BRIEFING NOTE

Gazette Watch — Detailed Notice Analysis

Government Gazette content, 10–18 September 2026

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This briefing provides a notice-by-notice analysis of the notices of compliance interest published in the Government Gazette between 10 and 18 September 2026.

This is a monitoring and awareness document, not legal advice; confirm the full text on www.gov.za before acting.

IN THIS BRIEFING

This edition covers 17 notices across 10 subject areas:

- labour,
- customs and excise,
- corruption,
- environmental,
- water,
- aviation,
- medical,
- standards,
- governance,
- statistics, and
- safety and security.

Several near-duplicate notices —

- three GEPF firearm-free zone declarations,
- three trade union cancellations,
- two customs rule amendments,
- a re-gazetted water framework notice, and
- three related veldfire notices,

which have been consolidated into single entries below for readability; all underlying gazette references are listed.

Dated items to diarise

- 10 October 2026 — comments close on the proposed amendments to the **Civil Aviation Regulations and Technical Standards.**
- 10 November 2026 — comments close on the **SABS's list of new, amended and withdrawn standards.**
- 11 October 2026 — comments close on the proposed **Statistics Amendment Bill** (Private Member's Bill).

- 11 September 2026 — the main batch of Customs and Excise, environmental, labour, aviation, medical, standards, veldfire and SIU notices in this briefing were published in Government Gazette 55353/55355/55393.
- 14 September 2026 — the GEPF firearm-free zone declarations and the re-gazetted water services framework notice were published in Government Gazette 55397/55398.

The balance of the batch is regulatory and administrative rather than deadline-driven: an environmental-levy and three other Customs and Excise Schedule amendments, two SARS rule amendments, two SIU proclamations, a biodiversity erratum and the 2024 grid emission factor report, a package of veldfire regulations, a labour registration and three cancellations, and three firearm-free zone declarations. Each is analysed in full below.

Contents

LABOUR

NOTICE 1

Labour Relations Act: Registration of a Trade Union (CEFIMAWU)
GG 55355, RG 12047, GoN 7898, Department of Employment and Labour, published 11 September 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55355 / GoN 7898

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A Government Notice by the Department of Employment and Labour recording the registration of a new trade union — the Chemical Electrical Food Industries Mining and Allied Workers Union (CEFIMAWU) — under the Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995.

As with all registration notices, the notice itself records the Registrar's decision and the date of registration; the union's registered scope (the sectors, industries and areas it may organise in) and its registered address are set out in the notice and the union's constitution lodged with the Registrar.

The published gazette page is a scanned image without a machine-readable text layer, so the precise registered scope should be read directly off the linked notice before relying on it.

1.1 SUMMARY

The Registrar of Labour Relations has registered a new trade union, CEFIMAWU, under the Labour Relations Act. Registration gives the union legal status to organise, collectively bargain, and access statutory organisational and bargaining rights within its registered scope.

1.2 LEGAL BASIS

Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995, sections 95–97 (requirements for and effect of registration of a trade union), administered by the Registrar of Labour Relations in the Department of Employment and Labour.

1.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Registration is the gateway to the statutory trade union rights regime — organisational rights under Chapter III, participation in bargaining councils, and standing to refer disputes. The Registrar publishes each registration in the Gazette so employers and other unions in the sector can identify who they may now be dealing with.

1.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Employers in the sectors CEFIMAWU is registered to organise - should expect it to seek organisational rights (access, stop-order facilities, shop stewards) under Chapter III of the LRA, and should confirm the union's registered scope before engaging with any recognition request.

1.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Employers and HR/ER practitioners in the affected sector(s); existing registered unions competing for members in the same scope; bargaining councils; and the CCMA.

1.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice to confirm CEFIMAWU's registered scope and address, and update any sector stakeholder mapping or recognition-agreement screening accordingly.

1.7 CONCLUSION

A routine but consequential registration — it creates a new statutory bargaining party - Chemical Electrical Food Industries Mining and Allied Workers Union (CEFIMAWU) - whose registered scope employers in the relevant sector should identify.

NOTICE 2

Labour Relations Act: Cancellation of Registration of Three Trade Unions
AFGWU — GG 55355, RG 12047, GoN 7899, published 11 September 2026; Balance South Africa (BSA) — GG 55382, RG 12048, GoN 7908, published 10 September 2026; University of Pretoria Workers' Organisation (UPWO) — GG 55382, RG 12048, published 10 September 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — AFGWU / BSA / UPWO cancellations

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

Three separate Government Notices by the Department of Employment and Labour recording the cancellation of registration of the Agricultural Food and General Workers Union (AFGWU), Balance South Africa (BSA), and the University of Pretoria Workers' Organisation (UPWO) as registered trade unions under the Labour Relations Act.

Cancellation notices of this kind ordinarily follow either a union's own request, a failure to meet the ongoing requirements of registration (such as filing audited financial statements or an annual return), or a Registrar-initiated process under section 106. Which ground applies to each union, and the effective date of cancellation, is set out in the individual notices.

The published gazette pages are scanned images without a machine-readable text layer, so the specific ground and effective date for each cancellation should be confirmed from the linked notice.

2.1 SUMMARY

The Registrar of Labour Relations has cancelled the registration of three trade unions — AFGWU, Balance South Africa, and UPWO. Once cancelled, a union loses its statutory status: it can no longer exercise organisational or bargaining rights as a registered union, and any agreements premised on its registered status need to be reviewed.

2.2 LEGAL BASIS

Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995, section 106 (cancellation of registration of a trade union or employers' organisation), read with sections 99–100 (record-keeping and reporting duties that commonly trigger cancellation for non-compliance).

2.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Cancellation keeps the register accurate, removing unions that are defunct, non-compliant with their statutory reporting duties, or that have voluntarily wound up, so that employers and members are not misled about a union's standing.

2.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Employers who recognise, or have stop-order/check-off arrangements with, any of these three unions must establish whether the cancellation is final and, if so, cease treating the union as having registered-union status — including reviewing recognition agreements, organisational-rights access, and any pending referrals lodged by the union.

2.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Employers and HR/ER practitioners with recognition or stop-order arrangements involving AFGWU, BSA or UPWO; the affected unions' members; bargaining councils; and the CCMA (for any pending referrals).

2.6 ACTIONS

Obtain each notice to confirm the ground and effective date of cancellation, and audit recognition agreements, check-off/stop-order instructions and any pending CCMA or bargaining-council matters involving these three unions.

2.7 CONCLUSION

Three separate deregistrations in the same window — employers dealing with any of these unions should confirm their status before continuing to treat them as registered.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

NOTICE 3

Customs and Excise Act: Amendment to Part 1 of Schedule No. 2 (No. 2/1/93)
GG 55355, RG 12047, GoN 7902, South African Revenue Service, published 11 September 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55355 / GoN 7902

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A SARS notice amending item 2/1/93 in Part 1 of Schedule No. 2 to the Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964. Part 1 of Schedule No. 2 lists anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard duties on specific imported products (identified by tariff heading and country/region of origin).

The affected tariff heading(s), product description, country of origin and the amended duty rate or duration are set out in the notice itself.

The notice is published in English and Afrikaans, as is standard for Customs and Excise Act amendments; the exact figures should be read off the linked notice.

3.1 SUMMARY

SARS has amended item 2/1/93 of Part 1, Schedule No. 2 to the Customs and Excise Act — the schedule that carries anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard duties. This kind of amendment typically follows an ITAC investigation and either imposes, varies or extends a duty on a specific imported product.

SCHEDULE

By the substitution of the following:

Item	Tariff Heading	Code	CD	Description	Rebate Items	Imported from or Originating in	Rate of Anti-dumping duty
215.02	7216.32	01.06	60	I sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded, of a height of 80 mm or more	301.00-399.00; 401.00-499.00 (excluding 460.15/7216.32/01.06)	China	74,98%
215.02	7216.32	02.06	65	I sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded, of a height of 80 mm or more	301.00-399.00; 401.00-499.00 (excluding 460.15/7216.32/01.06)	Thailand	20,32%
215.02	7216.33	01.06	69	H sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded, of a height of 80 mm or more (excluding those of a height exceeding 200 mm)	301.00-399.00; 401.00-499.00 (excluding 460.15/7216.33/01.06)	China	74,98%
215.02	7216.33	02.06	63	H sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded, of a height of 80 mm or more (excluding those of a height exceeding 200 mm)	301.00-399.00; 401.00-499.00 (excluding 460.15/7216.33/01.06)	Thailand	20,32%

3.2 LEGAL BASIS

Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964, section 56 (anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard duties) and section 48, read with the International Trade Administration Act 71 of 2002 (ITAC's investigative role feeding into these Schedule 2 amendments).

3.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Anti-dumping and safeguard duties protect domestic industry from unfairly priced or import-surge-driven competition; Schedule 2 is amended each time ITAC's Commission recommends a new, varied or expired duty following its investigation process.

3.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Importers, clearing agents and domestic manufacturers of the affected product must apply the amended duty from the notice's effective date; importers should recost affected import lines and confirm the correct tariff heading and duty rate with their clearing agent.

3.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Importers and clearing/forwarding agents handling the affected tariff line; domestic manufacturers of the competing product; ITAC; and SARS Customs.

3.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice to identify the affected tariff heading, country of origin and the amended duty rate, and update customs valuation and clearing instructions before the effective date.

3.7 CONCLUSION

A tariff-specific duty amendment — only relevant to importers and producers in the affected product line, who should confirm the exact heading and rate from the notice.

NOTICE 4

Customs and Excise Act: Amendment to Part 3B of Schedule No. 1 (No. 1/3B/17)
GG 55355, RG 12047, GoN 7903, South African Revenue Service, published 11 September 2026 (English/Afrikaans)

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55355 / GoN 7903

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A SARS notice amending item 1/3B/17 in Part 3B of Schedule No. 1 to the Customs and Excise Act. Part 3B of Schedule No. 1 carries the environmental levy on plastic bags and similar specified products.

The specific product description and the amended levy rate are set out in the notice.

As the source page is a scanned gazette image, the exact revised levy figure should be confirmed from the linked notice rather than assumed.

SCHEDULE

By the deletion of Section B to Part 3 of Schedule No. 1:

SCHEDULE 1 / PART 3 / SECTION B

NOTES:

1. Any rate of environmental levy specified in item 148.01 shall, subject to Note 2, apply to electricity generated in the Republic.
2. For the purposes of item 148.01 electricity generated under the following circumstances will not be liable for the payment of environmental levy -
   - (a) electricity generated by electricity generation plants with an installed capacity not exceeding 5 megawatts;
   - (b) electricity generated from renewable sources; and
   - (c) subject to Note 5 (a), (b) or (c) electricity generated from co-generation by using -
     - (i) waste heat or energy from waste co-generation;
     - (ii) combined heat and power co-generation; or
     - (iii) renewable co-generation;
   - (d) electricity generated from-
     - (i) concentrated solar power; and
     - (ii) non-renewable sources of which the energy input does not exceed 15 per cent of the total energy input, over a calender year.
3. Electricity generated at an electricity generation plant is liable for the environmental levy calculated on the quantity generated at the time such generation of electricity takes place and any losses incurred subsequent to the electricity generation process or electricity exported shall not be deducted or set off from the total quantity of electricity accounted for on the monthly environmental levy account.
4. For the purposes of item 148.01.01 the following expressions shall, unless the context otherwise indicates, have the meanings assigned thereto -
   - (a) co-generation means the generation of electricity contemplated in Note 2(c);
   - (b) electricity generation plant means one or more electricity generation unit on the same premises;
   - (c) renewable sources means -
     - (i) biomass;
     - (ii) geothermal;
     - (iii) hydro;
     - (iv) ocean currents;
     - (v) solar;
     - (vi) tidal waves; or

By the deletion of Section B to Part 3 of Schedule No. 1:

(vii) wind;

(d) non-renewable sources includes-

(i) coal;

(ii) petroleum based liquid fuels;

(iii) natural gas; or

(iv) nuclear;

5. For the purposes of Note 2(c) -

(a) waste heat or energy from waste co-generation means generation utilising waste or under utilised energy in the form of waste heat or process furnace off-gas from an industrial process with a minimum of 60% of the total energy input over a calender year for such generation to come from such waste or under utilised energy.

(b) combined heat and power co-generation means generation which produces as part of the core design other useable forms of energy in addition to electricity utilising coal or natural gas with a minimum co-production of steam or thermal energy other than electricity over a calender year of at least 10% of total combined process energy.

(c) renewable co-generation means generation where the renewable fuel source is both a primary source of energy used for generation and a co-product of an industrial process with a minimum of 50% of the total energy input over a calender year to come from such renewable fuel sources being sugar bagasse, woody biomass, black liquor or mill wastes such as organic soaps and methanol.

6. For the purpose of Note 2(d) and Note 5-

(a) calender year means a period of twelve months from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 and thereafter a period of twelve months from 1 July of any other year to the end of June of the following year; and

(b) a report by an engineer must be submited to the Commissioner in respect of the electricity generated from the sources used during each calender year as contemplated in Rule 54FA.10.

7. An electricity generation plant generating electricity liable to environmental levy in terms of item 148.01.01 must be licensed as a customs and excise manufacturing warehouse in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VA and the rules made thereunder.

4.1 SUMMARY

SARS has amended the environmental levy item in Part 3B of Schedule No. 1 — the schedule that carries specific environmental levies (most commonly the plastic bag levy). This class of amendment typically follows the annual Budget rate adjustment announced by the Minister of Finance.

4.2 LEGAL BASIS

Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964, section 54A (environmental levy) and section 48, giving effect to environmental levy rate changes announced in the national Budget.

4.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Environmental levies are adjusted periodically (typically annually) to maintain their real value and behavioural/revenue effect; the Schedule 1 amendment gives the increase legal force from the stated date.

4.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Manufacturers and importers of the levied product must apply the amended levy rate from the effective date and adjust pricing, invoicing and excise/levy returns accordingly.

4.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Manufacturers and importers of the levied product; retailers passing the levy through in price; SARS Excise; and consumers indirectly affected by the pass-through.

4.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice to confirm the exact levy rate and effective date, and update levy return calculations, pricing and supplier communications before that date.

4.7 CONCLUSION

A routine environmental-levy rate amendment — producers and importers of the levied product should confirm the new rate and effective date from the notice.

NOTICE 5

Customs and Excise Act, 1964: Amendment to Part 4 of Schedule No. 6 (No. 6/4/57)
GG 55355, RG 12047, GoN 7904, South African Revenue Service, published 11 September 2026 (English/Afrikaans)

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55355 / GoN 7904

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A SARS notice amending item 6/4/57 in Part 4 of Schedule No. 6 to the Customs and Excise Act. Part 4 of Schedule No. 6 provides for excise duty rebates and refunds on specified goods used for a qualifying purpose (commonly industrial or agricultural inputs).

The specific goods, qualifying use, and the amended rebate or refund provision are set out in the notice.

The precise wording of the amended rebate item should be confirmed from the linked notice, as the gazette page carries no extractable text beyond the header.

SCHEDULE

By the insertion of the following:

Rebate Item	Tariff Item	Rebate Code	CD	Description	Extent of Rebate	Extent of Refund
681.08	000.00	07.00	02	Goods liable to the environmental levy on electricity generated in the Republic, as specified in item 148.01.01 of Part 3B of Schedule No. 1, in respect of which duty has been paid, and for which a refund becomes payable following the withdrawal of such levy in terms of section 48(2) of the Act and the rules thereto from 1 January 2026, subject to compliance with the Notes hereto - **NOTES:** 1. The licensee must for apply for cancellation of his or her customs and excise manufacturing warehouse license with effect from 1 January 2026 prior to any refund being granted. 2. The licensee must, together with such application for cancellation, apply for the refund of any environmental levy on electricity generated, paid in respect of the January accounting period and subsequent accounting periods. 3. The relevant DA176 accounts and the corresponding proof of payment must be submitted together with the refund application. 4. The Commissioner may refund the environmental levy paid by the licensee if he is satisfied that the licensee has complied with all outstanding obligations.		Full duty

5.1 SUMMARY

SARS has amended a rebate/refund item in Part 4 of Schedule No. 6 — the schedule that allows excise duty paid on specified goods to be rebated or refunded where the goods are put to a qualifying use. This class of amendment usually adjusts the qualifying description, the rebate percentage, or administrative conditions.

