

Namibia

Namibian Constitution

Stage 3: COVID-19 Regulations: Erongo Region

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Republic of Namibia
Annotated Statutes

Namibian Constitution

Stage 3: COVID-19 Regulations: Erongo Region

Proclamation 26 of 2020

Published in [Government Gazette no. 7250](#) on 22 June 2020

Assented to on 22 June 2020

Commenced on 22 June 2020

[Up to date as at 14 August 2021]

[This notice lapsed at 24:00 on 6 July 2020. See section 3: Specified period]

Under the powers vested in me by Sub-Article (5) of Article 26 of the Namibian Constitution, I, subsequent to having declared by Proclamation No. 7 of 18 March of 2020 that a State of Emergency exists in the whole of Namibia following a worldwide outbreak of the disease known as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), make the regulations set out in the Schedule.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of Namibia at Windhoek, this 22nd day of June, Two Thousand and Twenty.

Hage G. Geingob

President

By order of the President

1. Definitions

In these regulations -

"**authorised officer**" means -

- (a) the Director referred to in section 32 of the Disaster Risk Management Act, 2012 (Act [No. 10 of 2012](#));
- (b) a member of the Namibian Police as defined in section 1 of the Police Act, 1990 (Act [No. 19 of 1990](#));
- (c) a member of the municipal police service referred to in section 43C of the Police Act, 1990 (Act [No. 19 of 1990](#));

- (d) a member of the Defence Force as defined in section 1 of the Defence Act, 2002 (Act [No. 1 of 2002](#));
- (e) a correctional officer as defined in section 1 of the Correctional Service Act, 2012 (Act [No. 9 of 2012](#));
- (f) an immigration officer as defined in section 1 of the Immigration Control Act, 1993 (Act [No. 7 of 1993](#));
- (g) an officer as defined in section 1 of Customs and Excise Act, 1998 (Act [No. 20 of 1998](#)) charged with the responsibility of enforcing the customs and excise legislation; and
- (h) any other staff member designated or person appointed as an authorised officer under section 32 of the Disaster Risk Management Act, 2012 (Act [No. 10 of 2012](#));

"**COVID-19**" means the coronavirus disease of 2019 which is caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2);

"**critical services**" means the services listed as critical services in Annexure A;

"**Erongo region**" means the Erongo region specified in Column 2 of Schedule 1 to the Regional Councils Act, 1992 (Act [No. 22 of 1992](#));

"**essential goods**" means the goods listed as essential goods in Annexure B;

"**head of the institution**" means the administrative head of a public institution and the chief executive officer or the equivalent of a chief executive officer of a private institution;

"**higher education institution**" means a higher education institution as defined in section (1) of the Higher Education Act, 2003 (Act [No. 26 of 2003](#));

"**liquor**" means any spirits, wine, beer, cider or other beverage, including a traditional beverage, which contains alcohol and is intended for human consumption but excludes any substance that contains alcohol but used or is intended to be used for medicinal purposes;

"**mask**" means a covering made of any suitable material that covers a person's nose and mouth worn for purposes of preventing the transmission of the coronavirus;

"**restricted area**" means the local authority areas of Arandis, Swakopmund and Walvis Bay including the portion of the main tarred road, as well as the strips of land of five kilometers on either side of that road, that connects the local authority areas of Arandis and Swakopmund but which portion falls outside the two local authority areas;

"**school**" means a school as defined in section 1 of the Education Act, 2001 (Act [No. 16 of 2001](#));

"**specified period**" means the period referred to in regulation 3 and indicating Stage 3 of the State of Emergency as determined by Cabinet;

"**these regulations**" include directions and directives issued under regulations 12 and 13;

"**vehicle**" means a motor vehicle, a locomotive, an aircraft or a vessel; and

"**vulnerable employee**" means a pregnant employee, an employee who is a nursing mother, an employee with a pre-existing condition such as a heart disease, high blood pressure, respiratory problems, obesity, diabetes, tuberculosis or a condition which might compromise the immune system of that employee.

2. Application of regulations

- (1) These regulations apply to the Erongo region during the specified period.
- (2) If there is a conflict between the provisions of these regulations and any other law the provisions of these regulations prevail.

3. Specified period

The specified period starts at 00:00 on 23 June 2020 and ends at 24:00 on 6 July 2020.

4. Restrictions on learning in Erongo region

- (1) During the specified period all schools, higher education institutions and other educational institutions in -
 - (a) the restricted area remain closed;
 - (b) any other part of the Erongo region, remain closed, except for schools and other institutions that provide secondary education at Grades 11 and 12 level, which may resume with normal classroom contact learning subject to compliance with subregulation (3).
- (2) The closure of schools, higher education institutions and other educational institutions under subregulation (1) does not prevent -
 - (a) in the case of a state school, the relevant minister responsible for education; and
 - (b) in any other case, the governing bodies of schools and institutions,
from employing other alternative forms of learning that do not involve the physical presence of learners or students at the schools or institutions
- (3) Every head of a school, higher educational institution and other institution referred to in subregulation (1) (b) must ensure that all persons accessing the premises and services of the respective school, higher educational institution and other institution at all times adhere to the measures to combat, prevent and suppress the spread of COVID-19 as specified in and under these regulations.

5. Wearing of masks

- (1) During the specified period every person must wear a mask whenever he or she is at or in a public place.
- (2) An authorised officer may instruct a person who is not wearing a mask as contemplated in subregulation (1) to wear a mask or to leave the public place.
- (3) A person who fails or refuses to comply with an instruction given under subregulation (2) commits an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine not exceeding N\$2 000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

6. Gatherings

- (1) For the purpose of this regulation, "gathering", in relation to -
 - (a) the restricted area, means a group of more than 10 persons; and
 - (b) the rest of the Erongo region, means a group of more than 50 persons,
who meet for a common purpose.
- (2) During the specified period, all gatherings are prohibited, except where -
 - (a) all persons at the gathering are members of the same household gathered at their place of residence;
 - (b) persons are gathered at their workplace;
 - (c) the gathering is by a government institution at national, regional or local level or the Cabinet or the Parliament for purposes of its normal operations;
 - (d) the gathering is for purposes of court or tribunal proceedings; or
 - (e) a group of persons independently or coincidentally find themselves at a specific place.
- (3) Persons who gather in the circumstances permitted under subregulation (2) must at all times adhere to the measures to combat, prevent and suppress the spread of COVID-19 as specified in and under these

regulations.

- (4) An authorised officer may instruct a gathering, other than a gathering permitted under subregulation (2), to disperse and may use all reasonable measures to cause a gathering or group to disperse.
- (5) The person organising or hosting a gathering permitted in terms of this regulation must -
 - (a) open and maintain a register of the persons who attend the gathering; or
 - (b) ensure that the register of the persons referred to in paragraph (a) is opened and maintained, for the purpose of recording the particulars of persons who attend the gathering.
- (6) The persons who are required to open and maintain a register in accordance with subregulation (5) must -
 - (a) keep the register in a safe place for the duration of the State of Emergency;
 - (b) on request, make the register available for inspection by an authorised officer; and
 - (c) treat the information provided under this regulation as confidential, and may not disclose that information to any other person except as provided in paragraph (b) or when required to so disclose in terms of any law.
- (7) The register referred to in subregulation (6) must contain the following particulars in respect of each person who attended the gathering:
 - (a) the full names of the person;
 - (b) the identification number of the person;
 - (c) the nationality and country of residence or origin of the person;
 - (d) the physical address of the person;
 - (e) the contact telephone or cell phone number of the person; and
 - (f) the email address of the person.
- (8) A person who -
 - (a) facilitates, instigates or organises a gathering;
 - (b) fails or refuses to obey an instruction issued under subregulation (4); or
 - (c) fails or refuses to comply with subregulation (5) or (6),commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding N\$2 000 or to imprisonment not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

