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Angola

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Fast moving consumer goods	Presidential Decree No.23/19 - Special Credit Conditions for National Production	Issued on 14 January 2019.	The decree approves regulations on the commercial supply chain for a basket of goods and other essential products produced in Angola.
Finance	Law No.4/19 – Amendments to the Industrial Tax Code	Issued on 18 April 2019.	The law notes that: • foreign exchange variations of more than 7% per annum on fixed assets and liabilities will be disregarded as income or cost for Industrial Tax purposes; and • interest on any type of loans granted by equity holders or on shareholders will be regarded as a deductible cost, with only the portion that exceeds the average annual reference rate of interest established by the Central Bank being added to taxable income.
Finance	Law No.7/19 - Value Added Tax (VAT) Code	Issued on 24 April 2019 and will be effective from 1 July 2019.	The law: • repeals the existing Consumption Tax Code; • notes that VAT at the rate of 14% will apply to the supplies of goods and services and imports; and • entities that have not chosen to be immediately subject to the general VAT regime and have a turnover or imports in excess of USD250,000 will be subject to a transitional regime until 2021, when VAT will apply to all taxpayers.
Oil and gas	Law No.5/19 – Amendments to Petroleum Activities	Issued on 18 April 2019.	The law: • amends the Petroleum Activities Law (Law No.10/04, of 12 November 2004); and • makes the National Agency for Petroleum, Gas and Biofuels (*Agência Nacional do Petróleo, Gás e Biocombustíveis*), the holder of the petroleum rights.

Central African Republic

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Decree-Law No.19-091 - on the General Regulation on Public Accounting in the Central African Republic	Issued on 27 March 2019.	The decree: • repeals Decree No.07.193 of 12 July 2007; • lays down the rules relating to the management of money, values and property belonging or entrusted to the State and other public bodies; and • recalls the fundamental principles relating to the conduct of public accounting and specifies mechanisms for decision-makers.

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Chad

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Law No.37 for 2018 - The Finance Law 2019	Issued on 31 December 2018 and became effective from 1 January 2019.	The law introduces amendments such as: • the minimum lump-sum tax applicable to businesses under the standard tax regime is subject to a minimum amount of FCFA2-million; and • non-compliance with transfer pricing documentation requirements is subject to a penalty of 5% of the value of intra-group transactions with a Chadian company to a minimum amount of FCFA50-million per year.

AFRICA

Democratic Republic of Congo

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Statement No. 01/005/DGI/DG/IS/BSE/NK/2019 - New Payroll Tax Return Model (*déclaration unique des impôts, cotisations sociales et contributions patronales sur les* rémunérations*)*	Issued on 2 February 2019.	The statement introduces a new payroll tax return model which takes the new social contribution rates into consideration.
Finance	Statement No. 01/0041/DGI/DG/DLEG/MA/2019 - Prescribed format for super profits tax return	Issued on 14 March 2019.	The statement notes the availability of the super profits tax return to taxpayers.
Mining	Decrees No.0001/CAB/MIN/MINES/01/2019 and No.CAB/MIN/FINANCES/2019/009 - New rates for parafiscal taxes in mining sector	Issued on 22 February 2019.	The decree establishes new rates for parafiscal taxes in the mining sector including the introduction of a new tax on exceptional treatment of exported raw minerals at the rate of USD 500/30 tonnes, and a new tax of USD5,000 on mining cooperative agreements.

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Ethiopia

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Directive on implementation of exempt income (No.1/2011)	Became effective from 9 April 2019.	The directive provides for an exemption, amongst others, of: • travelling expenses incurred in the course of discharging employment duties, being the lower of one quarter of an employee's gross monthly salary or ETB 2,200 per month; • in the case of foreign employees, expenses incurred for travelling from and to their country of origin, and for transporting up to a maximum of 300 kg in personal effects; • transport allowances for home-to-work commuting up to a maximum of ETB 600 per month; and • per diem allowances in the case of domestic trips to an amount of the higher of ETB 500 and 4% of an employee's gross monthly salary per day; where accommodation costs at a bed and breakfast can be reconciled to invoices, to an amount of the higher of ETB 300 and 2.5% of an employee's gross monthly salary for lunch and dinner; and for Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and deputy CEOs, to an amount of the higher of ETB 1,000 and 5% of the CEO's or deputy CEO's gross monthly salary.
Finance	Directive on implementation of advance payment of tax (No.2/2011)	Became effective from 9 April 2019.	The directive is applicable to: • advance payment of business income tax in relation to importation of goods for commercial use, equal to 3% of the cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value of the goods; and • withholding tax from domestic payments at the rate of 2% of the gross amount of the payment made for goods and services.
Finance	Directive on registration and de-registration of taxpayers (No.3/2011)	Became effective from 11 April 2019.	The directive: • lists persons that are liable to tax that have to be registered for tax purposes, including inter alia individuals engaged in business, independent contractors, individuals receiving rental income, employees, permanent establishments, international organisations with tax privileges and shareholders; • prescribes the procedure and requirements for registration; • provides for the issuance and use of tax identification numbers (TINs); and • lists the grounds for de-registration, whether initiated by the taxpayer or by the tax authority.

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Ethiopia

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Directive on implementation of licensing of tax agents (No.4/2011)	Became effective from 9 April 2019.	The directive provides: • that tax agent services may be provided by individuals and entities that meet the necessary requirements; • for two categories of tax agents: Level 1 agents, who are allowed agent services to all taxpayers, and Level 2 tax agents are not allowed to provide tax agent services to category "A" taxpayers; • that to obtain a Level 1 or Level 2 tax agent licence, an individual applicant, members of a partnership and the chief executive officers, directors and other managers of a company wishing to be appointed as tax agent must have a first degree in at least one of the following fields: tax administration, accounting, law, economics, management or any other similar discipline; have appropriate working experience, either locally or abroad, as a tax officer; or have provided tax agent services under the supervision of a licensed tax agent in the past 5 years; and • that tax agent licences will only be granted to applicants provided that they take the necessary training prepared by the Ministry of Revenue and pass the tax agent licensing examinations.
Finance	Directive on implementation of seizure and sale of taxpayer's property (No.6/2011)	Became effective from 9 April 2019.	The directive: • applies to taxpayers that have failed to pay any type of tax or duties, including customs duties, within the stipulated payment deadline; • lists certain properties which cannot be subject to seizure; and • indicate that open tender is the principal method used for the disposal of seized properties. However, the Ministry of Revenue may opt for another disposal method taking into account the status of a property.

Ethiopia

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Directive on deductible expenditure (No 5/2011)	Became effective from 9 April 2019.	The directive provides for the following expenses to be deductible: • any expenditure to the extent necessarily incurred, including municipality taxes and other non-recoverable indirect taxes, by a taxpayer during the year in deriving, securing, and maintaining amounts included in business income; • interest expenses, with the exception of financial institutions having incurred such expenses, to the extent that the taxpayer has used the debt proceeds or benefits to derive business income; • waste and scrap resulting from production and delivery to the extent to be determined by the Ministry of Revenue, on a case-by-case basis; • food and beverages provided for free to employees in mining, manufacturing, horticulture and agriculture businesses up to 30% of the total amount of the beneficial employees' gross monthly salary; for hotel and restaurant businesses, up to 20% of the total amount of the beneficial employees' gross monthly salary; • business promotion expenditure incurred through sponsorship up to 3% of the gross income of the business; and business promotion expenditure incurred through media broadcasting or advertising agencies up to the full amount, provided that the expenditure is incurred in full to promote the taxpayer's business; and • charitable donations up to 10% of the taxable income of the business in the tax year concerned.

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Mauritius

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Employment	Amendments to the Non-Citizen (Employment Restrictions) Exemptions Regulations	Gazetted on 15 April 2019.	The regulations: • repeals the amendments of 28 March 2019 through Government Notice 55 of 2019 amending the Non-Citizen (Employment Restrictions) Exemptions Regulations; • notes that foreign spouses of Mauritian citizens who were in employment prior to 8 March 2019 will continue to benefit from exemption and will therefore not need to hold a work permit to continue working in Mauritius; and • notes that an employer, who has employed a spouse of a Mauritian citizen or a surviving spouse of a Mauritian citizen with effect from or after 8 March 2019, benefits from a three-month grace period from 15 April 2019, during which time the employer can continue to employ the foreign spouse without he/she having a valid work permit.