5.2 LEGAL BASIS

Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964, section 75 (rebates, refunds and drawbacks of duty), read with the general rules to Schedule 6.

5.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Schedule 6 rebate items are refined periodically to keep the qualifying product description and conditions aligned with industry practice and to close anomalies identified by SARS or industry.

5.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Manufacturers and users who currently claim, or intend to claim, the rebate on the affected goods must apply the amended item's description and conditions and ensure supporting documentation matches the revised wording.

5.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Manufacturers and industrial users claiming the Schedule 6 rebate on the affected goods; SARS Excise auditors; and industry bodies representing the affected sector.

5.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice to confirm the amended goods description and rebate conditions, and align rebate claims and supporting records with the new wording from the effective date.

5.7 CONCLUSION

A technical rebate-schedule amendment — relevant only to claimants of the specific Schedule 6 item affected, who should confirm the revised wording from the notice.

NOTICE 6

Customs and Excise Act: Amendment of Rules (DAR278 and DAR279)
DAR278 — GG 55355, RG 12047, GoN 7901, published 11 September 2026; DAR279 — GG 55355, RG 12047, GoN 7900, published 11 September 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — DAR278 / DAR279

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

Two SARS notices (DAR278 and DAR279) amending the Rules made under section 120 of the Customs and Excise Act. The Rules govern the day-to-day administrative and procedural mechanics of customs and excise — clearance procedures, licensing and registration, electronic submissions, and related administrative requirements.

The specific rule(s) amended and the substituted wording for each of DAR278 and DAR279 are set out in the two notices.

As both gazette pages are scanned images, the precise rule numbers and substituted text should be confirmed from the linked notices before updating internal customs procedures.

Amendment of rule 54FA

1. Rule 54FA is hereby amended by the deletion of the heading and rules 54FA.01 - 54FA.10
2. Amendment of form 2. Item 202.00 of the Schedule to the rules is hereby amended by the substitution of the following forms: “DA 185 Application form – Registration/Licensing of Customs and Excise Clients DA 185.4B2 Licensing client type 4B2 – Manufacturing warehouse”
3. Repeal of form 3. Item 202.00 of the Schedule to the rules is hereby amended by the deletion of the following form: “DA 185.4A12 Electricity Producer”

6.1 SUMMARY

SARS has issued two amendments to the Customs and Excise Rules (DAR278 and DAR279) in the same gazette. Rule amendments of this kind typically refine clearance, licensing or electronic-submission procedures rather than duty rates, and usually apply from the date of publication unless a later date is stated.

6.2 LEGAL BASIS

Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964, section 120 (the Commissioner's power to make rules for the effective and efficient administration of the Act).

6.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Rule amendments are SARS's routine mechanism for keeping customs administration — forms, systems, licensing conditions — aligned with operational and legislative changes without amending the Act itself.

6.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Importers, exporters, clearing agents, and licensed customs and excise warehouse operators should check whether the amended rules affect their current clearance, licensing or reporting processes and update internal SOPs and system configurations to match.

6.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Clearing and forwarding agents; licensed customs and excise warehouse operators; importers and exporters; and SARS Customs compliance teams.

6.6 ACTIONS

Obtain both DAR278 and DAR279 to identify exactly which rules changed, and update clearance/licensing SOPs and any affected systems before relying on the previous rule text.

6.7 CONCLUSION

Two routine procedural rule amendments — worth a quick check against your current clearance and licensing procedures rather than a substantive duty change.

CORRUPTION

NOTICE 7

Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunals Act: Amendment of Proclamation 226 of 2024 — eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality
GG 55355, RG 12047, Proclamation 347, published 11 September 2026 (English/Afrikaans)

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — Proc 347

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A Presidential proclamation amending Proclamation 226 of 2024, which originally referred matters concerning the eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality to the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) and the Special Tribunal for investigation.

Amending proclamations of this kind typically extend the investigation period, add further allegations or affected entities/periods to the scope, or otherwise adjust the terms of reference set by the original proclamation.

The specific amendment — what is added, extended or varied — is set out in the proclamation and should be confirmed from the linked notice.

7.1 SUMMARY

The President has amended Proclamation 226 of 2024, which referred eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality matters to the SIU and Special Tribunal for investigation and civil recovery. An amending proclamation usually widens or extends an existing SIU mandate rather than starting a new investigation.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATING UNITS AND SPECIAL TRIBUNALS ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 74 OF 1996): AMENDMENT OF PROCLAMATION 226 OF 2024: ETHEKWINI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY Under section 2(4) of the Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunals Act, 1996 (Act No. 74 of 1996), I hereby amend Proclamation No. R. 226 of 2024, by- (a) the extension of the period r�ferred to in the fourth paragraph of the Proclamation to the date of publication of this amended Proclamation; and (b) the substitution for paragraph 1 of the Schedule to the Proclamation of the following paragraph: "1. The procurement of, or contracting for security services and VIP protection services in terms of contract numbers CMS 0031, 1C 15104, 1C 18709, 1C 20359, 1X 31747 and 1C 29300, and any subsequent extensions or variations thereto by or on behalf of the Municipality, and payments made in respect thereof in a manner that was- (aJ not fair, competitive, transparent, equitable or cost-effective; (b) contrary to applicable- (i) legislation; (ii) manuals, guidelines, practice notes, circulars or instructions issued by the National Treasury or the relevant Provincial Treasury; or (iii) manuals, policies, procedures,· prescripts, instructions or practices of or applicable to the Municipality; and This gazette is also available free online at www.gpwonline.co.za 44 No. 55355 GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, 11 September 2026 (c) conducted by or facilitated through the improper or unlawful conduct of- (i) employees or officials of the Municipality; (ii) the service providers in question; or (iii) any other person or entity, to corruptly or unduly benefit themselves or any other person or entity; or (d) fraudulent, and any related unauthorised, irregular or fruitless and wasteful expenditure incurred by the Municipality or the State.

7.2 LEGAL BASIS

Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunals Act 74 of 1996, section 2 (the President's power to establish an SIU and refer matters by proclamation) and section 3 (scope of investigation, amendable by further proclamation).

7.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

SIU proclamations are amended when new allegations, entities, or a longer period need to be brought within an existing investigation's mandate, avoiding the need for an entirely separate referral.

7.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality officials, contracted service providers, and any party under SIU scrutiny in connection with the original proclamation should establish whether the amendment extends the investigation to matters, periods or contracts that concern them.

7.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality and its officials; contracted suppliers and service providers to the municipality; the SIU and Special Tribunal; and National Treasury/AGSA in relation to related findings.

7.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the proclamation to establish precisely what has been added to or varied in the SIU's mandate, and assess whether any current or past municipal contract or transaction now falls within scope.

7.7 CONCLUSION

An extension of an existing anti-corruption investigation into eThekwini's affairs — relevant to anyone who has contracted with or worked for the municipality in the affected period.

NOTICE 8

Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunals Act: Referral of Matters to an Existing Special Investigating Unit and Special Tribunal
GG 55355, RG 12047, Proclamation 348, published 11 September 2026 (English/Afrikaans)

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — Proc 348

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A Presidential proclamation referring a further matter — a specified organ of state, entity or category of conduct — to an already-established SIU and Special Tribunal for investigation and, where appropriate, civil recovery proceedings.

The affected entity, the nature of the allegations, and the period under investigation are set out in the proclamation itself.

The exact entity and scope should be confirmed from the linked notice, as the published page is a scanned image without extractable text.

