

## **NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL**

FOR THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY IN ZIMBABWE

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## **NOTICE 084/2021**

## TO MEMBERS OF THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY

Re: SAFETY MEASURES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Unfortunately, the coronavirus pandemic continues to devastate Zimbabwe as the nation finds itself in a deadly third wave of the pandemic. The number of people who are testing positive for the virus on a daily basis is alarmingly high and the death toll is shocking. In response to these dangerous times, the government has put in place lockdown restrictions which limit movement and business operations. However, the agricultural industry was fittingly declared as an essential service and is allowed to operate. While agricultural enterprises may remain open, the National Employment Council for the Agricultural Industry in Zimbabwe (NEC Agriculture) encourages all its stakeholders to continue to follow precautionary measures aimed at curbing the spread of the virus. Members of the agricultural industry must keep wearing face masks and washing their hands regularly. Social distancing must be maintained at all agricultural enterprises and in all public spaces. Gatherings must be avoided at all costs.

NEC Agriculture also joins the government in urging all members of the agricultural industry to get vaccinated. Vaccines present the best known tools for this pandemic to be brought to an end and data from across the world suggests that those who are unvaccinated are at a considerably higher risk of suffering serious illness from the coronavirus than those who have been vaccinated. We commend all enterprises which have taken active steps to facilitate the vaccination of employees. We urge all enterprises to educate their employees on the importance of vaccinations and to assist their employees to get vaccinated.

In this critical time, NEC Agriculture offices remain open to render labour relations assistance to the agricultural industry. However, in keeping with government regulations and safety precautions, there shall be a reduced staff presence at all our offices. Our operations, including labour inspections and case management, shall be conducted virtually except in situations where our physical presence is absolutely necessary. To avoid the need for visiting our offices physically, members of the agricultural industry are encouraged to consult our website, <a href="www.necagriculture.co.zw">www.necagriculture.co.zw</a> and to send their queries via email to <a href="mailto:info@necagriculture.co.zw">info@necagriculture.co.zw</a>.

Once again, NEC Agriculture encourages all to keep safe in these dangerous times.

Regards,

David Madyausiku

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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