

LEGAL ALERT

NEW “BRIDGE HOLIDAY” REGIME

On the 28 September, Law No. 11/18 was published, amending the Law on National and Local Holidays and Dates of National Celebration (approved by Law No. 10/11, of 16 February).

As such, a new national holiday day was introduced on 23 March (day of the liberation of Southern Africa), as well as a new date of national celebration, on 15 January (day of the former combatant and veteran of the Motherland).

The “bridge holiday” regime has also undergone significant changes. In fact, the previous wording of Article 6 was totally repealed – namely the transposition of certain public holidays to the next working day when they coincide with Sunday – with new rules in force on this subject.

Thus, and unlike the previous regime, if the holidays provided for in Article 2 (any national public holiday) coincide with a Tuesday or Thursday, the work is suspended on the previous working day or later (Monday or Friday respectively), these days being designated by “bridge holiday” (see Article 6 (2) of that diploma).

In addition, for compensation purposes, employees will have to spend an additional hour and a half of daily work in the week prior to the bridge holiday rather than one hour of daily work as was previously the case.

The remaining provisions of the Law on National and Local Holidays and Dates of National Celebration (approved by Law No. 10/11 of 16 February) were unchanged.

The new law came into force on the day of its publication.