

11 MAY 2018

EMPLOYMENT ALERT

IN THIS ISSUE

RELEASE OF THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AMENDMENT BILL (2018) IS IMMINENT

On 9 May 2018, Cabinet approved the Occupational Health and Safety Amendment Bill of 2018, which seeks to amend the current legislation, namely the Occupational Health and Safety Act, No 85 of 1993.

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The long-awaited Bill aims to provide greater protection for workers regarding injuries and diseases at the workplace.

It is the task of the Portfolio Committee to submit the Bill with a report to the National Assembly for debate and vote.



On 9 May 2018, Cabinet approved the Occupational Health and Safety Amendment Bill of 2018, which seeks to amend the current legislation, namely the Occupational Health and Safety Act, No 85 of 1993.

The long-awaited Bill aims to provide greater protection for workers regarding injuries and diseases at the workplace. The Bill will seek to establish a health and safety management system in line with best practice, aimed at safe systems of work. This would require the carrying out of mandatory risk assessments (such as baseline and issue-based risk assessments) to eliminate, control or minimize the risk of exposure to harm in the workplace.

The Bill has not yet been released for public comment, but this is imminent. Where Cabinet has approved the Bill, the next step is for the Bill to be introduced in Parliament. It will be referred to the Joint Tagging Mechanism for classification. The Bill would then be referred to the relevant Portfolio Committee for consideration. There is likely to be significant public interest

in this Bill, so the Portfolio Committee may schedule public hearings to allow for written comments and/or oral submissions on the provisions of the Bill. Thereafter, the Portfolio Committee members would debate the Bill to determine if they are satisfied with it. If not, the Bill is amended to reflect what the Portfolio Committee prefers. It is the task of the Portfolio Committee to submit the Bill with a report to the National Assembly for debate and vote. (This is often referred to as the second reading debate).

Those with a keen interest in this area of law are please requested to follow our Alerts as we shall be issuing regular updates.

Fiona Leppan, Bheki Nhlapho and Devon Jenkins



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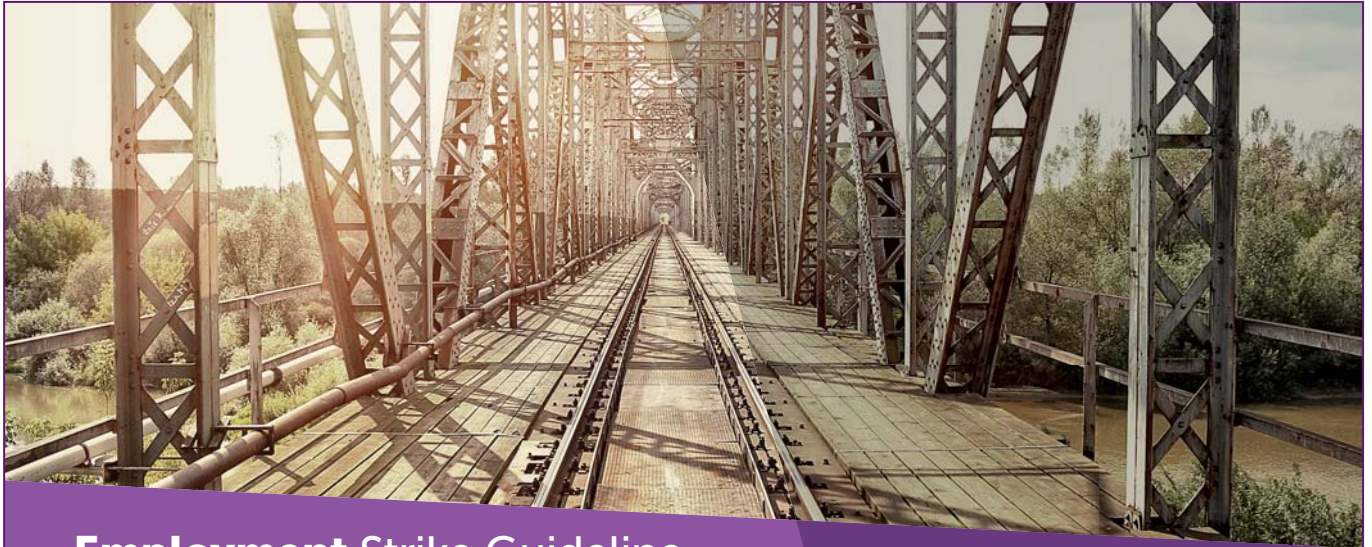
Aadil Patel ranked by CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2015 - 2018 in Band 2: Employment.

Hugo Pienaar ranked by CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2014 - 2018 in Band 2: Employment.

Fiona Leppan ranked by CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2018 in Band 2: Employment.

Gillian Lumb ranked by CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2017 - 2018 in Band 4: Employment.

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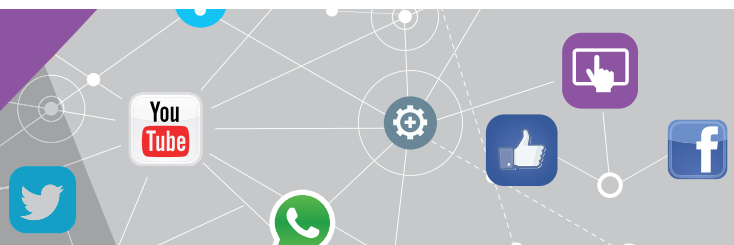
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