7. Restrictions relating to liquor

- (1) Despite any contrary condition applicable to any type of liquor licence issued under the Liquor Act, 1998 (Act No. 6 of 1998) (hereafter "the Liquor Act"), during the specified period -
 - (a) the sale of liquor in terms of that licence and the purchase of liquor may only take place -
 - (i) between the hours 12H00 and 18H00 on Mondays to Fridays;
 - (ii) between the hours of 09H00 and 13H00 on Saturday; and
 - (iii) if the liquor sold or purchased is not for consumption at the place of sale or purchase; and
 - (b) a person may not purchase or sell liquor on a Sunday or public holiday.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to the sale of liquor by the holder of a hotel liquor licence or a restaurant liquor licence issued under the Liquor Act, and the holder of such licence is permitted to sell liquor on an

on-consumption basis and in accordance with the conditions of the respective licence.

- (3) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of subregulation (1) commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding N\$2 000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.
- (4) An authorised officer who is a peace officer within the meaning of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No. 51 of 1977) may, without a warrant, seize any liquor that is suspected to have been sold or has been purchased in contravention of this regulation and the seized liquor must, subject to changes required in the context, be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Liquor Act as if it were liquor seized in terms of that Act.

8. Restrictions relating to certain businesses, operations and activities

- (1) Subject to the provisions of regulation 7 and subregulation (3), all businesses, operations and activities, except those listed in subregulation (2), are permitted, during the specified period.
- (2) During the specified period, the following businesses, operations and activities are prohibited:
 - (a) contact sports, which for purposes of this regulation refers to sports in which players may directly or indirectly have physical contact, such as rugby, boxing, football, martial arts, or wrestling;
 - (b) casinos and gambling houses; and
 - (c) nightclubs.
- (3) During the specified period, the following businesses, operations and activities are permitted subject to the condition that the people attending the event inclusive of the organisers do not exceed the applicable number of people stipulated for a gathering in regulation 6(1) and that the head of the institution or organiser keeps and maintains a logbook that contains the name, identification and contact telephone or cell number of each client or customer that visits the business or attends the event:
 - (a) sporting events, other than contact sports;
 - (b) entertainment events and concerts; or
 - (c) seminars, conferences, workshops and summits.
- (4) Every head of institution of any business, operation and activity which is permitted during the specified period must ensure that the persons accessing the premises and services of the business, operation and activity at all times adhere to the measures to combat, prevent and suppress the spread of COVID-19 as specified in and under these regulations.
- (5) A person who contravenes, or fails to comply with the requirements of, subregulation (2) or (3) commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding N\$2 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

9. Additional provisions relating to workplace

- (1) Heads of institutions are encouraged to allow vulnerable employees to work from home, subject to suitable arrangements between the employer and employee.
- (2) Heads of institutions are encouraged to provide masks to their employees.
- (3) Heads of institutions must ensure that their employees at all times adhere to the measures to combat, prevent and suppress the spread of COVID-19 as specified in and under these regulations.

