

INQUESTS

Inquests Act 6 of 1993

Summary: This Act ([GG 688](#)) provides for the holding of inquests in cases of deaths or alleged deaths apparently occurring otherwise than from natural causes. It repeals the South African *Inquests Act 58 of 1959*. It was brought into force on 1 January 1994 by GN 156/1993 ([GG 756](#)).

Amendments: The International Co-operation in Criminal Matters Act 9 of 2000 ([GG 2327](#)) amends section 17.

Note that there are two versions of GG 2327. The correct one states at the top: “*This Gazette replaces previous Gazette No. 2327.*”

Application of law: Persons who give statements or evidence in inquest proceedings may be eligible for protection under the Witness Protection Act 11 of 2017 ([GG 6451](#)), which is not yet in force.

Regulations: Section 27(2) states: “Anything done under a law repealed by subsection (1) and which could have been done under a corresponding provision of this Act shall be deemed to have been done under that corresponding provision.” Pre-independence regulations which might accordingly survive have not been researched.

Regulations are authorised by section 25 of this Act, but none have yet been promulgated.

Cases:

Wucher v Retief & Another 1998 NR 21 (HC)

S v Smith 1999 NR 182 (HC)

In re Outjo Inquest 30 of 2012; In re Outjo Inquest 480 of 2012 2013 (2) NR 477 (HC)

In re Rundu Inquest: Venda 2015 (4) NR 1178 (HC).