

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL FOR THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY IN ZIMBARWE

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NOTICE 004/03/2020

To All Employers and Employees in the Agricultural Industry

Re: FURTHER STATEMENT ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Reference is made to Notice 003/03/2020 issued by the National Employment Council for the Agricultural Industry in Zimbabwe (NEC Agriculture) on the 18th March 2020 concerning the coronavirus pandemic.

We are pleased that, after the issuing of Notice 003/03/2020, many employers and employees in the agricultural industry expressed their willingness to assist in preventing the spread of the coronavirus outbreak. Unfortunately, since the publication of the notice, the country has reported cases of coronavirus. While we are happy that the sector has no reported cases of the virus, NEC Agriculture urges all members of the agricultural sector to take the pandemic seriously and to increase efforts to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Once again, we urge all members of the agricultural industry to practice basic hygiene, such as washing their hands frequently. Moreover, they must desist from all non-essential travels and from participating in large gatherings. Both employers and employees must work together to devise, and implement, ways in which they may remain safe in the workplace. In particular, we urge all employers to provide employees with personal protective equipment and clothing (e.g. masks) which is suitable to protect employees from exposure to coronavirus in the workplace. The agricultural sector is critical in the food and economic security of Zimbabwe so members of the agricultural industry have the responsibility of maintaining their health to keep the sector, and by extension the country, vibrant.

NEC Agriculture has decided to play its own part to protect its stakeholders in the agricultural industry. With effect from 26 March 2020, NEC Agriculture shall be conducting its operations digitally, away from its offices, so that our clients do not have to visit our premises and risk contracting coronavirus. Clients are urged to take note of the following:

- 1. For inquiries, clients may contact us via email to info@necagriculture.co.zw or they may call or send a WhatsApp message to the Chief Executive Officer, Mr D. Madyausiku on 0712453100.
- 2. NEC Agriculture shall continue to conduct inspections electronically and telephonically to ensure compliance with labour laws and regulations in the agricultural sector.
- 3. Clients must regularly check our website, www.necagriculture.co.zw, for updates.
- 4. Clients are asked to report any cases of coronavirus via email to info@necagriculture.co.zw or by contacting the Chief Executive Officer, Mr D. Madyausiku on 0712453100.

We continue to have faith that Zimbabwe shall triumph over this pandemic if every person plays a part in preventing the spread of coronavirus.

David Madyausiku

Regards,

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER