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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

NO. 544 **20 MAY 2020**

DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002

DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 4(7) OF THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 27(2) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): MEASURES TO ADDRESS, PREVENT AND COMBAT SPREAD OF COVID-19: DETERMINATION OF COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICES AND EXTENSION FOR VALIDITY PERIOD OF LEARNER'S LICENCES, DRIVING LICENCE CARDS, LICENCE DISCS, PROFESSIONAL DRIVING PERMITS AND REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

I, Fikile Mbalula, Minister of Transport, hereby, in terms of regulation 4(7) of the Regulations issued in terms of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), issue the directions set out in the Schedule hereto, to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the Republic of South Africa.

MR F.A. MBALULA, MP
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
DATE: 20 May 2020

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

In these directions, any other word or expression bears the meaning assigned to it in the Disaster Management Act, the Act or in the Regulations, and, unless the context otherwise indicates—

"Disaster Management Act" means the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002);

"the Act" means the National Road Traffic Act, 1996 (Act No. 93 of 1996); and

"the Regulations" means the Regulations issued in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, published under Government Notice No. 480, in Government *Gazette* No. 43258 of 29 April 2020.

2. Authority

(1) Section 26(2)*(b)* of the Disaster Management Act provides that a national disaster, once declared, must be managed in accordance with existing legislation, as well as contingency arrangements as amplified by the disaster management regulations or directions issued in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management.

(2) These directions are issued pursuant to the provisions of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, and specifically in terms of Regulation 4(7), 20(1) and (2) of the Regulations, to provide for measures necessary to manage COVID-19.

(3) These directions are valid for the duration of the declared national state of disaster.

3. Purpose of directions

The purpose of the directions is to provide for—

(a) improved access and hygiene and, disinfection control on all premises of driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools;

(b) the validity period of licences; and

(c) the resumption of services at driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools.

4. Application of directions

These directions are applicable to—

(a) all holders of learner's licences, driver's licences, temporary driver's licences, motor vehicle licence discs, temporary permits, roadworthy certificates and professional driving permits issued in terms of the Act; and

(b) all driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools.

5. Provision of improved access and hygiene, disinfection control on driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools

(1) All driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools must, prior to the commencement of their service on 1 June 2020, put in place procedures for the cleaning and disinfection of their premises.

(2) All driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools must put measures in place to adhere to social distancing to curb the spread of COVID-19.

(3) All driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools must sanitize or provide hygiene dispensers for the washing of hands for their clients when entering their premises.

(4) No person is allowed to enter a driving licence testing centre, registering authority, vehicle testing station or driving school if they do not wear a cloth face mask, or a homemade mask that covers the nose and mouth.

6. Validity period of licences

(1) All learner's licences, driving licences, temporary driver's licences, motor vehicle licence discs, temporary permits, roadworthy certificates and professional driving permits that expire during the period that commenced from 26 March 2020 up to and including 31 May 2020 are deemed to be valid and their validity period is further extended with 90 days from 01 June 2020.

(2) Motor trade number licences that expire during the period that commenced from 26 March 2020 up to and including 31 May 2020, are deemed to be valid and are extended for a further grace period of six months from the date of publication of these directions.

7. Resumption of services

Driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools will resume their services with effect from 1 June 2020, subject to the hygiene, disinfection control, social distancing and sanitizing measures contemplated in direction 5.

8. Repeal of directions

The directions published under Government Notice No. 491, in Government *Gazette* No. 43270 of 4 May 2020, are hereby repealed.

9. Short title and commencement

These directions are called the Directions on the determination of the commencement of services and extension for the validity period of learner's licences, driving licence cards, licence discs, professional driving permits and the registration of motor vehicles and come into operation on the date of publication thereof in the Government *Gazette*.

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