8.1 SUMMARY

The President has referred a further matter to an existing SIU and Special Tribunal for investigation under the Act. This is the standard mechanism by which additional organs of state or categories of alleged maladministration are brought within the SIU's civil anti-corruption mandate.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATING UNITS AND SPECIAL TRIBUNALS ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 74 OF 1996): REFERRAL OF .MATTERS TO EXISTING SPECIAL INVESTIGATING UNIT AND SPECIAL TRIBUNAL WHEREAS allegations as contemplated in section 2(2) of the Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunals Act, 1996 (Act No. 7 4 of 1996) ("the Act"), have been made in respect of the affairs of the Northwest Transport Investments (SOC) Limited (''the NTI"); Northwest Star (SOC) Limited ("the NSL"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the NTI; and Atteridgeville Bus Service (SOC) Limited rthe ABS"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the NSL ("the NTI", "the NSL" and the ABS" are hereinafter collectively referred to as "the NTlj; AND WHEREAS the NTI may have suffered losses that may be recovered; AND WHEREAS I deem it necessary that the said allegations should be investigated and civil proceedings emanating from such investigation should be adjudicated upon; NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby, under section 2(1) of the Act, refer the matters mentioned in the Schedule, in respect of the NTI, for investigation to the Special Investigating Unit established by Proclamation No. R. 118 of 31 July 2001 and detennine that, for the purposes of the investigation of the matters, the terms of reference of the Special Investigating Unit are to investigate as contemplated in the Act, any alleged- (a) serious maladministration in connection with the affairs of the NTI; PROCLAMATION NOTICE 348 OF 2026 This gazette is also available free online at www.gpwonline.co.za 48 No. 55355 GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, 11 September 2026 (b) improper or unlawful conduct by employees of the NTI; (c) unlawful appropriation or expenditure of public money or property; (d) unlawful, irregular or unapproved acquisitive act, transaction, measure or practice having a bearing upon State property; (e) intentional or negligent loss of public money or damage to public property; (f) offence referred to in Parts 1 to 4, or section 17, 20 or 21 (in so far as it relates to the aforementioned offences} of Chapter 2 of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 (Act No. 12 of 2004), and which offences were committed in connection with the affairs of the NTI; or (g) unlawful or improper conduct by any person, which has caused or may cause serious harm to the interests of the public or any category thereof, which took place between 21 July 2022 and the date of publication of this Proclamation or which took place prior to 21 July 2022 or after the date of publication of this Proclamation, but is relevant to, connected with, incidental or ancillary to the matters mentioned in the Schedule or involve the same persons, entities or contracts investigated under authority of this Proclamation, and to exercise or perform all the functions and powers assigned to or conferred upon the said Special Investigating Unit by the Act, including the recovery of any losses suffered by the NTI or the State, in relation to the said matters in the Schedule.

8.2 LEGAL BASIS

Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunals Act 74 of 1996, section 2 (proclamation establishing or extending an SIU's mandate) and section 3 (content of the referral — the organ of state, the nature of the affair, and the period).

8.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Proclaiming a referral gives the SIU the specific civil investigative and recovery powers under the Act (including the ability to litigate in the Special Tribunal) in relation to the named organ of state or affair, which it would not otherwise have.

8.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

The organ of state named in the proclamation, and any contractor, official or third party involved in the transactions under investigation, should expect SIU document requests, interviews, or eventual Special Tribunal proceedings, and should preserve relevant records.

8.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

The organ of state named in the proclamation; its officials, past and present; contracted suppliers and service providers; the SIU and Special Tribunal; and National Treasury.

8.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the proclamation to identify the affected organ of state, the scope of the allegations, and the investigation period, and if your organisation has dealt with that entity in the relevant period, review and preserve relevant records.

8.7 CONCLUSION

A further SIU referral — identify the affected organ of state from the notice to assess whether it touches your organisation's dealings with government.

ENVIRONMENTAL

NOTICE 9

National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act — Erratum of Notice
GG 55353, GoN 7892, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, published 11 September 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55353 / GoN 7892

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A notice under the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 correcting an error in an earlier published notice under the Act — an erratum.

The specific earlier notice being corrected, and the nature of the correction (a factual, reference or drafting error), are set out in the erratum itself.

Anyone relying on the original notice should read the erratum directly, since it determines which version of the original text now applies.

9.1 SUMMARY

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment has published an erratum correcting an earlier NEM: Biodiversity Act notice. Errata are formal corrections that supersede the erroneous part of the original notice from the point identified.

ERRATUM OF NOTICE 7853 PUBLISHED IN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE 55257 OF 28 AUGUST 2026 National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004): Publication of the Draft Leopard Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, 2026 for public comment. The publication of the Draft Leopard Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, 2026 for public comment in Government Gazette Number 55257, Notice Number 7853 on 28 August 2026, is replaced with the Draft Leopard Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, 2026 for public comment, published in Government Gazette Number 55299, Notice Number 7877 published on 04 September 2026.

9.2 LEGAL BASIS

National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004, together with the general administrative practice of publishing errata to correct earlier Gazette notices made under the Act.

9.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Where a published notice contains a factual, drafting or referencing error, an erratum is the standard mechanism to correct the official record without needing to re-run the entire notice-and-comment or regulatory process.

9.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Anyone who has been relying on the original notice — permit applicants, conservation authorities, or affected landowners — should identify which earlier notice is being corrected and update their understanding of its terms accordingly.

9.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Holders of, or applicants for, permits or authorisations under the original notice; provincial conservation authorities; and environmental-compliance practitioners tracking biodiversity notices.

9.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the erratum to identify the original notice it corrects and the precise change, and update any compliance record or permit file that relies on the original notice.

9.7 CONCLUSION

A corrective notice rather than a new substantive requirement — relevant only to those already tracking the original notice it amends.

NOTICE 10

National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act — Report on South Africa's 2024 Grid Emission Factors
GG 55353, GoN 7891, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, published 11 September 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55353 / GoN 7891

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

Publication of South Africa's 2024 Grid Emission Factor(s) — the standardised figure(s) used to convert electricity consumption from the national grid into an equivalent quantity of greenhouse gas emissions — under the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act 39 of 2004 framework.

The specific factor(s) (typically expressed in tCO_2e per MWh, and potentially split by Scope 2 location-based and market-based methods) are set out in the published report.

Entities using the grid emission factor for statutory reporting (such as under the Carbon Tax Act or mandatory GHG reporting) should read the exact figure(s) off the linked notice.

10.1 SUMMARY

Government Notice No. 7891, Gazette No. 55353, 11 September 2026 — Publication of South Africa's 2024 Grid Emission Factors Report (DFFE)

The Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, David Maynier, has published South Africa's 2024 Grid Emission Factors Report (the fourth GEFs Report) for information. Grid emission factors quantify the greenhouse gas emissions associated with each unit of electricity supplied through the national grid, and are the standard parameter used for Scope 2 and Scope 3 electricity emissions in corporate carbon accounting, the national GHG inventory, carbon tax reporting and export-facing disclosures such as the EU's border carbon adjustment mechanism. The Climate Change Act, 2024 underpins the annual publication. Because of a roughly two-year data lag, the factors published in 2026 are based on 2024 calendar-year data supplied by NERSA (generation) and Eskom (imports, exports and losses).

The four location-based factors for 2024, with the 2023 values for comparison, are:

Factor	Intended use	2023	2024
Domestic Generation GEF (DGGEF)	Government policy and international reporting	0.942	0.994
National Generation GEF (NGGEF)	Corporate Scope 2 reporting by consumers	0.906	0.960
Transmission Loss GEF (TLGEF)	Scope 3 (facilities fed directly from the transmission network)	0.020	0.021
Distribution Loss GEF (DLGEF)	Scope 3 (used together with the TLGEF by facilities on the distribution network)	0.062	0.071

All values are in tCO_2e/MWh. Neither loss factor should be applied to electricity generated for own use.

The headline finding is that the grid became more carbon intensive in 2024 across every measure, reversing the gradual improvement seen from 2021 to 2023. The DGGEF rose by about 5.3% year on year, and the share of electricity from non-emissive sources (renewables and nuclear) fell from 14.1% in 2023 to 12.8% in 2024, indicating heavier reliance on coal-fired generation and reduced contributions from lower-carbon sources. The DLGEF reached its highest level of the four-year series. Total 2024 generation emissions were 204,823,175 tCO_2e against 230,436,320 MWh generated. Imported electricity not sourced from Cahora Bassa or Lesotho hydro is assigned an emission factor of 0.244 tCO_2e/MWh, and the report notes this has only a marginal (about 0.6%) effect on the NGGEF.

Appendix A gives worked examples: a consumer buying 500 MWh would report Scope 2 emissions of 480 tCO_2e (500 × 0.960), Scope 3 transmission losses of 10.5 tCO_2e (500 × 0.021), and, if on the distribution network, Scope 3 losses of 46 tCO_2e (500 × (0.021 + 0.071)). Appendix B links to the 2021, 2022 and 2023 reports.

