

TAXPRACTICE

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

WEEK OF 30 Oct - 05 Nov 2025
(Issue 42 -2025)

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TOP STORIES

Tax Exempt Institutions Modernisation

On Monday, 3 November 2025, SARS hosted a presentation to introduce Phase 1 of the Tax-Exempt Institutions (TEI) Modernisation Project. The session aimed to brief Recognised Controlling Bodies (RCBs) on the planned initiatives and upcoming changes relating to Exempt Institutions.

SARS outlined that the modernisation of the TEI segment will be implemented in three phases:

- **Phase 1:** Exempt Institutions Application
- **Phase 2:** Automation of Assessments
- **Phase 3:** Legal Entity Registration with the Department of Social Development

Phase 1, which focuses on automating exempt institutions' applications, is scheduled to launch on 5 December 2025

Key highlights of this rollout include:

- Mandatory income tax registration: applicants seeking tax-exempt status must first be registered for Income Tax before submitting an exemption application.
- Online application via RAV01 on eFiling.
- Dynamic, rule-driven application form: the form will automatically adjust based on the applicant's inputs and exemption type.
- Enhanced service experience: more service touchpoints and improved user interaction.
- Personalised service: tailored processes aligned with the specific exemption category.
- Improved transparency and certainty:
 - o Comprehensive list of required supporting documents.
 - o Clear and specific reasons for any application rejections.
 - o Applicants will have 21 business days to submit outstanding documentation.
 - o Clear communication channels with all registered office bearers.

SARS emphasised the importance of trade testing ahead of the official launch. Practitioners will have the opportunity to

volunteer for pre-launch testing, and the TEI segment will conduct comprehensive training sessions to ensure a smooth transition to the new system.

This initiative marks an exciting step forward in the digital transformation of SARS' services, promising greater efficiency, transparency, and accessibility for both practitioners and exempt institutions.

Revised Timeline Announced for GloBE Project Implementation

SARS has rescheduled the launch of the GloBE registration and notification function on eFiling from December 2025 to 16 March 2026. According to SARS, this adjustment ensures system quality and compliance with international standards.

SARS explained that the revised timeline stems from the need to align multiple technology systems and to keep pace with changing international standards. These measures are essential to uphold the GloBE solution's integrity and protect the interests of all affected parties.

Members are reminded of SARS' announcement of the extension of key deadlines for the submission of Notices of Designated Local Entities, Designated Filing Entities, Ultimate Parent Entities, and GloBE Information Returns for the fiscal year commencing on or after 1 January 2024 but before 1 January 2025.

The extension is as follows:

- With regards to the date to submit a Notice of the Designated Local Entity, Designated Filing Entity or Ultimate Parent Entity to submit a GloBE Information Return, where that Notice is due before 30 April 2026 under section 2(3)(b)(i) or section 4(2) of the Global Minimum Tax Administration Act, 2024, the date is extended to 30 April 2026; and
- With regards to the date to submit a GloBE Information Return that is due before 30 June 2026 under section 3(b) of the Global Minimum Tax Administration Act, 2024, the date is extended to 30 June 2026.

SARS has advised that further guidance will be issued closer to the March implementation date, including system readiness updates and taxpayer testing timelines.

Members are encouraged to visit the [Global Minimum Tax webpage](#) for full details regarding the revised deadlines. Additionally, queries should be directed to LBqueries.Globe@sars.gov.za.

#StayAbreastOfTheTaxWave

Are you a **tax practitioner** with a passion for writing?

Let's feature your article on the Tax
Practice: Weekly Highlights

Send your article to
taxassist@thesait.org.za.

Approximately 500 – 1500 words

PART A: COMPLIANCE & SARS OPERATIONS

SAIT-SARS 'ON-THE-GROUND' ENGAGEMENT

SARS Implements Fixes for Errors on the ITR12T Return

On Saturday, 1 November 2025, SARS implemented a digital systems update. As part of this update, the following issues previously encountered with the ITR12T submission have been resolved:

