**Shop Hours and Shop Assistants Ordinance 15 of 1939.**

**Summary:** This Ordinance (OG 796) governs shop hours and certain working conditions of shop assistants. It seems to have been superseded by labour legislation enacted in independent Namibia – currently the Labour Act 11 of 2007.

**Amendments:** This Ordinance is amended by Ord. 4/1940 (OG 840), Proc. 34/1950 (OG 1530), Proc. 50/1950 (OG 1552), Ord. 10/1952 (OG 1687), Ord. 5/1957 (OG 2072), Ord. 39/1957 (OG 2092), Ord. 4/1959 (OG 2185) and Act 12/1986 (OG 5221).

**Regulations:** Pre-independence regulations have not been researched.

**Employees’ Compensation Act 30 of 1941**, as amended in South Africa prior to Namibian independence.

**Summary:** This Act (SA GG 2909) makes provision for the compensation of workers or their dependants if the worker is injured or killed in the course of employment. It was previously known as the Workmen’s Compensation Act.

**Applicability to SWA:** Section 109bis states “This Act and any amendment thereto shall apply also in the territory including the portion of the territory known as the ‘Rehoboth Gebiet’ and in relation to all persons in the Eastern Caprivi Zipfel referred to in section three of the South West Africa Affairs Amendment Act, 1951 (Act No. 55 of 1951) and defined in the First Schedule to Proclamation No. 28 of 1923 of the territory.”

Section 109bis also provides that all proclamations and notices issued under the principal Act prior to the 1956 amendment that made it applicable to SWA shall automatically apply to SWA, unless their applicability is expressly limited to an area that excludes SWA.

Section 1 defines “employers’ organization”, “Gazette”, “provincial or local division of the Supreme Court”, “territory” and “Republic” appropriately to include South West Africa.

**Transfer of administration to SWA:** The relevant Transfer Proclamation is the Executive Powers (Labour) Transfer Proclamation, (AG 17/1977), dated 20 December 1977 (OG 3680). However, section 3 of the transfer proclamation excluded this Act from the operation of Section 3(1) of the General Proclamation, meaning that the administration of this Act was not transferred to SWA.

**Amendments:** The following pre-independence South African amendments were applicable to SWA –

- *Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 27 of 1945* (SA GG 3504)
- *Finance Act 48 of 1947* (SA GG 3830)
- *Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 36 of 1949* (SA GG 4182)
- *Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 5 of 1951* (SA GG 4563)
- *SA Proclamation 147 of 1951* (SA GG 4644)
- *SA Proclamation 63 of 1952* (SA GG 4817)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 51 of 1956 (SA GG 5703)
• SA Proclamation 170 of 1959 (SA GG 6274)
• Railways and Harbours Superannuation Fund Act 39 of 1960 (SA GG 6431)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 7 of 1961 (SA GG 6649)
• RSA Proclamation R.90 of 1962 (RSA GG 229)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 21 of 1964 (RSA GG 746)
• Bantu Laws Amendment Act 42 of 1964 (RSA GG 801)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 58 of 1967 (RSA GG 1732)
• Pension Laws Amendment Act 98 of 1969 (RSA GG 2463)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 9 of 1970 (RSA GG 2647)
• Second Black Laws Amendment Act 27 of 1970 (RSA GG 2665)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 60 of 1971 (RSA GG 3156)
• Insolvency Amendment Act 6 of 1972 (RSA GG 3407)
• RSA Proclamation R.98 of 1973 (RSA GG 3856)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 11 of 1974 (RSA GG 4194)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 28 of 1977 (RSA GG 5465)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 8 of 1979 (RSA GG 6341)
• RSA Proclamation 233 of 1979 (RSA GG 6689)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 24 of 1981 (RSA GG 7453)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 29 of 1984 (RSA GG 9127)
• Transfer of Powers and Duties of the State President Act 97 of 1986 (RSA GG 10438)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Act 35 of 1987 (RSA GG 10888)
• Workmen’s Compensation Amendment Proclamation 45 of 1990 (RSA GG 12328), which makes substantial amendments to the Act in preparation for Namibian independence.

The Native Laws Amendment Proclamation, AG 3 of 1979 (OG 3898), deemed to have come into force in relevant part on 1 August 1978 (section 5 of AG 3 of 1979), amends certain terminology.


Act 5 of 1995 (GG 1038), which was brought into force on 1 March 1995 by GN 52/1995 (GG 1039), amends the Act substantially and changes its name from the Workmen’s Compensation Act to the Employees’ Compensation Act.

Sections 25(5) and 37 of the National Education Act 30 of 1980 (OG 4358), which is brought into force by AG 6/1981 (OG 4430), provided that state teachers in South West Africa are to be deemed “workmen” while students at government schools may not be deemed “workmen”. However, this Act was repealed by the Education Act 16 of 2001 (GG 2673) except insofar as it applies to tertiary education, and by the Teachers’ Education Colleges Act 25 of 2003 (GG 3124) insofar as it applies to teachers’ education colleges.

**Regulations:** Pre-independence regulations have not been comprehensively researched.

Regulations are contained in RSA GN R.581/1961 (RSA GG 73), as amended by –

RSA GN R.1580/1964 (RSA GG 922)
RSA GN R.1474/1967 (RSA GG 1851)
RSA GN R.1480/1970 (RSA GG 2808)
RSA GN R.143/1972 (RSA GG 3380)
RSA GN R.1354/1975 (RSA GG 4790)
RSA GN R.837/1977 (RSA GG 4790)
RSA GN R.908/1980 (RSA GG 6969)
RSA GN R.1802/1981 (RSA GG 7741)
RSA GN R.1551/1983 (RSA GG 8814)
RSA GN R.2187/1984 (RSA GG 9449)
RSA GN R.223/1988 (RSA GG 11140)
RSA GN R.1134/1989 (RSA GG 11909)
RSA Proc. 45/1990 (RSA GG 12328)
GN 47/2004 (GG 3169)
GN 95/2012 (GG 4919)
GN 251/2013 (GG 5291).

Note: GN 251/2013 refers to a previous amendment of the regulations by Government Notice 4919 of 2 April 2012. This appears to refer to Government Notice 95 of 2 April 2012, which was published in GG 4919.

**Notices:** RSA GN 1291/1989 (RSA GG 11960) varied certain amounts and percentages for the purposes of sections 38(1)(a), 38(4), 39(1)(a), 39(1)(c), 39(2), 40(1)(a), 40(2), 43bis(1) and 43bis(2) with effect from 1 July 1989. Proc. 45 of 1990 provides as follows in section 46(d): “In the application of the Act in the territory...paragraph 1(d) of Government Notice 1291 of 23 June 1989 shall, notwithstanding the provisions of section 43bis, be deemed not to be applicable in respect of any monthly pension which was payable by the State, including a Representative Authority as defined in section 1 of Representative Authorities Proclamation, 1980 (Proclamation AG. 8 of 1980), in terms of section 39 or 40 of the Act immediately before 1 July 1989 in connection with the disablement or death of a workman in the service of a department established under section 3(1) of the Government Service Act, 1980 (Act 2 of 1980).”

The amount referred to in section 3(2)(b) (exclusion of persons as employees) is set at N$72 000 with effect from 1 March 2001 (GN 100/2001, GG 2544). This amount is set at N$76 000 with effect from 1 March 2012 (GN 66/2012, GG 4891), and at N$81 300 with effect from 1 March 2013 (GN 250/2012, GG 5291).

The amounts of compensation for temporary, partial, total and permanent disablement and death are increased in GN 46/2004 (GG 3169), which is replaced by GN 96/2012 (GG 4919).

Tariffs of fees published in terms of the Act from time to time have not been recorded here. Notices of unclaimed payments are also not recorded here.

**Cases:** Social Security Commission & Another v Coetzee 2016 (2) NR 529 (SC) (section 54: timeframes and section 108: delegation; discussion of overall framework of Act in paras 9-24).

**Natives Minimum Wage Proclamation 1 of 1944.**

**Summary:** This Proclamation (OG 1088), which is obviously obsolete, provides for the payment of minimum wages to “natives”.

**Amendments:** This Proclamation is amended by Proc. 5/1944 (OG 1092).

**Development Brigade Corporation Act 32 of 1992.**
Summary: This Act (GG 563) provides for the establishment of the Development Brigade Corporation, with the object of engaging in agricultural and other business activities for the purpose of providing training and skills development opportunities to unemployed persons. It was brought into force on 1 February 1993 by GN 15/1993 (GG 580).

Regulations: The Act makes no provision for regulations.

Notices: Proc. 3/1993 (GG 577) and Proc. 20/1993 (GG 715) both relate to the designation of the Minister responsible for administering the Act.

Appointments: Directors are appointed in GN 113/1994 (GG 870) and in GN 171/2017 (GG 6358), which withdraws GN 113/1994.


Summary: This Act (GG 1962) establishes an Employment Equity Commission and provides for affirmative action measures to achieve equal opportunity in employment for racially disadvantaged persons, women and persons with disabilities. It was brought into force, with the exception of section 2, sections 19-43 and sections 45-48, on 18 November 1998 by GN 278/1998 (GG 1996). The remaining sections were all brought into force on 6 August 1999 by GN 156/1999 (GG 2161).


Regulations: Regulations are contained in GN 159/1999 (GG 2161).

Notices: A “relevant employer” for the purposes of the Act was initially defined as an employer which employs 50 or more employees by GN 158/1999 (GG 2161), which also contains guidelines for calculation and interpretation of this rule. GN 158/1999 was replaced by GN 95/2006 (GG 3658), which defines “relevant employer” as an employer which employs 25 or more employees.

GN 157/1999 (GN 2161) provides that the first affirmative action report by “an Office, Ministry or Agency in the Public Service, or by a parastatal, identified as a relevant employer” must be submitted by 6 August 2000.

Appointments: The appointment of members to the Employment Equity Commission is announced in GN 184/2018 (GG 6680).

Cases: Elio & Another v Permanent Secretary of Education & Another 2008 (2) NR 532 (LC) The Act is discussed in dicta in Thloro v Minister of Home Affairs 2008 (1) NR 97 (HC) beginning at 113C.
See also *S v Nkeuene* 2010 (1) NR 301 (HC) (conviction on charge of failing to comply with section 27(2)(a) set aside on basis that servant of corporate body was not authorised to plead guilty on behalf of the body).

**Commentary:**

**Related international agreements:**
*CEDAW*, 1979
*SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, 2008.*

**Labour Act 11 of 2007.**

**Summary:** This Act (GG 3971) consolidates and amends the labour law. It entrenches fundamental labour rights and protections, regulates the basic terms and conditions of employment, ensures the health, safety and welfare of employees, protects employees against unfair labour practices, regulates the registration of trade unions and employers’ organizations, regulates collective labour relations, provides for the systemic prevention and resolution of labour disputes, establishes the Labour Advisory Council, Labour Court, Wages Commission and labour inspectorate, and provides for the appointment of the Labour Commissioner and Deputy Labour Commissioner.

This Act repeals both the Labour Act 6 of 1992 (GG 388) and the Labour Act 15 of 2004 (GG 3339), which was brought only partially into force. There is an extensive Schedule of transitional provisions. Any reference to the 1992 Act in any law must be construed insofar as possible as a reference to the corresponding provision of this Act. The Labour Act 15 of 2004 was intended to repeal the Labour Act 6 1992, but it never came into force in its entirety. Sections 75, 97(a), (b), (c), (e) and (h), 94(1) and (4), 98, 99, 100 and 101 and items 1 and 11(3) of Schedule 1 were brought into force on 30 November 2005 by GN 162/2005 (GG 3545). Section 118 and item 13(1) of Schedule 1 were brought into force on 27 January 2006 by GN 20/2006 (GG 3582). All of the Act other than section 128 (prohibiting labour hire) was brought into force on 1 November 2008 by GN 260/2008 (GG 4151). Section 128 of the Act was brought into force on 1 March 2009 by GN 1/2009 (GG 4192).

Regulations, notices, declarations, registrations, collective agreements and exemptions from collective agreements made under the 1992 Act generally remain in force.