For clients, the practical implication is that electricity-related emissions reported for 2024-based inventories will rise even where consumption is unchanged, so any 2024 GHG reports, carbon tax calculations or ESG disclosures still using the 2023 factors should be updated to the new values. Queries go to DFFE's Chief Directorate: Climate Change Mitigation & Specialist Monitoring Services (GHGReporting@dffe.gov.za), and the underlying methodological report is available at www.dffe.gov.za under Legislation → Gazetted Notices.

Write a message…

Government has published South Africa's 2024 grid emission factor(s), the reference figure(s) used nationally to convert electricity use into greenhouse gas emissions for reporting and carbon-tax purposes. These factors are typically updated and republished annually.

10.2 LEGAL BASIS

National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act 39 of 2004, together with the National Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Regulations, and used in conjunction with the Carbon Tax Act 15 of 2019 for calculating Scope 2 emissions from purchased electricity.

10.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

A single, government-published grid emission factor ensures all reporters calculate Scope 2 electricity-related emissions consistently, supporting both the mandatory national GHG reporting regime and carbon tax liability calculations.

10.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Companies with mandatory greenhouse gas reporting obligations, or liable for carbon tax, must use the updated 2024 factor(s) in their next emissions calculation and reporting cycle rather than a prior year's figure.

10.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Carbon taxpayers and GHG reporters across all sectors; sustainability and ESG reporting teams; SARS (carbon tax administration); and the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.

10.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice for the exact 2024 grid emission factor(s), and update Scope 2 emissions calculations, carbon tax computations and any sustainability disclosures that reference the grid factor.

10.7 CONCLUSION

An annual reference-data publication — a required input for anyone calculating Scope 2 electricity emissions or carbon tax for the 2024 reporting cycle.

NOTICE 11

National Veld and Forest Fire Act: Fire Danger Rating, Fire Protection Association Regulations and National Veldfire Appeal Regulations, 2026

GG 55393, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, published 11 September 2026 — GoN 7909 (Fire Danger Rating System guidelines and exemption applications), GoN 7910 (consultation on proposed amendments to the Fire Protection Association Regulations), and GoN 7911 (National Veldfire Appeal Regulations, 2026)

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55393 (three related notices)

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

Three related notices published together under the National Veld and Forest Fire Act 101 of 1998:
(i) guidelines for publishing the Fire Danger Rating System for general information and for applications to be exempted from the prohibition on lighting, using or maintaining an open-air fire in areas where a fire danger rating applies;
(ii) a consultation notice on proposed amendments to the Fire Protection Association Regulations (which govern the registration and functioning of Fire Protection Associations); and
(iii) the National Veldfire Appeal Regulations, 2026, which set the procedure for appealing decisions taken under the Act.

The detailed rating-system methodology, the specific proposed amendments open for comment, and the full appeal procedure and time limits are set out in the three individual notices.

Landowners, Fire Protection Associations and anyone wishing to comment or appeal should read each notice directly for the applicable deadlines and procedural steps.

11.1 SUMMARY

Government has published a package of three notices under the National Veld and Forest Fire Act: updated guidance on the Fire Danger Rating System and exemption applications, a consultation on amending the Fire Protection Association Regulations, and new National Veldfire Appeal Regulations for 2026 setting out how decisions under the Act may be appealed.

11.2 LEGAL BASIS

National Veld and Forest Fire Act 101 of 1998 — sections dealing with fire danger ratings and prohibitions on open-air fires, the establishment and regulation of Fire Protection Associations, and the Minister's power to make appeal regulations.

11.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

The Fire Danger Rating System underpins fire-prohibition enforcement during high-risk periods; Fire Protection Associations are the Act's main vehicle for coordinated veldfire prevention and response; and formal appeal regulations give affected parties a defined route to challenge decisions (such as exemption refusals or FPA registration decisions) rather than relying on general administrative-law remedies.

11.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Landowners in fire-risk areas who need an exemption to burn should follow the published application guidelines; Fire Protection Associations and their members should review and, if desired, comment on the proposed regulation amendments; and any party wishing to challenge a decision under the Act from now on should follow the new appeal regulations' procedure and time limits.

11.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Landowners and farmers in fire-risk regions; registered Fire Protection Associations and their members; local and district municipalities; the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (fire management); and insurers assessing veldfire risk.

11.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the three notices to confirm the exemption-application process and current fire danger ratings, note the comment deadline on the proposed FPA Regulation amendments, and update internal procedures for lodging any appeal under the new 2026 Appeal Regulations.

11.7 CONCLUSION

A coordinated update to South Africa's veldfire regulatory toolkit — relevant to landowners, Fire Protection Associations and anyone needing to challenge a decision made under the Act.

WATER

NOTICE 12

Water Services Act: Draft Strategic Framework for Water and Sanitation Services — Public Comment
GG 55396, GoN 7914, published 11 September 2026; republished for public comment as GG 55398, GoN 7918, Department of Water and Sanitation, published 14 September 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55398 / GoN 7918

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A draft Strategic Framework for Water and Sanitation Services, published under the Water Services Act 108 of 1997 for public comment, and republished three days after its initial gazetting — the second notice appears to correct or reissue the first for the comment process.

The Framework itself sets national norms, standards and planning direction for water services authorities and institutions; its specific policy content and the closing date for comments are set out in the notice.

As the framework runs to several megabytes and is published as a scanned document, the substantive content and comment deadline should be read directly from the linked notice.

12.1 SUMMARY

The Department of Water and Sanitation has published a draft national Strategic Framework for Water and Sanitation Services for public comment. Once finalised, such a framework sets the planning and service-delivery direction that municipal water services authorities and water boards must align with.

12.2 LEGAL BASIS

Water Services Act 108 of 1997, which empowers the Minister to set norms and standards and issue strategic and policy frameworks for water services provision, read with the National Water Act 36 of 1998 insofar as resource-related planning is concerned.

12.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

A national strategic framework coordinates water and sanitation planning across water services authorities (mostly municipalities), water boards and the Department, aiming for consistent standards, investment priorities and service levels nationally.

12.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Municipal water services authorities, water boards and sector stakeholders should review the draft framework against their own water services development plans and make written submissions by the comment deadline if they wish to influence the final version.

12.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Municipal water services authorities and their engineering/planning departments; water boards; organised local government (SALGA); infrastructure funders and developers reliant on bulk water and sanitation planning; and civil-society water-access advocates.

12.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice to review the draft framework's content and confirm the comment closing date, and prepare a written submission if the framework affects your organisation's water services planning or investment.

12.7 CONCLUSION

A significant policy document for the water sector, currently open for comment — water services authorities and infrastructure stakeholders should review it now rather than wait for the final version.

AVIATION

NOTICE 13

Civil Aviation Act: Amendment to Regulations and Amendment to Technical Standards
GG 55353, GoN 7897, South African Civil Aviation Authority, published 11 September 2026 — comment by 10 October 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55353 / GoN 7897

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A notice under the Civil Aviation Act 13 of 2009 publishing proposed amendments to the Civil Aviation Regulations and the associated Technical Standards, and inviting written comments by 10 October 2026.

The specific regulations and technical standards affected, and the substituted wording, are set out in the notice.

Operators and industry participants who may be affected should read the proposed amendments directly, given the technical and safety-critical nature of aviation regulation.

13.1 SUMMARY

What the document is

Government Gazette No. 55353 of 11 September 2026, Notice No. 7897, published by the Department of Transport. It is a **notice of intention to amend**, not the amendments themselves. It has two distinct legal limbs:

The first is by the **Minister of Transport**, acting under section 155(1) of the Civil Aviation Act 13 of 2009 on the recommendation of the Civil Aviation Regulations Committee (CARCom), giving notice of an intention to amend the Civil Aviation Regulations, 2011 across fifteen schedules (Schedules 1–15).

The second is by the **Director of Civil Aviation**, acting under section 163 of the Act, also on CARCom's recommendation, giving notice of an intention to amend the South African Civil Aviation Technical Standards (SA-CATS) across a further fifteen schedules (Schedules 16–30).

That split matters. Regulations are subordinate legislation made by the Minister; the technical standards are made by the Director and sit beneath the regulations, giving the detailed "how" for the regulatory "what". The two limbs have different makers and different enabling provisions, even though they are bundled into one consultation.

What is being consulted on

The actual draft text is **not in the gazette**. The notice says electronic copies are on the SACAA website (www.caa.co.za) or available from Susan Ndlovu at RDSecretariat@caa.co.za. So for any substantive analysis of what changes, the drafts must be obtained separately — this notice only tells you which Parts are in scope.