Issue	Description	Result of fix being implemented
Validating age limit on type (b) special trust.	When a user or taxpayer requests a trust tax return for a type (b) special trust, they are prompted to confirm whether the youngest beneficiary is still under the age of 18. Previously, this pop-up message appeared for all trust types, even when the trust was not classified as a type (b) special trust. This has now been corrected, to only appear when the trust classification is type (b) special trust.	The question "Is the youngest beneficiary younger than 18 years of age?" will now only appear for type (b) special trusts. Taxpayers who select "No", will be redirected to the RAV to rectify the classification of the trust.
Tick-box - "Is the founder deceased?" results in non-availability of Beneficial Ownership containers.	The provision of Beneficial Ownership information should only be removed for the founder if the founder is deceased. The containers for all other beneficial ownership categories (trustees, beneficiaries, etc.) should remain available for completion.	When the tick-box "Is the founder deceased?" is selected, the founder's details will not be required, but all other Beneficial Ownership information will remain available for editing or confirmation purposes.
Pre-population of Beneficial Ownership information.	Beneficial Ownership information did not previously populate when the return was requested.	Beneficial Ownership information will now correctly pre-populate when the return is selected.
Beneficial Ownership information is not displayed correctly on the read only version.	Beneficial Ownership was not displayed correctly on the ITR12T read only version.	The Beneficial Ownership information will now be displayed correctly on the ITR12T read only version after completion.
Local rental loss trust issue.	The Taxable in Trust (not vested in beneficiaries) field, under the Local Rental Income from the Letting of Fixed Property container, was not calculating correctly when there was a loss.	Rental losses will now be accurately calculated.
Question - "Did the trust submit an IT3(t)?"	When answering "Yes" to the question "Did the trust submit an IT3(t) return?", taxpayers could not complete trust participant information.	The question "Has the trust submitted an IT3(t) return?" has been removed from the 2025 ITR12T.

Members experiencing any further issues should log a query on the TaxHelpline for further escalation to SARS.

Reminder: Enhanced Reporting Requirements for Section 18A Receipts

SARS has introduced more detailed requirements for receipts issued under section 18A(2)(a) of the Income Tax Act, reflecting a strengthened focus on transparency, compliance, and third-party reporting in charitable donations.

These updates ensure that both donors and s18A recipients provide sufficient information to support proper tax deductions and enhance regulatory oversight.

Receipts must now further include comprehensive details about the donor, particularly to accurately identify and verify their status.

Required donor information includes:

- Nature of the donor (e.g., natural person, company, trust)
- Identification type and country of issue (for natural persons)
- Identification or registration number (for juristic persons)
- Trading name, if different from the registered name
- Income tax reference number
- Contact number and email address

For donations made in kind, receipts must provide:

- A clear and accurate description of the property donated
- The deemed deduction amount under section 18A (3) or (3A) of the Income Tax Act

Additionally, all receipts must include a unique receipt number to ensure traceability and accountability.

These enhanced requirements improve the integrity of the donation process and strengthen third-party reporting, allowing SARS to better track donations and verify claims. s18A recipients are now responsible for capturing detailed donor information, while donors must provide accurate details. This facilitates proper tax deduction claims, enhances compliance, and reduces the potential for misuse of donated funds.

These changes are effective from 1 March 2026. The full notice can be accessed [here](#).

Reminder: Phase 1 of the Expedited Tax-Debt Compromise Process Explained

To promote enhanced voluntary compliance, SARS has introduced a more accessible Compromise Process in terms of the Tax Administration Act. This streamlined mechanism is intended to assist taxpayers in settling outstanding tax debts in a sustainable manner. SARS is collaborating closely with Recognised Controlling Bodies (RCBs) and tax practitioners to ensure the effective implementation of this initiative.

During the SARS-SAIT webinar, the following were highlighted:

1. Formal Application Process

Phase 1 focuses on qualifying taxpayers who are linked to registered tax practitioners.

- Submission of Applications: Expedited Compromise applications must be submitted via email to compromisecampaign@sars.gov.za.

Please note: Only compromise applications should be sent to this address. Any queries or general questions regarding the initiative should be directed to the SARS Contact Centre or to the tax practitioner's RCB.

- Application Period: The formal application window runs from 13 October 2025 to 31 December 2025.
- Settlement Terms: Approved compromise settlements may be paid either in full or in instalments over a period not exceeding six months.
- Post-Implementation Enforcement: Following the conclusion of the application period, SARS intends to intensify enforcement actions against continued non-compliance, including the issuance of civil judgments and writs of execution. To support this effort, SARS is in the process of engaging 260 legal collectors and 30 legal practitioners.

2. Qualifying Criteria

The following criteria are required to qualify for the Expedited Compromise application:

- The taxpayer must be a client of a tax practitioner, as defined by SARS.
- The debt must be older than 12 months (the principal debt should be at least 12 months old).
- The debt should not be in dispute, unless the dispute is to be formally withdrawn. A separate process exists for disputed cases.
- The applicant must not be insolvent or deceased.
- The entity must not be in the final stages of deregistration with the CIPC.
- The debt must not have arisen from fraudulent activity.
- There must be no ongoing suspension of the debt.
- The debt should not have been previously written off as part of a compromise or business rescue process.
- The taxpayer's tax affairs must be up to date.

