

Circular 52-2020

15 October 2020

Dear Resident

**Dlamini-Zuma extends South Africa's national state of disaster**

Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma has extended the national state of disaster by another month.

Government declared a national state of disaster under Section 27(1) and Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act on 15 March 2020 – in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

While the state of disaster was originally set to lapse on 15 June, the act provides that it can be extended by the Cogta minister by notice in the gazette for one month at a time before it lapses.

In a directive published on Wednesday (14 October), Dlamini-Zuma said that the extension takes into account the need to continue augmenting the existing legislation and contingency arrangements undertaken by organs of state to address the impact of the Covid-19 disaster.

While the government has continued to ease lockdown restrictions, the country still faces a possible second wave of coronavirus infections. In an interview with eNCA on Sunday (11 October), Health minister Zweli Mkhize said that the country could face a second wave if citizens grow complacent in wearing masks and failing to follow other established safety guidelines.

South Africa has recorded 1,575 new Covid-19 cases, bringing the cumulative number of detected cases to 692,471 as of Sunday. Dlamini-Zuma said the extension allows government time to return to normal and put measures in place to avoid a second wave of Covid-19 infections.

The state of disaster is now set to lapse on 15 November. Thank you as always for your understanding and co-operation.

Yours sincerely



**Christine Dampers**  
Village Manager Bergvliet