Reading the thirty schedules together, several clear themes emerge.

Insurance is the dominant theme. Eight of the thirty schedules are expressly labelled "Insurance": Parts 91 (general aviation), 93 (corporate aviation and high-performance aircraft), 121 (large aeroplane air transport, more than 19 passengers), 127 (commercial helicopter passenger/cargo/mail), 128 (helicopter aerial work), 135 (small aeroplane air transport, fewer than 20 passengers) and 138 (air ambulance), plus SA-CATS 91. This is a cross-cutting sweep of the insurance provisions across essentially every operating Part in the regulations. The pattern strongly suggests a harmonised revision of the insurance requirements (most likely the minimum third-party and passenger liability cover, evidence-of-insurance and possibly currency or indexation provisions), applied consistently from private flying through to air ambulance. For any client that operates aircraft — including corporate flight departments under Part 93 — this is the schedule set to prioritise, because insurance requirements have direct cost and contractual consequences (policy limits, renewal timing, lease and finance covenants).

Foreign registered aircraft. Schedule 3 targets regulation 91.03.1 specifically, which deals with foreign-registered aircraft operating in South Africa. Paired with the insurance amendments, this may tighten the conditions under which foreign-registered aircraft (a persistent policy concern for SACAA, particularly around long-term basing of foreign-registered aircraft in SA) may be operated locally.

Service animals. Schedule 1 amends the definitions in Part 1 to address "Service Animals". A definitional amendment in Part 1 usually presages or supports operative rules elsewhere on carriage of assistance/service animals in the cabin. This has passenger-rights and disability-access implications for airlines and their ground-handling contractors, and is worth watching alongside any Part 91/121/135 operational rules that may follow.

Lifesaving equipment. Schedules 8 and 12 amend regulations 121.05.21 and 135.05.13 — the lifesaving equipment provisions for large and small aeroplane air transport respectively. The parallel amendment of both confirms a harmonised approach (likely aligning with ICAO Annex 6 requirements on life jackets, life rafts, ELTs or similar for overwater and remote-area operations).

Aviation security. Schedule 5 (Part 108, air cargo security) and Schedule 6 (Part 114, aviation security for non-scheduled commercial operations) are security amendments. Part 108 changes affect regulated agents, known consignors and freight forwarders — relevant to any logistics client handling air cargo. Part 114 extends security obligations to charter and other non-scheduled commercial operators.

Design and manufacturing organisations. Schedules 14 and 15 amend Parts 147 and 148 — the approval frameworks for design organisations and manufacturing organisations respectively. These affect the aerospace manufacturing sector rather than operators.

Licensing and medical (technical standards). SA-CATS 64.02.5 (cabin crew licensing), 67 Appendix C (code of conduct and medical certification) and 68 (glider pilot licence) touch personnel licensing. The Part 67 amendment is labelled "Code of Conduct and Medical certification", which suggests changes to the standards applied by designated aviation medical examiners or to the conduct expected of them.

Training organisations. SA-CATS 141 and 141.02.4 both concern aviation training organisations — two separate schedules against the same Part, indicating both a general amendment and a targeted one to a specific technical standard.

Air navigation services. The largest cluster of technical standards amendments is in the ANS space: SA-CATS 171 and its appendices (aeronautical telecommunication / electronic services organisations), 172 (airspace and air traffic services — listed twice as Schedules 24 and 25), 175 and its Appendices A–J (aeronautical information services), and 177 with Annexures A and B (instrument flight procedures and ICAO aeronautical charts). This is primarily of interest to ATNS, the SACAA's own ANS oversight function and approved procedure-design organisations, and likely reflects ICAO Annex 10, 11, 15 and PANS-OPS alignment.

Consultation mechanics

Written comments are due **on or before 10 October 2026**, addressed to the Chairperson of CARCom for the attention of Ms Susan Ndlovu at the SACAA offices (Ikhaya Lokundiza, Byls Bridge Office Park, Centurion), by email to RDSecretariat@caa.co.za or by phone on (082) 906 6461.

That is a 29-day window from gazetting, which is short given thirty schedules spanning insurance, security, licensing and ANS. Any client with an interest should obtain the drafts from the SACAA website immediately rather than waiting for the consolidated text. Note also that the comment goes to CARCom, not directly to the Minister — CARCom is the statutory consultative body under the Act, and its recommendation is a precondition for both the ministerial and Director's amendments.

Observations on the drafting of the notice

A few points worth noting, particularly if you are summarising this for a publication:

The notice number appears twice, once as "NO. 7897" and once as "No. R……." with the regulation number left blank — a placeholder from the draft that was not filled in before gazetting. Similarly "DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT" is printed twice. These are cosmetic but indicate the notice went out with minor editorial defects.

Schedules 24 and 25 are both listed simply as "SA-CATS 172 — Airspace and air traffic service" with nothing to distinguish them. Unlike the other duplicated Parts (e.g. 141 vs 141.02.4, 175 vs 175 Appendices), the notice gives no indication of which sub-parts each schedule addresses. The drafts will need to be consulted to see the distinction.

The postal address gives "Dooringkloof"; the suburb is conventionally spelt Doringkloof. Minor, but it may matter if anything is sent by post.

Because this is a notice of intention only, nothing in it has legal effect yet. The amendments will only become operative once finalised and published as regulations (with an R-number) and as amended technical standards, following the comment period and CARCom's consideration of submissions.

SACAA has published proposed amendments to the Civil Aviation Regulations and Technical Standards for comment, with submissions due by 10 October 2026. This is the standard notice-and-comment step before regulatory or technical-standard amendments in civil aviation take final effect.

13.2 LEGAL BASIS

Civil Aviation Act 13 of 2009, which empowers the Minister of Transport (on SACAA's recommendation) to make and amend the Civil Aviation Regulations and Technical Standards governing aviation safety and operations.

13.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Aviation regulations and technical standards are amended through a structured public-comment process because they directly affect safety-critical operational requirements for operators, maintenance organisations, and aerodromes; industry input is sought before changes are finalised.

13.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Airlines, charter and general aviation operators, maintenance organisations, aerodrome licensees and training organisations should review the proposed amendments against their current operating procedures and certifications, and submit comments by 10 October 2026 if the changes affect them.

13.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Licensed operators, aerodrome and maintenance organisations; pilots and training organisations; SACAA; and aviation-sector legal/compliance advisers.

13.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice to identify the specific regulations and technical standards proposed for amendment, assess the operational impact, and submit written comments before the 10 October 2026 deadline if you wish to influence the final text.

13.7 CONCLUSION

A comment opportunity on aviation safety regulation — operators should review the proposed changes now, ahead of the October deadline, rather than wait for the final amendment.

MEDICAL

NOTICE 14

Health Professions Act: Regulations Relating to Qualifications for Registration of Optometrists
GG 55353, GoN 7893, Health Professions Council of South Africa, published 11 September 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55353 / GoN 7893

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

Regulations under the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974 prescribing the qualifications the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA), through its Professional Board for Optometry and Dispensing Opticians, recognises for registration as an optometrist.

The specific recognised qualifications, any transitional arrangements for existing practitioners, and the effective date are set out in the regulations.

Training institutions and prospective registrants should confirm the exact recognised-qualification list from the linked notice before relying on a particular qualification for registration purposes.

14.1 SUMMARY

The HPCSA has published regulations prescribing which qualifications are recognised for registration as an optometrist. Registration on a recognised qualification is a precondition to lawful practice as an optometrist in South Africa.

What the document is

This is Government Notice No. 7893, published in Government Gazette No. 55353 on 11 September 2026 (gazette pages 41–49), by the Department of Health. It is titled "Regulations relating to the Qualifications for Registration of Optometrists: Amendment, 2026", made by the Minister of Health, Dr Pakishe Aaron Motsoaledi, under section 24 of the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974, on the recommendation of the HPCSA. The ministerial signature is dated 6 August 2026, so roughly five weeks elapsed between signature and publication. The notice is published in three languages: English (pp. 41–43), siSwati (pp. 44–46) and isiXhosa (pp. 47–49), which satisfies the practice of publishing subordinate legislation in at least two official languages.