The Labour Act 6 of 1992, which was repealed by this Act, repealed the Factories, Machinery and Building Work Ordinance 34 of 1952, the Wage and Industrial Conciliation Ordinance 35 of 1952, the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act 78 of 1973 and the Conditions of Employment Act 12 of 1986 as well as a number of ethnic- and race-based laws relating to employment.

**Amendments:** Act 2/2012 (GG 4925) amends sections 1, 5, 82, 83, 89 and 128 and inserts sections 128A, 128B and 128C; these amendments relate to the issue of “labour hire”. This amending Act was brought into force from 1 August 2012 by GN 136/2012.
(GG 4958) – but GN 136/2012 was withdrawn by GN 192/2012 (GG 5005) on 1 August 2012. GN 193/2012 (GG 5005) provides that amending Act 2/2012 will come into force on 1 August 2012 – except for the provisions in section 10 in so far as they relate to section 26(2)(a)(ii)-(iii) of the Employment Services Act 8 of 2011.

The Whistleblower Protection Act 10 of 2017 (GG 6450), which has not yet been brought into force, amends section 84.

**Application of law:** Section 5 of the Act applies to all employers and employees. The remainder of the Act applies to all employers and employees except members of the Namibian Defence Force, the Namibian Police Force, municipal police services, the Namibian Central Intelligence Service or the Prison Service (unless the laws governing any of these services provide otherwise).

Application of the 1992 Act was addressed in the following:

Export processing zones are exempted from the operation of certain provisions of the Labour Act by section 8 of the Export Processing Zones Act 9 of 1995 (GG 1069) (as amended by Act 6/1996 (GG 1337).

Section 35 of the Namibia Central Intelligence Service Act 10 of 1997 (GG 1699) provides that the Labour Act will not apply to the administration of the Service or to its staff members, with the exception of sections 35, 39, 40, 41, 52, 106 and 107.

Section 40 of the Namibia Water Corporation Act 12 of 1997 (GG 1703) provides that employees who would cause or prolong a disruption of water supply to a customer by withholding their services shall be deemed to be rendering an essential service for the purposes of section 79 of the Act.

**Regulations:** Regulations made in terms of Acts repealed by the Labour Act 6 of 1992 survived in terms of section 116(2) of that Act, and continue to survive pursuant to section 142 of the current Act (read together with paragraph 2 of Schedule 1). However, pre-independence regulations have not been researched.

Regulations made in terms of the Labour Act 6 of 1992, which survive pursuant to section 142 of this Act are as follows –

**Regulations relating to the health and safety of employees at work** are contained in GN 156/1997 (GG 1617). The administration of these regulations is assigned to various ministers by Proc. 10/1997 (GG 1615). (See also the Namibian Electricity Safety Code contained in GN 200/2011 (GG 4821), which is to be read in conjunction with these regulations.)

Regulations made under this Act are as follows:


**Regulations relating to domestic workers** are contained in GN 257/2017 (GG 6428), which repeals GN 257/2014 (GG 5638). They require employers of domestic workers to submit a form annually to the Permanent Secretary of the labour ministry or to the Labour Office containing certain particulars about domestic workers.
These regulations are supplemented by a **Wage Order** setting a minimum wage and supplementary minimum conditions of employment for domestic workers, in GN 258/2017 (GG 6428), which repeals GN 258/2014 (GG 5638) (which was amended by GN 53/2016 (GG 5978)).

General Notice 639/2018 (GG 6767) increased the minimum wage with effect from 1 October 2018, pursuant to the provisions of the Wage Order, which provides for an increase by 1% plus a percentage equal to the average of the increases in the inflation rates in respect of certain specified categories of goods and services published by the Namibia Statistics Agency for the 12 months preceding 1 October 2018. The minimum wage from 1 October 2018 is N$1564.39/month, N$361.29/week, N$72.25/day or N$9.03/hour, and N$45.15/day for part-time domestic workers who work five hours or less on any day other than a Sunday or public holiday. The Wage Order’s rates for minimum overtime pay and minimum pay for work on Sundays and public holidays were similarly increased by General Notice 639/2018.

The Wage Order also contains rules about transport allowances, accompanying employers on holiday, food and accommodation, health and safety, uniforms, trade union access and a written contract of employment. These rules remain unchanged.

**Rules:** Rules made by the Labour Courts’ Rules Board in terms of the previous Act and surviving pursuant to section 14(4) of the current Act are as follows –

**Rules of the District Labour Courts** are contained in GN 138/1993 (GG 747). These courts no longer exist in Namibia (see section 16(b) of Schedule 1 of the Act), although pending cases before district labour courts are to be completed in terms of section 15(4) of Schedule 1 of the Act.

Rules made under the current Act are as follows:

**Rules relating to the conduct of conciliation and arbitration before the Labour Commissioner** are contained in GN 262/2008 (GG 4151), as amended by GN 69/2016 (GG 5990), which substitutes Annexure 1.


**Codes of Good Practice:** A Code of Good Practice on Industrial Action ( Strikes and Lock-outs), issued in terms of section 137(1)(a) of the 2007 Act, is contained in GN 208/2009 (GG 4361).

A Code of Good Practice on Picketing, issued in terms of section 137(1)(a) of the 2007 Act, is also contained in GN 208/2009 (GG 4361).

**Notices:** Notices made under the previous Act which remain in force include the following (omitting those with no ongoing effect) –

**Particulars to be submitted by employers in the agricultural sector** are contained in GN 115/2003 (GG 2990), which is replaced by GN 171/2003 (GG 3030); GN 89/2005 (GG 3465) again withdraws GN 115/2003 (although it was probably meant to replace GN 171/2003), and sets forth particulars to be
submitted by employers in the agricultural sector.

**Guidelines and instructions pertaining to HIV/AIDS in employment** were issued in GN 78/1998 (GG 1835), but these do not appear to remain in effect.

Other notices regarding specific topics are listed below.

**Exemptions:** The following work is exempted from the prohibition on work on Sundays and public holidays in section 33(1) of the 1992 Act:

- GN 100/1998 (GG 1856): work by employees engaged in providing an essential service in a hospital, clinic, pharmacy, radiography, medical laboratory, mortuary, children’s home or ambulance service
  Replaced by GN 301/1998 (GG 2010): nursing services, ambulance services, radiographic services, admission services, porter’s services, cleaning services, medical laboratory services, medical professional services, pharmacy services, health assistance (mortuary) services, child care services, Chief Children’s Home Superintendent’s services, driving services, Engineering Technician’s services, Medical Assistant’s services, Security Orderly’s services and watchman’s services.
- GN 49/2000 (GG 2280): security officers “who are engaged in the security services rendered by the security enterprises” (revoking any previous exemptions granted to any security enterprise in respect of Sunday and holiday work).
- GN 248/2000 (GG 2426): employees engaged in the continuous metallurgic process of Navachab Gold Mine
- GN 249/2000 (GG 2426): employees engaged in diamond mining operations by vessel (referred to as the Ocean Diamond Mining System)
- GN 77/2002 (GG 2746): all work activities of employees of Anglo Base Namibia (Proprietary) Limited Project
- GN 116/2002 (GG 2765): all work activities of employees of Trans Hex Marine (Namibia) (Proprietary) Limited, exempted on the basis of section 33(2)(f) pertaining to continuous operations
- GN 42/2003 (GG 2933): employees of the pre-treatment facility plant of the Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd
- GN 43/2003 (GG 2933): employees of Ramatex Textiles Namibia (Pty) Ltd
- GN 38/2004 (GG 3161): employees of the Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd – Pocket Beaches Project
- GN 141/2004 (GG 3237): employees of the Etosha Fishing Corporation (Pty) Ltd
- GN 268/2004 (GG 3345): employees of the Roads Authority: Roads Transport Inspection Services
- GN 100/2005 (GG 3482): work activities in the farming division of WUM Properties

Note that the Table of Contents on the front page of GG 3482 does not accurately reflect the content of this Government Gazette.

- GN 142/2005 (GG 3529): work performed in Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd – Articulated Dump Truck Stripping Operations
- GN 1/2006 (GG 3573): work performed in petrol stations of Pupkewitz Motor Division in Ondangwa and Rundu
- GN 2/2006 (GG 3573): work in Okorusu Fluorspar (Pty) Ltd – Metallurgical Plants
• GN 83/2006 (GG 3647): work performed in Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd – Marine Dredging Treatment Plant
• GN 3/2007 (GG 3771): work performed in Langer Heinrich Uranium (Pty) Ltd
• GN 135/2007 (GG 3887): NAMPOST Ltd
• GN 171/2008 (GG 4085): work in Reptile Uranium (Pty) Ltd
• GN 172/2008 (GG 4085): work in PowerCom (Pty) Ltd-Customer Care Centre.

Continuous operations: The following are work is declared to be continuous operations in terms of section 15 of the 2007 Act:
• GN 196/2009 (GG 4350): Telecom Namibia (Customer Contact Centre and Information Communication Technology Technical Helpdesk)
• GN 212/2009 (GG 4371): Areva Resources Namibia
• GN 213/2009 (GG 4371): Namib Mills (Pty) Ltd
• GN 231/2010 (GG 4584): Major Drilling Namibia (Pty) Ltd
• GN 232/2010 (GG 4584): Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd (Security Station)
• GN 240/2010 (GG 4595): Oceano Traders CC
• GN 241/2010 (GG 4595): Protea Spar
• GN 127/2011 (GG 4767): Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd (wet in field screening plant team, dry in field screening plant team and mining pumping team)
• GN 127/2011 (GG 4767): Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd (inshore project)
• GN 173/2011 (GG 4792): Telecom Namibia (Network Operating Centre)
• GN 16/2012 (GG 4875): Namibia Mills (Pty) Ltd
• GN 17/2012 (GG 4875): Areva Resources Namibia (Pty) Ltd
• GN 18/2012 (GG 4875): Standard Bank of Namibia (Customer Contact Centre)
• GN 19/2012 (GG 4875): Luderitz Town Council (sewerage plant operation)
• GN 137/2012 (GG 4958): Energy for Future, from 1 December 2011 until 30 November 2013
• GN 138/2012 (GG 4958): Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd (Southern Coastal Mining Teams), subject to certain conditions, from 1 December 2011 until 30 November 2013
• GN 252/2012 (GG 5060): Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd
• GN 253/2012 (GG 5060): GPT-Transnamib Concrete Sleeper (Pty) Limited
• GN 85/2013 (GG 5173): Cato Fishing (Pty) Limited (on behalf of Rainbow Trawling (Pty) Limited, Overberg Fishing Company (Pty) Limited and Ekkimbo Trawling (Pty) Limited)
• GN 86/2013 (GG 5173): Feedmaster (Pty) Limited
• GN 113/2013 (GG 5188): B&E International (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd
• GN 114/2013 (GG 5188): Hangana Seafood (Pty) Ltd
• GN 133/2013 (GG 5211): Purity Manganese (Pty) Ltd
• GN 134/2013 (GG 5211): Kaap Agri Namibia
• GN 135/2013 (GG 5211): Erongo Marine Enterprises (Pty) Ltd.
• GN 5/2015 (GG 5660): Africa Huaxia Mining (Pty) Limited, from 01 January 2015 until 01 January 2017
• GN 6/2015 (GG 5660): Swakop Uranium (certain specified operations), from 15 October 2014 to 15 September 2016
• GN 17/2015 (GG 5668): Biosolidsolutions Namibia, from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2016
• GN 90/2015 (GG 5751): Nexus Civils (Pty) Ltd, construction of Namalubisizeluhonono (Schuckmannsburg) Road, subject to certain conditions, from 1 June 2015 until 30 April 2016
• GN 225/2015 (GG 5848): Basil Read Mining Namibia (Pty) Ltd // Tschudi Copper Project, from 1 October 2015 to 31 September 2016
• GN 56/2016 (GG 5986): B2Gold Namibia (Pty) Ltd, subject to certain conditions, from 1 April 2016 until 31 May 2018
• GN 57/2016 (GG 5986): production teams of Southern Coastal Mining Production of Namdeb (Pty) Limited, subject to certain conditions, from 1 April 2016 until 30 November 2017
• GN 103/2016 (GG 6024): Namibia Ports Authority, subject to certain conditions, from 1 September 2015 until 30 September 2018
• GN 168/2016 (GG 6086): B2Gold Namibia (Pty) Ltd, subject to certain conditions, from 1 August 2016 until 31 May 2018
• GN 175/2016 (GG 6094): operations of immigration officers, as defined in section 1 of the Immigration Control Act 7 of 1993, of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration, from 1 April 2016 until 31 March 2019
• GN 176/2016 (GG 6094): BC Stone Products Namibia (Pty) Ltd, from 1 May 2016 until 30 April 2018
• GN 247/2016 (GG 6149): Swakop Uranium, from 16 September 2016 to 16 September 2019
• GN 133/2017 (GG 6320): Erongo Red Call Centre and Control Centre, subject to certain conditions, from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2019
• GN 226/2017 (GG 6397): Rosh Pinah Zinc Corporation (Pty) Ltd, from 10 July 2017 to 9 July 2020
• GN 227/2017 (GG 6397): Basil Read Mining Namibia (Pty) Ltd, from 22 May 2017 to 21 May 2020
• GN 253/2017 (GG 6426): Africa Huaxia Mining Namibia (Pty) Ltd, from 11 April 2017 to 10 April 2020
• GN 298/2017 (GG 6472): Nedbank Namibia Limited (IT operations), from 29 June 2017 to 28 June 2020
• GN 13/2018 (GG 6524): Basil Read Mining Namibia (Pty) Ltd // Tschudi Copper Project, from 4 October 2017 to 31 September 2020
• GN 70/2018 (GG 6573): Namdeb (Southern Coastal Mines production teams), subject to certain conditions, from 1 December 2017 until 31 December 2020
• GN 120/2018 (GG 6627): Debmarine Namibia (Pty) Ltd sea-going mining operations, from 26 January 2018 to 25 January 2021
• GN 121/2018 (GG 6627): Namibia Tantalite Investment (Pty) Ltd, from 17 May 2018 to 16 May 2021
• GN 179/2018 (GG 6680): Standard Bank Namibia Ltd’s Customer Contact Centre and Information Technology Department, from 25 June 2018 to 24 June 2021
• GN 180/2018 (GG 6680): Road Fund Administration, from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021
• GN 181/2018 (GG 6680): Dust-A-Side Namibia (Pty) Ltd, from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021
• GN 182/2018 (GG 6680): B2Gold Namibia (Pty) Ltd, from 1 June 2018 to 31 May 2021
• GN 183/2018 (GG 6680): Intertek Testing Services Namibia (Pty) Ltd at Tschudi Mine, from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021
• GN 342/2018 (GG 6794): Customer Reporting Centre and Department Technical Services at NORED Electricity (Pty) Ltd, subject to certain conditions, from 19 October 2018 to 18 October 2021
• GN 371/2018 (GG 6816): Bank Windhoek Ltd, Call Centre, subject to certain conditions, from 14 November 2018 to 13 November 2021
• GN 372/2018 (GG 6816): Aveng Water Treatment Pty (Ltd), from 14 November 2018 to 13 November 2021
• GN 34/2019 (GG 6851): operations at the Process Plant Department of Namib Lead and Zinc Mining (Pty) Ltd, from 13 December 2018 to 12 December 2021.

