

Law Bytes

The much awaited Consumer Protection Act was signed into law on 24 April 2009 and published in the Government Gazette on 29 April 2009.

The second piece of consumer legislation since the National Credit Act came into effect, this Act seeks to regulate the relationship between consumers and each of the suppliers in the supply chain.

The Act brings with it numerous provisions, protective of the consumer, regulating the marketing, nature and contents of agreements, supply and quality of goods and services in the consumer arena. The provisions will effect numerous players in the market, including retailers, distributors, manufacturers, franchisors and franchisees as well as any other persons supplying goods or services to consumers.

Implementation of the Act will require redrafting of agreements between suppliers and in respect of consumers, revising policies and procedures in place and ensuring effective quality control in respect of goods supplied and services rendered.

The Act will be applicable and of full force and effect 18 months from the date of publication (in October 2010).

In addition, the Minister is required to publish regulations to the Act within the next twelve months to facilitate proper interpretation and effect.

We will keep you advised of all developments.

Should you have any questions, please contact Simone Monty or Jade Mann on
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