

17 September 2026

To: All Ministries, Departments, Agencies & Procuring Entities

RE: PROCUREMENT GOVERNANCE ACROSS PROCURING ENTITIES - BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS, SUPPORT FOR DOMESTIC INDUSTRY, STANDARDISATION OF PRICING THROUGH THE NATIONAL PRICE LIST AND eGP SYSTEM

PRAZ hereby draws the attention of all Ministries, Departments, Agencies and other Procuring Entities to the need for strict compliance with the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act [Chapter 22:23] and its attendant Regulations. In this regard, attention is specifically drawn to the **PROCUREMENT CIRCULAR 2026** by the Government of Zimbabwe dated 4 September 2026, which states **"RE: PROCUREMENT GOVERNANCE ACROSS PROCURING ENTITIES."**

It has been observed that some Procuring Entities have disregarded key statutory requirements, particularly in procurement undertaken through bilateral and multilateral engagements. This Circular is therefore issued to provide binding guidance and to ensure that all procurement-related negotiations, contracting, evaluation and contract administration are conducted in full compliance with Zimbabwe's laws and regulations, and in alignment with the principles of transparency, accountability, efficiency, integrity and value for money.

All Accounting Officers and Heads of Procuring Entities are accordingly directed to ensure immediate implementation and compliance with the requirements set out herein:

1. Several Procuring Entities have been observed disregarding the provisions of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act [Chapter 22:23] and its associated regulations.
2. This applies to the procurement of goods and services carried out through bilateral and multilateral engagements.
3. It is therefore necessary that procurement governance across all Procuring Entities be observed, in line with the principles of transparency, accountability, efficiency, integrity, and value for money in public procurement.
4. Similarly, all procurement arising from bilateral and multilateral engagements should be undertaken in full compliance with the laws and regulations of Zimbabwe.

PROCUREMENT UNDER BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS

5. Pursuant to the above, officials involved in negotiation of procurement-related contracts and agreements are required to be conversant with and adhere to the following:

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- i. The provisions of the Public Procurement & Disposal of Public Assets Act, in particular Section 3, which governs all stages of procurement of public assets, from planning through to contract management and completion. No international commitment, MOU, or diplomatic understanding shall be construed as exempting any procurement from the application of this Act.
- ii. All goods and services procured under such arrangements must meet approved technical specifications and applicable national or international quality standards, and must demonstrably achieve value for money, assessed not only on initial cost but also on life-cycle performance, durability and overall benefit to the State.

SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY

6. In order to promote local industry development and support Zimbabwean producers and suppliers, all Procuring Entities are hereby required to strictly apply Section 29 of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act, which provides for domestic preference and reservation schemes. Compliance with this provision is mandatory and shall be observed in all procurement proceedings, regardless of the source of funding or the nature of the engagement.
7. In this regard, Procuring Entities are required to ensure the following:
 - i. Prioritisation of procurement of locally produced goods and services where such goods and services meet required quality, technical and pricing standards.
 - ii. Application of domestic preference margins in procurement evaluation criteria, as prescribed under the Act and applicable regulations.
 - iii. Avoidance of unnecessary preference for imported goods where adequate local alternatives of acceptable quality and cost are available.
 - iv. Integration of deliberate support for Zimbabwe's industrialisation and local economic empowerment agenda into all procurement planning and budgeting processes.
8. All Accounting Officers and Heads of Procuring Entities are to note that failure to comply with domestic preference provisions undermines national production capacity, employment creation, and broader economic recovery objectives. Such non-compliance shall be treated as a dereliction of duty.
9. In this regard, Accounting Officers shall be held personally and administratively accountable for any unjustified departure from these provisions.

ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT (eGP) SYSTEM

10. Accounting Officers are aware of Government's digital transformation agenda and procurement modernisation reforms. These are being realised through the electronic Government Procurement (eGP) System.
11. The eGP system is intended to:
 - i. Enhance procurement transparency and auditability.
 - ii. Standardise procurement processes across Government.
 - iii. Minimise manual inefficiencies and procedural irregularities.
 - iv. Improve reporting, monitoring and regulatory oversight.

12. Accordingly, all procurement transactions must be processed through the eGP platform unless expressly exempted by PRAZ.
13. Procuring Entities must ensure that designated officers are adequately capacitated and active on the eGP platform.
14. Pursuant to this, all Procuring Entities are directed to fully embrace and operationalise the Electronic Government Procurement (eGP) System as prescribed under the Act and applicable procurement regulations.
15. Any deliberate resistance, non-adoption or circumvention of the system shall constitute non-compliance.
16. Strict administrative and regulatory measures shall be instituted against Procuring Entities and officers that remain non-compliant without lawful justification.

STANDARDISATION OF PRICING THROUGH THE NATIONAL PRICE LIST

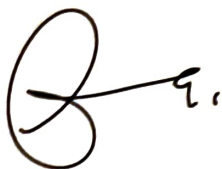
17. Procuring Entities are further reminded to comply with the National Price List framework and approved pricing benchmarks established to guide public sector procurement expenditure.
18. The purpose of the pricing framework is to:
 - i. Promote pricing uniformity across public procurement.
 - ii. Prevent inflated and unjustifiable quotations.
 - iii. Reduce procurement abuse and financial leakages.
 - v. Strengthen value for money across all public expenditure.
19. In this regard, all Procuring Entities are hereby required to ensure that the following measures are implemented and adhered to in order to give full effect to the objectives of the pricing framework:
 - i. Benchmark all procurements against prevailing approved price schedules.
 - ii. Reject supplier quotes that are exorbitant or unjustifiable.
 - iii. Maintain proper records for price verification exercises.
 - v. Escalate anomalies to PRAZ and relevant oversight authorities without delay.
20. Procurement undertaken outside approved pricing thresholds without proper justification and approval shall attract regulatory scrutiny and appropriate sanctions as provided in the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act and its attendant regulations.

IMPLEMENTATION

21. This Circular applies to all Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government, as well as all other relevant Procuring Entities and takes immediate effect.
22. All Accounting officers are hereby directed to circulate this Circular to all Procuring Entities, procurement personnel, evaluation committees, user departments and relevant oversight structures under their purview and ensure immediate compliance.

23. The cooperation and commitment of all Ministries, Departments, Agencies and other Procuring Entities would be essential to successful implementation these measures as Government continues to strengthen public procurement governance in pursuit of efficiency, transparency, integrity, accountability and sustainable national economic development.

Accounting Officers, stand guided accordingly.



Dr. C. Ruswa
Chief Executive Officer

PROCUREMENT REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF ZIMBABWE