Essential services: Certain services are designated as essential services in terms of section 77(4) of the Act in
• GN 314/2012 (GG 5109), repealed by GN 115/2017 (GG 6309),
• GN 94/2014 (GG 5510)
• GN 115/2017 (GG 6309)
• GN 178/2018 (GG 6680).

Variations: Certain provisions of Chapter 3 of the Act (sections 8, 18, 20, 21, 22 and 28) are varied in respect of employers and employees in the tourism and hospitality industry by GN 17/2011 (GG 4660).

Certain provisions of Chapter 3 of the Act (sections 16, 17, 18 and 20) are varied in respect of fishers (defined as persons “employed or engaged in any capacity or carrying out an occupation on board a fishing vessel, including persons working on board paid on the basis of as share of the catch but excluding pilots, naval personnel, shore-based persons carrying out work aboard a fishing vessel and fisheries observers”) by GN 250/2016 (GG 6149).

Registered collective agreements: Registered collective agreements have been declared binding on three industries –

Construction industry: GN 298/1996 (GG 1444) contains the initial agreement between the Metal and Allied Namibian Workers Union and the Construction Industries Federation of Namibia (dealing with minimum wages, minimum protective clothing, minimum productivity levels, performance standards, living away allowance, safety, and stop order facilities) which is binding on the entire industry, with the exception of employers and employees engaged in any “labour-based project”.

This agreement, as well as each subsequent collective agreement, remains in force until its listed expiry date or until replaced by a subsequent agreement. The successive collective agreements use the term “amend”, indicating that each amends the previous collective agreement. However, since each collective agreement is only in force until there is a new collective agreement, the term “replaced” is a clearer reflection of what actually transpired; each new collective agreement replaces the one that came before it.

The next collective agreement between these two parties (dealing with the same topics as the initial agreement, with the addition of service allowance and shop steward training) was published in GN 272/1997 (GG 1752). It was extended by GN 300/1998 (GG 2010) and then replaced by the subsequent agreement published in GN 135/1999 (GG 2144). The applicability of this agreement was extended indefinitely, until a new agreement was reached, by GN 85/2000 (GG 2301).

The collective agreement in GN 135/1999 was replaced by GN 123/2000 (GG 2340), which was replaced by GN 217/01 (GG 2637), which was replaced by GN 39/2003 (GG 2927), which was replaced by GN 24/2005 (GG 3392), which was replaced by GN 224/2008 (GG 4115), which was replaced by GN 129/2009 (GG 4271).

The next collective agreement, GN 154/2012 (GG 4970), in addition to the usual
clauses, adds fair practice and pension fund and sets specific dates for minimum wages (1 June 2011 to 31 May 2012, and from 1 June 2012 until a new agreement is reached). This method is repeated in the subsequent collective agreements.

The following collective agreement, GN 334/2013 (GG 5372), sets minimum wages for various construction employees applicable from 15 September 2013 until 31 May 2014 and from 1 June 2014 until a new agreement is reached. It also removes the application exception for those employees engaged in “labour-based projects”, applying the collective agreement to all employers and employees in the construction industry.

The following collective agreement, GN 319/2015 (GG 5917), sets minimum wages applicable from 31 December 2015 until 30 December 2016, and from 31 December 2016 until a new agreement is promulgated.

The current collective agreement, dated 15 November 2017, is extended to the entire construction industry (and set forth in full) in GN 65/2018 (GG 6567). It sets minimum wages, amongst other things, and amends the collective agreement contained in GN 319/2015 (GG 5917).

**Agricultural industry**: A registered collective agreement between the Agricultural Employers’ Association (AEA), the Namibian National Farmers’ Union (NNFU) and the Namibia Farm Workers’ Union (NFWU) is declared binding on the entire agricultural industry in GN 77/2003 (GG 2946). This agreement sets a minimum wage for agricultural employees at N$2.20/hour for entry level, plus (where the employee is required to live on the premises) housing with sanitation and water, and either food rations sufficient for the employee and any dependants or a minimum supplementary allowance of N$210/month. Alternatively, an employee who resides on agricultural land must be allowed to keep livestock and carry on cultivation as necessary for the reasonable needs of the employee and dependants. A new agreement which is binding on the industry is contained in GN 237/2009 (GG 4390). It raises the entry-level minimum wage for agricultural employees at N$2.87/hour, and the supplementary allowance in the absence of food rations (which may not exceed 35% of the employee’s basic wages) to N$300/month.

No further minimum wage increases have been gazetted for this sector, but it was reported in 2013 that the Agricultural Employers Association (AEA) has recommended as a guide that the minimum wage for entry-level farmworkers should be N$3,44 per hour, which at full employment is N$670 per month, as well as a food allowance at N$345 per month, with housing and sanitation requirements being unchanged. The official rate has reportedly remained unchanged due to the absence of meetings of the Namibia Agricultural Labour Forum – which is composed of the Agricultural Employers’ Association, the Namibia National Farmers’ Union and the Namibia Farm Workers’ Union – for the past few years. (“New minimum wage for farmworkers”, The Namibian, 25 June 2013)

It was reported in 2014 that the Agricultural Employers Association, Namibia National Farmers Union and Namibia Workers Union signed an agreement making the lowest minimum wage N$3,70/hour, or N$888/month. The agreement also reportedly states that if an employee is required to live on the place of their employment or on any property of their employer, that worker must receive an additional N$400 food allowance per month. (See “New minimum wage for farm workers”, The Namibian, 17 June 2014.)

A request to extend a collective agreement to the agricultural industry, and an invitation to submit objections to such extension, is published in GN 104/2014 (GG 5522).

**Security industry**: A registered collective agreement relating to employers and employee in the security industry which is declared binding on the entire industry is
contained in GN 132/2005 (GG 3516). This agreement sets a minimum wage for entry-level security guards at N$25 per 12-hour shift (N$2.09/hour). It is amended by a Memorandum of Agreement contained in GN 202/2008 (GG 4112), which raises the minimum wage for security personnel to N$3.00 per hour and addresses the provision of uniforms.

A new agreement for this industry, which raises the minimum wage for entry level security officers to N$3.80 per hour and N$4.00 shift bonus, is contained in GN 190/2009 (GG 4342).

A registered collective agreement concluded by the Security Association of Namibia (SAN), the Namibia Transport and Allied Workers Union (NATAU), the Namibia Security Guards and Watchman’s Union (NASGWU) and the Namibia Independent Security Union (NISU), which is declared binding on the entire industry, is contained in GN 229/2012 (GG 5031). This agreement increases the previous minimum wage for entry-level security guards to N$5.00/hour with a N$4.00 shift bonus. It also details the uniforms which employers must provide to employees.

A registered collective agreement concluded by the Security Association of Namibia (SAN), the Namibia Transport and Allied Workers Union (NATAU), the Namibia Security Guards and Watchman’s Union (NASGWU) and the Namibia Independent Security Union (NISU), which is declared binding on the entire industry, is contained in GN 248/2014 (GG 5628). This agreement increases the previous minimum wage for entry-level security guards to N$5.30/hour and provides for other wage adjustments. It also contains rules about the provision of uniforms.

A collective agreement concluded by the Security Association of Namibia, the Namibian Transport and Allied Workers Union, the Namibia Independent Security Union and the Namibia Security Guards and Watchmen’s Union, dated 15 December 2016, is extended to all employers and employees in the Security Industry by GN 242/2017 (GG 6414). It sets the minimum wage for entry-level security officers at N$8.75 per hour as of 1 January 2017 and provides for other wage adjustments. It also contains rules about the provision of uniforms.

Fuel industry: No minimum wage has been gazetted, but a 2014 news report stated that agreement was reached between the Namibia Fuel and Allied Workers Union (NAFAWU), the Metal and Allied Workers Union (MANWU), the Namibia Wholesalers and Retail Workers Union (NWRWU), the Namibia Food and Allied Workers Union and the Association of Service Station Owners (ASSO) for a N$7.20/hour minimum wage for a basic minimum salary of N$1 404 per month. According to the news report, the agreement covers petrol attendants, cashiers and shop attendants at service stations. The minimum amount does not include payment for Sundays, public holidays or overtime. It was expected to be implemented on 1 January 2015, and to be renegotiated after two years. The plan was to extend the agreement to the entire industry. (“Minimum wage for Namibia’s fuel sector”, Namibian Sun, 29 September 2014)

A request to extend a collective agreement to the Fuel Retail Industry, and an invitation to submit objections to such extension, is published in GN 309/2015 (GG 5910).

Wages Commission: A Wages Commission was convened for the purpose of investigating the terms and conditions of employment of domestic workers by GN 135/2012 (GG 4956), which sets forth its terms of reference. The date for submission of this Commission’s report, originally 15 February 2013, was extended to 15 April 2013 by GN 308/2012 (GG 5109) and to 30 May 2013 by GN 112/2013 (GG 5188).

A Wages Commission was again convened for the purpose of investigating the terms and conditions of employment of domestic workers by GN 28/2017 (GG 6245), which
sets forth its terms of reference. The deadline for submission of this Commission’s report is 23 March 2017.