3. Required Supporting Documentation

All applicants must provide comprehensive relevant supporting documentation with the submissions in line with Part D of Chapter 14 of the Tax Administration Act.

This would include (but not limited to):

1. Last six months' bank statements
 - Cashflow forecast for 12 months.
 - List of Assets and Liabilities.
 - Debtor's Age analysis.
2. Application letter with a clear motivation, an offer amount and source of funds to pay the offered amount.
 - Collection Information Statement (CIS) to be completed – Request with reasons and proof to compromise the debt in terms of s200/201/202 of the TAA. Follow the link to the required form – Collection Information Statement (CIS).

SARS has indicated that qualifying applications will be finalised within four weeks of receipt of a complete submission. This timeline is supported by the establishment of dedicated processes and resources to manage the applications efficiently.

It is important to note that only new applications submitted during the campaign will be considered. Any taxpayer who already has a compromise request in progress prior to the campaign will continue through the existing process and will not be included in the pilot phase.

For further information, members are encouraged to review the SARS presentation, consult the SARS FAQs, and watch the SARS-SAIT webinar, all of which are available on the [SAIT website](#).

SAIT TaxHelpline – Escalations

As part of our ongoing commitment to serving our members, SAIT escalates appropriate cases within SARS structures on their behalf. For assistance with this, members may submit their queries via the [TaxHelpline](#).

The most urgent escalations this week include:

1. Delays in finalising and the payment of refunds.
2. Delays in finalising and issuing deceased estate letters.
3. Delays in finalising registered representative requests.
4. Delays in finalising income tax verifications and objections.

SAIT continues to engage with SARS at both regional and national levels and on a case-by-case basis regarding the escalations mentioned above. Feedback is communicated directly to affected members as appropriate.

SARS regional and national operational meetings

SAIT and its Regional Representatives attend SARS/RCB regional meetings quarterly, offering opportunities for effective systemic discussions (qualifying for CPD points) *.

** For effective and meaningful engagement with SARS, Regional Representatives are encouraged to provide three specific examples of issues or challenges that arise. It is important to note that regional meetings are not intended for individual case escalations but serve as a platform to address systemic issues impacting the broader tax practitioner community.*

Feedback from the RCB/SARS regional and national meetings

There were no regional or national meetings held during the week of 30 October – 05 November 2025.

Upcoming RCB/SARS regional and national meetings

1. Free State and Northern Cape – 10 November 2025
2. Eastern Cape (Gqeberha and Kariega) – 12 November 2025
3. North West – 17 November 2025
4. KwaZulu-Natal – 17 November 2025
5. Western Cape – 19 November 2025
6. Gauteng – 20 November 2025
7. Northern Region – 1 December 2025

Other meetings of interest

1. RCB Forum meeting – 11 November 2025
2. SARS National Operational Forum – tentatively scheduled for 20 November 2025.

DAILY COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Due dates for reporting and payments: October 2025

Month	Date	Tax Type	Notification
November 2025	07/11/2025	Employment Taxes	EMP201 - Submissions and payments
	25/11/2025	Value-Added Tax	VAT201 - Manual submissions and payments
	28/11/2025	Value-Added Tax	VAT201 - Electronic submissions and payments

SAIT member resources

- [SAIT important tax dates calendar](#) – contains important dates from January 2025 to January 2026 (unchanged).
- [SAIT SARS contact map](#) – links service requirements to SARS channels (unchanged).

Key operational news

SARS Northern Region to Host SMME Webinar

SARS will be hosting a Tax Compliance webinar tailored for Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) as part of their Global Entrepreneurship Week.

The webinar will provide insights into tax obligations, compliance requirements and how SARS supports entrepreneurs in businesses.

The webinar details and topics are as follows:

Date	Tax Topic	Time
18 November 2025	Small Business Compliance & Incentives	10H00-12H00
20 November 2025	Small Business Compliance & Incentives	10H00-12H00

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 310 564 563 237 95

Passcode: Np62Yf3e

Other SARS and related operational publications and announcements

No other SARS and related operational publications and announcements were noted during the week 30 October – 5 November 2025.

