



IN TRANSFORMATION  
INITIATIVE

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# MONTHLY UPDATE

# LESOTHO



## MAIN STORIES

ABC 's Problems  
Continue

Majoro Reshuffles  
Cabinet

Lesotho Losing Assets

Trouble at the LCA

National Peace and  
Unity Bill

Mahao on South  
Africa and SADC

Coronavirus

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister Moeketsi Majoro reshuffled his cabinet, bringing back into government his predecessor Thomas Thabane's loyalist, former Police and Public Safety Minister, Lehlohonolo Moramotse, as minister of Local Government and Chieftainship. The Defence and National Security ministry vacancy has been filled by Halebonoe Setšabi.
- Indications are that Deputy Prime Minister Mathibeli Mokhothu's Democratic Congress (DC) wants Police Commissioner Holomo Molibeli to be fired as its price for its continued support for the governing coalition led by Majoro. It is understood that if it fails to get its way, the DC might form a new coalition with Mokhothu as prime minister, but excluding the All Basotho Convention (ABC).
- Solar power company Frazer Solar GmbH was awarded €50 million (R856 million) in damages by a South African court after the Lesotho government reneged on a contract, which was to be funded by the German government, as part of a wider programme to turn Lesotho into a net exporter of electricity.
- Popular Front for Democracy (PFD) leader Lekhetho Rakuoane, doubling up as acting Justice and Law Minister, tabled in parliament the National Peace and Unity Bill, which aims to establish the commission which will pardon high-profile suspects.
- Two people died after being shot during violent clashes between factory workers and police in the Thetsane industrial area, as trade unions say they have lost control over angry protests over pay.
- A Movement for Economic Change (MEC) Member of Parliament (MP), Thabo Mahapu Ramatla, escaped death when his car was sprayed with bullets in Mafeteng on 8 June 2021.



- The government gazetted the Communications (Subscriber Identity Module and Mobile Device Registration) Regulations, 2021 that gives it sweeping powers to access and monitor the mobile phone communications of all citizens including foreigners visiting the country.
- As of 14 June 2021, Lesotho had 10,921 coronavirus cases, 6,443 recoveries and 326 deaths.
- The Southern African Development Community (SADC) facilitation team for Lesotho said that its patience was wearing thin with politicians who were more concerned about power and not reform processes or the interests of the people.
- Nqosa Mahao, speaking on South African facilitation in Lesotho, expressed his unhappiness with the SADC for abrogating its responsibilities to that country, which he said had been driven by its own interests in its mediation effort in Lesotho.
- Thato Sibolla, a key witness in Maesaiah Thabane's murder trial, was appointed as Vice Consul at Lesotho's mission in South Africa, leading to suspicions that her appointment is an attempt to appease or silence her.
- Lesotho confirmed that several of its diplomats had been expelled from South Africa over the illicit peddling of duty-free alcohol.
- The United States (US) expressed concern after Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Machesetsa Mofomobe announced that his Basotho National Party (BNP) would pursue relations with North Korea.

