
	Mpumalanga	Bothashoop
	Mpumalanga	Emahlatini
	Mpumalanga	Josefsdal
	Mpumalanga	Nerston
	Mpumalanga	Waverly
KINGDOM LESOTHO	Eastern Cape	Ramatsilitso Gate
	Eastern Cape	Ongeluksnek
	Eastern Cape	Telle Bridge
	Free State	Makhaleng Bridge
	Free State	Peka Bridge
	Free State	Monantsa Pass
	Free State	Sepapus Gate
	KwaZulu-Natal	Sani Pass
	KwaZulu-Natal	Boesmansnek
REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE	KwaZulu-Natal	Kosi Bay
	Limpopo	Giriyondo
	Limpopo	Pafuri
REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA	Northern Cape	Alexander Bay
	Northern Cape	Rietfontein
	Northern Cape	Onseepkans
	Northern Cape	Sendelingsdrift







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