
GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR

NO. R. 7330

31 March 2026

LABOUR RELATIONS ACT, 1995**FURNITURE BARGAINING COUNCIL: EXTENSION TO NON-PARTIES OF THE
MAIN COLLECTIVE AMENDING AGREEMENT**

I, **NOMAKHOSAZANA METH**, Minister of Employment and Labour, hereby in terms of section 32(2) of the Labour Relations Act, 1995, declare that the Collective Agreement which appears in the Schedule hereto, which was concluded in the **Furniture Bargaining Council**, and is binding in terms of section 31 of the Labour Relations Act, 1995, on the parties which concluded the agreement, shall be binding on the other employers and employees in that Industry, with effect from the second Monday after the date of publication of this Notice and for the period ending **30 April 2028**.



**MS N METH, MP
MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR**

DATE: 30 March 2026

SCHEDULE

FURNITURE BARGAINING COUNCIL

MAIN COLLECTIVE AMENDING AGREEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of the Labour Relations Act 1995 (Act No 66 of 1995) (as amended), made and entered into by and between the

Furniture, Bedding & Upholstery Manufacturers' Association for the Greater Northern Region

(hereinafter referred to as the "employers" or the "employers' organisations"), of the one part,

and the

National Union of Furniture and Allied Workers of South Africa

and

Chemical, Energy, Paper, Printing, Wood and Allied Workers Union (CEPPWAWU)

(hereinafter referred to as the "employees" or the "trade unions"), of the other part
being parties to the Furniture Bargaining Council

hereby agree to amend and extend the Main Collective Agreement published under Government Notice No. R. 5766 of 24 January 2025, Government Notice No. R. 6036 of 25 March 2025, Government Notice No R.6523 of 22 August 2025 and Government Notice No R.6853 of 21 November 2025.

CHAPTER 1

1: SCOPE OF APPLICATION

- 1.1 The terms of this Agreement shall be observed by employers and employees in the Furniture, Bedding and Upholstery Manufacturing Industry as defined hereunder in the Provinces of Gauteng, North West, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and Free State.

"Furniture, Bedding and Upholstery Manufacturing Industry" or "Industry" means, without in any way limiting the ordinary meaning of the expression, the industry in which

employers and their employees are associated for the manufacture, either in whole or as a complete unit or in part as a component or components, of all types of furniture and bedding as well as upholstery and /or re-upholstery and will, inter alia include the following:

1. Furniture

Repairing, staining, spraying, polishing, re-polishing, making loose covers and/or cushions, wood machining, veneering, woodturning, carving, assembling, painting, wood bending and laminating, cutting, edging, drilling and routing. Furniture manufacturing will also include the manufacturing, installation, repairing, polishing, re-polishing, staining, spraying of pianos, organs, movable room/office partitions, kitchen cupboards, kitchen cupboard tops, kitchen cupboard components (irrespective of materials used), attached wall cupboards, built-in cupboards, built-in cupboard components, doors and door frames (the latter doors and door frames exclude doors and door frames manufactured from iron, steel and other metal materials) free standing bars or built-in bar counters, cane, wicker or grass furniture, cabinets including cabinets for musical instruments and radios, wireless or television cabinets, bathroom cupboards, any other cupboard tops and furniture for tea-rooms, restaurants, offices, churches, schools, libraries, other educational institutions, conference centres, theatres, shop fitting, office fitting and bank fitting, which includes the manufacture and/or fixing of shop fronts, window enclosures, showcases, counters, including point of sales counters, screens, interior fittings and fixtures and any form of shelving, irrespective of the materials used and includes any part of an establishment's business carrying out the manufacture of furniture as defined above, whether or not that part is discrete or ancillary to any other business of the employer.

2. Bedding

The manufacturing, repairing, covering, re-covering of mattress bases, mattresses, spring mattresses, overlays, bolsters, pillows, cushions for studio couches, spring units, box-spring mattresses and studio couches, including the manufacturing of bedding and bed frames, irrespective of the materials used.

"Studio Couch" means an article of furniture, which is designed for seating and for conversion into a double bed or two or more beds and of which the frames are constructed mainly of metal and the seating and/or sleeping surfaces consist of mattresses and /or cushions.

3. Upholstery

The upholstering or re-upholstering of any furniture, or item of furniture, bedding, pelmets and mattress bases.

1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 1.1 the provisions of this Agreement-

1.2.1 apply only to employees for whom wages are prescribed in this Agreement and to the employers of such employees; and

1.2.2 apply to learners under the Skills Development Act, 1998, or any contracts entered into or any conditions fixed thereunder.

2: PERIOD OF OPERATION OF AGREEMENT

2.1 This Agreement shall in terms of section 31 of the Act, become binding on the above parties from date of signature until 30 April 2028.

