Following the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Declaration by President Cyril Ramaphosa of a state of disaster, a total of 6,639 South Africans indicated that they were stranded and required assistance to return to South Africa. The overwhelming majority are stranded as a result of the lockdowns announced in many countries and the almost complete cessation of flights.

"We are dealing with a situation that none of us ever expected and in that context, we must strive to do the best that we can. We are doing all that we can to assist our citizens stranded abroad."

– Minister Naledi Pandor

ARRIVALS TO DATE

On 8 April 2020, 66 South Africans were repatriated from Brazil on a South African Airways (SAA) flight.

Also on 8 April 2020, a group of 67 South Africans were repatriated from Frankfurt, Germany. They included 39 from Germany, 14 from Portugal, 10 from Ireland, three from Nepal and one from Italy.

On 10 April 2020, four South Africans arrived from Afghanistan with a private charter.

Also on 10 April 2020, 49 South Africans landed in Cape Town from Namibia with a private charter.

On 11 April 2020, a group of 41 South Africans left the Maldives with a private charter.

On 12 April 2020, a SAA flight from Brussels to Johannesburg, with a stop-over in Lagos, repatriated 119 South Africans.

Also on 12 April 2020, another SAA flight from London to Cape Town repatriated 201 South Africans.

On 13 April 2020, a SAA flight from Frankfurt to Johannesburg repatriated 62 South Africans.

On 15 April 2020, a SAA flight chartered by Workaways International in the United States of America repatriated 305 South African workers.

On 16 April 2020, an Ethiopian Airlines cargo flight from Addis Ababa repatriated 13 South Africans.

On 17 April 2020, a SAA-chartered flight arrived in Johannesburg from Luanda, Angola, transporting 84 South Africans.

On 18 April 2020, 80 South Africans arrived in Johannesburg from Rome.

On 19 April 2020, 206 South Africans arrived in Johannesburg from Frankfurt.

Also on 19 April 2020, 35 South Africans arrived in Johannesburg from Angola.

On 20 April 2020, 46 South Africans arrived in Johannesburg from Rome.

On 21 April 2020, 294 South Africans arrived in Johannesburg from Frankfurt.

Also on 21 April 2020, 46 South Africans arrived in Johannesburg from Angola.
The South African government has started repatriating South Africans from abroad on a charter flight from Lima, Peru. It is the government's first repatriation flight since the lockdown in South Africa was announced on 27 March.

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Naledi Pandor on Wednesday afternoon said the flight of about 300 passengers, mostly from South Africans in Peru, was able to leave with the help of diplomatic repatriation mechanisms and assistance from the government.

"The repatriation of South Africans is a responsibility we have towards the citizens of this country," Pandor said.

She added that the government also recognised the need to support other countries in the region to repatriate their citizens.

The flight, which is the first repatriation flight from Peru, is due to land at OR Tambo International Airport on Wednesday evening.

"There's a charter flight from Lima, Peru to South Africa," Pandor said.

Pandor also reassured passengers on the flight that the government was doing everything it could to ensure their safety and health.

"We have done everything we can to bring back South Africans who have been stranded abroad due to the current health crisis. This has been a massive undertaking, but we have kept our promise to bring back South Africans," she said.

The repatriation process is a result of the government's efforts to bring back South Africans from abroad. Pandor said that the government had been in contact with embassies and consulates in different countries to ensure that South Africans are being taken care of.

"We have been working with embassies and consulates in different countries to ensure that South Africans are being taken care of. We want to ensure that we bring back all South Africans who want to return to South Africa," Pandor said.

The government has also been working with international partners to ensure that South Africans are being repatriated safely and securely.

"We have been working with international partners to ensure that South Africans are being repatriated safely and securely. We have been doing everything we can to ensure that South Africans are being repatriated in a safe manner," Pandor said.

Pandor also thanked all the countries that have supported South Africans in repatriation efforts.

"We want to thank all the countries that have supported South Africans in repatriation efforts. We have been working with them to ensure that South Africans are being repatriated safely and securely," Pandor said.

In the News

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Naledi Pandor said the government is looking into the possibility of repatriating South Africans from other countries.

"We are looking into the possibility of repatriating South Africans from other countries. We want to ensure that we bring back all South Africans who want to return to South Africa," Pandor said.

In the meantime, the government has been working with embassies and consulates in different countries to ensure that South Africans are being taken care of.

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