Legal basis

Section 24 of the Act empowers the Minister, on the recommendation of the Council, to prescribe the qualifications that entitle a person to registration in a profession under the Act. The notice recites both elements (ministerial action and Council recommendation), so the formal enabling requirements appear on their face to be met. The principal regulations being amended are those published under GN 2599 in GG 47257 of 7 October 2022.

What it actually does

The instrument has only three regulations. Regulation 1 defines "regulations" (the 2022 principal regulations) and "the Act". Regulation 2 substitutes a new regulation 2 in the principal regulations. Regulation 3 gives the short title. There is no commencement provision, so under the ordinary rule the amendment came into operation on the date of publication, 11 September 2026. There is no transitional provision either, which matters, as I discuss below.

The substituted regulation 2 now reads: "The Registrar may register as an Optometrist any person who (a) is in possession of the following qualifications; and (b) has passed the national examination determined by the professional board for optometry and dispensing opticians." It then lists the recognised qualifications in a table.

The listed examining authorities and qualifications are: Technikon Witwatersrand (Bachelor of Technology (Optometry), abbreviated B Tech (Optom) Wits Tech, and Diploma in Optometry SA, abbreviated Dip Optom Wits Tech); University of Durban-Westville (Bachelor of Optometry, B Optom Durban-Westville); University of the North (B Optom North); Rand Afrikaans University (B Optom RAU); University of the Free State (B Optom Free State); University of Johannesburg (B Optom Johannesburg); University of KwaZulu Natal (B Optom KwaZulu Natal); and University of Limpopo (B Optom Limpopo). In every case other than Wits Technikon the qualification is a Bachelor of Optometry.

The substantive change: a national examination as a condition of registration

The significant feature is paragraph (b). Registration is no longer a matter of holding a listed qualification alone; the applicant must also have passed "the national examination determined by the professional board for optometry and dispensing opticians". Since the section substitutes the whole of regulation 2 rather than inserting a paragraph, I cannot say from this document alone whether the 2022 version already contained an examination requirement, but the drafting (a cumulative "and" between (a) and (b)) makes the examination a hard precondition to registration going forward. If you have the 2022 principal regulations to hand I would compare regulation 2 line by line; the table of institutions looks like a straight carry-over, so the examination requirement is very probably the whole point of the amendment.

Several things follow from this. First, the examination is not defined in the regulations at all. Its content, format, pass mark, frequency, fees, number of permitted attempts and the appeal route are all left to be "determined by the professional board". That is a substantial delegation of a registration-gating decision to a board rule or policy that does not itself go through the section 24 ministerial process, and it is worth checking whether the Professional Board for Optometry and Dispensing Opticians has actually published such a determination and, if so, in what form (a board notice in the Gazette, or merely a policy on the HPCSA website). Until the board has published a determination, the requirement is arguably incapable of being satisfied, which is an awkward position for graduates applying now.

Second, there is no transitional provision. On a literal reading, anyone who holds a listed qualification but applied for registration after 11 September 2026 must have passed the national examination, including the 2026 graduating cohort who began their studies under the 2022 regime with no examination requirement. There is also no saving for people already registered, although the amendment operates on new registrations and should not disturb existing entries on the register. The absence of a phase-in date, an exemption for pending applications, or a "deemed to have passed" clause for people who completed their degrees before a specified date is the most obvious drafting gap, and the one most likely to generate complaints or a review application from affected graduates.

Third, the word "may" in "The Registrar may register" preserves a discretion. Meeting (a) and (b) is necessary but on this wording not automatically sufficient, which is consistent with the Act's other registration provisions but worth noting.

Drafting and accuracy points

The table still lists institutions that no longer exist as examining authorities: Technikon Witwatersrand (merged into the University of Johannesburg in 2005), Rand Afrikaans University (same merger), University of Durban-Westville (merged into UKZN in 2004) and University of the North (became the University of Limpopo in 2005). Retaining them is correct and necessary, because holders of those legacy qualifications still need a route to registration, but it means the "Examining Authority" column mixes historical and current institutions without saying so. Notably absent are any newer optometry programmes; I am not in a position to confirm whether any institution has started one since 2022, but if there is a programme not on this list its graduates cannot be registered under regulation 2, so that is a point worth verifying with the HPCSA.

Paragraph (a) says the applicant must be "in possession of the following qualifications" (plural), which read strictly would require all of them. The evident intention is "one of the following qualifications", and a court would read it that way, but it is sloppy drafting carried through into all three language versions.

The definitions clause opens with a garbled phrase, "In these regulations and any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the regulations shall bear such meaning", which has lost the word "Act" and reads as though the amendment regulations are defining terms by reference to themselves. It also has a stray double bracket in "((Act No. 56 of 1974)". Neither affects validity, but they suggest the instrument did not receive close legal editing.

The table layout is broken across a page break in each language version, producing an empty row at the top of page 43 (and the split "IYunivesithi yaseThekwini – / Westville" in the isiXhosa version). Cosmetic, but it can cause confusion if someone counts rows.

The English and translated versions are consistent on substance, though there are small inconsistencies in the translations: the siSwati and isiXhosa tables translate some university names into the vernacular ("Inyuvesi yaseGoli", "IYunivesithi yaseRhawutini" for Johannesburg) while leaving others (RAU, Limpopo in isiXhosa) in English, and the isiXhosa version of paragraph (b) refers only to "libhunga labasebenzi bezamehlo" without the dispensing opticians element. Where a translation diverges, the version signed by the Minister governs, and the English text was signed. The short title in the English version says "Qualifications for registration" with a lower-case "r", differing from the heading; trivial.

Practical implications

For optometry graduates and their universities, the immediate question is whether an examination has been set, when it will first be written, and whether the board will exempt or phase in current applicants. For employers of newly qualified optometrists (retail optical chains, hospital groups), there is a potential bottleneck between graduation and registrability, which affects recruitment timing and the lawfulness of allowing graduates to practise. For the HPCSA, the delegation to the board without published criteria is a governance risk; an applicant refused registration for failing an examination whose rules were never lawfully promulgated would have a strong PAJA argument.

For your Legalbrief publication suite, the headline is "national examination now a precondition to optometrist registration, effective 11 September 2026, no transitional arrangements".

Sources: HPCSA – Optometry and Dispensing Opticians Board; HPCSA – draft Regulations relating to the qualifications for registration of Optometrists (public comment)

14.2 LEGAL BASIS

Health Professions Act 56 of 1974, sections 24–25 (registration) and 61 (regulations and rules made by professional boards), administered by the HPCSA and its Professional Board for Optometry and Dispensing Opticians.

14.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Recognised-qualification lists are periodically updated as optometric training programmes evolve (locally and internationally), ensuring the register reflects practitioners who hold a currently recognised, appropriate qualification.

14.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Optometry training institutions, current students, and practitioners registering (or applying for registration) with a foreign qualification should confirm their qualification appears on the updated recognised list, and note any transitional provisions for those already registered.

14.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Optometry training institutions and their graduates; the HPCSA and Professional Board for Optometry and Dispensing Opticians; practising optometrists; and employers of optometrists (retail optometry chains, hospitals).

14.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice to confirm the updated list of recognised qualifications and any transitional arrangements, and verify that any new registration application relies on a currently recognised qualification.

14.7 CONCLUSION

A professional-registration qualifications update — relevant to optometry training institutions, students, and anyone applying for registration, who should check the current recognised list before applying.

STANDARDS

NOTICE 15

Standards Act: Standards Matters — Comments Invited
GG 55353, GeN 4147, South African Bureau of Standards, published 11 September 2026 — comment by 10 November 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55353 / GeN 4147

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A General Notice under the Standards Act 8 of 2008 listing South African National Standards (SANS) that the SABS proposes to publish, amend or withdraw, and inviting written comments by 10 November 2026.

The specific standards affected — by SANS number and title — and whether each is a new standard, an amendment, or a withdrawal, are set out in the notice.

Given the technical and product-specific nature of standards notices, affected manufacturers and importers should check the specific SANS numbers listed in the linked notice.

15.1 SUMMARY

The SABS has published its periodic notice of standards matters — new, amended or withdrawn South African National Standards — open for comment until 10 November 2026. This is the routine mechanism through which SANS standards are kept current.

15.2 LEGAL BASIS

Standards Act 8 of 2008, which empowers the SABS to develop, publish and withdraw South African National Standards, including a mandatory public comment process before adoption.