10. Restrictions relating to entry into and departure from Erongo region

- (1) During the specified period, a person may not -

- (a) enter into the restricted area; or
 - (b) depart from the restricted area to any other part of Namibia,
- unless that person is in possession of a valid permit issued by an authorised officer under subregulation (3) and which permit the person must, on request by any authorised officer, produce to that authorised officer.
- (2) Subregulation (1) may not be construed as preventing a person from movement within the restricted area as long as that person complies with the requirements of these regulations relating to the movement of persons and goods.
 - (3) A person who wishes to enter into or depart from the restricted area, for purposes of-
 - (a) receiving essential medical treatment or acquiring essential goods or critical services;
 - (b) attending a funeral of an immediate family member or a dependant;
 - (c) assisting a family member, an acquaintance, dependant who is ill or otherwise suffers from a distressing situation;
 - (d) transporting essential goods;
 - (e) performing an action necessary for the enforcement of law or public order;
 - (f) facilitating the distribution of food or other necessities of life;
 - (g) maintaining or repairing infrastructure necessary or useful for the provision of essential goods or critical services;
 - (h) performing a critical service that cannot reasonably be postponed; or
 - (i) performing any other function or doing any other thing which an authorised officer considers sufficient to warrant the entering into or departing from the restricted area,
 may request for a permit from an authorised officer nearest to that person or at the point of entry into or exit from the restricted area, authorising entry into or departure from the area.
 - (4) During the specified period, a person entering into or departing from the Erongo region must, at the point of entry or departure into the region, enter into a register kept by an authorised officer, particulars that are specified in that register.
 - (5) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with subregulation (1) or refuses to enter particulars in the register as required under subregulation (4) commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding N\$2 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.
 - (6) If an authorised officer finds a person under circumstances which create a reasonable suspicion that the person is likely to contravene subregulation (1) or (4), that authorised officer may instruct the person to stop the journey in question and failure to obey such an instruction is deemed to be a contravention of, or failure to comply with that subregulation, and that person is liable to the penalties provided for in subregulation (5).

11. Applicability of Act No. 1 of 2015

- (1) Despite the provisions of section 96 of the Public and Environmental Health Act, 2015 (Act No. 1 of 2015), the provisions of Part 3 of that Act are, for purposes of these regulations, brought into operation.
- (2) In order to attain the objectives of subregulation (1), any provision of the Public Health Act, 1919 (Act No. 36 of 1919) that is inconsistent with any provision of Part 3 of the Public and Environmental Health Act, 2015 (Act No. 1 of 2015) is suspended to the extent of the inconsistency during the period that this regulation is in force.

- (3) Despite the provisions of section 22(2) of the Public and Environmental Health Act, 2015 (Act No. 1 of 2015) the disease caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is deemed to be a formidable epidemic disease and it is declared that the threatened outbreak of that disease necessitates the measures referred to in section 29(1) of that Act.

12. Judicial proceedings

- (1) For the purpose of combating, preventing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, the Chief Justice may issue directions in respect of all courts in the Erongo region.
- (2) Directions issued under subregulation (1) must be regarded, and have the effect, as directives issued under regulation 13.

13. Directives

- (1) The President may authorise a minister to issue directives for the purpose of -
- (a) supplementing or amplifying on any provision of these regulations; or
 - (b) ensuring that the objectives of these regulations are attained.
- (2) A directive issued under this regulation has the force of law and may deal with any matter that is within the ambit of any legislation or other law that is administered by the Minister concerned.
- (3) Any directive issued under this regulation must be -
- (a) referred to the Attorney-General for approval; and
 - (b) published in the *Gazette*,
- for it to have the force of law.
- (4) A directive issued in terms of these regulations becomes effective on the date of its publication in the *Gazette*.
- (5) A directive may create offences for contraventions of, or failure to comply with, the directive and provide for penalties of a fine not exceeding N\$2 000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

14. Offences and penalties

- (1) A person commits an offence if that person -
- (a) not being an authorised officer, by words, conduct or demeanour falsely represents himself or herself to be an authorised officer;
 - (b) hinders, obstructs or improperly attempts to influence an authorised officer when exercising or performing a power or function conferred or imposed by or under these regulations or another law;
 - (c) furnishes or gives false or misleading information to an authorised officer; or
 - (d) does anything calculated to improperly influence an authorised officer concerning a matter connected with the functions of the authorised officer.
- (2) A person commits an offence if that person, through any form of media, including social media, knowingly or without having taken reasonable steps to ascertain the correctness of any information -
- (a) publishes any false or misleading statement about the COVID-19 status of any person; or
 - (b) publishes any false or misleading statement, in connection with measures to combat, prevent and suppress COVID-19 as specified in and under these regulations.

- (3) A person convicted of an offence in terms of subregulation (1) or (2) is liable to a fine not exceeding N\$2 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

15. Savings and transitional provisions

- (1) Anything done under the provisions of the State of Emergency Regulations published under Proclamation No. 9 of 28 March 2020 or the Stage 1: State of Emergency - Covid-19 Regulations: Erongo Region published under Proclamation No. 24 of 8 June 2020 must be regarded as having been done under a corresponding provision of these regulations.
- (2) A -
- (a) direction that was issued under regulation 13 or a directive that was issued under regulation 14 of the State of Emergency Regulations published under Proclamation No. 9 of 28 March 2020 -
- (i) must be regarded as having been issued under regulation 12 or 13 of these regulations; and
- (ii) continues to apply to the Erongo region for the specified period unless repealed or amended by the Chief Justice or the relevant minister.
- (b) reference, in a direction or a directive referred to in paragraph (a), to a "period of lockdown" is on the commencement of these regulations regarded to be a reference to the " specified period".

16. Applicability of certain provisions of State of Emergency-COVID-19 Regulations

Nothing in these regulations or any other law may be construed as excluding or limiting the application of the provisions of regulations 10, 11 and 12 of the State of Emergency-COVID Regulations published under Proclamation No. 17 of 4 May 2020 in the Erongo region, and the provisions of those regulations will continue to apply in that region during the specified period despite that those regulations are repealed by another law.

17. Regulations to bind State

These regulations bind the State.

Annexure A

Critical services (Regulation 1)

Part 1

1. Ambulance services
2. Casualties services
3. Theatre Services
4. Intensive Care Unit (ICU) services
5. Hospital Wards
6. Laboratory Services
7. Pharmaceutical services
8. Dental Services
9. Radiography services
10. Physiotherapy services
11. Mortuary services

12. Medical services including medical specialised services
13. Hospital Kitchen Services
14. Hospital laundry services
15. Emergency management services
16. Disaster management services
17. Potable water services
18. Waste water management services
19. Scientific services
20. Electricity distribution services
21. Electricity operation services
22. Electricity maintenance services
23. Electricity transmission services
24. Electricity network operation services
25. Electricity system operation services
26. Electricity system security and planning services
27. Electricity engineering services
28. Electricity energy trading services
29. Air navigation services
30. Air traffic management services
31. Communication navigation and surveillance system services
32. Search and rescue services
33. Aeronautical information services
34. Meteorological services for air navigation services

Part 2

1. Agriculture and forestry

Agricultural production and value chains (animal husbandry, agronomic and horticulture) supply related operations, including farming, veterinary and phyto-sanitary provider services, pest control services, feed and chemical and fertilizer remedies providers. Millers and logistics services.

2. Fishing

Harvesting of fish (including artisanal fishing other than for leisure), cultivation of fish and value chain activities relating to fish, as part of food production for Namibia and for export; maintenance of fishing vessels and maintenance of fishing processing plants.

3. Mining and quarrying

Mining and related activities to maintain mining operations including critical maintenance work on plant and equipment. Normal mining operations, including value chain activities will be allowed, provided that mining

companies are subject to imposition of public health measures.

4. Manufacturing

Manufacturing of health related products, hygiene and sanitary related products, supplies, devices, equipment, and medicines, including complementary health products and supplements; food, non-alcoholic beverages and essential products, as well as essential inputs thereto. This includes production for exporting the same product categories. Production for disposable health and hygiene and sanitary related products, as well as for the production of packaging for essential health and food supply chains. Food, beverages and essential goods manufacturing and processing facilities, to the extent they are supporting essential or critical business continuity services to fight COVID-19.

5. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply

Public and private organisations, their staff and service providers essential to the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity, fuel, gas, steam and air conditioning will need to continue to operate. This includes local authorities and regional councils, and the suppliers of logistics, feedstock and maintenance will be required to continue to operate and provide security of electricity supply.

