01 – 10 April 2026

Dear Subscribers,

This week's Gazette isn't about sweeping reforms or last-minute curveballs — but it *does* deliver a handful of updates that deserve more than a passing glance. Think of this one as a focused housekeeping edition: practical regulatory changes, clearer compliance expectations, and a few areas where enforcement attention is visibly tightening.

In particular, four developments stand out and are worth flagging upfront:

- **Environmental compliance** receives a firm nudge with the new **National Dust Control Regulations** under NEMA: Air — raising expectations around monitoring, dust management plans and enforcement.
- **FICA compliance** moves centre stage with the formal rollout of the **2026 Risk and Compliance Reporting** requirements, placing accountability and internal controls firmly back on the radar.
- **COIDA beneficiaries** see welcome movement through adjustments to **compensation calculations and increases in monthly pensions**, bringing relief to long-standing recipients.
- And in the **public sector**, the **Public Administration Management Amendment Act** marks a significant tightening of ethics, procurement controls and remuneration oversight — with implications well beyond HR departments.

Some of these updates simply require awareness. Others may call for preparation, policy updates or timely submissions.

Below, we've set out a clear, high-level snapshot of **what's changed**, **who's affected**, and **what (if anything) needs to be done**. The attached document unpacks each notice in more detail, and as always, The Legal Team is available to help you interpret how any of these developments apply to your organisation or sector.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE ACT

DIESEL REFUND AMENDMENTS G 54445 | GoN 7341 | 1 April 2026

WHAT CHANGED:

Fuel levy and Road Accident Fund (RAF) refund rates for diesel have been revised for qualifying sectors, with updated calculation rules and refund values per litre.

WHO IS AFFECTED:

Farmers, foresters, miners, electricity generators, rail freight operators, harbour and offshore vessel operators.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Update diesel refund calculations and ensure claims reflect the revised refund rates and eligibility rules.

FUEL LEVY RATE ADJUSTMENTS G 54445 | GoN 7340 | 1 April 2026

WHAT CHANGED:

Fuel levy rates were adjusted by redefining how the general fuel levy and carbon fuel levy combine for petrol, diesel, kerosene, solvents and biodiesel.

WHO IS AFFECTED:

Fuel producers, importers, distributors, bulk users, and sectors reliant on fuel levy calculations.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Apply updated levy rates in pricing, accounting and compliance systems.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: AIR QUALITY ACT

DUST CONTROL REGULATIONS

G 54440 | GoN 7335 | 31 March 2026

WHAT CHANGED:

New National Dust Control Regulations, 2026 replace the 2013 regulations, introducing:

- Enforceable dustfall limits,
- Mandatory Dust Management Plans,
- Expanded monitoring, reporting, and penalties.

WHO IS AFFECTED:

Mining operations, construction companies, reclamation sites, industrial facilities, land developers, environmental consultants.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Prepare and submit Dust Management Plans within 60 days, implement SANS-compliant monitoring, and update existing plans.

FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE ACT

RISK AND COMPLIANCE RETURN

G 54439 | GoN 7334 | 31 March 2026

WHAT CHANGED:

Specified accountable institutions are required to submit the 2026 Risk and Compliance Return (RCR) electronically to the FIC.

WHO IS AFFECTED:

Attorneys, estate agents, casinos, gambling operators, non-bank credit providers, high-value goods dealers, trustees, crypto-asset service providers.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Prepare and submit the RCR via the FIC platform between 4 May and 30 June / 31 July 2026, depending on sector.

COIDA

Compensation Fund
WORKING FOR YOU

INCREASE IN MONTHLY PENSIONS & COMPENSATION CALCULATION

G 54458 | GoN 7349 | 2 April 2026

WHAT CHANGED:

Schedule 4 of COIDA has been amended to:

- Increase monthly pensions, and
- Update the method for calculating compensation.

WHO IS AFFECTED:

Injured employees receiving pensions, dependants of deceased employees, employers, Compensation Fund administrators.

ACTION REQUIRED:

No direct action required by employers; pensioners should note increased benefits from the effective date.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT ACT, 2025

G 54449 | Act 7 of 2025 | 1 April 2026

WHAT CHANGED:

Major governance reforms including:

- A strict ban on public servants doing business with the State,
- A 12-month cooling-off period after procurement involvement,
- Centralised control of remuneration with financial implications,
- National School of Government constituted as a national department.

WHO IS AFFECTED:

Public servants, municipalities, public entities, procurement officials, service providers contracting with the State.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Update ethics, HR and SCM policies, implement declaration systems, enforce cooling-off rules, and align remuneration processes with central approvals.

01 – 10 April 2026

CONTENTS

AGRICULTURAL

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE AGENTS ACT:

Re-Nomination of Candidates for Appointment to Agricultural Produce Agents' Council (APAC)

G 54455 GoN 7348

02 April 2026

FULL TEXT

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NO. 7348 2 April 2026

RE-NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE AGENTS' COUNCIL (APAC) IN TERMS OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE AGENTS ACT 1992, (ACT No. 12 OF 1992)

The Minister of Agriculture invites nominations of suitable persons to be considered for appointment as members of the Agricultural Produce Agents Council (APAC) to replace all existing members whose terms have and will expire in 2026.

The objectives of APAC are to regulate the occupations of fresh produce, export and livestock agents and to maintain and enhance the status and dignity of those occupations and the integrity of persons practicing those occupations. Nominations are hereby called for persons to represent the following:

• Fresh Produce Producers (2);
• Fresh Produce Agents (3);
• Livestock Producers (2);
• Livestock Agents (3);
• Export Agents (3);
• Department of Agriculture (1);
• The Minister (2); and
• The consumers (2).

A written acceptance of the nomination by the nominee, together with a copy of his or her ID document, a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, documentary proof of all qualifications and a declaration that he or she is not disqualified to serve on the Council in terms of section 3(7) of the above-mentioned Act should accompany each nomination.

Each candidate should indicate the category he/ she would like to be considered for.

The nomination of candidates to enhance representation in terms of race and gender are encouraged.

Members of the Council shall be paid such remuneration or allowances from the funds of the Council, as the Council may determine.

Members are appointed for a maximum of three years in terms of section 3(1) of the Act.

The successful candidates will be subjected to a personnel suitability check (including citizenship, criminal record, qualification/s and financial asset/record check as well as employment verification).

Nominations should reach either of the following addresses on or before 24 April 2026:

Department of Agriculture
Sefala Building, Office 118 or 210
503 Belvedere street
Arcadia
Pretoria

Hand Delivery Nominations should be clearly marked for the attention of Ms F Makinta at the telephone number (012) 319-8456 and Ms J Mabuso (012) 319 8123 or email APACnominations@nda.gov.za

Those who previously submitted nominations are requested to resubmit their candidates

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

Agricultural Produce Agents Act: Re-Nomination of Candidates for Appointment to Agricultural Produce Agents' Council (APAC)
G 54455 GoN 7348
02 April 2026

54455gon7348.pdf

ACTION

Interested parties need to submit their applications timeously.

END

CUSTOMS, EXCISE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

NOTICE	SUMMARY	LINK
Customs and Excise Act: Amendment to Part 3 of Schedule No. 6 (No. 6/3/67) (English/Afrikaans) G 54445 RG 11978 GoN 7341 01 April 2026	This Notice amends Part 3 of Schedule No. 6 to the Customs and Excise Act by substituting Note 6(b). The amendment sets out revised fuel levy and Road Accident Fund (RAF) levy refund rates for eligible users of distillate fuel.	54445rg11978gon7341.pdf
Customs and Excise Act: Amendment to Part 5A of Schedule No. 1 (No. 1/5A/183) (English/ Afrikaans) G 54445 RG 11978 GoN 7340 01 April 2026	This notice amends Part 5A of Schedule No. 1 to the Customs and Excise Act by substituting Note 8. The amendment sets revised fuel levy rates by specifying how the general fuel levy and carbon fuel levy combine for different fuel products.	54445rg11978gon7340.pdf

ENERGY AND PETROLEUM

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ACT: REGULATIONS:

Single maximum national retail price for Illuminating Paraffin

G 54443 RG 11976 GoN 7336

31 March 2026

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES

NO. R. 7336 31 March 2026

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ACT, 1977 (ACT No. 120 OF 1977)

REGULATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE SINGLE MAXIMUM NATIONAL RETAIL PRICE FOR ILLUMINATING PARAFFIN

1. I, Mr. G. Mantashe, Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources, under section 2(1)(c) of the Petroleum Products Act, 1977 (Act No. 120 of 1977), determine that a maximum retail price for Illuminating Paraffin (excluding the price of any form of packaging) will become effective on the first Wednesday of every month.

2. The single maximum retail price for illuminating paraffin, excluding the price of any form of Packaging for the period 01 April 2026 to 05 May 2026 will be 3147.00 c/l.

3. Commencement

These regulations shall come into operation at 00:01 on 01 April 2026.

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

Petroleum Products Act: Regulations: Single maximum national retail price for Illuminating Paraffin
G 54443 RG 11976 GoN 7336
31 March 2026

54443reg11976gon7336.pdf

END

ENVIRONMENTAL

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: AIR QUALITY ACT:

National Dust Control Regulations

G 54440 RG 11975 GoN 7335

31 March 2026

APPLIES TO:

The Regulations apply nationally to:

- Mining, prospecting, exploration and production right or permit holders;
- Persons conducting reclamation, including historical mine dumps;
- Persons conducting listed activities required to hold an atmospheric emission licence;
- Controlled emitters with the potential to generate dust; and
- Any activity reasonably suspected by an air quality officer of causing dust nuisance.

