



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Minister Dr Naledi Pandor
Minister International Relations and co operation
Delivered by email

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Your Honourable Pandor,

The President of our Country has called a state of disaster. This requires us all to work together and put aside our political jackets. Let us put our heads together and help to make a collective contribution in these trying times.

As you know we started trying to assist, by getting involved in dealing with the queries we were receiving from South Africans. We built up a good relationship with the DIRCO team abroad and managed to be of assistance to them and had an open communication channel which was most useful when it came to the evacuation and for this, we are extremely grateful.

I believe by using relationships with some Countries that maybe you do not have as good a relationship with that we do, we can approach them on your behalf for their current technologies and advice that could assist South Africa as and when the need arises.

I also believe that we could be of mutual benefit with the cross sharing of information between the Cities and Provinces that our parties' control. Sharing experiences and maybe learning from each other or from other Countries and sharing it with these Provinces and Cities through a Joint Operations Centre could be a major source of benefit for the Country. We could maybe start a JOC with Ambassadors of affected Countries and debrief on what they have learnt/ experienced.

Either way please accept the sincerity and spirit in which this letter is offered and hopefully we can find a way to work with each other and help South Africa through what will probably be its biggest challenge since 1994.

I wish you, the President and the entire cabinet, the strength and wisdom to pull South Africa through this swiftly, with the least amount of injury and deaths and the most amount of success.

Yours Sincerely,

Darren Bergman