**Cases:** The following cases were decided after the **Labour Act 11 of 2007** became the operative law –

**General arbitration proceedings (generally):**

- **Novanam Ltd v Absalom & Others** 2014 (4) NR 1009 (LC) (recusal of arbitrator)
- **Life Office of Namibia Ltd (Namlife) v Amakali & Another** 2014 (4) NR 1119 (LC) (basis for appeal of arbitrator’s award)
- **Primedia Outdoor Namibia (Pty) Ltd v Kauluma** 2015 (1) NR 283 (LC) (Labour Court Rules and Conciliation and Arbitration Rules must be read together; at para 25: “perhaps consideration should in future be given to creating greater harmony between the different sets of rules, or by co-ordinating matters so that both sets of rules do not regulate the same matters”)
- **City of Windhoek v Katuuo & Others** 2016 (2) NR 529 (LC) (arbitrator finding “unfair labour practices” under section 50(1) should indicate which paragraph of that section is relevant; arbitration is not competent in respect of disputes of interest)
- **Janse van Rensburg v Wilderness Air Namibia (Pty) Ltd** 2016 (2) NR 554 (SC) (approach to overtime claims in arbitration proceeding)
- **Hangana Seafood (Pty) Ltd v Viringa** 2016 (2) NR 582 (LC) (approach to finding of procedurally and substantively unfair dismissal in arbitration proceedings)
- **Negonga & Another v Secretary to Cabinet & Others** 2016 (3) NR 670 (HC) (criteria for interfering with arbitrator’s award on appeal)

**Condonation:**

- **Telecom Namibia Ltd v Nangolo & Others** (LC 33/2009) [2012] NALC 15 (28 May 2012) (explication of general legal principles applicable to applications for condonation; confirmed on appeal in **Telecom Namibia Ltd v Nangolo & Others** 2015 (2) NR 510 (SC))

**Constructive dismissal:**

- **Labour Supply Chain v Hambata** 2012 (1) NR 313 (LC) (burden of proving constructive dismissal lies with employee)
- **Kvekotora v Transnamib Holdings Ltd & Another** 2012 (2) NR 443 (LC)

**Contract of employment:**

- **Namrights Inc v Nicodemus & Others** 2016 (2) NR 596 (LC) (contract of employment is *void ab initio* and cannot be basis for any benefits where concluded with refugee in absence of work permit or exemption from work permit requirements)

**Prescription:**

- **Namibia Development Corporation v Mwandingi & Others** 2013 (3) NR 737 (LC) (**Prescription Act 68 of 1969** applies to labour-related claims arising under this Act).

**Sexual harassment:**

- **Life Office of Namibia Ltd (Namlife) v Amakali & Another** 2014 (4) NR 1119 (LC) (*dicta* at paras 61-62: “Sexual harassment is after all a serious matter. The legislature has provided for sexual harassment in the workplace in ch 2 of the Act, where special remedies are also provided for discrimination in an employment setting. This is a clear indication of the seriousness with which sexual harassment at the workplace is viewed by the legislature and rightly so. Being subjected to unwanted
and unwarranted conduct of a sexual nature not only creates a barrier to equality in employment as is stressed in s 2 of the Act, but it also violates an employee’s constitutional right to dignity and of the person. The seriousness of sexual harassment in employment is reinforced by the fact that the failure on the part of an employer to prevent it may even attract delictual liability.”

team misconduct:

**Novanam Ltd v Absalom & Others** 2014 (4) NR 1009 (LC)

unfair labour practice:

**Wilderness Air Namibia v Janse van Rensburg** 2012 (2) NR 764 (LC); **Janse van Rensburg v Wilderness Air Namibia (Pty) Ltd** 2016 (2) NR 554 (SC)

unfair dismissal:

**Africa Personnel Services (Pty) Ltd v Shipunda & Others** 2012 (2) NR 718 (LC) (arbitrators’ finding of unfair dismissal overturned)

**House and Home (a trading division of Shoprite (Pty) Ltd) v Majiedt & Another** 2013 (2) NR 333 (LC) (court overturns factual conclusion of arbitrator on grounds that no arbitrator could reasonably have found dismissal unfair; procedural defects can be overlooked if there is substantial fairness)

**Hangana Seafood (Pty) Ltd v Viringa** 2016 (2) NR 582 (LC)

Labour Act 11 of 2007

section 1:

**Swart v Tube-O-Flex Namibia (Pty) Ltd & Another** 2016 (3) NR 849 (SC) (definition of “employee”)

section 9:

**Vox Orion (Pty) Ltd t/a Vox Orion v Prinsloo** 2014 (1) NR 202 (LC)

**Namibia Training Authority v Nangolo-Rukoro & Another** 2016 (4) NR 992 (LC) (section 9(3))

section 10:

**Novanam Ltd v Rinquest** 2015 (2) NR 447 (LC)

sections 11-12:

**Methealth Namibia Administrators (Pty) Ltd v Matuze & Others** 2015 (3) NR 870 (LC)

Chapter 8, Part B (conciliation) and Part C (arbitration):

**Purity Manganese (Pty) Ltd v Katzoo & Others** 2012 (1) NR 233 (LC) (differences between statutory schemes for conciliation and arbitration discussed at length)

section 33:

**House and Home (a trading division of Shoprite (Pty) Ltd) v Majiedt & Another** 2013 (2) NR 333 (LC)

**Management Science for Health v Kandungure & Another** 2013 (3) NR 632 (LC) (minimum requirements of fair disciplinary hearing set forth at para 5)

**Benz Building Suppliers v Stephanus & Others** 2014 (1) NR 283 (LC)

**Novanam Ltd v Rinquest** 2015 (2) NR 447 (LC)

**Namibia Custom Smelters (Pty) Ltd v Mupetami & Another** 2015 (3) NR 859 (LC) (section 33(1)(a))

**Tow-In Specialist CC v Urinavi** 2016 (3) NR 829 (LC)

section 34:

**Namibia Wildlife Resorts Ltd v Government Institutions Pension Fund & Others** 2015 (1) NR 88 (SC)

**Novanam Ltd v Rinquest** 2015 (2) NR 447 (LC)

section 35:
Novanam Ltd v Rinquest 2015 (2) NR 447 (LC) (amount prescribed in section 35(3) is a minimum and does not preclude court from ordering a higher amount of severance pay)

section 37:
Vox Orion (Pty) Ltd t/a Vox Orion v Prinsloo 2014 (1) NR 202 (LC)

section 49:
Kandukira v Shingualda & Another 2013 (4) NR 903 (LC) (section 41(1)(d), read with sections 51(1) and 121(1)(a), includes an unfair labour practice between a trade union and its members, which can be referred to a Labour Commissioner as a dispute)

section 51:
Haimbili & Another v Transnamib Holdings Ltd & Others 2013 (1) NR 201 (LC)

section 65:
Africa Personnel Services (Pty) Ltd v Shipunda & Others 2012 (2) NR 718 (LC) (application of section discussed in light of Constitutional right of assembly and its limitations)

section 79:
Meatco v Namibian Food and Allied Workers Union & Others 2013 (3) NR 777 (LC)

Tjipangandjara v Namibia Water Corporation (Pty) Ltd 2015 (4) NR 1116 (LC)

section 82(9)(c):
Purity Manganese (Pty) Ltd v Katzao & Others 2012 (1) NR 233 (LC) (no constitutional bar to service of notice of conciliation or arbitration by a Labour Commissioner or an official who conducts conciliation or arbitration proceedings)

section 85:
Roads Contractor Company v Nambahu & Others 2011 (2) NR 707 (LC) (section 85(6): includes guidelines for arbitration to satisfy constitutional right to fair hearing)

Note that the case erroneously refers to the statute as the “Labour Court Act”.

section 86:
Nedbank Ltd v Louw 2011 (1) NR 217 (LC) (section 86(2))
Paulo v Shoprite Namibia (Pty) Ltd & Others 2013 (1) NR 78 (LC) (section 86(15): interpretation of term “re-instatement”)

National Housing Enterprise v Hinda-Mbazira & Others 2013 (1) NR 19 (LC) ((section 86(2); six-month time period for referral of a dispute involving a dismissal in section 86(2)(a) begins to run when the dispute has crystallised, after exhaustion of internal remedies, and not from the date of the dismissal, finding that this section must be read intertextually with sections 82(7), (8) and (9)); interpretation confirmed on appeal in National Housing Enterprise v Hinda-Mbazira 2014 (4) NR 1046 (SC)

Classic Engines CC v Nghikofa 2013 (3) 659 (HC) (not applicable to an action for damages for breach of an employment contract, since conciliator and arbitrator have no power to award damages); see also Nghikofa v Classic Engines CC 2014 (2) NR 314 (SC) (section 86(2) of Act does not require that breach of contract claim be referred to Labour Commissioner, discussed in course of considering prospects of success on merits in condonation application)

Namibia Development Corporation v Mwandingi & Others 2013 (3) NR 737 (LC) (section 86(2)(c) is peremptory and allows for no power of amelioration)
Strauss v Namibia Institute of Mining & Technology, Arandis Campus & Others 2014 (3) NR 782 (LC) (section 86(7))

National Housing Enterprise v Hinda-Mbazira 2014 (4) NR 1046 (SC) (section 86(16)(a))

Life Office of Namibia Ltd (Namlife) v Amakali & Another 2014 (4) NR 1119 (LC) (section 86(18): consequence of non-compliance when arbitration award delivered after 30-day time limit)

Shaama v Roux 2015 (1) NR 24 (LC) (application of section 86(2))

Purity Manganese (Pty) Ltd v Katjivena & Others 2015 (2) NR 418 (LC) (various provisions of section 86 considered, including section 86(7))

Novanam Ltd v Rinquet 2015 (2) NR 447 (LC) (section 86(15))

International University of Management v Torbitt & Others 2015 (3) NR 698 (LC) (interpretation of “must” in section 86(18))

Janse van Rensburg v Wilderness Air Namibia (Pty) Ltd 2016 (2) NR 554 (SC) (section 86(18))

Negonga & Another v Secretary to Cabinet & Others 2016 (3) NR 670 (HC)

section 87:
National Housing Enterprise v Hinda-Mbazira 2014 (4) NR 1046 (SC) (section 87(1)(b): Labour Court not required to make an arbitration award an order of court)

section 89:
Samcor Diamond Mining Ltd v Hercules 2010 (1) NR 304 (HC) (service of arbitration award and noting of appeal in terms of sections 89(2) and 129, read together with section 89(18))

Shoprite Namibia (Pty) Ltd v Paulo & Another 2010 (2) NR 475 (LC) (appeal against arbitration award); Paulo v Shoprite Namibia (Pty) Ltd & Others 2013 (1) NR 78 (LC) (where arbitrator’s award adverse to employer is suspended pending appeal under section 89(6)-(8), employer has no obligation to remunerate employee unless employee has invoked section 89(9)(b)(ii)).