2.2 This Agreement shall be binding on non-party employers and employees from the date as determined by the Minister of Employment and Labour in terms of section 32 of the Act and shall remain in force for the period ending 30 April 2028.

3. ADDENDUM 1**FEES, LEVIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE TO THE COUNCIL****1. CLAUSE 3: PROVIDENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS**

Substitute clause 3.2 with the following:

"3.2 The Provident Fund contributions payable to the Council shall be calculated on a sliding scale per wage band for all Occupation Skills Levels, as follows:

3.2.1	Wages from: May 2026 – R0 to R1 522-00 p/w May 2027 – R0 to R1 598-00 p/w	5% of normal weekly wages from the employee per week, calculated on the establishment's normal ordinary hours of work per week plus an equal amount from the employer.
3.2.2	Wages from: May 2026 – above R1 522 to R1 902 p/w May 2027 – above R1 598 to R1 997 p/w	5.2% of normal weekly wages from the employee per week, calculated on the

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| <p>3.2.3 Wages from:
 May 2026 – above R1 902 to R2 536 p/w
 May 2027 – above R1 997 to R2 663 p/w</p> | <p>establishment's normal ordinary hours of work per week plus an equal amount from the employer.
 5.35% of normal weekly wages from the employee per week, calculated on the establishment's normal ordinary hours of work per week plus an equal amount from the employer.</p> |
| <p>3.2.4 Wages from:
 May 2026 – above R2 536-00 p/w
 May 2027 – above R2 663-00 p/w</p> | <p>5.5% of normal weekly wages from the employee per week, calculated on the establishment's normal ordinary hours of work per week plus an equal amount from the employer.</p> |
| <p>3.2.5 Working employers:</p> | <p>11% of a foreman's prescribed weekly wage.".</p> |

2. CLAUSE 9: COUNCIL LEVIES

Substitute clause 9.2 with the following:

"9.2 The Council levies payable to the Council shall amount to:

- 9.2.1 **From the first full pay week of May 2026** (As gazetted by the Minister under Government Gazette 53707 under Notice R.6853 of 21 November 2025)

R16-45 per week per employee payable by the employer and **R16-45** per week payable by the employee.

- 9.2.2 Whenever a General Worker or any other employee earns a wage rate of up to and including R30-65 per hour, the employee will be exempted from paying Council Levies for the duration of this Agreement. An employer of such employee shall therefore not deduct and pay over to the Council, the Council Levies for such employee, for the duration of this Agreement."

3. CLAUSE 10: DISPUTE RESOLUTION LEVY

Substitute clause 10.2 with the following:

"10.2 The Dispute Resolution levies payable to the Council shall amount to:

10.2.1 From the first full pay week of May 2026 (As gazetted by the Minister under Government Gazette 53707 under Notice R.6853 of 21 November 2025)

R2-00 per week per employee payable by the employer and R2-00 per week payable by the employee.

10.2.2 Whenever a General Worker or any other employee earns a wage rate of up to and including R30-65 per hour, the employee will be exempted from paying Dispute Resolution Levies for the duration of this Agreement. An employer of such employee shall therefore not deduct and pay over to the Council, the Dispute Resolution Levies for such employee, for the duration of this Agreement."

4. CLAUSE 11: EXEMPTION FEE

Delete clause 11.

5. ADDENDUM 2

**PRESCRIBED ACROSS THE BOARD INCREASES OF ACTUAL HOURLY RATES OF PAY,
MINIMUM HOURLY RATES OF PAY AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE** *(for all areas
excluding the Free State Province)*

Substitute clauses 1 to 7 with the following:

"1. Prescribed across the board increases of actual hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in May 2026 *(for all areas excluding the Free State Province)*

Sector	Occupation Skills Level	Occupation Skills Level Code	Prescribed across the board increases of actual hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2026 – (for all areas excluding the Free State Province)
Furniture, Bedding and Upholstery	General worker	05	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to the offset in clause 1.2 and subject to clause 1.3 below.
	Semi-skilled employee	04	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 1.3 below.
	Skilled employee	03	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 1.3 below.
	Chargehand	02	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 1.3 below.
	Foreman/Supervisor	01	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 1.3 below.

- 1.1 In the event that employees who received the across the board wage increases still receive hourly rates of pay less than the minimum hourly rates of pay of their respective occupation skills levels, these employees must receive an additional adjustment of their hourly rates of pay to be at least that of the minimum prescribed hourly rate of pay for the applicable occupation skills level.
- 1.2 **General Workers:** The across the board increase from the first full pay week in May 2026 to be offset against the national minimum wage increases when implemented, earlier in 2026, for such general workers.

1.3 Increase Threshold

- 1.3.1 A wage threshold of 40% above any minimum prescribed hourly rate of pay is implemented as from the first full pay week in May 2026, provided that the employee who is already earning a wage above the threshold will only receive the across the board increase minus 1.25%.
- 1.3.2 In the event that an employee earns above the threshold only when the full across the board increase is to be awarded, such employee may not be awarded the full across the board increase, but shall receive an increase up to the threshold or the across the board increase minus 1.25%, whichever is the greater.

2. Prescribed minimum hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2026 (for all areas excluding the Free State Province):

Sector	Occupation Skills Level	Occupation Skills Level Code	Prescribed minimum hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2026 (for all areas excluding the Free State Province)
Furniture, Bedding and Upholstery	General worker	05	R30-23 per hour As per the National minimum wage rate effective from 1 March 2026
	Semi-skilled employee	04	R32-83 per hour
	Skilled employee	03	R34-10 per hour
	Chargehand	02	R36-79 per hour
	Foreman/Supervisor	01	R36-79 per hour

- 2.1. In the event that the Government implements any amendments to the national minimum hourly rate of pay and the hourly rates of pay of the employees above are below the national minimum hourly rate of pay, such hourly rates of pay shall be adjusted to the national minimum hourly rate of pay in accordance with the implementation date of such.

3. Prescribed across the board increases of actual hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in May 2027 (for all areas excluding the Free State Province)

Sector	Occupation Skills Level	Occupation Skills Level Code	Prescribed across the board increases of actual hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2027 – (for all areas excluding the Free State Province)
Furniture, Bedding and Upholstery	General worker	05	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to the offset in clause 3.2 and subject to clause 3.3 below.
	Semi-skilled employee	04	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 3.3 below.
	Skilled employee	03	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 3.3 below.
	Chargehand	02	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 3.3 below.
	Foreman/Supervisor	01	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 3.3 below.

- 3.1 In the event that employees who received the across the board wage increases still receive hourly rates of pay less than the minimum hourly rates of pay of their respective occupation skills levels, these employees must receive an additional adjustment of their hourly rates of pay to be at least that of the minimum prescribed hourly rate of pay for the applicable occupation skills level.

3.2 **General Workers:** The across the board increase from the first full pay week in May 2027 to be offset against the national minimum wage increases when implemented, earlier in 2027, for such general workers.

3.3 Increase Threshold

3.3.1 A wage threshold of 40% above any minimum prescribed hourly rate of pay is implemented as from the first full pay week in May 2027, provided that the employee who is already earning a wage above the threshold will only receive the across the board increase minus 1%.

3.3.2 In the event that an employee earns above the threshold only when the full across the board increase is to be awarded, such employee may not be awarded the full across the board increase, but shall receive an increase up to the threshold or the across the board increase minus 1%, whichever is the greater.

4. Prescribed minimum hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2027 (for all areas excluding the Free State Province):

Sector	Occupation Skills Level	Occupation Skills Level Code	Prescribed minimum hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2027 (for all areas excluding the Free State Province)
Furniture, Bedding and Upholstery	General worker	05	As per the National minimum wage rate increase
	Semi-skilled employee	04	R34-47 per hour
	Skilled employee	03	R35-81 per hour
	Chargehand	02	R38-63 per hour
	Foreman/Supervisor	01	R38-63 per hour

4.1. In the event that the Government implements any amendments to the national minimum hourly rate of pay and the hourly rates of pay of the employees above are below the national minimum hourly rate of pay, such hourly rates of pay shall be adjusted to the national minimum hourly rate of pay in accordance with the implementation date of such.

5. **Subsistence allowance (As gazetted by the Minister under Government Gazette 48356 under Notice R.1727 of 31 March 2023) (for all areas excluding the Free State Province):**

The following minimum subsistence allowance is payable:

- 7.1 From 1 May 2026 – R180-00 per night
7.2 From 1 May 2027 – R180-00 per night.”.

6. ADDENDUM 3

PRESCRIBED ACROSS THE BOARD INCREASES OF ACTUAL HOURLY RATES OF PAY, MINIMUM HOURLY RATES OF PAY AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE (for the Free State Province ONLY)

Substitute clauses 1 to 7 with the following:

- “1. **Prescribed across the board increases of actual hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in May 2026 (for the Free State Province ONLY)**

Sector	Occupation Skills Level	Occupation Skills Level Code	Prescribed across the board increases of actual hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2026 – (for the Free State Province ONLY)
Furniture, Bedding and Upholstery	General worker	05	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to the offset in clause 1.2 and subject to clause 1.3 below.
	Semi-skilled employee	04	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 1.3 below.
	Skilled employee	03	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of

			pay, subject to clause 1.3 below.
	Chargehand	02	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 1.3 below.
	Foreman/Supervisor	01	5.5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 1.3 below.

1.1 In the event that employees who received the across the board wage increases still receive hourly rates of pay less than the minimum hourly rates of pay of their respective occupation skills levels, these employees must receive an additional adjustment of their hourly rates of pay to be at least that of the minimum prescribed hourly rate of pay for the applicable occupation skills level.

