



Dear Sasbo Member

Re: Increase in Covid-19 Infections & Vaccine Registration and Roll-out Update

We trust that this communication finds you and your loved ones in good health.

The number of new positive cases has increased quite significantly since our last correspondence- arising predominantly from the Delta variant mutation of SARS-CoV-2- with new daily infections having reached a record high of 26 485 this past week and Gauteng clearly the epicentre. We are also seeing the numbers in the other provinces tapering up.

Tragically, the mortality rate has also increased, with on average 400 fatalities reported per day over the past three days, taking the total number of deaths arising from Covid-19 to 63,039, whilst the total number of positive cases has also grown to 2,112,336 to date. Hospitalisations, arising from the third wave have steadily risen, not showing any signs of abating. We continue to keep in our prayers all those who are ill and the families of all who have succumbed to the Corona virus.

It is, however encouraging to note that the S.A. Government's mass vaccination programme is gaining momentum, with another 1,6 million vaccinations issued since our last correspondence. In total, more than 3,8 million people have received their first jabs. It is also encouraging to note that in excess of 4 million people (3,1 million of which are people over 60 years of age) have registered on Government's Covid-19 Vaccination portal- Electronic Vaccination Data System (EVDS).

We welcome the S.A. Government's decision to vaccinate the Police, as we believe that together with the vaccination of the Teachers and our Healthcare workers, that this will go a long way in ensuring our safety.

We take this opportunity to thank you for encouraging and assisting the senior citizens aged 60 and above closest to you to obtain the relevant information and to register on the EVDS or any other applicable system/vaccine portal based on the requirements that may be applicable to you/them and we encourage all our members aged 50 and above to register and where possible that you support and assist the 50+'s.

As Sasbo continues to engage at an industry level on the bulk worksite upload for and behalf of our members, we are happy to communicate that the Sandton site is expected to go live with effect from 19 July 2021, with logistics being coordinated for the Stellenbosch site to follow in due course.

We once again advise and encourage our members to, in the interim, register on the EVDS or any other applicable system/vaccine portal based on the requirements that may be applicable to you. Sasbo is continuing to also engage with individual Financial Institutions on worksite vaccination programs, where applicable, in ensuring that our members are included and prioritised in such programs. Please continue to look out for further details and updates that will be posted on the Sasbo website in due course.

Kindly contact the **Covid-19 Info & Support Line** through Europ Assist. Members have access to qualified nurses 24 hours a day and qualified doctors from 08h00 to 20h00. Virtual consultations are also part of the package at no additional cost. We encourage members to call **0860 111 000** should you have questions or wish to obtain more information or advice regarding the Corona Virus or the vaccine.

Let's continue practicing **social distancing**, wearing your **face mask** at all times, to observe **personal hygiene** by regularly and thoroughly **sanitising or washing your hands** and to strictly adhere to all the health and safety risk mitigatory measures in your workplace in terms of the relevant regulations. We cannot afford to be complacent now. Remember this too shall pass, just like all other adversities we have overcome!

Safety, wellness and life first!

Modime Joe Kokela
General Secretary

8 July 2021