Nedbank Ltd v Louw 2011 (1) NR 217 (LC)

Telecom Namibia Ltd v Nangolo & Others (LC 33/2009) [2012] NALC 15 (28 May 2012) (section 89(2); confirmed on appeal in Telecom Namibia Ltd v Nangolo & Others 2015 (2) NR 510 (SC))

House and Home (a trading division of Shoprite (Pty) Ltd v Majiedt & Others 2013 (2) NR 333 (LC) (section 89(1)(a): question of law v question of fact)

Purity Manganese (Pty) Ltd v Shikongo NO & Others 2013 (2) NR 473 (LC) (section must be read in conjunction with Arts 12 and 18 of Constitution)

Lungameni & Others v Hagen & Another 2014 (2) NR 352 (LC)

Puma Chemicals v Labour Commissioner & Another 2014 (2) NR 355 (LC) (agreeing with Lungameni & Others v Hagen & Another 2014 (2) NR 352 (LC))

Kamwi v Namibia National Veterans Association 2014 (2) NR 504 (LC)

Namibia Dairies (Pty) Ltd v Alfeus & Another 2014 (4) NR 1115 (LC)

Atlantic Chicken Co (Pty) Ltd v Mwandingi & Another 2014 (4) NR 915 (SC) (gross irregularities by arbitrator)

Strauss v Namibia Institute of Mining & Technology, Arandis Campus & Others 2014 (3) NR 782 (LC) (gross irregularity by arbitrator)

Walvis Bay Municipal Council v Kanguru 2014 (4) NR 978 (LC) (appeal against award of arbitrator can be made on any question of law, and is not limited to questions of law raised by party in conciliation and subsequent arbitration)
National Housing Enterprise v Hinda-Mbazira 2014 (4) NR 1046 (SC) (determination of dispute in terms of s. 89(10)(a), overturning referral of dispute back to arbitrator in National Housing Enterprise v Hinda-Mbazira & Others 2013 (1) NR 19 (LC))

Shaama v Roux 2015 (1) NR 24 (LC) (appeal v review of arbitrator’s decision; questions of law versus questions of fact under section 89(1) and defects in arbitration proceedings under section 89(4))

Bobo v Ohorongo Cement (Pty) Ltd 2015 (1) NR 40 (LC) (leave to appeal Labour Court decision required under section 18(2)(c) of High Court Act 16 of 1990 when Court refused condonation in appeal against arbitration award in terms of this section of the Labour Act)

Novanam Ltd v Rinquest 2015 (2) NR 447 (LC) (section 89(1)(a): question of law v question of fact)

Methealth Namibia Administrators (Pty) Ltd v Matuze & Others 2015 (3) NR 870 (LC) (section 89(1)(a): question of law)

Swarthbooi & Another v Mbengela NO & Others 2016 (1) NR 158 (SC) (review of arbitration proceedings confined to defects set forth in s. 89(5); Art 18 of the Namibian Constitution does not apply to arbitration tribunals)

Janse van Rensburg v Wilderness Air Namibia (Pty) Ltd 2016 (2) NR 554 (SC) (ambit of question of law in section 89(1)(a); overrules Paulo v Shoprite Namibia (Pty) Ltd & Others 2013 (1) NR 78 (LC) on interpretation of “question of law alone” in section 89(1)(a))

Swart v Tube-O-Flex Namibia (Pty) Ltd & Another 2016 (3) NR 849 (SC) (section 89(1)(a); application of test from Janse van Rensburg v Wilderness Air Namibia (Pty) Ltd 2016 (2) NR 554 (SC))

section 91:

Labour Supply Chain v Hambata 2012 (1) NR 313 (LC) (parties may agree to private arbitration only after a dispute has arisen if this is not covered in a collective agreement)

section 117(1):

Van Rensburg v Sefofane Air Charters 2010 (2) NR 554 (LC) (jurisdiction to intervene in disciplinary proceedings should miscarriage of justice otherwise occur)

Haimbili & Another v Transnamib Holdings Ltd & Others 2013 (1) NR 201 (LC) (interpretation of section 117(1)(e))

Kamati v Namibia Rights and Responsibilities Inc 2013 (2) NR 452 (LC) (Labour Court jurisdiction under section 117(1))

Meatco v Namibian Food and Allied Workers Union & Others 2013 (3) NR 777 (LC) (anomaly of section 117(1)(d) discussed; section 117(1)(e) interpreted)

National Housing Enterprise v Beukes & Others 2015 (2) NR 577 (SC)

Namibia Financial Institutions Union (Nafinu) v Nedbank Namibia Ltd & Another 2015 (4) NR 1161 (SC) (urgent relief under section 117(1)(e) is temporary in nature and not a final order)

Usakos Town Council v Jantze & Others 2016 (1) NR 240 (HC) (High Court sitting as such does not have jurisdiction under section 117(1)(i) which confers exclusive jurisdiction on the Labour Court; enforcement of arbitration award encompassed within reference to “any labour matter”)

section 118:

Namibia Seaman and Allied Workers Union v Tunacor Group Ltd 2012 (1) NR 126 (LC)

Purity Manganese (Pty) Ltd v Katzao & Others 2012 (1) NR 233 (LC)

Namibia Estate Agents Board v Like & Another NO 2015 (1) NR 112 (LC); TM-S v Namibia Estate Agents Board & Another 2016 (4) NR 1030
section 119(3):

National Housing Enterprise v Beukes & Others 2015 (2) NR 577 (SC)

section 128:

Africa Personnel Services (Pty) Ltd v Government of the Republic of Namibia & Others 2009 (2) NR 596 (SC) (section 128 prohibiting labour hire struck down as unconstitutional); see also Government of Namibia v Africa Personnel Services 2010 (2) NR 537 (HC) (interlocutory order staying implementation of section 128 pending appeal) (court’s approach discussed in Felicity Oowoses-/Goagoses, “Reading down words in a statute, the courts’ role, and the place of Parliament: The approach of the Namibian courts”, Namibia Law Journal, Volume 4, Issue 1, 2012)

Africa Labour Services (Pty) Ltd v The Minister of Labour and Social Welfare & Another 2013 (4) NR 1175 (HC) (upholding constitutionality of section 128 as substituted by Act 2 of 2012)

section 128A:

Kamwi v Namibia National Veterans Association 2014 (2) NR 504 (LC)
Swart v Tube-O-Flex Namibia (Pty) Ltd & Another 2016 (3) NR 849 (SC)

section 129:

Samcor Diamond Mining Ltd v Hercules 2010 (1) NR 304 (HC) (service of arbitration award and noting of appeal in terms of sections 89(2) and 129, read together with section 89(18))
Strauss v Namibia Institute of Mining & Technology, Arandis Campus & Others 2014 (3) NR 782 (LC)

section 134:

Namibia Estate Agents Board v Like & Another NO 2015 (1) NR 112 (LC); TM-S v Namibia Estate Agents Board & Another 2016 (4) NR 1030 (SC).

The following cases concern the Labour Court Rules 2008 in GN 279/2008 –

Rule 6(24):

Dr Matti Kimberg Practice v Mwafuya-Shikongo NO & Others 2014 (3) NR 799 (LC)

Rule 6(26):

Van Rensburg v Sefofane Air Charters 2010 (2) NR 554 (LC)

Rule 10:

Namibia Development Corporation v Mwandingi & Others 2013 (3) NR 737 (LC) (discussed obiter as being possibly ultra vires)

Rule 14:

Shaama v Roux 2015 (1) NR 24 (LC)

Rule 15:

First National Bank Namibia Ltd v Van der Westhuizen & Another 2012 (1) NR 195 (LC)
Lungameni & Others v Hagen & Another 2014 (2) NR 352 (LC)
Puma Chemicals v Labour Commissioner & Another 2014 (2) NR 355 (LC) (agreeing with Lungameni & Others v Hagen & Another 2014 (2) NR 352 (LC))

Rule 17:

Municipal Council of Windhoek v Esau 2010 (2) NR 414 (LC)
Africa Personnel Services (Pty) Ltd v Shipunda & Others 2012 (2) NR 718 (LC) (Rule 17(23) takes precedence over Practice Directives, which apply only where there is no specific rule covering the matter which is at variance with the Practice Directives; Rule 17(25) requires
application for condonation even if parties have agreed to extension of time, but should be re-examined in light of fact that duty to provide record lies with adjudicator and not with appellant)

Benz Building Suppliers v Stephanus & Others 2014 (1) NR 283 (LC)
Namibia Dairies (Pty) Ltd v Alfeus & Another 2014 (4) NR 1115 (LC)
Primedia Outdoor Namibia (Pty) Ltd v Kauluma 2015 (1) NR 283 (LC)

Rule 18:
Usakos Town Council v Jantze & Others 2016 (1) NR 240 (HC) (Rule 18(1)).

The following cases concern the Rules relating to the conduct of conciliation and arbitration before the Labour Commissioner in GN 262/2008 –

Rule 5:
Purity Manganese (Pty) Ltd v Katjivena & Others 2015 (2) NR 418 (LC) (meaning of term “must”)
Methealth Namibia Administrators (Pty) Ltd v Matuzee & Others 2015 (3) NR 870 (LC)
Simana v Agribank of Namibia 2016 (4) NR 913 (SC)

Rule 13:
Novanam Ltd v Absalom & Others 2014 (4) NR 1099 (LC)

Rule 14(2):
Purity Manganese (Pty) Ltd v Katjivena & Others 2015 (2) NR 418 (LC)

Rule 18:
Strauss v Namibia Institute of Mining & Technology, Arandis Campus & Others 2014 (3) NR 782 (LC)

Rule 23:
Standard Bank Namibia v Grace 2011 (1) NR 321 (LC)
Namibia Dairies (Pty) Ltd v Alfeus & Another 2014 (4) NR 1115 (LC)
Primedia Outdoor Namibia (Pty) Ltd v Kauluma 2015 (1) NR 283 (LC)

Rule 27:
Strauss v Namibia Institute of Mining & Technology, Arandis Campus & Others 2014 (3) NR 782 (LC)

Rule 29:
Strauss v Namibia Institute of Mining & Technology, Arandis Campus & Others 2014 (3) NR 782 (LC)

Rule 34:
Strauss v Namibia Institute of Mining & Technology, Arandis Campus & Others 2014 (3) NR 782 (LC)

The following cases were decided when the Labour Act 6 of 1992 was the operative law –

General arbitration proceedings:
Erongo Mining and Exploration Co Ltd t/a Navachab Gold Mine v Mineworkers Union of Namibia 1993 NR 270 (LC)

change in conditions of employment:
Thiro v M & Z Motors NLLP 2002 (2) 370 NLC

constructive dismissal:
Transnamib Limited v Swartz NLLP 2002 (2) 60 NLC
Cymot (Pty) Ltd v McLoud 2002 NR 391 (LC)

costs of appeal:
Ikuambi v Tax Free Warehouse NLLP 2002 (2) 273 NLC

delay in challenging lawfulness of dismissal:
Kröger v Transnamib Limited (Air Namibia) & Others 1995 NR 84 (HC);
disciplinary code:

City Council of Windhoek v Pieterse 2000 NR 196 (LC) (effect of Industrial Relations Code as an internal disciplinary code, considered in the context of an application for rescission of a default judgement, on the issue of whether appellant showed a bona fide defence with some prima facie prospect of success)

disciplinary hearing:

Namibia Tourism Board v Kauapirura-Angula 2009 (1) NR 185 (LC)

“duress”:

Vlasiu v President of the Republic of Namibia & Others 1994 NR 332 (LC)

employment contracts:

Vlasiu v President of the Republic of Namibia & Others 1994 NR 332 (LC)
Kruger v The Council of the Municipality of Windhoek & Another NLLP 1998 (1) 157 NLC; 2002 (2) 114 NLC (interpretation of Conciliation Board Agreement governing terms and conditions of employment with respect to retirement age)
Bucher v Kalahari Express Airlines NLLP 2002 (2) 104 NLC (letter of appointment)
Ocean Diamond Mining SA v Louw NLLP 2002 (2) 276 RSA HC (C) (ruling by High Court of South Africa on restraint of trade provision in employment contract between Namibian employee and Namibian subsidiary)
Van Rooyen v University of Namibia 2004 NR 150 (LC) (effect of mistake in respect of employment contract)
Overberg Fishing (Pty) Ltd v Docompo 2012 (1) NR 285 (LC) (termination of fixed term contract by effluxion of time)

fair trial and specificity of complaint:

National Housing Enterprises v Beukes & Others 2011 (2) NR 609 (LC)

failure to exhaust internal grievance procedures:

Van Heerden v Municipal Council of Walvis Bay NLLP 2002 (2) 306 NLC

jurisdiction:

K Golin t/a Golin Engineering v Cloete 1995 NR 254 (LC) (jurisdiction of district labour court and Labour Court after parties have reached a settlement in respect of alleged unfair dismissal)
Drysdale v Namibia Breweries Ltd & Another 1996 NR 301 (LC) (respective jurisdiction of district labour court and Labour Court)
CIC Holdings Ltd v Beukes & Another 2003 NR 106 (HC) (exclusive jurisdiction of Labour Court); Beukes & Another v CIC Holdings Ltd 2005 NR 534 (SC) (jurisdiction of Labour Court and High Court)
Habenicht v Chairman of the Board of Namwater Ltd & Others NLLP 2004 (4) 18 NHC (High Court versus district labour court as appropriate forum)
Reilly v Namibian Ports Authority 2005 NR 319 (LC) (jurisdiction of Labour Court and district labour court)
National Union of Namibian Workers v Naholo 2006 (2) NR 659 (HC) (jurisdiction of district labour court, Labour Court and High Court)
Kiggundu & Others v Roads Authority & Others 2007 (1) NR 175 (LC) (jurisdiction of Labour Court and district labour court)

