



Foodborne illnesses classified as a national disaster.

The implementation of standard by-laws for rural and township economies aims to ensure proper waste disposal, recycling, and cleaner business areas, addressing rat infestations and reducing harmful pesticide use.

“The National Disaster Management center has, In terms of Section 23 of the Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002, classified foodborne illnesses as a national disaster,” said Justice Minister Thembi Simelane.

The government said health experts will be appointed to serve on the Ministerial Advisory Committee.

The committee will develop medium-to-long term prevention measures to curb the incidents of foodborne illnesses in the country.

”The directive to notify the deaths of patients 12 years and under is a critical one and will be implemented as a matter of urgency. This will help us to understand the burden of disease and the population at risk in real-time, instead of waiting for a long period of time.

“The department of Health is currently amending the Notifiable Medical Conditions |Regulations such that the death of anybody 12 years and younger becomes notifiable” she said.

The ministerial team said the shortage of environmental health inspectors is receiving urgent attention to capacitate all districts and metropolitan municipalities to effectively enforce inspections across the country.

Registration of small businesses and spaza ships

“We emphasize that legitimate traders meeting legal requirements can register businesses and trade in South Africa,” said Simelane.

She warned against South Africans aiding illegal foreigners to fraudulently register businesses, calling it ‘clear fronting’ prohibited by the Immigration Act 13 of 2002.