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**DIRECTIVE REGARDING PORTS REGULATOR OF SOUTH AFRICA'S  
RESPONSE TO COVID-19 ("CORONA VIRUS"):  
TRIBUNAL PROCEEDINGS & ANCILLIARY MATTERS**

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**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

1. The spread of COVID-19 is growing exponentially in our country.
2. COVID-19 spreads in a similar way to flu.
3. People with weakened immune systems and with conditions such as diabetes, heart and lung diseases are more vulnerable to serious illness.
4. The Ports Regulator of South Africa ("Ports Regulator") acknowledges that everyone is prone to be infected and/or affected by the corona virus, including exposure of its personnel and Hearing Panelists ("Tribunal Members").
5. The World Health Organisation ("WHO") has declared the corona virus outbreak as a global pandemic and the President of the Republic of South Africa declared a national state of disaster in terms of the Disaster Management Act, Act 57 of 2002 (as amended).
6. Numbers of infected are rapidly growing in South Africa as the infection pattern is now more of internal transmission. The risk of the spread of the virus amongst all people is a stark reality.
7. The Ports Regulator in recognising this risk, and as a responsible corporate citizen, strives to provide a safe working environment by gearing towards the protection of its staff and stakeholders' exposure to the corona virus.
8. In issuing this Directive, the Ports Regulator is abiding to the following regulatory instruments and directives:

- 8.1 The President of the Republic of South Africa, Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa, issued a Directive on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 regarding measures to be taken to prevent and combat COVID-19 epidemic;
  - 8.2 The directives and guidelines issued by the Department of Health;
  - 8.3 The Protocols issued by the National Institute for Communicable Diseases;  
and
  - 8.4 The actions taken by various courts in the country.
9. The current theme to prevent the spread of this virus is "*Social Distancing*" in order to "*Flatten the Curve*". This means minimising contact between people to reduce the spread of the virus.
10. The important preventative health principles to be employed are:
- 10.1 to take urgent and drastic measures to manage the disease;
  - 10.2 to employ good hygiene and prevention measures;
  - 10.3 to minimise non-essential domestic travel by public transport; and
  - 10.4 to limit contact amongst groups of people.
11. This directive will apply with effect from 20 March 2020 until further notice.
12. The Ports Regulator hereby directs as follows:
- 12.1 All contact processes involving face-to face interactions, such as meetings, hearings or consultations are postponed;
  - 12.2 All matters set down for pre-hearings and hearings from 20 March 2020 are hereby postponed;
  - 12.3 No physical service of complaints and/or appeals' documents will be allowed; and
  - 12.4 Any and all services of documents and correspondence is to be effected by electronic email to the following address [tribunaladmin@portsregulator.org](mailto:tribunaladmin@portsregulator.org)

13. The Ports Regulator will continue to monitor the situation closely and take appropriate measures or additional precautions, if necessary.
14. The Ports Regulator shall communicate any changes relating to this Directive.
15. All enquiries regarding this directive should be directed to the following email addresses [sohanag@portsregulator.org](mailto:sohanag@portsregulator.org) and/or [lesedib@portsregulator.org](mailto:lesedib@portsregulator.org) or 066 419 3035.

DATED AND SIGNED AT CENTURION ON THIS  
20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2020.



**MR. THABADIWA MUFAMADI**

**CHAIRPERSON: PORTS REGULATOR OF SOUTH AFRICA**