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Mozambique

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Mining	National Institute of Mines (INAMI) Notice on ring-fencing of mining activities	Issued on 10 April 2019.	The notice provides that: • each holder of a prospecting and research licence, a mining certificate or a mining concession must present a separate unique taxpayer identification number (NUIT) for each mining title; • holders of more than one mining title must create a separate legal entity and have organized accounts and separate NUIT for each mining title and/or legal entity; and • the separate NUIT for each mining title and/or legal entity must be presented to the INAMI within 90 days from the date of publication of the notice.

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Namibia

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Health	Amendment of Regulations Relating to Medicines and Related Substances: Medicines and Related Substances Control Act, 2003	Gazetted on 1 April 2019.	The regulations amends sections 11 and 14 of the Regulations Relating to Medicines and Related Substances published under Government Notice No. 178 of 25 July 2008, as amended by Government Notices No. 28 of 27 February 2015 and No. 316 of 31 December 2015.

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Nigeria

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
All	Extradition (Amendment) Act, 2018	Passed in October 2018.	The bill: • amends the Extradition Act, Cap. E25, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and • provides for procedural safeguards to avoid extradition of persons in cases of mistaken identity and effect appropriate amendments to the Act to conform to the provisions of the Constitution.
Finance	National Environment Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (Establishment) (Agency) Act, 2018	Passed in October 2018.	The bill: • amends the National Environment Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (Establishment) Act No.25, 2007 to review the conditions of appointment of some council members, and • increases penalties and permits the search of premises without warrant.
Finance	Executive Order No.007 on Road Infrastructure Development and Refurbishment Investment Tax Credit Scheme (the Scheme)	Issued on 25 January 2019.	The scheme: • enables the Government of Nigeria to leverage private sector funding for the construction or repair of eligible road infrastructure projects in Nigeria; • increases the focus on the development of eligible road infrastructure projects to generate value for money through the (public-private partnership) PPP intervention; • guarantees participants timely and full recovery of funds provided for the construction or repair of eligible road infrastructure projects in the manner prescribed in the Executive Order; and • is open to Nigerian companies (other than sole corporations), institutional investors such as Pension Fund Administrators, Collective Investment Schemes, Insurance Companies, Investment Banks, and a pool of companies operating through a special purpose vehicle set up as an infrastructure fund.

Rwanda

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Regulation on Banks' Major Investments and Placements	Became effective on 12 April 2019.	The regulations imposes a restriction on the ownership of immovable properties by banks by prohibiting them from purchasing or acquiring immovable properties or any right therein except as may be reasonably necessary for the purpose of conducting business (such as offices or providing amenities to its employees) provided that the value of such immovable property does not exceed 50% of the bank's core capital.
Finance	Regulation on Banks' Shareholding and Mergers & Acquisitions	Became effective on 12 April 2019.	The regulation: • repeals regulation No.05/2011; and • relates to major acquisition in a banking group, and seemingly seeks to implement the 12th and 13th Basel Principles.

São Tomé and Principe

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Labour	Law No.6/2019 – New Labour Code	Issued on 11 April 2019 and will come into force on 10 July 2019.	The law: • repeals the Legal Framework on Employment Conditions approved by Law No.6/92, of 11 June 1992; • introduces rules on employees' right to privacy and on equality and non-discrimination; • introduces new rules on fixed term hiring; and • introduces new rules on termination of employment contracts, procedures and compensation.

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Seychelles

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
All	Civil Code of Seychelles Act, 2018	Gazetted on 13 July 2018.	The code: • repeals The Civil Code of Seychelles Act (Cap33); and • provides greater certainty in respect of property rights and, with its consistent use of terminology and structure, it provides the basic law of Seychelles in a more accessible form.

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Senegal

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Decree No.2019-769 – Distribution of State services and control of public institutions, national companies with public participation between the Presidency of the Republic and, the Prime Minister and ministries	Gazetted on 8 April 2019.	The decree: • amends Decree No.2017-1546 of September 08, 2017; and • divides the services of the State between the Presidency, the Primature and other ministries accordingly.