“managerial prerogative”:

Consolidated Diamond Mines (Pty) Ltd v Mine Workers’ Union of Namibia & Others (1) 1994 NR 180 (LC)
natural justice in disciplinary proceedings:

National Union of Namibian Workers v Naholo 2006 (2) NR 659 (HC)

recognition agreements:

Consolidated Diamond Mines (Pty) Ltd v Mine Workers’ Union of Namibia & Others (1) 1994 NR 180 (LC)

retirement age:

Kruger v The Council of the Municipality of Windhuk & Another NLLP 1998 (1) 157 NLC; 2002 (2) 114 NLC (determination of retirement age in view of changed pension fund agreement)

retrenchment:

Schutte & Others v Telecom Namibia Ltd (LC 2/98) (meaning of retrenchment)
Namibia Seamen and Allied Workers Union v Cadilu Fishing (Pty) Ltd 2005 NR 257 (LC) (meaning of retrenchment)
Kruger & Others v Namibian Broadcasting Corporation 2006 (1) NR 233 (LC); Namibian Broadcasting Corporation v Kruger & Others 2009 (1) NR 196 (SC) (voluntary retrenchment)

rule nisi:

SWA Meat Corporation Ltd v Namibia Wholesale and Retail Workers Union & Others NLLP 1998 (1) 199 NLC (discharge of rule nisi when underlying purpose for it has fallen away because strike has ended)

sanctions for misconduct:

Foodcon (Pty) Ltd v Schwartz NLLP 2002 (2) 181 NLC

settlement agreements:

Mbome & Another v Foodcon Fishing Product NLLP 2002 (2) 202 NLC

sex discrimination (staff housing scheme):

Van Heerden v Municipal Council of Walvis Bay NLLP 2002 (2) 306 NLC

stay of District Labour Court judgement pending appeal:

Rössing Uranium Ltd v Cloete & Another 1999 NR 98 (LC)

“transfer” versus “promotion”:

Northern Fishing (Pty) v Tsuseb NLLP 2002 (2) 253 NLC

unfair labour practice:

Minister of Works Transport and Communication v Namupembe 2003 NR 90 (LC)

Labour Act 6 of 1992

section 1:

African Granite Co v Mineworkers Union of Namibia & Others 1993 NR 91 (LC) (“remuneration”)


Paxton v Namib Rand Desert Trails (Pty) Ltd 1996 NR 109 (LC) (“employee” and “employer”)

Kruger v Office of the Prime Minister & Another 1996 NR 321 (LC) (“remuneration”)

Municipality of Windhoek v Van Wyk & Others 1999 NR 313 (LC) (“overtime”)

Hannah v Government of the Republic of Namibia 2000 NR 46 (LC) (judge does not fall within definition of “employee”)

Ameib Ranch Guest Farm v Matrefu & Others 2002 NR 311 (LC) (“strike”)

De Wee v Ackermans (Pty) Ltd 2004 NR 30 (LC) (“casual employee”)

Engelbrecht & Others v Hennes 2007 (1) NR 236 (LC) (“employee” versus agent)
Van Wyk & Another v Rumingo & Others NLLP 2004 (4) 1 NLC; 1997 NR 102 (HC) ("employee" v independent contractor)

Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (Namibia) Ltd v Symington 2010 (1) NR 239 (SC) ("remuneration")

Hugo v Council of Municipality of Grootfontein 2015 (1) NR 73 (SC) ("dispute of interests" versus "dispute of rights")

section 2:
Bourgwells Ltd v Shepalov & Others 1999 NR 410 (HC) (section 2(1))

section 4:
Thiro v M & Z Motors NLLP 2002 (2) 370 NLC

section 15(1):
Onesmus v Minister of Labour & Another 2010 (1) NR 187 (HC) (status of Labour Court as lower court)

section 18:
Smit v Standard Bank Namibia 1994 NR 366 (LC) (jurisdiction)
Consolidated Diamond Mines (Pty) Ltd v Mineworkers Union of Namibia 1994 NR 360 (LC) (declaratory orders)
Nyambe v City Savings 1996 NR 31 (LC) (jurisdiction in terms of section 18(1))

Hailemo v Security Force Services 1996 NR 99 (LC) (representation of parties in Labour Court)
Pietersen v Ohlthaver & List Retirement Fund & Another 1996 NR 255 (LC) (jurisdiction to make declaratory orders)
Drysdale v Namibia Breweries Ltd & Another 1996 NR 301 (LC) (Labour Court's lack of jurisdiction to hear a case of first instance concerning constructive dismissal)

Hannah v Government of the Republic of Namibia 2000 NR 46 (LC) (meaning of “employment” in section 18(1)(e))

CIC Holdings Ltd v Beukes & Another 2003 NR 106 (HC) (exclusive jurisdiction of Labour Court); Beukes & Another v CIC Holdings Ltd 2005 NR 534 (SC) (jurisdiction of Labour Court and High Court)

Cronje v Municipality Council of Mariental NLLP 2004 (4) 129 NSC (jurisdiction of Labour Court and district labour court)

Hitula v Chairperson of District Labour Court Windhoek & Another 2005 NR 83 (LC) (section 18(1)(c))
Namibia Seamen and Allied Workers Union v Cadilu Fishing (Pty) Ltd 2005 NR 257 (LC) (jurisdiction of Labour Court)

Reilly v Namibian Ports Authority 2005 NR 319 (LC) (jurisdiction of Labour Court and district labour court)

Kiggundu & Others v Roads Authority & Others 2007 (1) NR 175 (LC)
Elio & Another v Permanent Secretary of Education & Another 2008 (2) NR 532 (LC) (review of decision of Permanent Secretary)

Kurtz v Nampost Namibia Ltd & Another 2009 (2) NR 696 (LC) (section 18(1)(c); right to legal representation at disciplinary hearing on complex charges, where Human Resources Manual provided for this in exceptional circumstances)

Onesmus v Minister of Labour & Another 2010 (1) NR 187 (HC) (possibility of proceeding under section 18(1) does not oust jurisdiction of High Court under Art 18 of Constitution)

National Housing Enterprises v Beukes & Others 2011 (2) NR 609 (LC) (costs orders)

See also cases generally discussing jurisdiction in labour matters, listed above.

section 19:
Hailemo v Security Force Services 1996 NR 99 (LC) (section 19(3); representation of parties in Labour Court)
Namibia Development Corporation v Visagie NLLP 1998 (1) 166 NLC (section 19(1)(a))

section 20:
Vlasiu v President of the Republic of Namibia & Others 1994 NR 332 (LC)
President of the Republic of Namibia & Others v Vlasiu 1996 NR 36 (LC)
Pietersen v Ohlthaver & List Retirement Fund & Another 1996 NR 255 (LC)
Drysdale v Namibia Breweries Ltd & Namibia Resorts International 1996 NR 301 (LC)
Louw v The Chairperson of the District Labour Court & Another (Case 1) NLLP 2002 (2) 147 NLC (appeal versus review of costs order under this section)
Beukes v Peace Trust NLLP 2004 (4) 102 NLC
Cronje v Municipality Council of Mariental NLLP 2004 (4) 129 NSC
Transnamib Holdings Limited v Carstens NLLP 2004 (4) 209 NLC
Namibia Seamen and Allied Workers Union v Cadilu Fishing (Pty) Ltd 2005 NR 257 (LC)
Kruger & Others v Namibian Broadcasting Corporation 2006 (1) NR 233 (LC), Namibian Broadcasting Corporation v Kruger & Others 2009 (1) NR 196 (SC)
Commercial Investment Corporation (Pty) Ltd v Namibian Food and Allied Workers Union & Others 2007 (2) NR 467 (LC)
National Housing Enterprise v Beukes & Others 2009 (1) NR 82 (LC)
Kurtz v Nampost Namibia Ltd & Another 2009 (2) NR 696 (LC)

section 21:
President of the Republic of Namibia & Others v Vlasiu 1996 NR 36 (LC) (application for leave to appeal; meaning of “questions of law”) The Council of the Municipality of Windhoek & Another v Kruger NLLP 1998 (1) 161 NLC (points in limine challenging authority of municipality to apply for leave to appeal)
Rumingo & Others v Van Wyk 1997 NR 102 (HC) (interpretation of “question of law”)
Visagie v Namibia Development Corporation NLLP 1998 (1) 182 NLC (application for leave to appeal; meaning of “questions of law”); Visagie v Namibia Development Corporation 1999 NR 219 (HC) (questions of law versus findings of fact)
Beukes v Peace Trust 2004 (4) NLLP 102 (NLC)
Cronje v Municipality Council of Mariental NLLP 2004 (4) 129 NSC
Namibian Broadcasting Corporation v Mubita NLLP 2004 (4) 114 NLC
Transnamib Holdings Limited v Carstens NLLP 2004 (4) 209 NLC
S v Koch 2006 (2) NR 513 (SC) (section discussed in dicta at 526)
Cymot (Pty) Ltd v Cloete & Another 2007 (1) NR 320 (LC)
Onesmus v Minister of Labour & Another 2010 (1) NR 187 (HC) (amendment of section 21(1) by Act 10/2001 does not affect status of Labour Court as lower court)
Namibia Breweries Ltd v Kaeka & Another 2011 (1) NR 16 (LC)

section 22:
Hailemo v Security Force Services 1996 NR 99 (LC) (representation of parties in Labour Court)

section 24:
Poolman & Others v Transnamib Ltd 1997 NR 89 (HC); Transnamib Ltd v Poolman & Others 1999 NR 399 (SC)
Karuaihe-Martin v Telecom Namibia NLLP 2002 (2) 267 NLC
Van Heerden v Municipal Council of Walvis Bay NLLP 2002 (2) 306 NLC
Thiro v M & Z Motors NLLP 2002 (2) 370 NLC
section 25:

Erongo Mining and Exploration Co Ltd t/a Navachab Gold Mine v Mineworkers Union of Namibia 2000 NR 70 (LC)

section 28 (shift work):

Municipality of Windhoek v Van Wyk & Others 1999 NR 313 (LC) (non-active standby duty of firemen does not constitute shift work for the purposes of this section)

Erongo Mining and Exploration Company Ltd t/a Navachab Gold Mine v Mineworkers Union of Namibia 2000 NR 70 (LC) (effect when read together with section 25)

section 32 (overtime):

Poolman & Others v Transnamib Ltd 1997 NR 89 (HC) (calculation of “day”)

Municipality of Windhoek v Van Wyk & Others 1999 NR 313 (LC) (parties can enter into an agreement about what constitutes “work” for purposes of overtime payment; non-active standby duty of firemen does not constitute “work” for the purposes of this section)

section 33 (Sundays and public holidays):

Municipality of Windhoek v Van Wyk & Others 1999 NR 313 (LC) (non-active standby duty of firemen does not constitute “work” for the purposes of this section)

Erongo Mining and Exploration Co Ltd t/a Navachab Gold Mine v Mineworkers Union of Namibia 2000 NR 70 (LC) (meaning of “remuneration” in section 33(3)(a))

section 34 (night work):

Municipality of Windhoek v Van Wyk & Others 1999 NR 313 (LC) (non-active standby duty of firemen does not constitute work performed at night for the purposes of this section)

section 37(b):

Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (Namibia) Ltd v Symington 2010 (1) NR 239 (SC)

section 39:

Erundu Stevedoring (Pty) Ltd v Namibia Seaman & Allied Workers Union NLLP 2004 (4) 187 NLC (meaning of “on full remuneration”; leave to appeal to Supreme Court granted)

Municipal Council, City of Windhoek v Swarts 2006 (1) NR 341 (LC)

section 45:

