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24 July 2020

Attention: Agri SA members

Dear members

RE: NEW DIRECTIONS RELATING TO ALERT LEVEL 3

Last night President, Cyril Ramaphosa addressed the nation on the re-opening of schools and the management of the resources that have been dedicated towards the fight against COVID-19. The said President mentioned that “South Africa now has the fifth highest number of confirmed coronavirus cases in the world and accounts for half of all the cases in Africa.” As it stands, we are currently living under alert level 3 regulations, and 11 days ago on 12 July 2020 Cabinet approved the extension of the national state of disaster to the 15th of August 2020. The same cabinet has also decided that the country will remain at alert level 3 during this time and strengthen the enforcement of existing regulations and take certain additional measures.

The President did expand on the matter relating to the re-opening of schools and this is what he had to say; “In approaching the opening of schools, we have always said that the health and well-being of learners and educators is critical. Now, with the number of infections rising in several parts of the country, there have been calls for schools to be closed again.”

“Taking into account the views of the various stakeholders and expert bodies, Cabinet has decided that all public schools should take a break for the next four weeks. This means that schools will be closed from 27 July and will re-open on 24 August.”

Grade 12 learners and teachers will only take a one-week break, returning to school on 3 August. Grade 7 learners will take a two-week break, returning to school on 10 August. Specific arrangements will be made for different categories of special schools. As a result of the disruptions caused by the pandemic, the current academic year will be extended beyond the end of 2020. The Minister of Basic Education will provide details on the management of the remainder of the school year.”

[President, Cyril Ramaphosa's speech, dated 23 July 2020](#)

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The following general directives were published of which you can take note of:

*Please note that new directives were published since 13 July 2020.

Directions on public transport services:

- [Directions set out in the Schedule hereto to address, prevent and combat the spread of the COVID-19 in the public transport services](#)
- [Determination of extension for validity period of learner's licenses, driving license cards, license discs, professional driving permits and registration of motor vehicles](#)

Directions on employment and labour:

Compensation for workplace acquired novel Coronavirus COVID-19 disease directive

- https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202007/43540gen387.pdf

Directions on measures to prevent and combat the spread of Covid-19 in the health sector:

- https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202007/43533gon796.pdf

Kind regards

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<https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/guidelines>