



LESOTHO
Government Gazette
EXTRAORDINARY

Vol. 65

Tuesday – 19th May, 2020

No. 45

CONTENTS

No.

Page

LEGAL NOTICE

46 Public Health (COVID-19) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020 411

Published by the Authority of His Majesty the King
Price: M6.50

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 46 OF 2020

Public Health (COVID-19) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020

In exercise of the powers conferred on me under sections 16, 17, 18, 38 and 43 of the Public Health Act, 1970¹ and in respect of the disaster-induced state of emergency declared by the Right Honourable the Prime Minister under sections 3 and 15 of the Disaster Management Act, 1997² against COVID-19 pandemic, I,

NKAKU KABI

Minister responsible for health, make the following regulations -

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Public Health (COVID-19) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020 and shall come into operation on the date of publication in the Gazette.

Interpretation

2. Regulation 2 of the Public Health (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020³ (referred to in these regulations as “the Principal Regulations”), is amended by -

- (a) inserting, before the definition of “institution” the following new definition -

““face mask” in the case of:
 - (a) the general public, includes any other similar item, which covers a person’s nose and mouth for the purposes of preventing and controlling the spread of COVID-19 and complies with WHO hygienic and safety standards; and
 - (b) a health officer or personnel, wears a surgical or N95 mask; ”;
- (b) deleting the definition of “lockdown” and substituting

the following definition;

““lockdown” means the restriction of movement of persons during the period for which these regulations apply, being the period in respect of the disaster-induced state of emergency declared under the Disaster Management Act, 1997”.

Prevention of introduction and spread of COVID-19

3. Regulation 3 of the Principal Regulations is amended -

- (a) in subregulation (1), by deleting “lockout” and substituting “lockdown”;
- (b) by deleting paragraph (c) and substituting the following:

“(c) enter or leave Lesotho for any other purpose not specified in this regulation.”;
- (c) by deleting subregulation (6) and substituting the following:

“(6) A person shall, while in a public place, wear a face mask.”;
- (d) by deleting subregulation (8), and substituting the following :

“(8) The Government shall provide the following categories of people with face masks:

 - (a) students and learners; and
 - (b) vulnerable groups determined as such by the Minister responsible for social development .”; and
- (e) in subregulation (12)(a), by inserting after the word “to” the following words:

“, and every person at the funeral or service wears a face mask”.

Education

4. Regulation 5 of the Principal Regulation is amended by inserting after subregulation (2), the following new subregulation -

“(3) An owner, principal or head of a school or learning institute opened under this regulation shall ensure that all safety measures in respect of WHO hygienic and safety measures, and the limitation of exposure of persons to COVID-19, are adhered to, and that a teacher, lecturer, learner or student, wears a face mask.”.

Cleaning and disinfection of public places and places of business

5. Regulation 7 of the Principal Regulations is amended by deleting -

- (a) the words “fumigate” and “fumigated” and substituting with the words “clean” and “cleaned” wherever they appear in these regulations;
- (b) deleting subregulation (2) and substituting the following:

“(2) The Government shall ensure that public places are cleaned and disinfected based on risk assessment.”.

Offences and penalties

6. Regulation 12 of the Principal Regulations is amended -

- (a) by deleting subregulation (1) and substituting the following subregulation:

“(1) A person who contravenes regulations 3(6), 7(3), (4), (5), (6) and 8(2) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding 5,000 Maloti or imprisonment for a period not exceeding one month or both.”;

- (b) by deleting subregulation (2) and substituting the following subregulation:

“(2) An owner, a manager or person in charge of a business who contravenes regulations 3(10)(a), (b), (c), 6(2) and 8(1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding 10,000 Maloti or imprisonment for a period not exceeding two months or both.;

- (c) in subregulation (5), by deleting “or 6(2)”; and

- (d) in subregulation (6) by deleting:

(i) “9” and substituting “10”; and

(ii) “or” and substituting “and” after the word “Maloti”.

Insertion of a new regulation

7. The Principal Regulations are amended by inserting after regulation 16, the following new regulation -

“Deployment of security agencies

16 A. The Lesotho Defence Force and the Lesotho Mounted Police Service shall be deployed for purposes of enforcing and operationalising these regulations and the Disaster Management Act, 1997.”.

DATED:

**NKAKU KABI
MINISTER OF HEALTH**

NOTE

1. Act No. 12 of 1970
2. Act No. 2 of 1997
3. LN. No. 43 of 2020