



the dtic

Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Companies and Intellectual
Property Commission
a member of **the dtic** group

Private Bag X84, PRETORIA, 0001, the dtic Campus, 77 Meintjies Street, Sunnyside, 0002, Tel: (012) 394 0000
the dtic Customer Contact Centre local: 0861 843 384 International: +27 12 394 9500, www.thedtic.gov.za

Beneficial Ownership Register to Enhance Financial Integrity and Combat Money Laundering – Minister Tau

MEDIA RELEASE

29 SEPTEMBER 2026

The Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Mr Parks Tau says South Africa's efforts to enhance financial integrity and combat money laundering will be implemented through the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) beneficial ownership register and inter-agency collaboration. Tau was speaking during the launch of the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Module for Law Enforcement Agencies hosted in Pretoria.

According to Tau the new model will expose ownership links and make tracing easier for law enforcement officials.

"The companies that the CIPC registers can be abused by people who set them up for the wrong reasons. Shell structures, layered ownership, chains of entities designed so that no one can tell who is really in charge. The answer to secrecy is visibility. Under this new module, accredited users from law enforcement agencies get beneficial ownership information in real time, twenty-four hours a day, without obstruction. They can view the supporting documents and download them," Tau said.

Tau said the purpose is to end a culture of disregard for accountability and transparency, and to stop financial crime in its tracks.

"With the upgrade, investigators can take a single director and see every other entity that person is linked to, active or inactive. They can take an entity under investigation and connect it to every other entity in the CIPC database, not only those on the beneficial ownership register," he said.

Tau stated that the dtic will keep working to build a culture of transparency and accountability among our corporate citizens. He said government will keep the country off the grey list and make South Africa a place where no one can hide behind a company.

“We are held to a higher standard, and we chose to be. We meet that standard by working together with Treasury, the CIPC, South African Revenue Service, the Financial Intelligence Centre, the South African Police Service, National Prosecuting Authority and the private sector, and we give that cooperation its force by putting good data in the hands of the people who fight financial crime,” added Tau.

Speaking of the same launch, the CIPC Commissioner, Advocate Rory Voller said collaboration is important to have much greater breakthroughs against financial crime.

“A new cycle of mutual evaluation is ahead of us where the effectiveness report is due on 19 October 2026 to Financial Action Task Force. This is saying, let us take advantage of the tools we have and the availability of this newly upgraded Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Module to achieve even more successful investigations and prosecutions and mitigate the risk of money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing,” said Voller.

Since the register opened on 1 April 2023, the CPIC has received more than three million beneficial ownership filings, covering local and international owners. It has concluded more than 618 investigations. And it has issued more than 350 compliance notices to entities that did not comply, or that tried to abuse the system with false supporting information.

The Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Mr Parks Tau together with the CIPC Commissioner Advocate Rory Voller at the launch of the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Module for Law Enforcement Agencies in Pretoria.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Kaamil Alli – Ministerial Spokesperson

Mobile: +27 82 520 6813

WhatsApp: +27 82 520 6813

E-mail: KAlli@thedtic.gov.za

Or

Bongani Lukhele – Director: Media Relations

Tel: (012) 394 1643

Mobile: 079 5083 457

WhatsApp: 074 2998 512

E-mail: BLukhele@thedtic.gov.za

Issued by: The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic) and the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC)