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Department:
Trade and Industry
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT NOTICE:

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

EXTENSION OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 97(2) OF THE CO-OPERATIVES ACT, NO.14 OF 2005 ("the Act")

1. In terms of Section 97(2) of the Act, all co-operatives registered under the Co-operatives Act, No.91 of 1981, are required to amend their constitutions to fully comply with the Act, within three years of the Act coming into effect. The Act commenced on 2 May 2007, implying that this transitional period will end on 2 May 2010.
2. The Act is currently in the process of being amended as a result of substantial comments made by a number of stakeholders regarding administrative and procedural difficulties associated with the operation of the Act. However, the Co-operatives Amendment Bill, 2010, will only be enacted after 2 May 2010.
3. In order to avoid a situation that might prejudice co-operatives in conducting their business affairs, the Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr. Rob Davies, will seek an amendment to section 97(2) of the Act, so as to retrospectively extend the transitional period until the commencement of the Amendment Act. This proposed amendment will be incorporated into the Co-operatives Amendment Bill, 2010, that is currently in the pre-certification process with the State law advisers.

4. All enquiries regarding this notice can be directed to:

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DR. ROB DAVIES

MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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