

MOZAMBIQUE

MANAGING THE
IMPACTS OF
COVID-19

COVID-19: MOZAMBIQUE DECLARES A STATE OF EMERGENCY FROM APRIL 1, 2020

01.01.2020

Considering the public health emergency caused by Covid-19 and the need to put measures in place to prevent and combat the spread of the pandemic, the President of the Republic of Mozambique has enacted Presidential Decree no. 11/2020, of March 30, 2020 (“**PD 11/20**”), after hearing the Council of State and the Security and Defense Council, thereby declaring the State of Emergency. Furthermore, Parliament has thereafter ratified said declaration by mean of Law no.1/2020, of March 31.

The State of Emergency, which extends to the entire national territory, began at 0:00 am of April 1, 2020 and shall extend to 12:00 pm on April 30, 2020, without prejudice to potential renewals.

With regard to the limitation of rights, freedoms and guarantees, pending the State of Emergency, and to the extent necessary to prevent and/or combat the Covid-19 pandemic, the following restrictive measures have been approved:

- a) Suspension of entry visa issuances and cancellation of visas already issued;
- b) Reinforcement of the 14-day home quarantine measures for all persons who have recently travelled abroad, for those arriving in the country and for all persons who have had direct contact with confirmed Covid-19 carriers, with the measures to be defined by the Ministry of Health;
- c) Suspension of classes from all public and private schools (from pre-school to university education);
- d) Prohibition of public or private events;
- e) Mandatory implementation of prevention measures in all public and private institutions and passenger transport.

PD 11/20 enables the Council of Ministers to take the necessary and appropriate measures to combat Covid-19, which shall be done with respect for the principle of

proportionality and shall be limited to the extent, duration and means strictly necessary to restore normality, such as:

- a) To limit the internal movement of persons in any part of the national territory;
- b) To impose the preventive confinement of persons at home or at appropriate establishments;
- c) To impose the stay of persons in health establishments for therapeutic purposes;
- d) To limit the entry and exit of persons into and from the Mozambican territory, through partial closure of its borders, except for matters of State interest, humanitarian support, health and cargo transport;
- e) To required the real-time knowledge of the whereabouts of people, using geolocation;
- f) To request the provision of health services, similar and complementary;
- g) To close commercial, entertainment and similar establishments, or to reduce their activity and work;
- h) To monitor the prices of essential goods for the population;
- i) To promote and guide the industrial sector to the production of inputs necessary to combat the pandemic;
- j) To adopt fiscal and monetary policy measures to support the private sector and to address the economic impact of the pandemic;
- k) To adopt communication strategies to intensify community education measures;
- l) To introduce of labor rotation and of other modalities according to the specificities of the work area, ensuring, notwithstanding, mechanisms to control effectiveness.

Without prejudice to the State of Emergency, essential public and private services and activities should be maintained during the period in which it is in force, with an emphasis on the following:

- a) Medical, hospital and medication services;
- b) Water, energy and fuel supply;
- c) Sale of food and basic necessities;
- d) Loading and unloading of animals and perishable foodstuffs;
- e) Post and telecommunications;
- f) Airspace and meteorological control;
- g) Health services;
- h) Firefighters;
- i) Private security; and
- j) Funeral services.

The implementation of measures decreed by the Council of Ministers may, during the State of Emergency, be enforced by the Defence and Security Forces.

Additionally, all persons, public and private entities have a duty to cooperate with the authorities in the execution of the State of Emergency. Failure to comply with the measures imposed by DP 11/2020 constitutes a crime of disobedience, with the corresponding penalties being applicable and without prejudice, furthermore, to the disciplinary or civil liability to which they may be subject.

This information will be developed and updated on our website

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