



## BACKGROUND

# ATAF SECRETARIAT MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The novel corona virus/COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on the health and social interaction of people across the globe. Since it was first reported in Wuhan, China, in November 2019, it has spread to 190 countries, with nearly 335 000 infections and over nearly 14 652 confirmed deaths according to the figures from the World Health Organisation as at 23 March 2020.

ATAF is committed to ensuring the safety of its staff and members and is doing its part in helping to preventing the spread of this global pandemic. The Secretariat has therefore implemented the following measures with immediate effect, in line with the World Health Organisation's recommendations and the State of National Disaster and lockdown declared by the South African President.

## Closure of ATAF's offices

To prevent the Secretariat staff's exposure to potential risks of contamination, ATAF's headquarters located at 333 Grosvenor Street, Hatfield Gardens, Pretoria, South Africa, will be closed with immediate effect, until further notice.

· No business meetings will take place on these premises, unless expressly cleared by the Crisis Management Task team and authorised by the Executive Secretary.

## Implementa tion of virtual work

ATAF's work will however not come to a halt. Secretariat staff will work from home and will use online tools for meeting purposes. All landlines at the ATAF Secretariat offices will remain unavailable throughout this period. Staff members, however, can be reached via email, mobile phones and Skype.

## Suspension of all meetings, workshops and conferences

All ATAF meetings, conferences, workshops and other events scheduled to take place until the end of April are suspended until further notice, with the exception of events which can be held virtually (via video-conferencing or telephonically). In the latter eventuality, participants shall be informed accordingly. A revised workplan will be shared individually with stakeholders.

## Suspension of all business travel

All domestic travel and missions to and from foreign countries, including to and from ATAF member countries, are postponed until further notice for ATAF staff and officials of member tax administrations who are travelling on behalf of ATAF.

## Emergency contact details

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Secretary

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Media &  
Communications Unit

✉ communication@ataftax.org

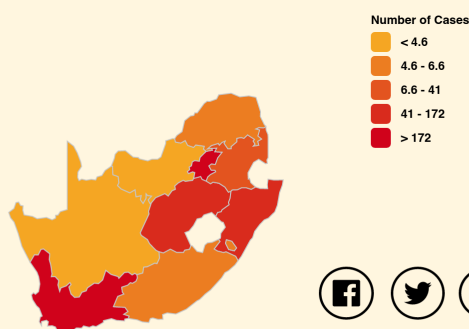
☎ +27 (0) 79 790 2960 | +27 (0) 66 487 9651

## COVID-19 STATISTICS IN RSA <sup>1</sup>

TESTS CONDUCTED  
20 471

POSITIVE CASES  
927

NEGATIVE CASES  
19 544



www.ataftax.org

Last update: Friday 27 MARCH 2020

1. SOURCE: National Institute for Communicable Diseases