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C1/2026

To: All banks, branches of foreign institutions, controlling companies, eligible institutions and auditors of banks or controlling companies

Circular issued in terms of section 6(4) of the Banks Act, 1990 (Act No. 94 of 1990)

Status of previously issued circulars

Executive summary

To ensure that banks (including branches of foreign institutions), controlling companies, eligible institutions and auditors of banks or controlling companies are in no doubt as to which previously issued circulars remain effective, the Prudential Authority (PA) will annually confirm their status.

Addressees should note that, contrary to the process whereby the status of circulars are confirmed annually, directives issued in terms of section 6(6) of the Banks Act, 1990 (Act No. 94 of 1990) (Banks Act) remain effective until they are formally withdrawn in writing by the PA in terms of section 6(6)(c) of the Banks Act.

1. Introduction

1.1 All previously issued Banks Act circulars are deemed to be withdrawn, terminated or replaced, except if such a circular is to remain effective and is then accordingly confirmed in Circular 1 of that year. The circulars that remain effective will retain their original numbers and dates.

2. Effective circulars issued in terms of the Banks Act

The circulars listed below remain effective. Accordingly, banks, controlling companies, eligible institutions and auditors of banks or controlling companies are requested to retain a copy of these circulars.

Circular	Brief details
2.1 Banks Act Circular 3/2013	Interpretation and application of criteria relating to effective maturity
2.2 Banks Act Circular 4/2013	Treatment of investments in banking, financial, securities, insurance and commercial entities

2.3	Banks Act Circular 5/2013	Reporting of items subject to thresholds that do not constitute a full deduction from qualifying capital and reserve funds
2.4	Banks Act Circular 2/2014	Interpretation of definition of default as outlined in regulation 67 of the Regulations relating to Banks
2.5	Banks Act Circular 7/2014	External auditors of newly acquired or established entities
2.6	Banks Act Circular 4/2015	Matters related to banks' compliance with the prescribed requirements related to the liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) and high-quality liquid assets (HQLA)
2.7	Banks Act Circular 5/2015	Matters related to the use of support in a bank's credit risk rating process
2.8	Banks Act Circular 8/2015	Countercyclical capital buffer for South Africa based on the Basel III framework
2.9	Banks Act Circular 4/2016	Matters relating to the implementation of the capital conservation buffer
2.10	Banks Act Circular 5/2016	Matters of interpretation relating to the liquidity coverage ratio
2.11	Banks Act Circular 7/2016	Matters related to specified minority interests, that is, non-controlling interests, in shares and/or instruments qualifying as capital
2.12	Banks Act Circular 2/2018	Requirements related to a due diligence audit of the financial condition of a bank
2.13	Banks Act Circular 2/2020	Classification of the Land and Agricultural Development Bank of South Africa (Land Bank) bills under the liquidity coverage ratio framework
2.14	Banks Act Circular 3/2020	Disclosure of capital-related matters
2.15	Banks Act Circular 2/2023	Matters related to the fitness and propriety assessment
2.16	Banks Act Circular 3/2023	Eligibility of a Sukuk bond issuance
2.17	Banks Act Circular 3/2025	Interpretation and application of criteria relating to the granularity for retail exposures
2.18	Banks Act Circular 4/2025	Basel III post-crisis reforms reporting

3. Effective directives issued in terms of the Banks Act

Section 6(6)(a) of the Banks Act prescribes that the PA may, following consultation with the relevant bank, controlling company, eligible institution or auditor of a bank or controlling company, issue a directive to such a bank, controlling company, eligible institution or auditor of a bank or controlling company, either individually or collectively, regarding the application of the Banks Act.

The PA issued a number of directives in terms of section 6(6)(a) of the Banks Act. It is hereby confirmed that all such issued directives will remain effective until such time as they are withdrawn in writing by the PA in terms of section 6(6)(c) of the Banks Act.

The directives listed below are effective:

Directive	Brief details
3.1 Directive 1/2008	Use of divisional names
3.2 Directive 2/2008	Procedure to be followed in respect of applications in terms of the provisions of sections 37, 52 and/or 54 of the Banks Act, 1990 (Act No. 94 of 1990)
3.3 Directive 3/2008	Appointment of directors or executive officers, and completion of form BA 020
3.4 Directive 4/2008	Disclosure of repurchase and resale agreements and similar transactions
3.5 Directive 6/2008	Auditor rotation
3.6 Directive 2/2011	Reporting daily value-at-risk amounts for market risk using specified items of the form BA 325
3.7 Directive 5/2011	Exemption from certain minimum disclosure requirements pertaining to branches of foreign institutions
3.8 Directive 1/2012	Information to be included in applications in terms of the Securitisation Notice – Designation of an activity not falling within the meaning of ‘the business of a bank’ (Securitisation Notice)
3.9 Directive 9/2013	Investments, and loans and advances by controlling companies: section 50 of the Banks Act, 1990 (Act No. 94 of 1990)
3.10 Directive 10/2013	Limit in respect of effective net open foreign currency position, and matters related to the unencumbered assets to be held by branches of foreign institutions
3.11 Directive 13/2013	Clarification of the requirements for approval of the acquisition of ‘an interest’ outside the Republic as provided for in section 52(1)(c) of the Banks Act, 1990 (Act No. 94 of 1990)

3.12	Directive 2/2014	Matters related to changes to internal rating systems used to calculate the minimum required capital for credit risk
3.13	Directive 8/2014	Matters related to compliance with the liquidity coverage ratio
3.14	Directive 1/2015	Minimum requirements for the recovery plans of banks, controlling companies and branches of foreign institutions
3.15	Directive 2/2015	Effective risk data aggregation and risk reporting
3.16	Directive 4/2015	Amendments to the Regulations relating to Banks, and matters related thereto
3.17	Directive 7/2015	Restructured credit exposures
3.18	Directive 10/2015	Matters related to changes to the AMA operational risk management and measurement system used for the calculation of required capital for operational risk
3.19	Directive 5/2016	Compliance with principles for effective risk data aggregation and risk reporting
3.20	Directive 7/2016	Assessment of instruments issued by domestic systemically important banks and controlling companies (D-SIBs) for capital and funding purposes
3.21	Directive 8/2016	Reporting requirements relating to material outsourced service providers and critical third-party service providers
3.22	Directive 1/2017	Matters related to qualifying capital instruments issued by subsidiaries of banks or controlling companies
3.23	Directive 2/2017	Matters relating to the communication of key audit matters in the independent auditor's report
3.24	Directive 3/2017	Assets lodged or pledged to secure liabilities
3.25	Directive 4/2017	Matters related to securitisation vehicles
3.26	Directive 6/2017	Process in terms of specific capital issuances and redemptions
3.27	Directive 2/2018	Materiality threshold in respect of exposure to a foreign jurisdiction in applying jurisdictional reciprocity in the countercyclical capital buffer calculation
3.28	Directive 3/2018	Cloud computing and the offshoring of data
3.29	Directive 2/2019	Reporting of material information technology and/or cyber incidents
3.30	Directive 5/2020	Prudent Valuation Adjustments Framework