TAX PRACTITIONER MANAGEMENT

SAIT TaxHelpline – Tax practitioner access and functionality (eFiling)

Updated e@syFile™ Employer version 8.0.1_328

The e@syFile™ Employer version 8.0.1_328 release notes specify the following changes:

- Correction made when using the Retrieve Certificate History option to 'read' postal address detail.
- Correction made to import files that pass validation but fail to import.
- A change has been made to the Trading name to allow more than 50 characters.

See more details in the [release notes](#).

Key tax practitioner news

Important Update: Stay Compliant, Stay Empowered

Compliance is not just a legal requirement; it is the cornerstone of professionalism. According to Section 240A of the Tax Administration Act 28 of 2011, all Tax Practitioners are legally obliged to register with a Recognised Controlling Body (RCB) and the South African Revenue Service (SARS). Failure to comply with this statutory requirement constitutes a criminal offence.

SAIT's Role and Current Compliance Measures

SAIT is mandated to set and uphold Professional Standards by evaluating, implementing, monitoring, and enforcing compliance with industry-specific legislation, regulations, and ethical codes. To fulfil this mandate, SAIT conducts:

- Annual member compliance updates on renewal (stronger enforcement on 2026)
- SARS Compliance Audit (statutory requirement and key enforcement tool)

Important: All members must maintain compliance. It is their professional prerogative. SAIT's Compliance Team remains available to assist members in meeting these obligations.

Recent Developments and Key Compliance Obligations

Non-compliance places a member's ability to practice at risk and undermines SAIT's legislative mandate. To strengthen the compliance culture, SAIT requires members to:

- Complete and submit the annual SAIT Membership Compliance Declarations.
- Maintain compliance with SARS registration and retention requirements.
- Honour their Continued Professional Development (CPD) obligations.

Causes of Non-Compliance

Non-compliance may arise from:

- Failure to provide updated compliance documentation upon request and/or annually at renewal of membership.
- Consistent failure to pay annual membership fees.
- Breach of membership terms and conditions and codes.
- Failure to comply with directives of the Institute (Secretariat, Compliance Office or Disciplinary Structures).
- CPD non-compliance.

Consequences of Non-Compliance

The SAIT Compliance Officer may impose:

- Suspension of Membership: Automatic suspension for members found non-compliant during SAIT or SARS compliance audits.
- Termination of Membership: Persistent non-compliance or CPD default exceeding two compliance cycles (24 months).
- Listing on the Register of Non-Compliant Members: May be published on SAIT's official website and shared with SARS and other RCBs. Members must always maintain their Good Standing.
- Imposition of Costs: Members whose non-compliance leads to suspension, termination, or SARS-mandated deregistration may incur costs.

Critical Update on SARS Deregistration: Remain Compliant to Remain Empowered

If SARS deregisters a member, SAIT cannot reinstate membership until the mandatory six-month deregistration period has lapsed.

Compliance is not just a legal requirement; it is a cornerstone of professionalism. SAIT views compliance as a value-added service that enhances the membership experience and future-proofs the tax profession.

Support Available

If you experience challenges with compliance or accessing CPD resources, the SAIT Education and Compliance departments are ready to assist.

The SAIT Legal and Compliance team would like to thank you for your attention and commitment to compliance!

Government & stakeholder newsletters

No government and stakeholder newsletters were published during the week 30 October – 5 November 2025.

Other tax practitioner access and functionality publications and announcements

4 November 2025 – The [Western Cape mobile tax unit schedule for November 2025](#) is now available.

SARS Digital Platform Upgrades on 08 November 2025

As part of SARS' commitment to delivering smart, modern and trustworthy service through reliable and secure digital platforms, regular maintenance and upgrades are essential. Therefore, scheduled maintenance on the SARS digital platform will take place as follows:

- **Saturday, 08 November 2025, from 20h00 – 23h59.**

During this time, you may experience intermittent service interruptions on SARS' eFiling, Tax, and Customs Digital Platforms.

Additionally, stakeholders are urged to submit all Goods Declarations (bills of entry) and Road Manifests, especially those deemed as "high priority" by Saturday, 8 November 2025 @ 16h00, and plan land-based cargo movements accordingly to avoid any delays.

PART B – LEGISLATION & POLICY

LEGISLATION, INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS & POLICY

Tax policy & international agreements

National Legislation

Draft Tax Bills and Rates Bill Presentation

On 4 November 2025, the National Treasury and SARS presented their official responses to public submissions on the 2025 Draft Tax Bills before the Finance Standing Committee.

