

**Botswana****Declaration of State of Public Emergency****Statutory Instrument 59 of 2020**

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**Commenced on 31 March 2020**

*[Up to date as at 31 March 2020]*

WHEREAS it is provided by section 17 (1) of the Constitution that the President may at any time declare that a state of public emergency exists;

AND WHEREAS on 11th March, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a “global pandemic”;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to declare a state of public emergency for the purpose of taking the necessary measures to address the risks posed by COVID-19;

NOW THEREFORE in exercise of the powers conferred upon me by section 17 (1) of the Constitution, I, DR. MOKGWEETSI ERIC KEABETSWE MASISI, President of the Republic of Botswana, hereby proclaim and declare a state of public emergency with effect from midnight of 2nd April, 2020.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal at Gaborone this 31st day of March, 2020.

PULA!

Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi,

President.