

26 March 2020

PRESS STATEMENT

CONSUMER GOODS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA (CGCSA) STATEMENT ON GAZETTING OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES DURING SHUTDOWN PERIOD

The Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA) has noted the list of essential services permitted to operate during the shutdown period. CGCSA will help members through consultation with Government to ensure that they are equipped to implement the regulations.

The list includes supermarkets, food stores, spaza shops and pharmacies whose specific operating times are yet to be determined through consultation with the Government. Clarity on this issue is expected to be given as soon as these consultations have been concluded.

CGCSA has meanwhile been in contact with its members who will be allowed to operate to give them guidance on how to structure letters for their staff who will be required to work during the shutdown period, and which they will produce when asked by law enforcement authorities.

CGCSA would like to also reiterate to the public that there will be no need for panic buying during the shutdown period as our retailer members have and continue to work with manufacturers to ensure continuous product availability. Our retailer members will be limiting purchase quantities of certain in-demand consumer products to avoid unnecessary hoarding which creates artificial shortages and puts pressure on the supply chain. They will also continue to observe the prescribed health protocols by providing sanitizers for in-store use as well as ensuring that customers maintain the acceptable social distancing as per Government guidelines.

Ends///

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