



EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW APPLICATION FOR STATUTORY MEASURES (REGISTRATION, RECORDS AND RETURNS) RELATING TO MAIZE PRODUCTS AND WHEATEN PRODUCTS, IN TERMS OF THE MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ACT, ACT NO 47 OF 1996

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INVITATION TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED GROUPS IN THE GRAIN INDUSTRY TO FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING THE REQUEST FROM THE MAIZE AND WHEAT FORUMS

The National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC) received a new request from the Maize and the Wheat Forums, on behalf of directly affected groups in the grain industry, for the introduction and promulgation of statutory measures, namely registration and the keeping of information and submitting monthly returns in respect of maize products and wheaten products manufactured, processed, imported and/or exported.

There is currently no reliable information available in South Africa regarding the manufacture, processing, import and export of maize products and wheaten products. No statutory measures exist in respect of such information. The relevant industry associations, which have collected and disseminated information regarding such products in the past, have terminated these functions due to actions by the Competitions Commission against those associations and their members.

Information on the manufacture, processing, import and export of maize products and wheaten products is crucial for the effective operation of the maize and wheat markets and for market participants to be able to plan properly. The supply of generic market information to all role-players, on a continuous basis, is therefore essential. The maintenance of macro industry information is regarded as critical for strategic planning by the maize and wheat industries, as well as for individual directly affected groups.

For the above reasons the Maize Forum and the Wheat Forum have decided to make a joint application for statutory measures in order to obtain the minimum required information regarding the products in question. The purpose and aim of the statutory measures are to provide for the registration of the relevant parties and for the gathering and dissemination of proper market information to the benefit of the maize and wheat industries at large.

The proposal entails that the South African Grain Information Service (SAGIS) will be responsible for the registration, as well as the collection, dissemination and distribution of the information associated with the statutory measures that are requested. SAGIS has been established as an objective and reliable provider of information, both nationally and internationally.

The two Forums agreed to propose that all manufacturers, importers and exporters of maize products and wheaten products should register with SAGIS. Furthermore that each manufacturer, importer and exporter of maize products and wheaten products, excluding such manufacturers, importers and exporters that are not registered VAT vendors, shall keep complete records for each calendar month in respect of maize products and wheaten products that are manufactured, imported or exported by

them for own use or for commercial purposes. This shall include any person who acts in the capacity of the aforementioned persons.

The term "maize product" means the following products derived from maize:

Maize Chop
Maize Grits
Maize Rice
Samp
Sifted Maize Meal
Special Maize Meal
Super Maize Meal and
Unsifted Maize Meal

The term "wheaten product" means the following products derived from wheat:

Brown Pan Baked Bread (400g/600g/700g/other)
White Pan Baked Bread (400g/600g/700g/other)
Whole Wheat Pan Baked Bread (400g/600g/700g/other)
Other Pan Baked Bread
Wheat Bran
Wheat Meal
Brown Bread Flour
Cake Flour
Other Bread Flour
Self-Raising Flour and
White Bread Flour

The statutory measures, if approved by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, will come into operation on the date of publication for a period of four years.

Directly affected groups in the grain industry are kindly requested to submit any comments regarding the proposed statutory measures to the NAMC in writing (fax 012 341 1811/ 012 341 1911 or e-mail to lizettem@namc.co.za) before or on 19 September 2014, to enable the Council to formulate its recommendation to the Minister in this regard.

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