

- 17-03-2020 -

Coronavirus situation Update

As part of the monitoring of developments in the Coronavirus pandemic and its impact on Moroccan nationals established abroad, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in Pretoria has set up a crisis and communication unit for the benefit of Moroccan nationals established in South Africa, Botswana, Malawi and Eswatini.

This unit will serve as a support device to reassure and guide the Moroccan community in its procedures, requests and specific needs in these difficult circumstances characterized by the health threat of Coronavirus, said the Ambassador of Morocco in South Africa, in Botswana, in Malawi and Eswatini, Youssef Amrani.

The Ambassador urged the Moroccan community in the countries of accreditation to observe all of the health vigilance rules, which are required by deviating from risky behavior and by complying with government instructions to prevent any situation not desired.

Initial contacts have already been initiated by this unit to respond to various questions from the Moroccan community resident in the region, said Amrani, stressing that to date, no case of infection has 'has been recorded among Moroccan nationals in the region.

So far, the country has reported 62 confirmed cases (but no deaths) of coronavirus. It is to be recalled that Président Cyril Ramaphosa addressed the nation Sun and declared a national state of disaster. " South Africa also announced the closure of the country's schools from Wednesday for at least three weeks, as well as a ban on public gatherings of more than 100 people.

In the other African countries of the region, the number of infections remains tiny (only one case in Eswatini and no case recorded in Malawi and Botswana).

The risk for the Moroccan community resident in these countries is, therefore, "very low" but that does not prevent precautions and preventive measures from being put in place for all citizens, said Amrani.

For further information and monitoring of the situation, members of the Moroccan community are invited to consult the website of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in Pretoria under the following link: <https://www.moroccoembassy.co.za/>

The crisis unit set up by the embassy can be reached at the following numbers:

- +27 6 70 89 63 66
- +27 6 79 70 72 95.