



7 May 2021

Mr Kgosimolao Moshweunyane
Independent Communications Authority of South Africa
Private Bag X10
HIGHVELD PARK
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Email: Covid19regulations@icasa.org.za

Dear Mr Moshweunyane

SUBMISSION REGARDING THE ICT COVID-19 NATIONAL DISASTER REGULATIONS

On behalf of Universities South Africa (USAf) and its 26 member institutions, I would like to begin by thanking ICASA for its important, indeed vital, interventions relating to the arrangements made with the mobile network operators at the time of the outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. We also appreciate very much this opportunity to respond to the ICT CoViD-19 National Disaster Regulations that were published in Government Notice 226 of April 2021.

We have worked closely with the Tertiary Education and Research Network of South Africa (TENET), which was originally established by the higher education sector, to arrive at a document which has already been shared with you by TENET. I attach that document here for easy reference.

This letter confirms that USAf is fully aligned with the TENET submission.

The need for a long-term sustainable solution to student access to online learning is an urgent conversation that has to be had with the idea of developing something like a national digital teaching and learning platform.

Yours sincerely,

PROFESSOR AHMED BAWA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER