
GAZETTE WATCH

Regulatory Highlights

Government Gazette, 18–25 September 2026

Lee's Compliance, in association with The Legal Team

Every week, Lee's Compliance and The Legal Team monitor the Government Gazette so you don't have to. Here are the snippets that matter most from this week's 22 notices. Our subscribers receive the full briefing, with the legal basis, practical implications and recommended actions for every notice.



IN THIS EDITION

This edition included two detailed guides with practical compliance tools:

- **Consumer Protection Act:** new draft rules on labels, prices and receipts, with a step-by-step checklist and a downloadable Supplier Compliance Checklist.
- **Tax Administration Act:** our 2026 compliance programme, covering the amendments in force, interest rates, filing deadlines and how to protect your rights when dealing with SARS.



AGRICULTURE

New wine-of-origin areas proposed

Hartbeest River and Stanford Valley have been proposed as new wine production areas. Producers near the proposed boundaries should review the maps and consider objecting.



CONSUMER PROTECTION

Labels, all-in prices and a receipt for every sale

The National Consumer Commission has published draft guidelines on how it will test compliance with the Consumer Protection Act. Every product would need a truthful description on its label, displayed prices would have to include VAT and all mandatory fees, and a receipt would be required for every sale, including cash and low-value transactions. The guidelines are likely to become the NCC's inspection checklist. **Comments close 2 November 2026.**

How we can help: we can run a pricing, labelling and receipts audit, and help you prepare comments before the deadline.



TAX AND FINANCE

More time to correct SARS auto-assessments

Provisional taxpayers whose automatic assessment was issued on or before 24 November 2026 now have until **22 January 2027** to request a reduced or additional assessment. Non-provisional individuals must file by **23 October 2026**.

***How we can help:** our 2026 Tax Administration Act compliance programme sets out the deadlines, interest rates and amendments now in force.*



COMPETITION

Cartel case against Builders City referred to the Tribunal

The Competition Commission has referred alleged price fixing and collusive tendering by Builders City to the Competition Tribunal. Cartel conduct can attract penalties of up to 10% of annual turnover, and directors and managers face personal criminal liability.

***How we can help:** we can review your pricing, information-sharing and tendering practices for competition-law risk.*



CORRUPTION

SIU probe into KZN Department of Transport widened

The President has added four matters to the SIU's investigation, including a major road-upgrade contract and a subsidised bus-service tender. Businesses involved in the listed contracts should preserve their records and expect requests for information.



ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

WOAN spectrum reservation scrapped

The 2019 plan to reserve spectrum for a wholesale open access network has been withdrawn with immediate effect. Spectrum in the 700, 800, 2600 and 3500 MHz bands is now available for ICASA to license, so operators should watch for an Invitation to Apply.



ENVIRONMENTAL

Tough new maritime pollution rules on the way

Draft oil-spill regulations would require risk assessments and contingency plans for oil-handling facilities, installations and vessels, with fines of up to **R35 million** or 10 years' imprisonment. Separate drafts deal with sewage from ships and introduce a new pollution-response levy on vessels, oil-handling facilities and offshore installations.

How we can help: we can assess your current plans against the draft requirements and help you comment.



ENERGY

Electricity policy comment period extended

Businesses now have until **28 October 2026** to comment on the Electricity Market Transformation Position Paper and the Revised Electricity Pricing Policy.



GOVERNANCE

30 co-operatives removed from the register

Deregistered co-operatives lose their legal standing and cannot properly contract, hold property or receive funding. Screen the list against your supplier and customer records before contracting or paying. Objections must be lodged within 30 days.



INTERNATIONAL TRADE

ITAC to start charging permit and certificate fees

From 1 April 2027, ITAC plans to charge fees to process its permits and certificates, starting with automotive (APDP) certificates. Separately, anti-dumping duties on heavy wire ropes and cables from Germany and the UK are set to remain in place.



LABOUR

Pharmaceutical collective agreement may bind non-parties

The bargaining council wants its amended pharmaceutical-sector agreement extended to every employer and employee in the sector, including those who never signed it. **Representations close 14 October 2026.**

***How we can help:** we can help you assess the impact on your business and prepare representations.*



TRANSPORT AND AVIATION

Tourist transport licensing overhaul

Draft amendments to the National Land Transport Regulations rework accreditation, introduce a per-vehicle tourist transport operating licence and add a new fee table. Comments are due by **26 October 2026** (we recommend 23 October).



STANDARDS

Pre-export verification for Chinese imports withdrawn

Importers no longer need a pre-shipment Certificate of Conformity for the affected products, with immediate effect. Compulsory specifications, NRCS approvals and consumer-protection labelling rules still apply.



WATER

Upper Orange River water resource classes proposed

Proposed protection classes and resource quality objectives will shape future water use licences in the catchment. Water users should check them against their licence conditions and comment by **24 November 2026.**



Other highlights

This edition also covered three approved property and leisure mergers, the 4% recommended increase for public office bearers, mid-year municipal grant adjustments, new drone and air service licence applications, and Airlink's rescission of four regional routes.



Key dates to diarise

- **14 October:** representations on extending the pharmaceutical sector collective agreement
- **16 October:** comments on SARS's proposed digital VAT e-invoicing and e-reporting system
- **23 October:** SARS filing deadline for non-provisional individual taxpayers
- **26 October (we recommend 23 October):** comments on the draft land transport amendments
- **28 October:** comments on the electricity market transformation and pricing policy documents
- **2 November:** comments on the NCC labelling, pricing and receipts guidelines
- **24 November:** comments on the Upper Orange River water resource classes
- **22 January 2027:** filing deadline for provisional taxpayers and trusts

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