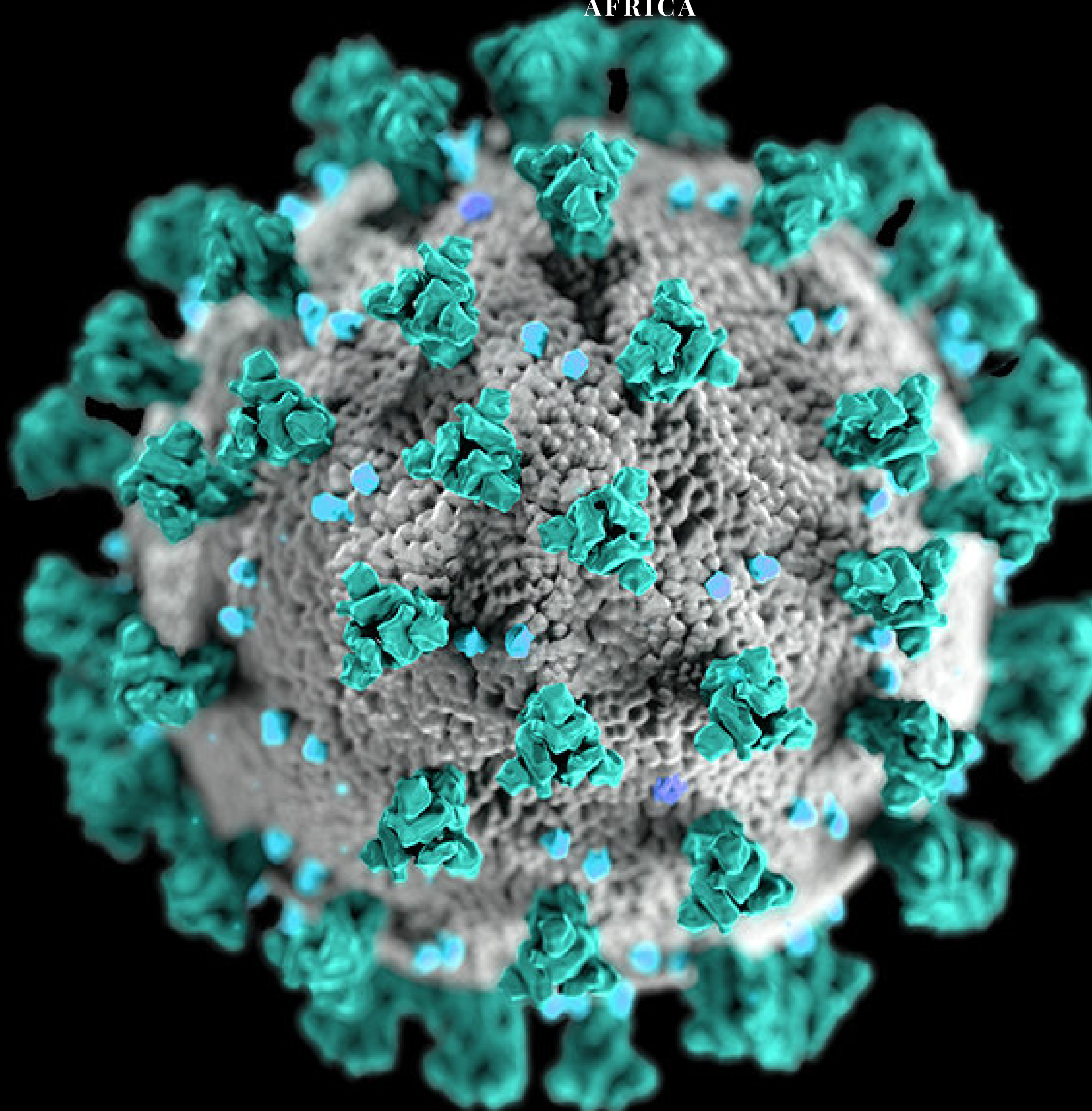




Ecco Chamber

FORTNIGHTLY ITALIAN NEWS MADE IN SOUTH AFRICA



CHAMBER'S NOTE
WOMEN IN BUSINESS
WELCOMING OUR NEW MEMBERS
MARKET RESEARCH
CE LA FAREMO



Chamber's Note

The Coronavirus has well and truly left its mark on the globe and the worst is yet to come. One third of the world's population is on lockdown and there is a sense that even after a vaccine is developed and the pandemic is declared under control the world will be permanently changed. For now we all need to find a way to stay afloat in an ocean that we are yet to fully understand.

