

# KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

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## **NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The Parliament of the Kingdom of Eswatini takes the opportunity to notify members of the public, individuals, stakeholders and organisations that the Senate Portfolio Committee of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade will be looking into the Cooperatives Societies (Amendment) Bill No: 1 of 2021 and the Trading Licences (Amendment) Bill No: 15 of 2020.

The object of the Cooperatives (Amendment) Bill, Bill No: 01 of 2021 is to amend the Cooperatives Societies Act, 2003 and related activities so as to -

- a) align it with various national and international developments that have occurred after the year 2003;
- b) provide for the role of the Co-operative development department in the regulation of Savings and Co-operatives;
- c) close the gaps in the Principal Act by including youth involvement in the co-operative movement;
- d) provide for the adherence to the internationally recognized values and principles of cooperatives as enshrined in the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA);
- e) provide for incidental matters.

The object of the Trading Licences (Amendment) Bill, Bill No: 15 of 2020 so as to-

- a) remove advertising as a requirement;
- b) remove the requirement for a hearing;
- c) introduce blacklisting as penalty for a person who contravenes the Act;
- d) increase the fines; and
- e) provide for incidental matters.

Those interested in making oral or written submissions are advised to call the Committee Clerk (Ms. Isabel Ngobeni) on 24162407/8/9 (landline)/ email at [ngobeniisa@gmail.com/](mailto:ngobeniisa@gmail.com) [adminparl@swazi.net](mailto:adminparl@swazi.net). The deadline for submissions is Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 1600hrs.

**The Office of the Clerk to Parliament**