SUMMARY

Purpose

The National Dust Control Regulations, 2026 establish a national framework for the control and management of dust, with the aim of:

- Preventing and minimising dust emissions across South Africa, and
- Preventing nuisance impacts caused by dust on people, property, and the environment.

Dust Measurement Standard

- Dustfall must be measured using SANS 1137 (or an equivalent approved method).
- Dust refers to settleable particulate matter capable of settling by weight from ambient air.

Prescribed Dustfall Limits

Area type	Maximum dustfall rate (30-day average)	Permitted exceedances
Residential areas	**≤ 600 mg/m²/day**	Twice per year (not in consecutive months)
Non-residential areas	**≤ 1200 mg/m²/day**	Twice per year (not in consecutive months)

Dust Management Plans (DMPs)

Requirement

- Affected persons must develop and submit a Dust Management Plan within 60 days of the Regulations coming into operation.
- Approval is required from the municipal air quality officer or licensing authority, depending on the activity.
- New operations must have an approved plan before commencing activities.

Key contents of a DMP

A Dust Management Plan must include, among other things:

- Responsible persons for implementation;
- Identification of dust sources;
- Best practicable control measures (time-bound);
- Dust complaint management procedures;
- Measures to prevent dust nuisance;
- Dustfall monitoring programmes (where required); and
- Protection of sensitive receptors such as schools, hospitals and ecological areas.

Reporting Obligations

- Monthly (or otherwise directed) implementation reports must be submitted.

- Reports must detail:
    - Dust control measures applied;
    - Complaints received and responses;
    - Monitoring results versus legal limits;
    - Meteorological data; and
    - Proof of SANAS-accredited testing where applicable.

Review and Enforcement

- Authorities may require a **review of the Dust Management Plan** if:
    - Dust limits are exceeded;
    - Control measures are inadequate; or
    - New or expanded dust-generating activities occur.

- Reviewed plans must be resubmitted within **60 days** and approved before implementation.

Transitional Provisions

- Existing Dust Management Plans approved under the 2013 regulations must be updated within 60 days.
- A transition period (up to 6 months) is allowed to move from ASTM D1739 to SANS 1137 dustfall measurement.

Offences and Penalties

- Failure to comply with key requirements constitutes a criminal offence.

- Penalties include:
    - Up to R5 million fine or 5 years' imprisonment for a first offence; and
    - Up to R10 million or 10 years' imprisonment for repeat offences.

Repeal

- The National Dust Control Regulations, 2013 (GN R.827) are formally repealed.

FULL TEXT

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. R. 7335 31 March 2026

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: AIR QUALITY ACT, 2004
(ACT NO. 39 OF 2004)

NATIONAL DUST CONTROL REGULATIONS

I, Willem Abraham Stephanus Aucamp, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby make the National Dust Control Regulations, in terms of section 53(o), read with section 32 of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004), as set out in the Schedule hereto.

MR WILLEM ABRAHAM STEPHANUS AUCAMP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SCHEDULE

Table of Contents

1 Definitions

In these Regulations, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act has that meaning, and unless the context indicates otherwise —

"dust" means settleable particulate matter, including any material composed of solid particles small enough to pass through a 1 mm screen but large enough to settle by virtue of their weight into the sampling container from the ambient air;

"dustfall" means settleable particulate matter;

"dust management plan" means a plan with control measures for preventing, minimizing, and managing dust, including fugitive dust;

"dustfall monitoring programme" means a programme for the monitoring of dustfall on a continuous basis;

"fugitive dust" means solid airborne particulate matter generated or emitted from any source other than a stack or chimney;

"historical mine dump" means debris, discard, residues, slimes, screening, slurry, tailings, waste rock, foundry sand, beneficiation plant waste, ash or any other product derived from or incidental to prospecting, exploration, mining or production operations, which do not require any authorisation in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002);

"non-residential area" means any area, of which the land is used for agricultural, industrial, transport, commercial, business or mining purposes as prescribed under schedule 2 of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013);

"nuisance" means an unreasonable interference or likely interference caused by dust to the use or enjoyment by an owner or occupier of his or her property or environment, or to the ordinary comfort, convenience and peace;

"premises" means any building or other structure together with the land on which it is situated, and any adjoining land occupied or used in connection with any activities carried on in that building or structure, and includes any land without any buildings or other structures from which dust may be generated;

"reclamation" means obtaining materials of value from a historical mine dump;

"residential area" means any area of which the land is used for the purposes listed in schedule 2 of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013), excluding land used for agricultural, industrial, commercial, business, transport or mining purposes;

"SANAS" means the South African National Accreditation System established by section 3 of the Accreditation for Conformity Assessment, Calibration and Good Laboratory Practice Act, 2006 (Act No. 19 of 2006);

"SANS 1137" means the last approved version of the South African National Standard 1137, which is the standard test method for the collection and measurement of dustfall (settleable particulate matter);

"sensitive receptors" means locations that may be adversely affected by dust emissions, which include but are not limited to hospitals, schools, daycare centres, surface water and sensitive ecological areas; and

"The Act" means the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004).

2 Purpose of the Regulations

The purpose of these Regulations is to prescribe—

(1) measures for the control of dust in all areas nationally; and

(2) steps that must be taken to prevent nuisance by dust.

3 Application of the Regulations

These Regulations apply nationally to —

(a) any holder of a right or permit related to a prospecting, exploration, mining, or production operation, as defined in section 1 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002);

(b) any person conducting reclamation;

(c) any person conducting a listed activity and is required in terms of the provisional or atmospheric emission licence to develop a dust management plan;

(d) any person conducting a controlled emitter that has the potential to generate dust; and

(e) any person conducting an activity that an air quality officer reasonably suspects is causing or has the potential to cause nuisance by dust.

4 Dustfall Standard Test Method

The standard test method for the collection and measurement of dustfall is SANS 1137 or any equivalent method.

5 Prescribed Dustfall Rates

Prescribed dustfall rates and permissible frequency of exceedances are set out in the table below:

Restriction Areas	Dustfall rate (D) ($mg/m^2/day$, 30-day period)	Permitted frequency of exceeding dustfall rate
Residential area	D ≤ 600	Twice within a year, not occurring on sequential months.
Non-residential area	D ≤ 1200	Twice within a year, not occurring on sequential months.

6 **Development of a Dust Management Plan**

(1) An identified person in regulation 3(a) or (b), must within 60 days of the coming into operation of these Regulations, develop and submit for approval, a dust management plan to any of the air quality officers in the municipality where dust is generated.

(2) An identified person in regulation 3(c) must within 60 days of the coming into operation of these Regulations, develop and submit for approval, a dust management plan to the relevant licencing authority.

(3) An identified person referred to in regulation 3(a), (b) or (c) who has not yet commenced activities when these Regulations come into operation, must develop and submit for approval, a dust management plan to the air quality officer or licencing authority contemplated in subregulation (1) or (2), prior to commencement of the activity.

(4) The licensing authority must upon approval of a dust management plan, incorporate an approved dust management plan into the atmospheric emission license for listed activities that are likely to generate dust emissions.

(5) An identified person in regulation 3(d) and (e) must, upon receipt of a written notice from an air quality officer, develop and submit a dust management plan for approval within the timeframe determined by an air quality officer.

(6) The timeframe determined by the air quality officer in regulation 6(5) may not exceed 60 days.

(7) An air quality officer or licensing authority must, within 60 days of receipt of a dust management plan,

i. approve the plan for implementation if it meets the requirements of regulation 7; or

ii. refer the plan back to the identified person for amendment.

(8) The identified person in regulation 3 must implement an approved dust management plan from the date of commencement of the activities or, where activities have already commenced, from the date of approval of the plan.

7 Contents of a Dust Management Plan

A dust management plan contemplated in these Regulations must include—

(a) the person responsible for the implementation of the dust management plan;

(b) a description of the surrounding land use (within 5 km radius);

(c) a description of the premises and all possible sources of dust and activities with the potential to generate dust within the premises;

(d) detailed and time-bound best practicable control measures that must be taken to prevent, minimize and manage dust, including fugitive dust;

(e) measures to manage dust complaints and complaints register;

(f) measures that must be taken to prevent nuisance by dust;

(g) a dustfall monitoring programme if required by the air quality officer or licensing authority with the following:

i. Procedures for the collection and measurement of dustfall in terms of the standard test method; and

ii. Dust monitoring sampling sites sufficient in number to monitor identified or likely sensitive receptor locations in the vicinity of the premises; and

(h) any other relevant information as an air quality officer or licencing authority may deem necessary.

8 Reporting on the Implementation of a Dust Management Plan

(1) The identified person in regulation 3(a), (b), (d) and (e) must submit a report on the implementation of an approved dust management plan to the air quality officer at monthly intervals or as may be required by the air quality officer.

(2) The identified person in regulation 3(c) must submit a report on the implementation of an approved dust management plan to the licensing authority at monthly intervals or as may be required by the licensing authority.

(3) The implementation report contemplated in regulations 8(1) and (2) must include—

(a) effective measures undertaken to prevent, minimize and manage generation of dust;

(b) actions taken and responses to address the complaints of nuisance by dust; and

(c) a dustfall monitoring report, if required by the air quality officer or licensing authority, comprising of the following:

(i) information on the location of sampling sites, including latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates, and a position indicator on a topographic map;

(ii) information on classification of the area where samplers are located, in terms of residential and non-residential, and identification of sensitive receptor locations, if applicable;

(iii) dustfall monitoring results, including a tabular summary of dustfall rates for the monitoring period compared to the limit values set out in regulation 5, and a comparison with monthly historical results for at least the previous year for each site, where historical data is available;

(iv) meteorological information on wind speed, wind direction and rainfall for the sampling site;

(v) proof of SANAS accreditation by the laboratory undertaking the gravimetric sample analysis (soluble and insoluble fractions) and proof of SANAS accreditation by testing providers on the use of SANS 1137, or any equivalent method; and

(vi) any other relevant information as might be required by the air quality officer or the licensing authority.

9 Monitoring and Reviewing of a Dust Management Plan

(1) An air quality officer or licensing authority may require a person contemplated in regulation 3 to review an approved dust management plan if—

(a) the report contemplated in regulations 8(1) and (2) demonstrates non-compliance with the dustfall rates; or

(b) there is reasonable suspicion that dust control measures in the approved dust management plans are not adequately preventing, minimizing or managing dust including fugitive dust and are not preventing nuisance by dust.

(c) there is addition of new dust generating activities to the existing operations, or expansion of existing dust generating activity within the operation.

(2) The identified person in regulation 3(a), (b), (d) and (e) required to review an approved dust management plan contemplated in regulation 9(1), must submit the reviewed plan to the air quality officer within 60 days of the written notice.

(3) The identified person in regulation 3(c) required to review an approved dust management plan contemplated in regulation 9(1), must submit the reviewed plan to the licensing authority within 60 days of the written notice.

(4) An air quality officer or licensing authority must within 60 days of receipt of a reviewed dust management plan, approve the plan for the implementation, if it meets the requirements of regulation 7.

(5) The identified person in regulation 3 must implement an approved reviewed dust management plan from the date of approval of the plan.

(6) Pending the approval of the reviewed dust management plan contemplated in regulation 9(4), the existing approved dust management plan will remain valid with full legal force and effect.

10 Transitional Provisions

(1) An identified person in regulation 3(a), (b) and (d), in possession of an approved dust management plan prior to the promulgation of these Regulations must submit a reviewed plan in line with these Regulations to an air quality officer for approval, within 60 days of the coming into operation of these Regulations.

(2) An identified person in regulation 3(c) in possession of an approved dust management plan prior to the promulgation of these Regulations must submit a reviewed plan in line with these Regulations to the relevant licensing authority for approval, within 60 days of the coming into operation of these Regulations.

(3) An identified person in regulations 10(1) and (2) must include in the reviewed plans, a transitioning period from using the ASTM D1739:1970 or equivalent method approved by any international recognized body to the method prescribed in regulation 4, which period must not exceed six (6) months from the date of coming into effect of these Regulations.

(4) An air quality officer or licensing authority must within 60 days of receipt of a reviewed dust management plan, approve the plan for the implementation if it meets the requirements of regulation 7.

(5) The identified person in regulation 3 must implement an approved reviewed dust management plan from the date of approval of the plan.

(6) Pending the approval of the reviewed dust management plan contemplated in regulation 10(1) and (2), the existing approved dust management plan will remain valid with full legal force and effect.

11 Offences

A person is guilty of an offence if that person contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of regulation 6(1); 6(2); 6(3), 6(5); 6(8); 8(1); 8(2); 9(2); 9(3); 9(5); 10(1); 10(2); or 10(5).

12 Penalties

A person convicted of an offence referred to in regulation 11 is liable to a fine not exceeding R5 million rand, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding R10 million or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years or in both instances to both such fine and imprisonment.

13 Repeal of the Regulations

The National Dust Control Regulations, 2013 published in Government Notice R. 827 of Government *Gazette* No. 36974 on 1 November 2013, are hereby repealed.

14 Short Title and Commencement

These Regulations are called the National Dust Control Regulations, 2026 and will come into operation on the date of publication for implementation in the Government *Gazette*.

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act: National Dust Control Regulations

G 54440 RG 11975 GoN 7335
31 March 2026

54440reg11975gon7335.pdf

ACTION

These Regulations significantly:

- Increase compliance and documentation requirements for mining, construction, reclamation and industrial operations;
- Strengthen dust nuisance enforcement powers of air quality officers; and
- Introduce heavier penalties for non-compliance

END

FINANCE

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

Section 43A(3) of the Financial Intelligence Centre Act 38 of 2001:

Directive on the risk and compliance return

G 54439 GoN 7334

31 March 2026

APPLIES TO:

If the organisation **handles other people's money, assets, investments, credit, gambling funds, crypto, or high-value goods as part of its business**, it is likely accountable.

Simple identification guide

Name (Schedule 1 item)	What they typically do (plain language)
Attorneys	Handle client money; run trust accounts; deal with property transfers, estates, company formations, or investment-related legal work.
Casinos	Operate licensed casinos; take bets; handle gambling funds and payouts.
Estate Agents / Property Practitioners	Sell, buy or rent property for clients; handle deposits or trust monies related to property transactions.
Other Gambling Operators	Operate gambling activities other than casinos (e.g. bingo, limited payout machines).
Non-bank Credit Providers	Lend money or provide credit without being a bank (e.g. micro-lenders, finance companies, instalment sales).
Trust Service Providers / Trustees	Set up, manage or act as trustee for trusts; administer trust assets or bank accounts.
High-Value Goods Dealers	Sell expensive items such as vehicles, jewellery, precious metals or stones, or Krugerrands, especially where large payments are made.
Crypto Asset Service Providers (CASPs)	Exchange crypto for fiat or crypto; transfer crypto; store or manage crypto wallets for clients.
Certain Investment / Intermediary Businesses	Facilitate investments, pooling of funds, or intermediary financial services as listed in Schedule 1.

SUMMARY

Purpose of the Directive

Directive 11 of 2026 requires specified accountable institutions to submit their 2026 Risk and Compliance Return (RCR) to the Financial Intelligence Centre.

The RCR is intended to assess:

- Money laundering risks
- Terrorist financing risks
- Proliferation financing risks
- The adequacy of institutions' risk-based controls under FICA

Submission Requirements

Format

- The RCR must be:
  - Completed electronically
  - Submitted via the official FIC Risk and Compliance Return Platform
  - Accessed through www.fic.gov.za

Content

Institutions must:

- Answer **all applicable questions**
-
- Base responses on:
  - Their understanding of risk exposure
  - Their current compliance and control measures under FICA

Submission Dates

Commencement of submissions

- **Monday, 4 May 2026**

Due dates

- **30 June 2026 (by 17:00):**
  - Item 11 (non-banks)
  - Items 14, 21, 22 (including crypto asset service providers)
  - Items 2 and 9 (casinos)

- **31 July 2026 (by 17:00):**
  - Items 1, 3, and 9 (non-casinos)
  - Item 20 (high-value goods dealers, including precious metals, stones and Krugerrands)

Consequences of Non-Compliance

Failure to submit the 2026 Risk and Compliance Return constitutes non-compliance and may result in:

- Administrative sanctions under section 62E of FICA
- Potential fines, directives, or enforcement action by the FIC

Practical Impact

- Applies broadly across financial, gambling, crypto, property, legal, and high-value goods sectors
- Reinforces the FIC's risk-based supervision approach
- Requires institutions to ensure:
    - Up-to-date risk assessments
    - Documented AML/CFT/PF controls
    - Accurate and consistent reporting

FULL TEXT

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
NO. 7334 31 March 2026

DIRECTIVE IN TERMS OF SECTION 43A(3) OF THE FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE ACT, 2001 (ACT 38 OF 2001)

1. Title

Directive 11 of 2026 on the submission of the 2026 risk and compliance return to the Financial Intelligence Centre (Centre) by accountable institutions as specified in this Directive (the specified accountable institutions).

2 Purpose

2.1 This Directive is issued by the Centre in terms of section 43A(3)(a) of the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 2001 (Act 38 of 2001) (FIC Act).
2.2 The Directive requires the specified accountable institutions contemplated in paragraph 4 of this Directive to submit their 2026 risk and compliance return to the Centre.

3. Definitions

In this Directive, the 'Act' means the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 2001 (Act 38 of 2001) and includes any regulation or directive made under the Act, and, unless the context otherwise indicates, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act has that meaning, and:

(a) "Risk and compliance return" includes, but is not limited to, the risk and compliance return questionnaires issued by the Centre, which may be subject to change from time to time.
(b) "Risk and compliance return platform" means the electronic system designated for accessing and completing the 2026 risk and compliance return and the receipt of the 2026 risk and compliance return by the Centre

4. Application

4.1. Subject to paragraph 4.2, this Directive applies to every specified accountable institution referred to in items 1, 2, 3, 9, 11 (non-bank), 14, 20, 21 and 22 of Schedule 1 of the Act.
4.2 This Directive does not apply to a bank, mutual bank and a co-operative bank that carries on a business of a credit provider contemplated in item 11 of Schedule 1 of the Act.

5. Directive

5.1 Every specified accountable institution contemplated by this Directive must submit the completed 2026 risk and compliance return electronically to the Centre in accordance with the Schedule to this Directive, from the commencement date on Monday, 4 May 2026.
5.2 The specified accountable institutions must answer all applicable questions in the 2026 risk and compliance return, based on their understanding of money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing risks and their current implementation of risk-based controls in compliance with the obligations set out in the Act.

5.3 The 2026 risk and compliance return must include the requested information for the specific reporting periods and must be submitted electronically to the Centre from the commencement dates and by the due dates, as specified in the Schedule below, as follows:

5.3.1 Specified accountable institutions falling under items 1, 2, 3, and 9 of Schedule 1 to the FIC Act, must submit the completed 2026 risk and compliance return for the information period of 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2026, both dates inclusive.
5.3.2 Specified accountable institutions falling under items 11 (excluding banks, mutual banks and co-operative bank credit providers), 14, 20, 21 and 22 of Schedule 1 to the FIC Act, must submit the completed 2026 risk and compliance return for the information period of 1 July 2023 to 31 March 2026, both dates inclusive.

5.4 The 2026 risk and compliance return is an electronically completed, captured and submitted return. Specified accountable institutions are required to access and populate the required information directly on the 2026 risk and compliance return platform as made available via the Centre's website, www.fic.gov.za.

SCHEDULE

FOR 2026 RISK AND COMPLIANCE RETURN SUBMISSIONS (IN RESPECT OF DIRECTIVE 11 OF 2026)

Schedule 1 Designated Items	RCR Data Information Periods	RCR Commencement Dates and Due Dates
Item 11 (excluding bank, mutual bank, and co-operative bank credit providers)	Saturday, 1 July 2023 to Tuesday, 31 March 2026, both dates inclusive.	RCR submission Commences on 4 May 2026 and is Due on 30 June 2026, no later than 17:00
Items 14, 21, and item 22 (crypto asset service providers)	Saturday, 1 July 2023 to Tuesday, 31 March 2026, both dates inclusive.	RCR submission Commences on 4 May 2026 and is Due on 30 June 2026, no later than 17:00
Item 2 and item 9 (casinos)	Saturday, 1 April 2023 to Tuesday, 31 March 2026, both dates inclusive.	RCR submission Commences on 4 May 2026 and is Due on 30 June 2026, no later than 17:00
Items 20 (high value good dealer, including dealers in precious stones and dealers in precious metals, and including Krugerrand dealers)	Saturday, 1 July 2023 to Tuesday, 31 March 2026, both dates inclusive.	RCR submission Commences on 4 May 2026 and is Due On 31 July 2026 no later than 17:00
Items 1, 3 and 9 (non-casinos)	Saturday, 1 April 2023 to Tuesday, 31 March 2026, both dates inclusive.	RCR submission Commences on 4 May 2026 and is Due On 31 July 2026 no later than 17:00

6. Failure to comply with the Directive

A specified accountable institution that fails to comply with the provisions of this Directive is non-compliant and is subject to an administrative sanction in accordance with section 62E of the Act.

7. Commencement

This Directive takes effect on Wednesday, 1 April 2026.

PIETER SMIT
ACTING DIRECTOR
FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE
31 MARCH 2026

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

Section 43A(3) of the Financial Intelligence Centre Act 38 of 2001: Directive on the risk and compliance return
G 54439 GoN 7334
31 March 2026

54439gon7334.pdf

ACTION

Ensure you submit your return before 30 June or 31 July 2026.

END

HEALTH AND SAFETY

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

COMPENSATION FOR OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND DISEASES ACT:

Amendment: Manner of Calculating Compensation and Increase in Monthly Pensions

G 54458 GoN 7349

02 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

Who Is Affected

The amendment affects:

- Employees receiving **permanent disablement pensions**;
- Dependants receiving **survivor pensions**;
- Employers contributing to the Compensation Fund; and
- The Compensation Commissioner and Compensation Fund administrators.

SUMMARY

Key Changes Introduced

1. Increase in Monthly Pensions

- Monthly pensions payable under COIDA (e.g. for permanent disablement or dependants of deceased employees) are increased.
- The increase is applied uniformly in line with the annual adjustment mechanism provided for in Schedule 4 of the Act.
- The increase applies to existing pension recipients whose pensions were awarded before the effective date.

2. Amendment to the Manner of Calculating Compensation

- The Notice updates Schedule 4, which governs:
    - How compensation amounts are calculated, and
    - The salary and pension-related formulas used by the Compensation Fund.
- This ensures compensation calculations remain aligned with:
    - Current earnings benchmarks, and
    - Inflationary and actuarial considerations.

Effective Date

- The amended calculation method and pension increases take effect from the date specified in the Notice (customarily linked to 1 April of the relevant year, unless otherwise stated).

Practical Impact

- Pension recipients will receive higher monthly benefits.
- Employers are not required to take direct action, as pension adjustments are implemented by the Compensation Fund.
- HR and payroll teams should be aware of the change when advising affected employees or dependants.

FULL TEXT

DETAILS

NO. 7349 | DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR | 2 April 2026

COMPENSATION FOR OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND DISEASES ACT, 1993
(ACT No. 130 OF 1993), AS AMENDED

AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE 4: MANNER OF CALCULATING COMPENSATION

Under Section 55 of the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 1993 (Act No. 130 of 1993), I, Nomakhosazana Meth, Minister of Employment and Labour, hereby issue a notice of intention to amend Schedule 4 for accidents that occur from 1st April 2026 as well as occupational diseases diagnosed from the 1st April 2026. The minimum and maximum compensation set out in this notice will be implemented with effect from 1st April 2026.

I invite all interested parties to submit comments in writing by mail to the Compensation Commissioner, P O Box 955, Pretoria, 0001 or email to Melinda.Visagie@labour.gov.za within 60 days of publishing of this notice.

MS N METH, MP
MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR
DATE: 24 March 2026

This table is applicable to the claims as from 1 April 2026.

(i) Item	(ii) Section	(iii) Nature and degree of disablement	(iv) Nature of benefits	(v) Manner of calculating compensation	(vi) Maximum compensation (1.4.2026)	(vii) Minimum compensation (1.4.2026)
1	47(1)(a)	Temporary Total Disablement	Periodical payments	75% x monthly earnings at the time of the accident x number of days off/total days in month	R41 750	R5 848
2	49(1)	Permanent Disablement of 30%	Lump sum	15 x monthly earnings at the time of the accident	R467 617	R116 919
3	49(1)	Permanent Disablement of 1 - 29%	Lump sum	15 x monthly earnings at the time of the accident x permanent disablement % /30	R467 617	R116 919
4	49(1)	Permanent Disablement of 100%	Monthly pension	75% x monthly earnings at the time of the accident	R41 750	R5 848
5	49(1)	Permanent Disablement of 31 - 99%	Monthly pension	75% x monthly earnings at the time of the accident x permanent disablement %	R41 750	R5 848
6	54(1)(a)	Fatal	Spousal Lump sum	Twice the employee's monthly pension that would have been payable under item 4 had he/she been totally permanently disabled	R83 500	R11 696
7	54(1)(b)	Fatal	Monthly pension (Spouse and child(ren)	40% of the monthly pension that would have been payable to the employee under item 4 had he/she been totally permanently disabled	R16 700	R2 339
8	54(1)(c)	Fatal	Monthly pension (Child only)	20% of the monthly pension that would have been payable to the employee under item 4 had he/she been totally permanently disabled, is payable to a child. In case of more than three children, the children will share 60% in equal proportions	R8 350	R1 170
9	54(1)(d)	Fatal	Lump sum (Partially dependant)	Percentage dependence as portion of R240 547	R240 547	N/A
10	54(2)	Fatal	Funeral Benefit	R23 257 per valid claim	R23 257	N/A
11	63(1)(a)	Minimum for free food and quarters	To be included in earnings	Minimum for free food per month and minimum for free quarters per month.	N/A	R413 (Food) R185 (Quarters)
12	28	Constant Attendance Allowance	Monthly Pensioner Allowance	Minimum amount per month.	N/A	R3 055

No.: .... DATE: ....

COMPENSATION FOR OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND DISEASES ACT, 1993

(ACT No. 130 OF 1993), AS AMENDED

INCREASE IN MONTHLY PENSIONS

I, Nomakhosazana Meth, Minister of Employment and Labour, in terms of Section 57 (1) of the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 1993 (Act No. 130 of 1993 as amended), hereby increase monthly pensions, payable in terms of Section 49 (4) and 54 (1) (a), (b), (c) and (d) and Constant Attendance Allowances by 4.1% with regards to accidents which occurred before 31st March 2026 as well as occupational diseases which were diagnosed before 31st March 2026.

The increases are with effect from 01st April 2026.

MS N METH, MP
MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR

DATE: 24 MARCH 2026

LINK TO FULL NOTICE **Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act: Amendment: Manner of Calculating Compensation and Increase in Monthly Pensions** G 54458 GoN 7349 02 April 2026 54458gon7349.pdf
ACTION Take note of the amendment.

END

PUBLIC SECTOR

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT ACT 7 OF 2025

G 54449 GoN 7345

01 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

1. Public sector employees
2. Municipal employees
3. Public entities

4. Former public employees (in limited cases)

- Former employees who were involved in procurement or contract awards
- Subject to the 12-month "cooling-off" period, during which they may not work for or benefit from service providers they previously dealt with.

5. Service providers doing business with the State

SUMMARY

Purpose of the Amendment Act

The Amendment Act strengthens governance, ethics, labour control and workforce coordination across the entire public administration, including national, provincial, municipal and public entities. It aims to:

- Prevent conflicts of interest and corruption,
- Standardise conditions of service with financial impact,
- Improve mobility and skills development in the public sector, and
- Centralise oversight of remuneration and employment practices.

Key Changes Introduced

1. Stricter prohibition on doing business with the State

- Public employees may not conduct business with any organ of state.
- Employees may not be directors of companies that do business with the State.

- Contraventions are:
  - A criminal offence (fine or imprisonment up to 5 years), and
  - Serious misconduct leading to dismissal.

2. "Cooling-off" period for procurement officials

- Employees involved in awarding contracts may not:
  - Work for,
  - Provide services to, or
  - Serve on the board of the service provider for 12 months after contract award.

- Service providers are equally prohibited from employing such officials.
- Offence penalty: Fine up to R1 million.

3. Central control over conditions of service with financial implications

- Salaries, benefits, bonuses, pension benefits and incentives:
  - Require approval through a Committee of Ministers.