The Italian Chamber is in the fortunate position that many of our activities such as market research and communication on behalf of our members can be done from home. As a result the Chamber is running as usual and we are committed to doing all we can to remain informed about what businesses can do to survive such unusual conditions. In the meantime the Chamber has sourced some useful links that people can use to stay updated about the pandemic. All official and verified communications are published on our website, in a dedicated COVID-19 section.

Two major concerns have been that of workers as well as Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises who, we worry, will not be able to survive such a significant period of not doing business. SMMEs who foresee a shortfall are able to apply for debt relief here.

Businesses facing distress may approach the CCMA (funded by UIF) for temporary relief for wages. The CCMA will assist up to 75% of the wage at a maximum of R12 840 per month per employee.

Another mechanism to ensure worker relief include the Unemployment Insurance fund, which will cover qualifying workers for up to three months with a monthly payment of R3500. Read more about the UIF benefits here.

Another discussion has been around what exactly comprises an essential service. All businesses wishing to be classified as providing essential services are required to apply to the DTIC. More information about essential services can be found here.

We encourage all our stakeholders to stay up to date about the mechanisms which will provide possible relief and we will continue to do our part in assisting you all.

Regards

Italcham



Women In Business

Women In Business was an event hosted by the Holland business Chamber focusing on women – for women, by women – on the 12 th of March. In the year 2020 the meaning of what it is to be female has changed and as per one of the speakers Adv Pria Hassan: "you can't keep women in a box, we shift and we move" emphasising the importance moving as a unit and prioritising female energy.

As a Chamber that is 80% female-staffed we know that women can do anything they set their minds to when they are united and it gives us strength to know that we have allies such as panelist Paul Cox who himself identifies as a feminist. The message was that we are moving in the right direction as a society. This talk gave a lot of women a platform to ask questions with the necessary breathing space in knowing that they are not alone in a corporate world that was initially built for men.



ADV. PRIA HASSAN



PAUL COX



MC: SENATE LEEUW



MAZARS



SPANISH CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE IN SOUTH AFRICA



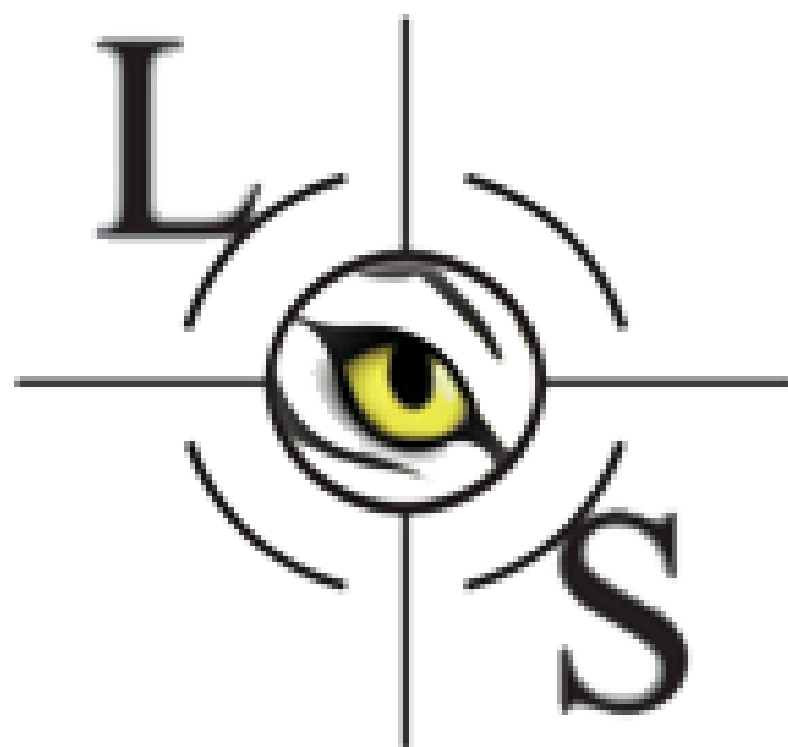


W E L C O M I N G O U R N E W M E M B E R S



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CHAMBER ON:**

www.italcham.co.za

dsg@italcham.co.za



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