Smit v Standard Bank Namibia 1994 NR 366 (LC) (unfair dismissal)

Navachab Gold Mine v Izaaks 1996 NR 79 (LC) (section 45(1): unfair dismissal; fair and valid reason for dismissal)

Hailemo v Security Force Services 1996 NR 99 (LC) (unfair dismissal)

Kamanya & Others v Kuiseb Fish Products Ltd 1996 NR 123 (LC) (effect of failure to employ fair procedure where there is a fair reason for dismissal)

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals v Terblanche 1996 NR 398 (HC) (unfair dismissal; procedure)

M Pupkewitz & Sons v Kankara 1997 NR 70 (LC) (unfair dismissal; substantive fairness)

Rossam v Kraatz Welding Engineering Ltd 1998 NR 90 (LC) (unfair dismissal; procedural fairness)

Goagoseb v Arechenab Fishing and Development Co NLLP 1998 (1) 143 NLC; NLLP 2004 (4) 10 NLC (unfair dismissal)

Anguwo & Others v Northern Fishing Company NLLP 1998 (1) 196 NLC (reinstatement of some but not others following an illegal strike action
constitutes prima facie case of unfair labour practice

Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre v Kariab NLLP 1998 (1) 213 NLC (unfair dismissal; substantive fairness)

Cross Country Carriers v Farmer NLLP 1998 (1) 226 NLC; NLLP 2002 (2) 34 NLC (employee’s failure to tender services does not constitute a “dismissal”)

Njathi v Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs 1998 NR 167 (LC) (dismissal by operation of section 24(5) of Public Service Act is for fair and valid reason and in accordance with fair procedure)

Oa-Eib v Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre 1999 NR 137 (LC) (unfair dismissal; procedural and substantive fairness)

Hartlief Continental Meat Products (Pty) Ltd v Mutota & Others NLLP 2002 (2) 45 NLC (unfair dismissal; procedural and substantive fairness)

Links v Cross Country Carriers NLLP 2002 (2) 291 NLC (effect of failure to employ fair procedure where there is a fair reason for dismissal)

Namibia Dairies (Pty) Ltd v Nafau & Others NLLP 2002 (2) 314 NLC (unfair dismissal)

Mazian v Transnamib Transport (Pty) Ltd NLLP 2002 (2) 352 NLC (unfair dismissal; interpretation of section 45(1) and procedural unfairness)

Kurtz v Nampost Namibia Ltd & Another 2009 (2) NR 696 (LC) (fair procedure; right to legal representation at disciplinary hearing on complex charges, where Human Resources Manual provided for this in exceptional circumstances)

sections 45-46:

Du Toit v The Office of the Prime Minister 1996 NR 52 (LC) (holding: sections 45 and 46 (unfair dismissal) do not apply to termination of employment by notice in terms of a contract or a collective agreement in terms of section 47 if sections 47, 49, 51 and 52 read with sections 69-72 are complied with; dicta: sections 45 and 46 on unfair dismissal do not apply to fixed term contracts which expire by the effluxion of time, with the possible exception of cases where there is an “expectation of tenure”)

PEP Stores Namibia (Pty) Ltd v Iyambo & Others 2001 NR 211 (LC) (principle of collective guilt not a fair basis for dismissal)

Hailulu v Council of the Municipality of Windhoek 2002 NR 305 (LC) (unfair dismissal)

Model Pick 'n Pay Family Supermarket v Mwaala 2003 NR 175 (LC) (dismissal for theft/dishonesty; when courts will interfere with decision of employer to impose sanction of dismissal)

Shiimi v Windhoek Schlachterei (Pty) Ltd NLLP 2002 (2) 224 NLC (appropriate award to employee in respect of unfair dismissal)

PEP Stores (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd. v Iyambo & Others NLLP 2002 (2) 336 NLC

Swarthooi v Heunis NLLP 2002 (2) 367 NLC

Namibia Beverages v Hoaës NLLP 2002 (2) 380 NLC (repeated in NLLP 2004 (4) 1 NLC)

Meintjies v Joe Gross t/a Joe’s Beerhouse 2003 NR 221 (HC); confirmed in Joe Gross t/a Joe’s Beerhouse v Meintjies 2005 NR 413 (SC) (sections 45 and 46 on unfair dismissal apply to contracts terminated in accordance with sections 47-53)

Kausiona v Namibian Institute of Mining & Technology (NIMT) NLLP 2004 (4) 43 NLC

De Wee v Ackermans (Pty) Ltd 2004 NR 30 (LC) (unfair dismissal of an employee in a situation with a lower degree of permanency but which does not meet the statutory definition of “casual employee”)

Metropolitan Namibia Ltd v Haimbili NLLP 2004 (4) 110 NLC (dismissal
upheld in case involving employee dishonesty)

*Van den Heever v Imcor Zinc (Pty) Ltd* NLLP 2004 (4) 257 NLC (procedural and substantive fairness of dismissal)

*Kahoro & Another v Namibia Breweries Limited* 2008 (1) NR 382 (SC) (in the absence of a fair procedure, the employer bears the onus of proving that there was nevertheless a fair and valid reason for a dismissal)

*LL. Diamonds (Pty) Ltd v Thobias* 2009 (1) NR 346 (LC) (dismissal of employee on probation requires proper enquiry into employee’s work performance)

*Peace Trust v Beukes* 2010 (1) NR 134 (HC) (both procedural requirements and existence of valid and fair reasons for dismissal considered)

*Rosh Pinah Zinc Corporation v Muronga* 2013 (2) NR 595 (LC) (applied to dismissal on grounds of incapacity; acceptable for employer to offer to accommodate employee in new position at lower remuneration as alternative)

section 46:

*Navachab Gold Mine v Izaaks* 1996 NR 79 (LC) (section 46(1)-remedies)

*Hailemo v Security Force Services* 1996 NR 99 (LC) (section 46(3)-standard of proof of fair dismissal by employer is balance of probabilities; section 46(4); considerations relevant to determining fairness)

*Drysdale v Namibia Breweries Ltd & Another* 1996 NR 301 (LC)

*Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals v Terblanche* 1996 NR 398 (HC) (section 46(1)-remedies)

*M Pupkewitz & Sons v Kankara* 1997 NR 70 (LC) (section 46(1)(a)(iii)-remedies; section 46(4)(b)-nature of order in respect of unfair dismissal)

*Namibia Development Corporation v Visagie* NLLP 1998 (1) 166 NLC (section 46(3)-employer’s duty to lead evidence first in accordance with burden of proof as stated in this section)

*Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre v Kariab* NLLP 1998 (1) 213 NLC (section 46(3)-employer’s burden of proving fair dismissal not discharged)

*Rossam v Kraatz Welding Engineering Ltd* 1998 NR 90 (LC) (section 46(4); appropriate relief for unfair dismissal)

*Engelbrecht v Transnamib Holdings Ltd* 2003 NR 40 (LC); *Transnamib Holdings Ltd v Engelbrecht* 2005 NR 372 (SC) (meaning of the term “reinstatement” in section 46(1)(a)(i))

*Commercial Bank of Namibia Ltd. v Van Wyk* NLLP 2004 (4) 250 NLC (grounds for dismissal upheld)

*Model Pick ’n Pay Family Supermarkets v Mukosho* NLLP 2004 (4) 219 NLC (grounds for dismissal upheld)

*Josob v Namibia Breweries (Pty) Ltd* 2008 (1) NR 117 (LC) (onus of proof)

*Parcel Force Namibia (Pty) Ltd v Tsaeb* 2008 (1) NR 248 (LC) (unfair dismissal and appropriate remedies; order for reinstatement confirmed despite long passage of time)

*Pioneerspark Service Station v Afrikaner & Another* 2008 (1) NR 353 (LC) (dismissal on ground of dishonest conduct held to be fair despite fact that employee did not benefit from the dishonesty)

*Pinks Family Outfitters (Pty) Ltd t/a Woolworths v Hendricks* 2010 (2) NR 616 (LC) (application of section 46(1)(a)(iii))

section 47:

*African Granite Co v Mineworkers Union of Namibia & Others* 1993 NR 91 (LC) (section 47(1)-notice requirements; section 47(5)-”remuneration”)

*Meintjies v Joe Gross t/a Joe’s Beerhouse* 2003 NR 221 (HC); confirmed in
Joe Gross t/a Joe’s Beerhouse v Meintjies 2005 NR 413 (SC)
(termination of contract by notice in terms of section 47 constitutes a dismissal as contemplated by section 45)

Kiggundu & Others v Roads Authority & Others 2007 (1) NR 175 (LC)
(termination of contract with pay in lieu of notice constitutes a dismissal as contemplated by section 45 and requires a fair procedure)

section 50 (retrenchment):

African Granite Co v Mineworkers Union of Namibia & Others 1993 NR 91 (LC) (requirements of notice of intention to retrench; meaning of “opportunity to negotiate”)

Goagoseb v Arechenab Fishing & Development Co NLLP 1998 (1) 143 NLC; NLLP 2004 (4) 10 NLC (section 50(1)(b)-retrenchment)

Namibia Development Corporation v Visagie NLLP 1998 (1) 166 NLC (employer’s duties concerning intended retrenchment; interpretation of section 50(1)(b) as providing only for an opportunity to negotiate in relation to the effects of the proposed retrenchment; Visagie v Namibia Development Corporation 1999 NR 219 (HC) (discussing meaning of “intends” and “negotiate”, and overturning finding of Labour Court on compliance with section 50(1)(b))

Anguwo & Others v Northern Fishing Company NLLP 1998 (1) 196 NLC (dismissal following illegal strike action cannot be categorised as retrenchment)

HS Contractors v Vihanga NLLP 2002 (2) 138 NLC (compliance with section 50(1) and procedure in respect of criminal offences under section 50(2))

Namibia Seamen and Allied Workers Union v Cadilu Fishing (Pty) Ltd 2005 NR 257 (LC) (section 50(1)(b)-validity of purported retrenchment)

Namibian Broadcasting Corporation v Kruger & Others 2009 (1) NR 196 (SC) Seebach v Tauber & Corssen Trading (Pty) Ltd & Another 2009 (1) NR 339 (LC)

National Housing Enterprises v Beukes & Others 2011 (2) NR 609 (LC)

section 52:

Namibia Wholesale and Retail Workers Union (NWRWU) & Others v Democratic Media Holdings 1998 NR 109 (LC) (section 52(1)-deduction of employer’s contribution to pension fund from severance allowance following retrenchment)

Lalandii (Pty) Ltd v Butshingi NLLP 2002 (2) 409 NLC (section has no application to person with whom there was no subsisting employment contract)

section 54:

Mineworkers Union of Namibia v Damara Granite (Pty) Ltd NLLP 2002 (2) 173 NLC

section 58:

PEP Stores Namibia (Pty) Ltd v Iyambo & Others 2001 NR 211 (LC) Mineworkers Union of Namibia v Damara Granite (Pty) Ltd NLLP 2002 (2) 173 NLC

Namibia Seaman and Allied Workers Union (NASAWU) v Lalandi Fishing (Pty) Ltd & Others 2003 NR 71 (LC)

NASAWU v Lalandi Fishing (Pty) Ltd & Others NLLP 2004 (4) 76 NLC

section 67:

Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd v Mineworkers Union of Namibia NLLP 2002 (2) 188 NLC (duty to bargain and good faith negotiation)

