



7 April 2020

Dear wine industry stakeholder

DISPENSATION TO ALLOW THE EXPORT OF SOUTH AFRICAN WINE

We are sure by now that most of you would have received news of the [Government Gazette](#) that was published today, 7 April 2020. The Minister of Transport signed off the below regulations which relates to wine exports. We would like to acknowledge the speed at which government has responded to us as well as their support of our industry in publishing the below.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT


DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002

DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 11B (6) (A) AND (C) OF THE AMENDMENT REGULATIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF SECTION 27(2) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): SEA CARGO OPERATIONS AND AIR FREIGHT OPERATIONS

I, **Fikile Mbalula**, MP, Minister of Transport, hereby in terms of regulation 11B (6) (a) and (c) of the Amendment Regulations issued in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) hereby issue directions as set out hereunder:

1. During the lockdown period, the transportation of the **wines** and any other fresh produce products at the sea ports and International Airports Designated as Port of Entry for export is allowed.
2. Agricultural Cargo is allowed to be transported to sea ports and International Airports Designated as Ports of Entry and exported to the relevant destination.

This Notice shall become effective from the date of publication in the *Government Gazette*.


MR F.A. MBALULA, MP
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
DATE: 06/04/2020

From a point of clarity, the Export Task Team has been in urgent discussions and would like to inform the industry of the following:

1. Our submission to Government specifically requested:

- a. *Wine for export be classified as an essential food product.*

It is important to note that wine is still classified as a non-essential product and we have not been given this concession as there is no mention of this in the Gazette.

- b. *During the lockdown, be allowed to ship finished goods, both packaged and bulk.*

Our interpretation of the published directions therefore allows the transportation of wine that is ready for export, both packaged and bulk. Thus, the starting up of bottling lines and production is NOT what the minister has granted us permission for (during the 21 days lockdown period)

- c. *Confirmation be sent to the wine industry that we will be allowed to resume all related export processes come the 17 April 2020.*

We have not received any official communication around this point. The Export Task Team will be working on this over the coming days.

2. In the submission to government, we also wanted to assure them of the procedures/protocol we will be following in all our warehouses and the measures we have put in place, from both a packaged and bulk perspective. It is important to emphasise that we as an industry need to operate within the restrictions set out for essential business operations as part of the Disaster Management Act regulations and therefore need to ensure that we will take all precautionary measures possible. It can therefore not be a case of “business as usual”.

We would like to urge all wine members to follow the said protocol that is recommended for both packaged and bulk wine. We do not want to commit to one thing and doing another. In the interest of maintaining relationships with government and showing our commitment to fighting the spread of the COVID-19 virus, please apply the social distancing measures, keep staff at home wherever possible, use skeleton staff when loading containers. We would also like to encourage the use of forklifts as opposed to employees packing containers by hand.

These are the measures we have submitted to government. Please familiarise yourself and strictly apply it to your environment.

1. [COVID-19 Preventative Measures SA Wine Bulk Loading Procedure \(Bulk Wine\)](#)
2. [COVID-19 Preventative Measures SA Wine Export Loading Procedure \(Packaged Wine\)](#)

3. The Export Task Team will be meeting again tomorrow morning and will be sharing more detailed communication pertaining to the following:
 - Samples
 - Certification
 - Documentation when transporting
 - Export certificate

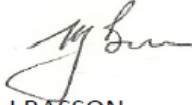
- Bottling and packaging
- Cross border transport

Yours faithfully



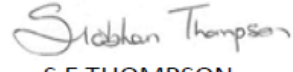
K MOORE

CEO: SALBA
P O Box 236
STELLENBOSCH
7599
Tel no.: 021-8870117
e-mail: kmoore@salba.co.za



H J BASSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: VINPRO
P O Box 1411
SUIDER-PAARL
7624
Tel no.: 021-8073047
e-mail: Rico@vinpro.co.za



S E THOMPSON

CEO: WOSA
P O Box 987
STELLENBOSCH
7599
Tel no.: 021 883 3860
e-mail: sthompson@wosa.co.za