15.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Standards are periodically reviewed and updated to reflect technological change, international harmonisation, and safety or quality developments; publishing the list for comment lets affected manufacturers, importers and industry bodies have input before a standard is finalised.

15.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Manufacturers, importers and testing/certification bodies whose products are covered by a listed SANS standard should check whether the proposed new, amended or withdrawn standard affects their product compliance, and submit comments by 10 November 2026 if it does.

15.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Manufacturers and importers of products subject to the listed SANS standards; testing, inspection and certification bodies; the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (where the SANS underlies a compulsory specification); and industry associations.

15.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice to identify which SANS standards relevant to your products are being introduced, amended or withdrawn, and submit written comments before 10 November 2026 if you wish to influence the outcome.

15.7 CONCLUSION

A routine standards-review notice — relevant to manufacturers and importers of products covered by the specific SANS numbers listed, who should check the list and comment by the November deadline if affected.

GOVERNANCE AND STATISTICS

NOTICE 16

Statistics Amendment Bill: Notice of Intention to Introduce a Private Member's Bill into Parliament
GG 55353, GeN 4144, published 11 September 2026 — comment by 11 October 2026

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55353 / GeN 4144

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

A General Notice giving public notice, under the National Assembly's rules for Private Member's Bills, of a Member's intention to introduce a Statistics Amendment Bill into Parliament, and inviting written comments by 11 October 2026.

The specific clauses the Bill proposes to insert into, or amend in, the Statistics Act 6 of 1999 are set out in the draft Bill accompanying the notice.

Because this is a Private Member's Bill rather than a Cabinet-sponsored Bill, its content and prospects should be assessed from the linked notice and draft Bill directly.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE A PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL AND INVITATION FOR COMMENT ON THE DRAFT STATISTICS AMENDMENT BILL, 2026 Mr M. Manyi, MP, acting in accordance with section 73(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 ("Constitution"), intends to introduce the Statistics Amendment Bill, 2026 ("draft Bill"), in Parliament. An explanatory summary of the draft Bill is hereby published in accordance with Rule 276(1)(c) of the Rules of the National Assembly (9th Edition). Current official statistics on drinking water access, as reported in the General Household Survey published by Statistics South Africa, which is aligned with United Nations and World Health Organisation standards, classify yard taps as "improved on-premises sources". However, frequent dry taps, interruptions and contamination create a gap between reported and actual access to drinking water. The draft Bill seeks to require the Statistician-General to develop, compute and publish an annual Potable Water Access Indicator, which is intended to more accurately reflect actual access to potable water, specifically water that is reliably available, accessible on-premises, or nearby, and verified as safe in accordance with applicable national standards, including SANS 241. A Potable Water Access Indicator will provide a more accurate and objective measure of potable water delivery which will support policy, budgeting and constitutional obligations without replacing international benchmarks. The draft Bill further seeks to address the persistent and material gap between reported access and lived reality arising from intermittent supply and infrastructure failure, as well as water quality concerns. A Potable Water Access Indicator will be published alongside existing United Nations and World Health Organisation Joint Monitoring Programme metrics within the General Household Survey published by Statistics South Africa. In addition, a Potable Water Access Indicator will seek to address a fundamental deficiency in the manner in which access to water is currently measured in the Republic South Africa. At present, official statistics frequently rely on the presence of water infrastructure (such as a household tap or piped connections) as a proxy for access to potable water. This approach has led to the conflation of This gazette is also available free online at www.gpwonline.co.za 58 No. 55353 GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, 11 September 2026 the concepts of water infrastructure, water availability and potable water, which concepts are in fact distinct. Existing indicators may overstate access to potable water, as those indicators primarily measure infrastructure rather than whether water is consistently available and suitable for human consumption. A Potable Water Access Indicator is therefore intended to distinguish between infrastructure, service reliability and water quality, thereby providing Parliament, government and the public with a scientifically robust and policy-relevant measure of the constitutional right of access to sufficient water. In summary, the draft Bill seeks to shift the focus from measuring access to infrastructure, to measuring access to water which is continuously available and safe for human consumption. Interested parties and institutions are invited to submit written representations on the proposed content of the draft Bill to the Speaker of the National Assembly within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Representations can be delivered to the Speaker, New Assembly Building, Parliament Street, Cape Town; mailed to the Speaker, P O Box 15 Cape Town 8000, or emailed to statisticsab@parliament.gov.za and copied to mmanyi@parliament.gov.za Copies of the draft Bill may be obtained by mmanyi@parliament.gov.z

16.1 SUMMARY

Notice has been given of an intention to introduce a Private Member's Bill amending the Statistics Act, with public comment invited until 11 October 2026. This is the constitutionally required public-notice step before a Private Member introduces a Bill in the National Assembly.

16.2 LEGAL BASIS

Statistics Act 6 of 1999 (the Act proposed to be amended), read with the National Assembly's Rules governing the introduction of Private Members' Bills, which require prior Gazette notice and a comment period.

16.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Private Member's Bills must be gazetted for public comment before introduction so that stakeholders — including Statistics South Africa and users of official statistics — can raise concerns before the Bill formally enters the parliamentary process.

16.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Organisations that rely on, contribute data to, or are otherwise regulated under the Statistics Act (including Stats SA itself, data-intensive industries, and research bodies) should review the proposed amendments and decide whether to make a submission before 11 October 2026.

16.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

Statistics South Africa; government departments and entities that supply or rely on official statistics; researchers and data users in the private sector; and Parliament's relevant portfolio committee once the Bill is introduced.

16.6 ACTIONS

Obtain the notice and draft Bill to identify the specific proposed amendments to the Statistics Act, and submit written comments before 11 October 2026 if your organisation has an interest in the statistical framework.

16.7 CONCLUSION

An early-stage legislative notice — worth flagging to anyone with an interest in South Africa's official statistics framework, with a comment window open until October.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

NOTICE 17

Firearm Control Act: Declaration of Firearm-Free Zones — GEPF Regional and Satellite Offices
GG 55397, Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPF), published 14 September 2026 — GoN 7915 (Bloemfontein Regional Office), GoN 7916 (Mahikeng Regional Office), GoN 7917 (Phuthaditjhaba Satellite Office)

↓ **Download / view the full notice:** gov.za — GG 55397 (three related notices)

WHAT THE GAZETTE STATES

Three notices under section 140 of the Firearms Control Act 60 of 2000, declaring the Government Employees Pension Fund's Bloemfontein Regional Office, Mahikeng Regional Office, and Phuthaditjhaba Satellite Office to be firearm-free zones.

A firearm-free zone declaration prohibits the possession of a firearm within the declared premises (subject to statutory exceptions, typically for on-duty police and authorised security personnel), signposted accordingly.

The precise boundaries of each declared premises and any conditions or exceptions are set out in the three individual notices.

17.1 SUMMARY

Three GEPF office premises — in Bloemfontein, Mahikeng and Phuthaditjhaba — have been declared firearm-free zones under the Firearms Control Act. No person may lawfully possess a firearm within the declared premises other than in terms of a statutory exception.

17.2 LEGAL BASIS

Firearms Control Act 60 of 2000, section 140 (the Minister's power, on application, to declare a premises or category of premises a firearm-free zone), read with the regulations governing signage and enforcement of such zones.

17.3 RATIONALE AND WHY

Firearm-free zone declarations are typically sought by employers or institutions serving the public (here, pension fund offices with high public footfall) to reduce firearm-related risk on their premises, supported by the criminal sanction attaching to unlawful possession within the zone.

17.4 PRACTICAL APPLICATION

GEPF staff, visiting members/pensioners, and any contracted security provider at the three named offices must not carry firearms onto the declared premises other than under an applicable exception, and the offices must display the required firearm-free zone signage.

17.5 KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLICATIONS

GEPF and its staff at the three offices; visiting GEPF members and pensioners; contracted security service providers; SAPS (enforcement); and other public-facing GEPF offices that may follow with similar declarations.

17.6 ACTIONS

Confirm the exact boundaries of each declared premises from the notices, ensure required signage is in place, and update the relevant offices' security protocols and any visitor communication to reflect the firearm-free status.

17.7 CONCLUSION

A narrow but binding security declaration — directly relevant to GEPF and anyone attending its Bloemfontein, Mahikeng or Phuthaditjhaba offices.