

# CHANGES EMANATING FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW LEGAL METROLOGY ACT

BY LETOKE MAHLASE

**IN ALL SPHERES OF LIFE WE ARE CONFRONTED BY THE NEED FOR RELIABLE AND ACCURATE MEASUREMENTS. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT WE REVISE OUR CURRENT REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE THAT WE MAINTAIN OUR MANDATE WHICH IS TO PROTECT THE CONSUMER AND THEREBY KEEPING UP WITH DEMANDS BROUGHT ABOUT BY GLOBALISATION.**

In a bid to address this requirement the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS) has revised the Trade Metrology Act, Act no. 77 of 1973 to include measuring instruments in the area of health, safety and environment. This is because the Trade Metrology Act, Act No.77 of 1973 only covered the area of mass, volume and length involving monetary transactions.

The revised Trade Metrology Act is now known as the Legal Metrology Act, Act no 9 of 2014 and has been enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, Government Gazette No: 37661 dated 19 May 2014 to replace the Trade Metrology Act, Act 77 of 1973.

These developments meant that now not only instruments used in trade for mass, volume and

length requires verification but an additional scope of instruments in health, safety and environment.

Furthermore the Legal Metrology Act, Act no 09 of 2014 requires that the verification activities be separated from repair activities. This will require organisations to be accredited for both activities if they so wish.

It is also worth noting that the SANS 10378:2005 still refers to the Trade Metrology Act, Act no 77 of 1973. This standard will be reviewed once the Legal Metrology Regulations are finalised.

Therefore the Trade Regulations are still applicable whilst the Legal Metrology Regulations are being drafted.



# ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL LEGAL METROLOGY STAKEHOLDERS



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## TO ALL LEGAL METROLOGY STAKEHOLDERS

### EXTENTION OF THE COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DRAFT LEGAL METROLOGY REGULATIONS.

The draft Legal Metrology Regulations published on the 18 March 2016 provided the public a 60 days (2 months) commenting period in terms of the WTO requirement but did not take into consideration the requirement as stipulated in the Legal Metrology Act 9 of 2014 for Legal Metrology Technical Regulations.

In order to comply with section 38 (4) of the Legal Metrology Act 9 of 2014, it is therefore appropriate that an extension of one month be provided to allow all affected stakeholders to comment on the draft Legal Metrology Regulations as stipulated in the Act.

The one month period is in addition to the current 60 day comment period and will be applicable from the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Rob Davies, MP  
Minister of Trade and Industry

Date: 14/6/16

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