

26 February 2026

PRAZ/B/15/4

**Circular No. OPS/2 of 2026
TO ALL ACCOUNTING OFFICERS**

IMPLEMENTATION AND USE OF THE NATIONAL STANDARD PRICE LIST (NSPL)

1. Section 6(1a) of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets (PPDPA) Act [Chapter 22:23] mandates the Procurement Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (PRAZ) to ensure that public procurement is effected in a manner that is cost-effective. Section 7(a) of the PPDPA Act empowers the Authority to issue directions of a general nature to procuring entities regarding the manner in which they are to conduct procurement proceedings to ensure compliance with the PPDPA Act.
2. PRAZ with support from the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment Promotion, Zimbabwe National Statistics Agent (ZIMSTAT) and the National Competitiveness Commission (NCC) has produced the National Standard Price List (NSPL) which Procuring Entities shall use as a pricing reference when conducting public procurement such that procurement contracts achieve value for money.
3. Procuring Entities are expected to integrate the NSPL through the various stages of the procurement cycle especially during procurement planning, bid evaluation, and contract award thereby using it as a benchmark to assess the reasonableness of prices for commonly procured goods and services.
4. The purpose of this Circular is to give guidance to Procuring Entities on the structured implementation and use of the NSPL as follows:-
 - (a) The NSPL should not be construed as a price control but a reference tool such that Procuring Entities can make informed procurement decisions.
 - (b) Prices are tagged in US\$ to ensure continued applicability of the NSPL and easier review of the same in line with the already existing principle of submitting procurement plans in US\$.
 - (c) The NSPL shall be utilised with an allowable price variance of not more than 10% where prices obtained from the market appear to be higher than those marked on the NSPL to accommodate shocks in the market and geographical dispersion in pricing.
 - (c) Where prevailing market conditions, supply constraints, or technical requirements result in prices that fall outside the allowable variance of 10%, Procuring Entities may proceed as follows: -



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- conclude RFQ tenders and tenders with thresholds which fall within the Accounting Officer's jurisdiction provided that such deviations are properly documented, supported by market evidence, and approved through established internal governance structures. Such procurements shall then be reported to PRAZ *post facto* on a quarterly basis.
- conclude tenders with thresholds which fall outside the Accounting Officer's jurisdiction after scrutiny by the Special Procurement Oversight Committee (SPOC) in line with section 54 of the PPDPA Act.

(d) Where an item to be procured is not included in the NSPL, PEs are advised to: -

- conduct market consultations before initiating procurement proceedings in line with Section 26 of the PPDPA Act.
- undertake Due Diligence and Price Reasonableness Analysis before award of procurement contracts.

(e) All Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) are mandated to comply with paragraph 28 of Treasury Circular No. 2 of 2026 on Budget Implementation and Management.

- Accounting Officers shall retain responsibility for ensuring that public funds are utilised in a prudent manner and that adequate records are maintained to demonstrate the application of the NSPL in procurement decisions. Procurement Management Units shall ensure that procurement files clearly reflect the use of NSPL benchmarks in tender evaluations, while Internal Audit Units shall monitor NSPL compliance when conducting their routine audit programmes.
- PRAZ shall continue to review and update the NSPL to reflect market developments and shall issue supplementary guidance where necessary to improve its effectiveness, coverage, and usability. Stakeholder engagement shall form part of the continuous improvement process.
- The NPSL is available on the PRAZ website (www.praz.org.zw) and the eGP system portal <https://egp.praz.org.zw>

Please be guided accordingly and note that this Circular becomes effective on the date of issue.



Dr. C. Ruswa
Chief Executive Officer

PROCUREMENT REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF ZIMBABWE



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