6. Water supply, purification, desalination, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities

Public and private organisations, their staff and service providers essential to the security of supply of bulk and potable water and sanitation must continue to operate and provide vital water and sanitation services. This includes local authorities and regional councils and those involved in the supply of materials, chemicals and related equipment.

7. Construction

Any maintenance support requirements for retailers, manufacturers producing essential goods, support to medical services; any construction that cannot be reasonably postponed; plumbing and electrical services, security installations and maintenance, watertreatment and sewerage. Building of medical infrastructures and quarantine camps in support of essential goods and critical services to fight COVID-19.

8. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles

Retail, wholesale, supermarkets, the open markets and informal traders, home kiosks for food and essential goods. Essential hygiene goods include: toilet paper, cleaners, sanitizers and disinfectants, personal hygiene products, and essential supplies for those taking care of the sick and elderly and in order for people to remain healthy. All services related to the repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles to continue in as far as are providing support to the fight of COVID-19.

9. Transportation, logistics and storage

Warehousing, transport (including courier services), distribution, cold storage and logistics for essential goods, production inputs and health related goods. This includes operations at all entry points. Humanitarian and relief functions in the fight of COVID-19 will be permitted.

10. Accommodation and food service activities

To the extent that they are supporting essential or critical business continuity services to the fight of the COVID-19 subject to take away and not dining in restaurants.

11. Information and communication

Communication and media services on screen, television, radio, print, broadcast and online.

12. Legal, financial, banking, social security and insurance activities

Legal, court, financial, banking and insurance services and health funders required to finance and support essential and critical business continuity and provide short term bridging finance to people and businesses during this period.

13. Professional, scientific and technical activities

Professional, scientific and technical services, to the extent that they are providing support in the COVID-19 response, essential and critical services.

14. Support service activities

Private services to the extent that they are providing support in the COVID-19 response, essential and critical business continuity services.

15. Public administration, defense, safety and security

Public office-bearers, personnel and functionaries at national, regional and local levels to the extent that they are providing support in the COVID-19 response, essential and critical business continuity services. Safety and security services protecting people and property.

16. Human health and social work activities

All centers providing life and health services; energy, food and water supply, social, transactional, communications, law and order and international critical business continuity services. Care services relating to the sick, frail, children, or other vulnerable persons, in a home or homestead; and care facilities for children of critical service workers.

17. Information communications technology

Data centers, fiber optic infrastructure, towers and antennae will need to operate at high efficiency to ensure connectivity remains stable.

Annexure B

Essential goods (Regulation 1)

1. Food:
 - (a) any food product, including water and non-alcoholic beverages;
 - (b) animal food; and
 - (c) chemicals, packaging and ancillary products used in the production of any food product.
2. Cleaning and hygiene products:
 - (a) toilet paper, sanitary pads, sanitary tampons;
 - (b) hand sanitiser, disinfectants, soap, alcohol for industrial use, household cleaning products, and personal protective equipment;
 - (c) chemicals, packaging and ancillary products used in the production or preservation of any of the above;

- (d) products for the care of children;
 - (e) personal care including but not limited to, body and face washes, roll-ons, deodorants, toothpaste and any other products ordinarily used for hygiene purposes.
3. Medical:
- (a) medical and hospital supplies, equipment and personal protective equipment;
 - (b) chemicals, packaging and ancillary products used in the production or preservation of any of the above; and
 - (c) pharmaceutical supplies, including but not limited to prescribed medication;
 - (d) contraceptives including condoms.
4. Fuel, including coal, gas.
5. Wood for cooking purposes; and
6. Basic goods, including airtime and electricity;
7. Fish and fish products;
8. Mining products;
9. Coffins;
10. Plumbing and electrical supplies;
11. Educational materials; and
12. Goods necessary for the effective provision of critical services specified in Part 2 of Annexure A.