
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS

IRBA response to COVID- 19 and Alignment to State of National Disaster Declared by the President

Johannesburg/ 23 March 2020

Dear Stakeholder

The IRBA prioritises the health, safety and wellbeing of its employees, registered auditors and all its stakeholders. During these challenging times, the IRBA also has a responsibility to ensure the continuity of its operations and essential functions and that we continue to deliver on our mandate.

Since President Ramaphosa's address on 15 March 2020, there has been an increase in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and further clarity provided by various ministries on the containment measures that would be implemented across the country.

The following measures and controls have been implemented within the IRBA's operations, workplaces and facilities, with immediate effect, in order to address and manage the risks posed by the COVID-19 virus:

For the period 18 March to 13 April:

All staff will work from home as our offices are physically closed. This should not affect our services too much as the following measures have been implemented:

- Staff have been equipped with internet access and call forwarding from each extension has been set up.
- Emails are being processed as normal with remote access.
- Staff are encouraged to self-isolate; therefore, no physical meetings will take place during this period. All internal and external meetings will be conducted via remote meeting arrangements, where possible.
- Our inspections and education monitoring teams will not conduct physical visits but will liaise with you to set up alternative remote working arrangements.
- Use of alternative means of interacting with our staff to address your queries rather than requesting a face-to-face meeting in this period.
- All events, conferences and training are cancelled.
- Staff and stakeholders should rely on electronic or video conferencing platforms for meetings in this period.

Should you need to contact any of our departments please use the following contact details:

- Education and Transformation department: edutrain@irba.co.za
- Executive department: board@irba.co.za
- Finance department: invoices@irba.co.za
- Inspection department: inspections@irba.co.za
- Investigations department: investigations@irba.co.za
- Legal department: legal@irba.co.za
- Media queries: lschalkwyk@irba.co.za
- Registry department: registry@irba.co.za

- Standards department: standards@irba.co.za

These interim measures are to contain the spread of the virus in order to protect our employees and stakeholders and to assist our government in managing this pandemic to prevent our health system becoming overwhelmed.

As the current situation changes continuously and rapidly, we will keep you updated on any changes to the above arrangements.

As President Ramaphosa said, 'if we act together, if we act now, and if we act decisively, we will overcome it'.

Bernard Peter Agulhas
Chief Executive Officer

About the IRBA

The objective of the IRBA is to endeavour to protect the financial interests of the South African public and international investors in South Africa through the effective and appropriate regulation of audits conducted by registered auditors, in accordance with internationally recognised standards and processes.