SAIT's Acting Deputy CEO, Keitumetse Sesana, who actively participated in the hearings, noted that there has been meaningful progress in several technical areas, particularly regarding schools, cross-border retirement, and collective investment schemes, although some proposals were not accepted.

A detailed analysis of the official responses will be featured in upcoming editions of this newsletter. In the meantime, a summary of the key outcomes from SAIT's submissions is provided below:

Table: SAIT Submission Outcomes

Issue / Proposal	Outcome	Details
Foreign retirement benefit exemption (s10(1)(gC)(ii))	Win	Repeal withdrawn; further consultation promised.
Effective dates for amendments	Win	Accepted for CIS transactions, equity share definitions, etc.
Trust taxation clarity (s7 & s25B)	Win	Accepted; clearer interaction between sections.
Carbon tax refund mechanism	Win	Accepted in principle for 5-year compliance.
Technical corrections (capital distributions, etc.)	Win	Accepted or partially accepted.
VAT exemption for school supplies (section 12H)	Win	All supplies by basic education institutions exempt; transition period extended to 2027.
Ring-fencing assessed losses	Loss	Threshold lowered; broader application, safe harbours not accepted.
"Bona fide inadvertent error" defence for penalties	Loss	Rejected; stricter enforcement, some remission criteria remain.
VAT Modernisation concerns	Loss	Noted; Treasury proceeding with e-invoicing and real-time reporting.
Excise policy certainty/freeze pending review	Loss	Rejected; further consultation but no freeze.
Tax incentives for component manufacturers	Loss	Not accepted; Treasury cites existing grant support.

The National Treasury's presentation can be accessed [here](#).

LEGISLATIVE INTERPRETATION

Legislative calls for comment

Consultation Paper: Development of the South African Carbon Credit Market

On 29 October 2025, the National Treasury published a consultation paper on Developing the South African Carbon Credit Market. Carbon offsets play a key role in the country's carbon tax framework, supporting a market-based approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The consultation paper sets out proposed measures to strengthen the carbon credit market, with the overarching goal of helping companies lower their emissions.

The paper identifies key challenges currently affecting the effective functioning of South Africa's carbon tax market. It also provides recommendations aimed at modernising carbon credit infrastructure, clarifying legal and financial frameworks, and encouraging investment in the country's low-carbon projects. By reducing administrative barriers and enhancing the roles of financial institutions and regulatory bodies, these proposed reforms seek to create a resilient and high-integrity secondary market for carbon credits.

The key recommendations include:

- Defining the legal nature of carbon credits,
- Reforming the registry architecture,
- Introducing appropriate standards & local capacity,
- Adjusting financial market regulation,
- Developing an Exchange Control framework,
- Ensuring market integrity and efficiency, and
- Linking to broader climate policy objectives

Members are encouraged to review the [full consultation document](#). Those wishing to provide feedback may complete the [online questionnaire](#) by 1 December 2025. Alternatively, members may submit their comments via email to ksesana@thesait.org.za by 17 November 2025 to ensure their input is considered ahead of the consolidation of final comments for submission to National Treasury.

Additional questions can be directed to Vukile Davidson Financial.Policy@treasury.gov.za. The full media statement can be read [here](#).

Submissions made to SARS and current calls for comment

Call for Comment: Draft GloBE Information Return (GIR) BRS

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has introduced the Pillar Two Model Rules, also known as the Global Anti-Base Erosion (GloBE) Rules. These rules aim to ensure that large multinational enterprises are subject to a minimum effective tax rate of 15% across all jurisdictions in which they operate.

To support local implementation and compliance, SARS has released a draft [Business Requirements Specification \(BRS\)](#) outlining how Domestic Constituent Entities (DCEs) should submit their GloBE Information Return (GIR) to SARS when opting for XML submission. The draft provides detailed technical guidance to assist in developing compliant reporting systems and processes.

The SAIT Tax Technical team is currently reviewing this draft BRS. Members who wish to submit their commentary are invited to email ksesana@thesait.org.za by no later than 20 November 2025, to ensure their input is considered before final comments are consolidated and submitted to SARS.

Legislative counsel publications

SARS Issues Interpretation Note 141

SARS issued Interpretation Note 141, which clarifies the meaning of 'reserve fund' under section 23(e).

