



CIGFARO

Chartered Institute of
Government Finance, Audit & Risk Officers

COVID-19 REGULATIONS SHARED BY CIGFARO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

23 March 2020

GAUTENG, South Africa: The Chartered Institute of Government Finance, Audit and Risk Officers (CIGFARO) hereby makes an effort to support Provinces and municipalities in their endeavours to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Head of the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), after assessing the potential magnitude and severity of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country, classified the COVID-19 pandemic as a national disaster. The Chartered Institute of Government Finance and Risk Officers (CIGFARO) supports the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, and would like to share the Circular attached.

On 18 March 2020, the Minister of COGTA issued Regulations in terms of Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) – (hereafter referred to as the COVID-19 Regulations). The COVID-19 Regulations (attached herewith) gives legal effect to, amongst other matters, the prohibition of gatherings of more than 100 people in order to curb the spread of COVID-19.

In respect of the implementation of the above, municipalities are expected to play a key role, both as government institutions that deliver services to the public and as employers. Provinces must support municipalities in their endeavours to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The purpose of this circular is to therefore provide guidance to municipalities and provinces on the following matters relating to COVID-19.

- Service provision;
- Municipal operations and governance;
- By-elections;
- Precautionary measures to mitigate employee health and safety risks; and
- Guidance on how to manage COVID-19 cases.

Our first immediate challenge is to have our budgets approved not later than 31 March 2020. In this regard, municipalities are advised to convene meetings in accordance with the COVID-19 Regulations, which prohibits gatherings of more than 100 people. In instances where a council meeting requires more than 100 persons to be present, then appropriate alternative arrangements must be put in place to ensure that such meeting is convened in a manner that allows for multiple venues to be utilized, or utilize alternative solutions, such as the use of teleconferencing, skype, zoom, in order to promote social and physical distancing.

We encourage further that Municipalities should start planning and identifying which services can be shut down if such request came from the President of SA. We once again advise Municipalities to look at alternative plans that in the event of Lockdown; that they should make the necessarily arrangements through council resolution for an overdraft taking into consideration loss of municipal revenue.

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For more information visit the website at: www.cigfaro.co.za

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