Namibia Seamen and Allied Workers Union v Cadilu Fishing (Pty) Ltd 2005 NR 257 (LC) (in relation to jurisdiction of Labour Court)

section 74:
Jansen van Vuuren v Namibia Water Corporation Limited 2006 (2) NR 607 (LC)
Elio & Another v Permanent Secretary of Education & Another 2008 (2) NR 532 (LC)

section 79:

section 81:
Consolidated Diamond Mines (Pty) Ltd v Mineworkers Union of Namibia 1994 NR 360 (LC) (section 81(6)-duties of employees not participating in strike)
Navachab Joint Venture t/a Navachab Gold Mine v Mineworkers Union of Namibia & Others 1995 NR 225 (LC) (section 81(3)-right to picket)
SWA Meat Corporation Ltd v Namibia Wholesale and Retail Workers Union & Others NLLP 1998 (1) 199 NLC (section 81(1)-notice of strike action need not include exact date and time of intended strike; confirmation of Navachab Joint Venture t/a Navachab Gold Mine v Mineworkers Union of Namibia 1995 NR 225 (LC) on section 81(3)-interpretation of right to picket)

section 82:
SWA Meat Corporation Ltd v Namibia Wholesale and Retail Workers Union & Others NLLP 1998 (1) 199 NLC (interpretation of endangerment of “life, health or safety of any person”)

section 107:
Nanditume v Minister of Defence 2000 NR 103 (LC) (exclusion of applicant from the NDF solely on the basis that he was found to be HIV positive constitutes unfair discrimination in terms of section 107)
Kiggundu & Others v Roads Authority & Others 2007 (1) NR 175 (LC) (does not cover discrimination on the grounds of nationality)

section 111:
Hitula v Chairperson of District Labour Court Windhoek & Another 2005 NR 83 (LC)(section 111(1)(c))

The following cases concern the Labour Court Rules 1994 contained in GN 63/1994 (now repealed), and the District Labour Court Rules contained in GN 138/1993 (such courts no longer being in existence) –

Labour Court Rules 1994
Rule 1:
Nyambe v City Savings 1996 NR 31 (LC)
Rule 4(3):
Hailemo v Security Force Services 1996 NR 99 (LC) (Rule 4(3) held to be ultra vires section 22 of the Labour Act)
Rule 6(16)-(17)
Mineworkers Union of Namibia (MUN) v CSO Valuations (Pty) Ltd 2002 (2) 208 NLC
Rule 6(23):
Namibia Food and Allied Workers Union v Cadilu Fishing (Pty) Ltd 2005 NR 113 (LC)
Beukes & Others v National Housing Enterprise 2007 (1) NR 142 (LC)
Rule 6(24):
Shoprite Namibia (Pty) Ltd v Paulo & Another 2010 (2) NR 475 (LC)
Rule 6(25):
Van Rooyen v University of Namibia 2004 NR 150 (LC)
Rule 6(27):
Nyambe v City Savings 1996 NR 31 (LC)

Rule 8(1):
Van Rooyen v University of Namibia 2004 NR 150 (LC)
Hitula v Chairperson of District Labour Court Windhoek & Another 2005 NR 83 (LC)

Rule 9(b):
Nyambe v City Savings 1996 NR 31 (LC)

Rule 12:
Vlasiu v President of the Republic of Namibia & Others 1994 NR 332 (LC)
Nyambe v City Savings 1996 NR 31 (LC)

Rule 15(2):
Elio & Another v Permanent Secretary of Education & Another 2008 (2) NR 532 (LC)

Rule 16:
Namibia Breweries Ltd v Kaeka & Another 2011 (1) NR 16 (LC)

Rule 18:
Shiimi v Windhoek Schlachterei (Pty) Ltd NLLP 2002 (2) 224 NLC
Windhoek Optics (Pty) Ltd v De Jager NLLP 2004 (4) 22 NLC
Ministry of Regional and Local Government and Housing v Muyunda 2005 NR 107 (LC)

Rule 19(1):
Namibia Breweries Ltd v Kaeka & Another 2011 (1) NR 16 (LC)

Rule 19(2):
Ministry of Basic Education, Sports & Culture v Sauer NLLP 2004 (4) 192 NLC.

District Labour Court Rules

Rule 4:
Town Debt Collecting CC & Another v Boois & Another NLLP 2002 (2) 392 NLC

Rule 6:
Transnamib Holdings Ltd v Garoeb NLLP 2004 (4) 68 NLC

Rule 7:
Anguwo & Others v Northern Fishing Company NLLP 1998 (1) 196 NLC (effect of failure of respondent to oppose)
Thiro v M & Z Motors NLLP 2002 (2) 370 NLC
De Wee v Ackermans (Pty) Ltd 2004 NR 30 (LC)
Elleries Furniture Namibia (Pty) Ltd t/a Furncity Furniture v De Vos NLLP 2004 (4) 35 NLC

Rule 10:
Transnamib Holdings Ltd v Lourens NLLP 2002 (2) 360 NLC
Transnamib Holdings Ltd v Cartstens 2003 NR 213 (LC)
Louw v The Chairperson of the District Labour Court & Another (Case 1) NLLP 2002 (2) 147 NLC (stated in dicta that because the spirit of rule 10 is to avoid formality, unsworn translations may be received into evidence)
Elleries Furniture Namibia (Pty) Ltd t/a Furncity Furniture v De Vos NLLP 2004 (4) 35 NLC
Transnamib Holdings Ltd v Garoeb NLLP 2004 (4) 68 NLC
Transnamib Holdings Limited v Carstens NLLP 2004 (4) 209 NLC
Hitula v Chairperson of District Labour Court Windhoek & Another 2005 NR 83 (LC)
Mdaka v Gendev of Namibia 2005 NR 483 (LC)

Rule 13:
Stahn t/a HS Contractors v Kapuka & Others 2000 NR 133 (LC) (joint complaint)
Woermann Brock & Co (Pty) Ltd v Shaanika & Others 2011 (1) NR 98 (LC)
(procedure relating to joint complaint)
Rule 18:
Namibia Beverages v Hoaës NLLP 2002 (2) 380 NLC (repeated in NLLP 2004
(4) 1 NLC)
Rule 19:
Uazeua & Others v Smith t/a Jakaranda Restaurant 2001 NR 227 (LC)
Shiimi v Windhoek Schlachterei (Pty) Ltd NLLP 2002 (2) 224 NLC
Thiro v M & Z Motors NLLP 2002 (2) 370 NLC
Tjihiua v Windhoek Municipality NLLP 2002 (2) 413 NLC
Windhoek Optics (Pty) Ltd v De Jager NLLP 2004 (4) 22 NLC
Kausiona v Namibian Institute of Mining & Technology (NIMT) NLLP 2004
(4) 43 NLC
Rule 21:
Beukes & Another v CIC Holdings Ltd 2005 NR 534 (SC)
Namibia Breweries Ltd v Kaeka & Another 2011 (1) NR 16 (LC)
Rule 22:
Transnamib Holdings Ltd v Carstens 2003 NR 213 (LC)
Town Debt Collecting CC & Another v Boois & Another NLLP 2002 (2) 392
NLC
Transnamib Holdings Ltd v Garoeb NLLP 2004 (4) 68 NLC
Transnamib Holdings Limited v Carstens NLLP 2004 (4) 209 NLC
Hitula v Chairperson of District Labour Court Windhoek & Another 2005 NR
83 (LC) (obiter noting problems of construction),
The following are post-independence cases dealing with the previous Conditions of
Employment Act 12 of 1986 –
Namib Wood Industries (Pty) Ltd v Matlitha & Another 1991 NR 158 (HC)
Van der Berg v Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee (Oranjemund) of
Consolidated Diamond Mines (Pty) Ltd & Others 1991 NR 417 (HC)
Nangombe & Others v Ackermans Ltd 1992 NR 10 (HC)
The following case discusses ILO Convention 158, which Namibia is not party to –
Namibia Development Corporation v Visagie NLLP 1998 (1) 166 NLC
(Article 13).
Commentary:
Dr JWF van Rooyen, Namibian Labour Lexicon, Volume 1, Essential Expressions,
2003
Dr JWF van Rooyen, Namibian Labour Lexicon, Volume 2 (Revised Edition), The
Law Society of Namibia, Labour Law: An overview of the relevant provisions of the
Herbert Jauch, ILO Fact Boxes: Namibia’s Labour Act, No 11 of 2007, undated, South
Africa: ILSSA Project, International Labour Office (ILO), available from the
Labour Resource and Research Institute (LaRRI) at http://larri-namibia.org/
Colin Fenwick, “Labour law reform in Namibia: Transplant or implant?” in T Lindsey
(ed), Law Reform in Developing and Transitional States, Oxon, UK: Routledge
Studies in Development Economics, 2007
Herbert Jauch and John Nakuta, Understanding Namibia’s Labour Law: A Guide to the
Labour Act (No 11 of 2007), Windhoek: Labour Resource and Research

LABOUR-31


**Commentary on labour hire in Namibia:**


**Commentary on child labour in Namibia:**

D LeBeau & G Spence, *Towards the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Namibia*, University of Namibia, 2004

Dr Elizabeth M Terry, *Elimination of Child Labour in Namibia: A discussion document on what is known, existing policy and programmes and possible gaps*, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, 2007

Dr Elizabeth M Terry, *Child trafficking linked to child labour and commercial sexual exploitation of children in Namibia: A child labour-related rapid assessment study*, Windhoek: Ministry of Labour/ ILO, 2007


Commentary on specific labour sectors:

Employment Services Act 8 of 2011.

Summary: This Act (GG 4764) establishes a National Employment Service aimed at achieving full employment in Namibia. The Service consists of an Employment Services Board which plays an advisory role, and an Employment Services Bureau which registers job vacancies and job-seekers, amongst other functions. The Act also requires designated employers to report vacancies and new positions and to provide information about the composition and training of their workforces. It also provides for the licencing of private employment agencies and for the appointment of employment officers to enforce the Act. Portions of the Act were brought into force on 1 September 2012 by GN 194/2012 (GG 5005): Part 1, Part 4 (except section 26(2)) and Part 5. Part 3 of the Act was brought into force on 15 September 2015 by GN 201/2015 (GG 5829)

Amendments: Act 2/ 2012 (GG 4925) amends sections 1, 24 and 26, in relation to “labour hire”. This amending Act was brought into force as of 1 August 2012 by GN 136/2012 (GG 4958) – but GN 136/2012 (GG 4958) was withdrawn by GN 192/2012 (GG 5005) on 1 August 2012, while GN 193/2012 (GG 5005) provides that amending Act 2/2012 will come into force on 1 August 2012, except for the provisions in section 10 insofar as they relate to section 26(2)(a)(ii)-(iii) of the Employment Service Act.

Regulations: Employment Service Regulations are contained in GN 62/2013 (GG 5147).

A separate set of regulations regarding employment services is published in GN 42/2015 (GG 5702).

Notices: Designations of employers and institutions under section 15(2) of the Act are contained in GN 202/2015 (GG 5829) (each employer employing 25 or more employees is identified as a designated employer).
COMMISSIONS
Commission of Inquiry into Labour Matters in South West Africa (AG 32/1987)
Commission of Inquiry into Labour Related Matters Affecting Agricultural Employees and
See also GN 14/1995 (GG 1020), as amended by GN 55/1995 (GG 1044).

INTERNATIONAL LAW
Charter of Fundamental Social Rights in SADC, 2003
†Constitution of the International Labour Organization (ILO), 1919, as amended
ILO Convention 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930
Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930
ILO Convention 87 concerning Freedom of Association and the Right to Organise, 1948
ILO Convention 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise
and to Bargain Collectively, 1949
ILO Convention 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour, 1957
ILO Convention 100 concerning Equal Remuneration, 1951
ILO Convention 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation,
1958
ILO Convention 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973
ILO Convention 144 concerning Tripartite Consultations to Promote the Implementation
of International Labour Standards, 1976
ILO Convention 150 concerning Labour Administration: Role, Functions and Organisation,
1978
ILO Convention 158 concerning Termination of Employment at the Initiative of the
Employer, 1982
ILO Convention 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination
of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999.
**SADC Protocol on Employment and Labour, 2014
**SADC Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons, 2005

See also Whistleblower Protection Act 10 of 2017 (CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE).
See also National Vocational Training Act 20 of 1994 (EDUCATION).
See also Atomic Energy and Radiation Protection Act 5 of 2005 (ENVIRONMENT).
See also Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act 2 of 1991 (regulations on health, safety
and welfare of employees) (MINING AND MINERALS).
See also Posts and Telecommunications Companies Establishment Act 17 of 1992 (conditions
of service of employees of the posts and telecommunications companies (MEDIA
AND COMMUNICATION).
See also PUBLIC SERVICE.
See also Social Security Act 34 of 1994 (SOCIAL SECURITY).
See also Export Processing Zones Act 9 of 1995 (TRADE AND INDUSTRY).