Number	Applicable legislation	
IN 141	<i>Income Tax Act, 1962</i>	Section 23(e)
Subject		
The meaning of the reserve fund under section 23(e)		

Reminder on the Enhanced Reporting Requirements for Section 18A Receipts

SARS has published the terms of section 18A(2)(a)(vii) prescribing the further information that must be contained in a receipt issued in terms of section 18A(2)(a) of the Act:

Publication date	GG and Notice Numbers	Implementation date
24/10/2025	GG 53589 Notice 6762	1 March 2026
Description		
Notice published in terms of section 18A(2)(a)(vii) prescribing the further information that must be contained in a receipt issued in terms of section 18A(2)(a) of the Act.		
• Notice 6762		

Reminder on the Extension for Submission of GloBE Notices and Information Returns

SARS has announced an extension of key deadlines for the submission of Notices of Designated Local Entities, Designated Filing Entities, Ultimate Parent Entities, and GloBE Information Returns for the fiscal year commencing on or after 1 January 2024 but before 1 January 2025.

Publication date	GG and Notice Numbers	Implementation date
28/10/2025	GG 53590 Notice 6763	28 October 2025
Description		
Extension in terms of section 25(7), of the due date for notices and the due date for GLOBE Information Returns for the Fiscal Year commencing on or after 1 January 2024 but before 1 January 2025.		
• Notice 6763		

Published court cases

No published court cases were noted during the week 30 October – 5 November 2025.

Other SARS publications and announcements

No other SARS and related operational publications and announcements were noted during the week 30 October – 5 November 2025.

OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST FOR A TAX PRACTICE

SARS Releases Annual Report 2024/25

The SARS Annual Report for 2024/2025 has been published. The Strategic Plan End-Term Report for 2020 – 2025 is also now available:

- [SARS Annual Report for 2024 – 2025](#)
- [Strategic Plan End-Term Report 2020 – 2025](#)

Reminder: OTO Released Annual Report 2024/25

The OTO has published the annual report for the 2024/25 financial year.

This year's report highlights their continued commitment to protecting fairness, accountability, and transparency in South Africa's tax administration. It also reflects on key milestones, challenges addressed, and the impact of our work in protecting taxpayer rights.

Some of the highlights of the report include, but are not limited to:

- 99.33% of the OTO's recommendations to SARS were implemented.
- The value of the top ten refunds paid out to taxpayers after the OTO's intervention amounted to R167 982 007.52.
- 4 847 complaints were received by the OTO.
- Implementation of section 20(2) of the Tax Administration Act, which strengthens the OTO's oversight function by requiring SARS to give reasons for not implementing the OTO's recommendation.

The full annual report can be read [here](#).

Reminder that South Africa Exited the FATF Grey List

On 24 October 2025, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) announced that South Africa exited the FATF Grey List, formally called the list of "Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring". This decision followed the conclusion of meetings of the FATF Plenary that took place over 22-24 October 2025 in Paris, France.

South Africa was first placed on the grey list in February 2023 after failing to meet several international compliance standards. Since then, the South African government worked with FATF reviewers to implement 22 key reforms aimed at improving oversight and enforcement mechanisms across financial and legal systems.

As one of the government agencies which contributed to ensuring that the country exits the FATF grey list, SARS stated that they were "proud to have supported the national effort to meet the 22 action items required by the FATF." Their specific contributions included:

- Stronger investigations: enhanced collaboration with law enforcement to tackle complex tax, customs, and money-laundering crimes.
- Beneficial ownership transparency: introduced reporting for companies and trusts; improved data sharing with CIPC and the Master of the High Court.
- Legislative support: amended the Tax Administration Act to enable inter-agency information exchange.
- Border controls: rolled out a digital Traveller Management System to track cash movements, fully mandatory by end-2025.
- Capacity building: trained SARS and law enforcement officials on financial crime detection and information sharing.

South Africa's removal from the FATF grey list represents a significant policy and institutional achievement. While this milestone demonstrates the country's commitment to rebuilding the rule of law, it marks only the beginning of a broader effort to strengthen institutions, improve enforcement and governance, and ensure sustainable progress in combating money laundering, terrorism financing, and proliferation financing.

The FATF requires countries that have exited the grey list to demonstrate continued commitment through measurable outcomes, such as successful investigations, prosecutions, and sanctions. These results will form the basis of South Africa's next FATF Mutual Evaluation, expected to take place from the first half of 2026 to October 2027.

South Africa's removal from the grey list is expected to positively impact investment inflows and improve the overall business environment, thereby strengthening South Africa's standing as a credible and transparent member of the global financial system.

The full media statements from the National Treasury and SARS can be accessed [here](#) and [here](#).