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Uganda

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Tax Procedures Code (Amendment) Bill, 2019	Gazetted on 27 March 2019 and will come into force on 1 July 2019.	The bill: • repeals section 8 of the Finance Act, 2014; • amends the Tax Procedures Code Act, 2014; • writes off all unpaid taxes by the government as at 30 June 2019; and • introduces a reward for whistle-blowers providing information leading to recovery of tax to the equivalent of 5% of the principal tax recovered.
Finance	The Excise Duty (Amendment) Bill 2019	Gazetted on 27 March 2019 and will come into force on 1 July 2019.	The bill: • amends the Excise Duty Act, 2014; • empowers the minister to make regulations for prescribing the equivalent tax treatment of supplies made in the course of Islamic financial transactions; • amends Part III of the Act to provide for registration of manufacturers; • importers and providers of excisable goods and services; • prescribes an interest rate payable on unpaid excise duty; and • amends Schedule 2 to vary the excise duty in respect of non- alcoholic beverages, not including fruit or vegetable juices.
Finance	The Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill, 2019	Gazetted on 27 March 2019 and will come into force on 1 July 2019.	The bill: • amends the Stamp Duty Act, 2014; • provides a definition for “citizen”; • provides for a uniform stamp duty payable on bank guarantees, insurance performance bonds, indemnity bonds and similar debt instruments; and • reduces capital thresholds for developers and operators.

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Uganda

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Finance	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2019	Gazetted on 27 March 2019 and will come into force on 1 July 2019.	The bill: • amends the Income Tax Act, Cap. 340; • amends the definition of "beneficial owner"; • ring-fences rental income earned by a company from multiple rental properties; • reduces the thresholds for income tax exemptions on investments; • introduces withholding tax at the rate of 6% on the gross payment in respect of the purchase of a business or business asset by a resident person; and • reduces withholding tax on interest payments on government securities.
Finance	Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2019	Gazetted on 27 March 2019 and will come into force on 1 July 2019.	The bill: • amends the Value Added Tax Act, Cap 349; • re-introduces 6% withholding VAT on domestic supplies and imports to be withheld and remitted by persons identified by the Minister by gazette notice designate persons; • the introduces regulations prescribing the equivalent tax treatment of supplies made in the course of Islamic financial transactions for purposes of VAT and excise duty; and • exempts from VAT inter alia aircraft insurance services, rice mills, agricultural sprayers; the supply of drugs and medicines, imported mathematical and geometrical sets used for technical and vocational education, woodworking machines, welding and sewing machines.

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Zambia

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
Employment	Employment Code Act, 2019	Assented to on 11 April 2019.	The Act: • repeal and replace the Employment Act,1965, the Employment (Special Provisions) Act,1966, the Employment of Young Persons and Children Act, 1933 and the Minimum Wages and Conditions of Employment Act, 1982; • regulates the employment of persons; • constitutes the Skills and Labour Advisory Committees and provide for their functions; • provides for the engagement of persons on contracts of employment and provides for the form and enforcement of the contracts of employment; and • provides for the registration of employment agencies.
Finance	The Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2019	Gazetted on 1 April 2019.	The bill amends the Income Tax Act, so as to revise the turnover tax threshold from ZMW800 000 per annum to ZMW500 000 per annum.

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Zimbabwe

sector	legislation	effective date/status	key points and impact
All	Zimbabwe Investment and Development Agency Bill, 2019	Gazetted on 5 April 2019.	The bill: • repeals the Zimbabwe Investment Authority Act [Chapter 14:30], the Special Economic Zones Act [Chapter 14:34] and the Joint Ventures Act [Chapter 22:22]; • provides for the promotion, entry, protection and facilitation of investments in Zimbabwe; and • provides for the establishment of the Zimbabwe Investment Development Agency.
Judiciary	Supreme Court Rules (Amendment), 2019 (No.1) Statutory Instrument 89 of 2019	Gazetted on 12 April 2019.	The statutory instrument amends rule 30 and 33 of the Supreme Court Rules, 2018.

The information provided herein is intended to provide a general overview, and is not an exhaustive list of all legislative developments across Sub-Saharan Africa. For more information, please contact info@ENSafrica.com

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