- National, provincial, municipal and public entities:
  - May not negotiate or determine financially impactful conditions without consultation with the Minister and Minister of Finance.

4. Removal of unfair pay disparities

- The Minister may prescribe:
  - National **norms and standards** for remuneration ceilings, and
  - Measures to remove unjustifiable disparities.

- No employee's remuneration may be reduced.

5. National School of Government becomes a national department

- The National School of Government is formally constituted as a national department.

- It provides:
  - Mandatory and optional training,
  - Skills development,
  - Qualifications and certifications for public officials.

6. Streamlined transfers and secondments

- Employees may be transferred:
  - Between departments,
  - Between municipalities,
  - Between the public service and municipalities.

- Transfers must:
  - Be operationally justified,
  - Have employee consent,
  - Not reduce pay or conditions without consent.

7. Expanded definitions and wider application

- The Act now clearly covers:
  - National and provincial departments,
  - Municipalities,
  - Public entities,
  - Government components.

- This ensures uniform application across the public administration.

Practical Impact

- **Public sector employees:** stricter ethics rules, post-employment restrictions.
- **Employers & HR:** reduced autonomy over pay negotiations.
- **Procurement officials:** mandatory cooling-off periods.
- **Government entities:** stronger central oversight and accountability.

FULL TEXT

DETAILS

Vol. 730 Cape Town Kaapstad 1 April 2026 **No. 54449**

THE PRESIDENCY

No. 7345 1 April 2026

It is hereby notified that the President has assented to the following Act, which is hereby published for general information:—

Act No.7 of 2025: Public Administration Management Amendment Act, 2025

DIE PRESIDENSIE

No. 7345 1 April 2026

Kuyaziswa ukuba uMongameli uye wawamkela lo Mthetho ulandelayo, othi upapashwe ukuze ufumane ulwazi ngokubanzi:—

UMthetho 7 ka-2025: Umthetho sihlomelo wokulawulwa koburhulumente, 2025

ISSN 1682-5845

54449

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GENERAL EXPLANATORY NOTE:

[   ] Words in bold type in square brackets indicate omissions from existing enactments.

_____ Words underlined with a solid line indicate insertions in existing enactments.

(English text signed by the President)
(Assented to 31 March 2026)

ACT

To amend the Public Administration Management Act, 2014, so as to further provide for the transfer and secondment of employees; to provide clarification regarding the prohibition against employees conducting business with organs of state; to provide for the National School of Government to be constituted as a national department; to provide for the removal of employment disparities across the public administration; to provide for the determination of conditions of service with financial implications; to amend the Schedule so as to effect certain consequential amendments; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

PARLIAMENT of the Republic of South Africa enacts, as follows:—

Amendment of section 1 of Act 11 of 2014

1. Section 1 of the Public Administration Management Act, 2014 (Act No. 11 of 2014) (hereinafter referred to as the ''principal Act''), is hereby amended—

(*a*) by the insertion after the definition of ''family member'' of the following definition:

'' **'head of institution'** means—

(*a*) in the case of a national or provincial department or government component, the head of department as defined in section 1 of the Public Service Act; or

(*b*) in the case of a municipality, the municipal manager as defined in section 1 of the Municipal Systems Act;'';

(*b*) by the insertion after the definition of ''institution'' of the following definition:

'' **'Labour Relations Act'** means the Labour Relations Act, 1995 (Act No. 66 of 1995);'';

(*c*) by the insertion after the definition of ''Municipal Council'' of the following definition:

'' **'Municipal Systems Act'** means the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No. 32 of 2000);'';

(*d*) by the insertion after the definition of ''national department'' of the following definition:

'' **'national government component'** means a national government component listed in column 1 of Part A of Schedule 3 to the Public Service Act;'';

(*e*) by the insertion after the definition of "Office" of the following definitions:

" **'organ of state'** means—

(*a*) a national department, a provincial department, a national government component or a provincial government component;

(*b*) a public school as contemplated in Chapter 3 of the South African Schools Act, 1996 (Act No. 84 of 1996);

(*c*) a municipality;

(*d*) a public entity; or

(*e*) any institution performing a function in terms of the Constitution or a provincial constitution or performing a public function in terms of any legislation;

'organised local government' means an organisation recognised in terms of section 2(1)(*a*) of the Organised Local Government Act, 1997 (Act No. 52 of 1997), to represent local government;";

(*f*) by the insertion after the definition of "prescribed" of the following definitions:

" **'provincial department'** means—

(*a*) the Office of the Premier listed in column 1 of Schedule 1 to the Public Service Act; or

(*b*) a provincial department listed in column 1 of Schedule 2 to the Public Service Act;

'provincial government component' means a provincial government component listed in column 1 of Part B of Schedule 3 to the Public Service Act;";

(*g*) by the substitution for the definition of "public administration" of the following definition:

" **'public administration'** means the public service, municipalities **[and their employees,]** and for purposes of section 17A or 17B, includes public entities;";

(*h*) by the insertion after the definition of "public administration" of the following definition:

" **'public entity'** means—

(*a*) a public entity as defined in section 1 of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999); and

(*b*) a municipal entity as defined in the Municipal Systems Act;"; and

(*i*) by the substitution for the definition of "public service" of the following definition:

" **'public service'** means all—

(*a*) national departments;

(*b*) national government components **[listed in Part A of Schedule 3 to the Public Service Act]**;

(*c*) provincial departments **[which means—**

(i) the Office of a Premier listed in Schedule 1 to the Public Service Act; and

(ii) provincial departments listed in Schedule 2 to the Public Service Act]; and

(*d*) provincial government components **[listed in Part B of Schedule 3 to the Public Service Act, and their employees]**.".

Substitution of section 5 of Act 11 of 2014

2. The following section is hereby substituted for section 5 of the principal Act:

"**Individual transfers**

5. (1) **[Any]** An employee **[of the transferring institution]** may, subject to sections 151(3), 153 and 197(4) of the Constitution, be transferred (*b*) be a director of a **[public or private]** company **[conducting]** incorporated in terms of the Companies Act, 2008 (Act No. 71 of 2008), that conducts business with **[the State]** an organ of state.

(3) A contravention of subsection (2)—

(*a*) is an offence, and any person found guilty of the offence is liable to a fine or imprisonment for a period not exceeding **[5]** five years or both such fine and imprisonment; and

(*b*) **[constitute]** constitutes serious misconduct which may result in the termination of employment by the employer.

(4) The Minister may prescribe that certain transactions between an employee and an organ of state, which are remunerative but not for profit and which are necessary for the functioning of an organ of state, do not constitute conducting business with an organ of state for the purposes of this section.".

Insertion of section 8A in Act 11 of 2014

6. The following section is hereby inserted after section 8 of the principal Act:

"**Conduct of employee or former employee participating in award of work to service providers**

8A. (1) In this section—

(*a*) **'12-month period'** means a period of 12 calendar months following the conclusion of a contract with a service provider; and

(*b*) **'service provider'** means a person who provides services or goods to an institution against remuneration exceeding a prescribed amount.

(2) An employee who, in respect of the award of a contract to a service provider—

(*a*) set criteria for the award;

(*b*) evaluated or adjudicated the award;

(*c*) recommended or approved the award; or

(*d*) participated in any activity contemplated in paragraph (*a*) to (*c*),

may not, within the 12-month period, provide any service to, accept employment with, or accept appointment to a board of, that service provider for payment in money or in kind, or receive any other gratification from that service provider.

(3) A service provider may not—

(*a*) within the 12-month period—

(i) engage an employee, contemplated in subsection (2), to provide any service to the service provider; or

(ii) employ the employee or appoint the employee to a board of the service provider,

for payment in money or in kind; or

(*b*) grant any other gratification to the employee.

(4) Subsections (2) and (3) apply irrespective of whether the employment of the employee contemplated therein continued or did not continue with the relevant institution during the 12-month period, or part thereof.

(5) The executive authority may, in accordance with the prescribed criteria, approve a period shorter than the 12-month period contemplated in subsection (2) or (3).

(6) Subsections (2) and (3) apply, with the necessary changes, to any extension of a contract with a service provider, if the remuneration for that extension together with the remuneration for the original contract and any other extensions, exceeds the amount prescribed by the Minister in terms of subsection (1).

(7) Any person who contravenes subsection (2) or (3) is guilty of an offence and on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding R1 million.

(8) The Minister responsible for the administration of justice may, from time to time by notice in the *Gazette*, increase the amount referred to in subsection (7).".

Amendment of section 9 of Act 11 of 2014

7. Section 9 of the principal Act is hereby amended by the addition of the following subsection:

"(3) For the purposes of this section, 'employee' includes a person contemplated in section 12A of the Public Service Act and a person performing similar functions in a municipality.".

Amendment of section 10 of Act 11 of 2014

8. Section 10 of the principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution in subsection (2) for paragraph *(a)* of the following paragraph:

"*(a)* must make appropriate provision in its budget—

(i) for the compulsory education and training contemplated in section 13(1)*(b)*; and

(ii) within **[the]** its available resources **[in its budget]** for the education and training of its employees; and".

Substitution of section 11 of Act 11 of 2014

9. The following section is hereby substituted for section 11 of the principal Act:

"**National School of Government**

11. (1) The National School of Government, which exists when this section takes effect continues to exist, is regarded as having been established in terms of this Act and must be constituted as a national department to enhance the quality, extent and impact of human resource capacity in institutions through training in order to achieve the progressive realisation of a capable public administration that is development-oriented.

(2) To give effect to subsection (1) the School—

(a) must provide education and training programmes or courses or cause education and training programmes or courses to be provided in the public administration;

(b) must, subject to section 10(2)*(a)*, provide the compulsory education and training contemplated in section 13(1)*(b)*;

(c) may, at the request of any public entity, provide education and training programmes or courses or cause education and training programmes or courses to be provided to that public entity;

(d) may collaborate and, if necessary, enter into agreements with other training institutions, higher education institutions as defined in section 1 of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), continuing education and training institutions as contemplated in the Continuing Education and Training Act, 2006 (Act No. 16 of 2006), and private sector training providers to assist in providing education and training;

(e) may conduct assessments, or cause assessments to be conducted, in respect of education and training programmes or courses;

(f) may, subject to the National Qualifications Framework Act, 2008 (Act No. 67 of 2008), award qualifications or part-qualifications on the successful completion of education and training programmes or cause such qualifications or part-qualifications to be awarded; and

(g) may, issue certificates of attendance, proficiency or other recognition on the successful completion of education and training programmes or courses or cause such certificates to be issued.".

Repeal of section 12 of Act 11 of 2014

10. Section 12 of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

Amendment of section 13 of Act 11 of 2014

11. Section 13 of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(a) by the substitution in subsection (1) for the words preceding paragraph *(a)* of the following words:

"The Minister may **[, after approval by the Cabinet,]** direct that the successful completion of specified education, training, examinations or tests is—"; and

(b) by the substitution for subsection (2) of the following subsection:

"(2) The Minister must consult organised local government and obtain the concurrence of the Minister responsible for local government **[before seeking the approval of the Cabinet contemplated in subsection (1)]** in respect of a directive to be applicable to municipalities.".

Amendment of section 16 of Act 11 of 2014

12. Section 16 of the principal Act is hereby amended by the deletion of subsection (2).

Amendment of section 17 of Act 11 of 2014

13. Section 17 of the principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for subsection (7) of the following subsection:

"(7) The Minister must prescribe the powers of the Office **[and its members]** including those necessary to achieve the objects referred to in subsection (6).".

Insertion of sections 17A and 17B in Act 11 of 2014

14. The following sections are hereby inserted after section 17 of the principal Act:

"**Removal of disparities in public administration**

17A. In order to remove unjustifiable disparities in relation to remuneration and conditions of service for employees who do not fall within the scope of a relevant bargaining council, the Minister may, subject to applicable labour legislation and legislation governing the employment of employees in the public administration and after consultation with the relevant Minister, prescribe—

(a) norms and standards to establish the upper limits of remuneration and conditions of service; and

(b) steps to remove unjustifiable disparities in remuneration and conditions of service provided that these steps may not reduce any employee's remuneration.".

"**Determination of conditions of service with financial implications**

17B. (1) In this section—

(a) **'accounting authority'** in relation to a national or provincial public entity, means the accounting authority contemplated in section 49 of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999);

(*b*) **'accounting officer'** in relation to a municipal entity referred to in paragraph (*b*) of the definition of 'public entity', means the official of the entity referred to in section 93 of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003);

(*c*) **'conditions of service'** includes annual salary adjustments, salary scales or levels, performance bonuses, pay incentives, pension benefits and any other such benefits; and

(*d*) **'executive authority'** in relation to a public entity referred to in paragraph (*a*) of the definition of 'public entity', means—

(i) the Minister who is accountable to Parliament for a national public entity or in whose portfolio it falls; or

(ii) the member of the provincial Executive Council who is accountable to the provincial legislature for a provincial public entity or in whose portfolio it falls.

(2) There must be a Committee of Ministers consisting of the Minister, the Ministers responsible for finance, education, defence, police, correctional services and such other Ministers as the Cabinet may designate, and must function the same as a committee of the Cabinet.

(3) Subject to the Labour Relations Act, the laws governing the employment of employees and any collective agreement—

(*a*) no executive authority in the public service may enter into a collective agreement in respect of conditions of service with financial implications or determine them for their employees without a mandate from the Committee of Ministers;

(*b*) no executive authority, municipality, accounting authority or accounting officer in respect of a public entity, may enter into any collective agreement in respect of conditions of service with financial implications or determine them for that public entity's employees without first consulting with the Minister and the Minister of Finance; and

(*c*) the Minister responsible for local government and organised local government, in respect of a municipality, may not enter into any collective agreement in respect of conditions of service with financial implications or determine them for municipal employees without first consulting with the Minister and the Minister of Finance.

(4) The Committee of Ministers must establish an inter-governmental forum in terms of section 9(1) of the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act, 2005 (Act No. 13 of 2005), including Premiers, Deputy Ministers and any other member that the Committee may determine to consult for purposes of subsection (3).

(5) The Committee of Ministers, in determining the mandate contemplated in subsection (3), and any other employer in the public administration, prior to concluding a collective agreement or determining conditions of service for their employees, must take into account affordability and any other factor prescribed by the Minister in consultation with the Minister of Finance.".

Amendment of section 18 of Act 11 of 2014

15. Section 18 of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(*a*) by the substitution for subsection (2) of the following subsection:

"(2) The Minister must make regulations insofar as they apply to municipalities in consultation with the Minister responsible for local government **[,]** and the Minister responsible for **[Finance and]** finance, after consultation with organised local government.". and

(*b*) by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (2):

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"(2A) Any regulation made in terms of section 17A may only be made after consultation with the Minister responsible for public entities.".

Substitution of Schedule to Act 11 of 2014

16. The following Schedule is hereby substituted for the Schedule to the principal Act:

SCHEDULE

LAWS REPEALED OR AMENDED

(Section 19)

No. and year of Act	Short title	Extent of repeal or amendment
Proclamation No. 103 of 1994	Public Service Act, 1994	1. The repeal of sections 4 and 15. 2. The substitution for subsection (2A) of the following subsection: "(2A)*(a)* Subject to the Labour Relations Act and any collective agreement, the determination of any conditions of service for— (i) employees in general or a particular category in terms of this Act; and (ii) educators or members of the services in general or for a particular category in terms of the laws governing their employment, shall be made with the concurrence of **[a committee of]** the Committee of Ministers referred to in section 17B(2) of the Public Administration Management Act, 2014 (Act No. 11 of 2014). *(b)* For the purposes of paragraph *(a)***[—** **(i) 'conditions of service' [means]** include annual salary adjustments, salary scales or levels, performance bonuses, pay incentives, **[or]** pension benefits and any other benefits of a similar nature **[; and** **(ii) the committee of Ministers shall consist of the Minister, the Minister of Finance and the Ministers responsible for the educators and the members of the services and such other Ministers as the Cabinet may designate (if any), and shall function the same as a committee of the Cabinet]**.".
Act No. 17 of 1998	Transfer of Staff to Municipalities Act, 1998	The repeal of the whole Act.

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Short title and commencement

17. This Act is called the Public Administration Management Amendment Act, 2025, and takes effect on a date determined by the President by proclamation in the *Gazette*.

[within an institution or transferred to another institution] between the public service and a municipality or between municipalities in a manner and on such conditions as prescribed.

(2) An employee may only be transferred—

(a) **[where]** if reasonable grounds exist;

(b) if the employee is suitably qualified, as envisaged in section 20(3) to (5) of the Employment Equity Act, 1998 (Act No. 55 of 1998), for the intended position upon transfer;

(c) if the employee requests or consents in writing to the transfer; and

(d) **[within that institution by the relevant authority, or to another institution]** with the concurrence of the relevant executive authorities of the transferring and recipient institutions.

(3) If an employee is transferred **[within an institution, or from one national or provincial institution to another national or provincial institution]** in terms of subsection (1), the—

(a) transfer does not interrupt the employee's continuity of employment; and

(b) employee may not upon the transfer suffer any reduction in remuneration and conditions of service, unless the employee consents.

(4)*(a)* If an employee is transferred **[between a national or provincial institution and a municipal institution or from one provincial or municipal institution to another provincial or municipal institution]** in terms of subsection (1), the remuneration and conditions of service of the employee upon the transfer are as agreed between the executive authorities of the transferring and recipient institutions.

(b) If an employee is transferred in terms of **[paragraph *(a)*]** subsection (1) and unless the employee consents, the remuneration and conditions of service may not be less favourable than those on which the employee was employed immediately before the transfer.".

Amendment of section 6 of Act 11 of 2014

3. Section 6 of the principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution in subsection (2) for paragraph *(c)* of the following paragraph:

"*(c)* in the absence of consent, after due consideration of any representations by the employee, if the secondment is operationally justified.".

Repeal of section 7 of Act 11 of 2014

4. Section 7 of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

Substitution of section 8 of Act 11 of 2014

5. The following section is hereby substituted for section 8 of the principal Act:

"**Conducting business with [State] organ of state**

8. (1) In this section **[and in section 9,]**—

(a) '**employee**' includes persons contemplated in section 12A of the Public Service Act and a person performing similar functions in a municipality **[.]**; and

(b) '**director**'—

(i) means a director of a company as defined in section 1 of the Companies Act, 2008 (Act No. 71 of 2008); and

(ii) does not apply to an employee appointed *ex officio* as a director of a public entity.

(2) An employee may not—

(a) subject to subsection (4), conduct business with **[the State]** an organ of state; or

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

[Public Administration Management Amendment Act 7 of 2025 (English/ IsiXhosa)]

Act 7 of 2025
G 54449 GoN 7345
01 April 2026

4449-publicadministrationmanagement-act-7-2025.pdf

ACTION

1. Confirm who is covered

- Identify all employees, officials, managers and executives who fall within:
  - National or provincial departments
  - Municipalities

- Public entities (PFMA and MFMA entities)

- Include procurement, SCM, HR, finance and executive staff.

2. Stop prohibited business activities immediately

- Ensure no employee:
  - Conducts business with any organ of state; or
  - Is a director or partner in a company doing business with the State.

- Require written declarations from employees confirming compliance.

3. Implement procurement "cool-off" controls

- Identify employees who:
  - Set tender criteria
  - Evaluated, adjudicated, recommended or approved contracts

- Prevent those employees from:
  - Working for the service provider
  - Consulting to the service provider
  - Sitting on its board

  for 12 months after contract award.

- Update SCM policies and exit procedures accordingly.

4. Update ethics, HR and disciplinary policies

- Align internal policies to reflect that:
  - Breaches are criminal offences, and
  - Also constitute serious misconduct.

- Ensure disciplinary codes expressly reference:
  - Business with the State prohibitions
  - Post-employment restrictions

5. Strengthen declaration and monitoring systems

- Require:
  - Annual conflict of interest declarations
  - Declarations upon appointment, promotion or role change

- Monitor:
  - Company directorships
  - External remunerated work
  - Supplier relationships

6. Align remuneration and conditions of service decisions

- Do not conclude or amend:
  - Salary structures
  - Benefits
  - Bonuses

- Incentives or pension-related benefits

  if they have financial implications, unless proper approvals are obtained.

- Ensure consultation with:
  - The Minister, and
  - The Minister of Finance, where required.

7. Prepare for central oversight

- Recognise that:
  - A Committee of Ministers now governs approval of conditions of service with financial impact.

- Keep clear audit trails for:
  - Collective agreements
  - Remuneration decisions
  - Affordability assessments

8. Implement training and awareness

- Train employees on:
  - Ethics and conflicts of interest
  - Procurement-related restrictions
  - Post-employment limitations

- Use programmes from the National School of Government, now a national department.

9. Review transfer and secondment procedures

-
- Ensure:
  - Transfers are operationally justified
  - Employee consent is obtained
  - Pay and conditions are not reduced without consent

- Apply uniform transfer rules across departments and municipalities.

10. Prepare for enforcement

- Assume the Act will be enforced through:
  - Audits
  - Investigations
  - Criminal referrals

- Maintain evidence of:
  - Compliance actions
  - Policy updates
  - Employee declarations

END

TRANSPORTATION

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE ROAD CARRIER PERMITS
LINK TO FULL NOTICE Road Carrier Permits 54454 2-4-2026

FINANCE ARTICLES

SOUTH AFRICA

Regulator vetoes unfair premiums for credit cover

Move will see consumers pay lower premiums as the debt owed to credit providers decreases

The National Credit Regulator (NCR) has provided consumers who pay mandatory credit life insurance with a lifeline, calling out inconsistent industry practices in calculating premiums. The move will see consumers pay progressively lower premiums as the debt owed to credit providers decreases.

Credit life insurance has become a money spinner for insurers and, according to data from the National Financial Ombud Scheme, premiums paid by consumers of credit life insurance amount to about R15bn a year. Yet insurers pay out claims amounting to only R1.5bn a year.

Credit life insurance is a policy designed to pay off a borrower's outstanding debt — such as personal loans, credit cards or vehicle finance — if they die, become disabled or are retrenched.

The NCR in its guidelines said it is seeking an alignment between premiums charged and actual risk exposure and the avoidance of unreasonable or excessive cost to the consumer.

This is due to a divergent implementation of the National Credit Act by industry players.

One approach has been to calculate premiums at the start of the credit agreement, when the outstanding debt is greatest, and not decrease them as the debt is paid down.

The other approach has been to calculate the premium so that when the overall debt decreases due to the consumer's payments, so does the premium amount.

The NCR has told the industry that the latter approach is the correct interpretation of the National Credit Act, warning that it will closely monitor the market to determine the level of compliance with its guideline and will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance.

Brendan Olivier and Dylan Cunard from law firm Werksmans Attorneys said the effect of the NCR's guideline is that as a borrower pays down their debt, the mandatory credit life insurance cover and therefore its cost should reduce accordingly.

"In an economic environment that many believe looks set to worsen, the NCR's opinion provides consumers with some much-needed respite from credit life insurance costs that are excessive," they said.

"The NCR's opinion seeks to restore coherence and fairness, and settle an ambiguity that prevailed to the detriment of consumers and the credit life insurance industry as a whole. The NCR's opinion is therefore a welcome clarification: both timely and consequential."

The NCR move will bring relief to households saddled with a R2.6-trillion debt pile.

There has over the years been widespread abuse of consumers of credit life insurance in South Africa, prompting the government to cap the premium that can be charged.

Consumers who are locked out of the regulated credit space have resorted to illegal platforms to supplement their stretched disposable incomes.

The Credit Association of South Africa yesterday raised concerns about the growing rise in illegal lending, warning that increasing financial pressure on consumers and tightening access to formal credit are driving more South Africans into the unregulated credit market.

"Consumers do not stop needing credit when they are declined; they simply look elsewhere. What we are seeing now is a growing migration from the regulated credit market into illegal and informal lending," association CEO Leonie van Pletzen said.

"This creates a parallel credit system that operates completely outside consumer protection mechanisms. Credit has become a necessity for many households. Unfortunately, when consumers are excluded from formal credit they are not protected; they are exposed."

By Kabelo Khumalo
Businessday

Trusts now also face automated penalties

Time to rectify non-compliance is running out.

From 4 May a monthly administrative penalty of up to R16 000 per outstanding return will apply – for up to 36 months or until the trustee rectifies the non-compliance.

Non-compliant trusts are the latest group of taxpayers who will be facing potentially punitive administrative penalties in future.

The South African Revenue Service (Sars) recently introduced automated administrative penalties for trusts, similar to those imposed on individuals and companies.

Sars started issuing final demands to trusts with outstanding 2024 and 2025 returns in February. Following requests from industry bodies it allowed more time for non-compliant trusts to get their house in order.

In March, Sars gazetted a public notice in terms of the Tax Administration Act (TAA) allowing it to impose monthly penalties for failing to submit the 2024 and 2025 tax returns. The time to do so finally arrives on 4 May.

These final demands represent the first wave of automated penalties, says Phia van der Spuy, founder of Trusteeze.

Individuals and companies already incur administrative penalties when they do not file their tax returns. The penalties were initially introduced on two years of non-compliance before being extended to prior years.

Significant non-compliance

According to Van der Spuy, non-compliance among trusts is significant.

The number of trusts registered with Sars is estimated to be around 300 000 (testamentary and inter vivos) of which only 180 000 filed tax returns.

The estimated tax gap is between R50 billion and R60 billion.

To ensure full compliance, trusts, trust representatives and their tax practitioners must submit all outstanding trust income tax returns, verify and update trust information with Sars, settle any outstanding tax liabilities and ensure that financial records are accurate and complete, says Roxshanna du Toit, head of trust at Tax Consulting SA.

The penalty regime was gazetted on 27 March 2026, signalling finality in an area historically associated with non-compliance and perceived lenient treatment by Sars.

“No trustee can claim that Sars has not given adequate warning or allowed insufficient time to regularise their affairs,” she adds.

Can of worms

The administrative penalty is automatically imposed on the assessed loss or taxable income and ranges between R250 and R16 000 (depending on the income) per outstanding return per month for up to 36 months or until the trustee rectifies the non-compliance.

Taxpayers can submit a request for remission if they disagree with the penalty. This can be done through the eFiling system for trusts.

Van der Spuy advises trustees to focus on the 2024 and 2025 tax returns to avoid immediate penalties.

Afterwards, they should submit all outstanding tax returns to prevent future penalties.

However, this may prove difficult for more complex trusts. It could open a can of worms if the attribution rules were not applied correctly and the rollover calculations are incorrect.

In terms of the attribution rules, income or capital gains arising in a trust may be attributed back to the person who funded the trust.

If attribution rules apply, the donor or funder is taxed first, the beneficiaries are taxed if the income was distributed to them, and the trust is taxed as a taxpayer of last resort if neither donor nor beneficiaries were taxed.

Sars has been gathering information about the tax affairs of beneficiaries and it might be prudent to consider voluntary disclosure applications where the rules were not applied or not applied correctly, remarks Van der Spuy.

No exemption, dormant or inactive

Du Toit notes that Sars has repeatedly indicated that all resident trusts must register and are required to submit annual income tax returns. It makes no difference whether a trust is dormant, unfunded, or inactive, she warns.

“Many trustees mistakenly believe that a trust with no income, no assets or no activity, is exempt from tax obligations. That is simply not the case,” she says in a published statement.

A trust’s tax compliance obligations only come to an end once it has been formally deregistered with Sars.

If a trust has been deregistered with the Master of the High Court or is no longer required to be registered for income tax in South Africa, a formal deregistration process with Sars must be initiated.

The deregistration process includes submitting all outstanding tax returns, settling any outstanding tax liabilities and then providing supporting documentation confirming the termination of the trust.

“Until this process is finalised, the trust remains active for tax purposes and exposed to penalties should [it] not comply,” Du Toit adds.

Amanda Visser ·

SIU cancels R14m grant in fraud scandal

The Special Investigating Unit (SIU) has succeeded in obtaining a Special Tribunal order declaring a R14 million grant awarded for a community cultural village project by the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) fraudulent, invalid and unlawful.

Retired Special Tribunal President Judge Margaret Victor issued a ruling in February, which was released by the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) on Tuesday. The ruling reviewed and set aside the grant awarded to the non-profit organisation Madumelani Community Project, whose contract was signed in February 2018. The grant has been declared void ab initio (from the beginning).

She declared that brothers Tshimangadzo and Ndoweni Mukutu, who is an employee of the Electoral Commission of South Africa, Tshilidzi David Netswinganani, Mudonde Events and Investment, Rum Management Consultancy, Ndhava Management, Tshisimba Collin Mukondoleli and Thwala Front acted in concert and with the intention to defraud the NLC.

The Mukutu brothers were the principal participants in the grant funding and are both directors of Madumelani Community Project, according to the Tribunal.

Judge Victor also declared Mudonde Events and Investment, Rum Management Consultancy, Ndhava Management and Thwala Front are deemed not to be juristic persons in respect of any right, obligation, or liability of these companies to the NLC. She held the directors personally liable for the repayment of the R14m.

In addition, she said there was a clear case in which the directors of Mudonde and Rum Management Consultancy knew of the fraud and used the companies as tools to perpetuate it; therefore, the directors must be held liable.

“I find that the scheme established by the two brothers, Mukutu, are clearly fraudulent. Ndoweni Mukutu's lack of knowledge cannot be explained in any plausible or credible manner by him. The raising of R14m is no simple matter. Tshimangadzo Mukutu's claim that he could not afford legal representation is implausible. He is a project manager responsible for managing millions of rand,” reads the ruling.

Judge Victor stated that Tshimangadzo could have drafted his own affidavit and filed his opposition.

“He could have, of his own accord, sought an interview with the SIU investigator. He could have produced documentation demonstrating the project's authenticity. Instead, he sought to remain silent and ride on his brother's coatails, rather than deposing to an affidavit and opposing the relief sought,” the judge added.

According to Judge Victor, a lot of planning and intention went into executing the scheme from obtaining a copy of the constitution of Madumelani, to appointing fake office bearers, to inserting fraudulent signatures to the grant application, opening up a bank account and immediately paying out millions of rand, and as stated, ultimately Ndoweni Mukutu receiving the sum of nearly R7.5m, almost 50% of the grant.

The SIU has indicated that the grant was intended for the construction of a cultural village in Hammanskraal, Tshwane, and the project was already established in 2015 by Maubane Cultural Village and Community Arts and Centre, not by the Madumelani Community Project, following receipt of a R300,000 grant from the NLC.

The SIU's probe found that between March and July 2018, the Madumelani Community Project made nine transactions with Rum Management Consultancy, owned by Ndoweni Mukutu, totaling just under R3.1m.

Ndhava Management Consulting, owned by Mukondoleli, received a payment of almost R5m in March 2018 and on the same day, Thwala Front, owned by Mukondoleli's wife, Kharivhe Fulufhelo Promise, was paid R1.4m. The following month five payments totaling R4.65m were also made, with R3.519m going to Mudonde Events and Investment owned by Ndoweni Mukutu and these included a payment of R3m to a trust associated with Advocate William Huma, a former NLC board member.

The tribunal last year ordered Huma to reimburse R21m in misused grant funds and the SIU obtained a preservation order for R10m from the sale of his luxury residence.

Loyiso Sidimba
The Star Early Edition

STANDARDS ARTICLES

SOUTH AFRICA

New plug standard in South Africa: regulation versus reality

Forcing the adoption of South Africa's new plug and socket standard, officially called SANS 164-2 or Type N, but often referred to as the "ZA Plug", would not lead to a good outcome.

"A fully forced implementation would likely cause more problems than it solves," Gido Group manager Douglas Deerans has told MyBroadband.

"However, the current slow rollout is also not ideal from a safety and standardisation perspective."

The most rational approach, therefore, is a hybrid model where adoption is enforced in certain areas, but allowed to gradually proceed elsewhere.

"This is essentially what South Africa is currently doing, albeit imperfectly. There is room to further enforce the new standard where change is cheap."

Deerans said regulators should consider implementing rules which force new appliances and people doing major renovations to adopt the new standard.

As things currently stand, contractors are only obliged to install sockets that incorporate the new standard in new buildings. The wall outlets may still include the old socket standard.

"This is a deliberate decision, not uncertainty on the part of regulators," Deerans stated. The ZA Plug has been part of building code amendments for several years.

However, the standard has taken time to gain traction, despite 2016 amendments to South Africa's wiring code that require every new electrical outlet to include at least one ZA Plug socket.

These updates went into effect in 2018, allowing outlets to include older socket designs alongside the new ones.

The code was tightened again in 2020 to make the ZA Plug configuration mandatory in new buildings, irrespective of the building's purpose.

There is no requirement for households or businesses with older electrical infrastructure to replace their existing sockets.

Deerans argued that the latter concession was a good thing, as forcing a hard transition would have a massive financial impact.

Forced migration to ZA Plug could backfire

"There was initial resistance over cost and practical issues, and adoption has been slow despite years of availability," stated Deerans.

"This suggests a forced transition could backfire and could ironically lead to more adapters, DIY electrical work, and other forms of non-compliance, which undermines the new socket's safety goal."

Deerans explained that the new plugs are much safer than the old standard. For example, they are recessed and have safety shutters, reducing the risk of contact with live pins.

Supporting more sockets per outlet and Europlug compatibility also reduces reliance on unsafe adapters and multi-plugs.

"These are a known fire risk. From a purely engineering and safety perspective, the old Type M system is outdated," said Deerans.

While standardisation would reduce long-term chaos, Deerans argued the benefits of the new system would be undermined if the change were disruptive and costly.

"Millions of homes and appliances still use the old plugs, and a full transition could take 20 to 50 years. Forcing the new standard means immediate incompatibility for households."

To speed up uptake, Deerans said regulators should help encourage retail availability of the new plugs and sockets, combination sockets (which are already available), and gradual consumer adoption.

South Africa adopts standard, Europe reneges

European countries elected to keep their plugs and sockets rather than standardise
South Africa's migration to the ZA Plug has been a decades-long process that began in the mid-1980s with the goal of unifying plug and socket standards for 250V systems worldwide.
It started when the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) introduced IEC 60906–1, originally labelled IEC–906–1.

Hopes were high that this "international plugs and socket system" would be adopted globally, but European countries ultimately decided against it.

Brazil and South Africa were the only nations to incorporate the standard. However, even Brazil diverged in practice by supplying both 127V and 220V through the same socket.

By the time it was clear that Europe would not follow the IEC proposal, South Africa had already made substantial progress on its own adoption.

Local authorities also believed they could expand the standard's influence into other African nations through the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Despite being left in the lurch by the international community, South Africa could gain several advantages from adopting the new standard, which Deerans has highlighted.

Slow adoption

MyBroadband recently visited retailers that stock electrical supplies and appliances, and it was clear that ZA Plug's uptake remains slow.

Earthed appliances continue to use the old triangular Type M plug, while many multiplugs and adapters only feature Europlug sockets rather than the ZA Plug.

By Jan Vermeulen

TRAVEL ARTICLES

SOUTH AFRICA

Say goodbye to passports and boarding passes at airports

South Africans and other people around the world could soon travel through airports without needing a physical passport or boarding pass.

That is according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), which has published the results of several digital identity Proofs of Concept (PoCs).

These PoCs were conducted with airlines, airports, governments and technology providers across Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

The trials showed that contactless, biometric-enabled international travel is already technically possible and no longer a futuristic concept.

The IATA explained that travellers can use a secure digital version of their passport stored on their smartphone, while facial recognition or other biometric checks verify their identity as they move through the airport.

This means passengers may no longer need to repeatedly present paper documents at different points in their journey.

According to IATA, the tests showed that digital identity systems can already support seamless journeys, even when multiple airlines and different digital identity wallets are involved.

These included solutions such as Digital ID in Apple Wallet for US passport holders, Google ID Pass for UK and US passport holders, and national systems such as India’s Digi Yatra.

The PoCs were built around IATA’s One ID standards, its Contactless Travel Directory, and international standards developed by ISO, OpenID and W3C.

“We have proven that digital identity for international travel works securely and efficiently,” said Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General.

“For travellers to benefit from this important modernisation, governments must accelerate efforts to issue and accept Digital Travel Credentials (DTCs)—secure digital versions of passports.”

He added that the benefits would be significant, and said the result would be “stronger security, smoother journeys, and greater efficiency”.

The trials also showed that passengers could securely share only the information required for travel in advance, with their consent.

This allows checks to be completed before they even arrive at the airport. This could help cut queues and reduce the need for repeated document inspections.

Governments can begin putting in place frameworks to adopt DTCs

Biometric verification was also shown to be capable of replacing manual checks at airport touchpoints, creating what IATA describes as a seamless "tap-and-go" experience.

Walsh said secure digital passports would make travel more secure and more efficient, no matter where they travel to or from.

"By sharing identity data in advance, checks can be completed earlier, reducing the need for document checks at airports and cutting queues," he said.

"Industry collaboration has shown digital identity works in practice. The next step is for governments to put the frameworks in place to integrate digital identity into global travel processes."

The push toward digital travel documents follows proposals made last year by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

Speaking to **702 last year**, Andy Smith, director of industry and innovation at SITA, said the technology is now within reach. "It's a very exciting journey and one we've been on for a while," said Smith.

"Where we're getting to now is the ability for travellers to get a very positive idea that they are going to be able to travel through an airport, across borders, seamlessly and without having to present either their passport or their boarding pass."

Smith said the system would allow travellers to complete much of the process before even leaving for the airport.

"Before you set out for the airport, you know that you have completed all the airline processes," he said.

"You know that you're going to have a seamless experience through the airport, and more importantly, when you get to your destination, you're going to have a very simplified arrival experience."

IATA noted that governments can now begin putting in place legal, technical, and operational frameworks to issue and accept these Digital Travel Credentials across borders.

However, it's important to note that paper-based options should remain available, ensuring that travel remains accessible for everyone.

END