3.31	Directive 7/2020	Calculation of derivative exposure amount for the purposes of determining the leverage ratio
3.32	Directive 2/2021	Matters related to the issuance of additional tier 1 capital instruments that contain contingent 'must-pay' clauses
3.33	Directive 4/2021	Externally facilitated liquidity stress simulations
3.34	Directive 5/2021	Capital framework for South Africa based on the Basel III framework
3.35	Directive 6/2021	Matters related to the use of credit risk models to calculate minimum required capital and reserve funds for specialised lending exposures relating to project finance portfolios
3.36	Directive 9/2021	Principles for the sound management of operational risk
3.37	Directive 1/2022	Liquidity coverage ratio: scope of application and matters related to calculation and disclosure
3.38	Directive 2/2022	Requirements for conducting the business of a representative office of a foreign banking institution conducting business in South Africa, and of a representative office of a South African bank conducting business outside South Africa
3.39	Directive 4/2022	Requirement to submit anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism risk returns to the Prudential Authority on a periodic basis
3.40	Directive 5/2022	Matters relating to liquidity risk
3.41	Directive 6/2022	Matters related to fit-and-proper assessment requirements pertaining to beneficial owners
3.42	Directive 7/2022	Matters related to fit-and-proper assessment requirements pertaining to directors and executive officers
3.43	Directive 9/2022	Matters relating to domestic money or value transfer services
3.44	Directive 10/2022	Matters related to the criteria for identifying simple, transparent and comparable term and short-term securitisations
3.45	Directive 11/2022	National discretion related to the liquidity coverage ratio
3.46	Directive 1/2023	Matters related to the net stable funding ratio
3.47	Directive 2/2023	Directive for the completion of the form BA 330 and public comments received on the proposed Directive
3.48	Directive 3/2023	Regulatory treatment of accounting provisions
3.49	Directive 4/2023	Directive on operational resilience

3.50	Directive 7/2023	Directive on matters relating to eligible external credit assessment institutions
3.51	Directive 1/2024	Pillar 3 disclosure requirements for interest rate risk in the banking book
3.52	Directive 2/2024	Reporting requirements in terms of regulation 46 of the Regulations relating to Banks
3.53	Directive 3/2024	Minimum regulatory requirements relating to the deposits covered by the Corporation for Deposit Insurance and banks' fund liquidity contributions
3.54	Directive 5/2024	Loss absorbency requirements for additional tier 1 and tier 2 capital instruments
3.55	Directive 6/2024	Implementation of a positive cycle-neutral countercyclical capital buffer
3.56	Directive 2/2025	Matters related to the capital treatment of significant investments in insurance entities.
3.57	Directive 3/2025	Matters related to the leverage ratio buffer requirement for domestic systematically important banks
3.58	Directive 4/2025	Completion of regulatory return: form BA 701
3.59	Directive 5/2025	Returns to be submitted to the Prudential Authority
3.60	Directive 6/2025	Returns to be submitted to the Prudential Authority with effect from 1 July 2025
3.61	Directive 7/2025	South African domestic systemically important banks to submit consolidated information
3.62	Directive 8/2025	Threshold amounts related to the revised standardised and internal ratings-based approaches for credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk in the banking book frameworks
3.63	Directive 9/2025	Prudential treatment of credit exposures secured by forest and agricultural land
3.64	Directive 10/2025	Matters related to Pillar 3 disclosure requirements in terms of regulation 43 of the Regulations relating to Banks
3.65	Directive 11/2025	Prudential treatment of distressed restructured credit exposures
3.66	Directive 12/2025	Implementation roadmap for the Basel III post-crisis reforms and the Directive on distressed restructured credit exposures
3.67	Directive 13/2025	Appointment of auditors in terms of section 61(2) of the Banks Act, 1990 (Act No. 94 of 1990)

- 3.68 Directive 14/2025 Composition of the committee appointed by the Board of Directors to approve large exposures and matters related to the requirements for measuring and controlling large exposures
- 3.69 Directive 1/2026 Matters related to the promotion of sound corporate governance, particularly in relation to the appointment of directors and executive officers

4. Acknowledgement of receipt

- 4.1 Kindly ensure that a copy of this circular is made available to your institution's auditors. The attached acknowledgement of receipt, duly completed and signed by both the Chief Executive Officer of the institution and the said auditors, should be returned to the PA at the earliest convenience of the aforementioned signatories.

Fundi Tshazibana
Chief Executive Officer

Date:

The previous circular issued was Banks Act Circular 4/2025 dated 25 July 2025.