1.2 **General Workers:** The across the board increase from the first full pay week in May 2026 to be offset against the national minimum wage increases when implemented, earlier in 2026, for such general workers.

1.3 **Increase Threshold**

1.3.1 A wage threshold of 40% above any minimum prescribed hourly rate of pay is implemented as from the first full pay week in May 2026, provided that the employee who is already earning a wage above the threshold will only receive the across the board increase minus 1.25%.

1.3.2 In the event that an employee earns above the threshold only when the full across the board increase is to be awarded, such employee may not be awarded the full across the board increase, but shall receive an increase up to the threshold or the across the board increase minus 1.25%, whichever is the greater.

2. **Prescribed minimum hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2026 (for the Free State Province ONLY):**

Sector	Occupation Skills Level	Occupation Skills Level Code	Prescribed minimum hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2026 (for the Free

		<i>State Province ONLY</i>	
Furniture, Bedding Upholstery	General worker	05	R30-23 per hour As per the National minimum wage rate effective from 1 March 2026
	Semi-skilled employee	04	R30-52 per hour R31-69 Correction
	Skilled employee	03	R32-57 per hour
	Chargehand	02	R34-92 per hour
	Foreman/Supervisor	01	R34-92 per hour

2.1. In the event that the Government implements any amendments to the national minimum hourly rate of pay and the hourly rates of pay of the employees above are below the national minimum hourly rate of pay, such hourly rates of pay shall be adjusted to the national minimum hourly rate of pay in accordance with the implementation date of such.

3. Prescribed across the board increases of actual hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in May 2027 (*for the Free State Province ONLY*)

Sector	Occupation Skills Level	Occupation Skills Level Code	Prescribed across the board increases of actual hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2027 – (<i>for the Free State Province ONLY</i>)
Furniture, Bedding and Upholstery	General worker	05	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to the offset in clause 3.2 and subject to clause 3.3 below.
	Semi-skilled employee	04	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 3.3 below.
	Skilled employee	03	5% increase of actual hourly rate of

			pay, subject to clause 3.3 below.
	Chargehand	02	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 3.3 below.
	Foreman/Supervisor	01	5% increase of actual hourly rate of pay, subject to clause 3.3 below.

3.1 In the event that employees who received the across the board wage increases still receive hourly rates of pay less than the minimum hourly rates of pay of their respective occupation skills levels, these employees must receive an additional adjustment of their hourly rates of pay to be at least that of the minimum prescribed hourly rate of pay for the applicable occupation skills level.

3.2 **General Workers:** The across the board increase from the first full pay week in May 2027 to be offset against the national minimum wage increases when implemented, earlier in 2027, for such general workers.

3.3 Increase Threshold

3.3.1 A wage threshold of 40% above any minimum prescribed hourly rate of pay is implemented as from the first full pay week in May 2027, provided that the employee who is already earning a wage above the threshold will only receive the across the board increase minus 1 %.

3.3.2 In the event that an employee earns above the threshold only when the full across the board increase is to be awarded, such employee may not be awarded the full across the board increase, but shall receive an increase up to the threshold or the across the board increase minus 1%, whichever is the greater.

4. Prescribed minimum hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2027 (for the Free State Province ONLY):

Sector	Occupation Skills Level	Occupation Skills Level Code	Prescribed minimum hourly rates of pay effective for 52 weeks from the first full pay week in MAY 2027 (for the Free State Province ONLY)

Furniture, Bedding Upholstery	General worker	05	As per the National minimum wage rate increase
	Semi-skilled employee	04	R32-05 per hour R33-27
	Skilled employee	03	R34-20 per hour
	Chargehand	02	R36-67 per hour
	Foreman/Supervisor	01	R36-67 per hour

Correction

4.1. In the event that the Government implements any amendments to the national minimum hourly rate of pay and the hourly rates of pay of the employees above are below the national minimum hourly rate of pay, such hourly rates of pay shall be adjusted to the national minimum hourly rate of pay in accordance with the implementation date of such.

5. **Subsistence allowance (As gazetted by the Minister under Government Gazette 48356 under Notice R.1727 of 31 March 2023) (for the Free State Province ONLY):**

The following minimum subsistence allowance of-

- 5.1 R160-00 per day is payable, where the employee pays for his own food and accommodation;
- 5.2 R65-00 per day is payable, where the employer pays for the employee's accommodation only."

7. ADDENDUM 4

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) INDICATORS - ACROSS THE BOARD WAGE INCREASES OF ACTUAL HOURLY RATES OF PAY EFFECTIVE FROM THE FIRST FULL PAY WEEK OF MAY 2024 IN RESPECT OF ADDENDUMS 2 AND 3

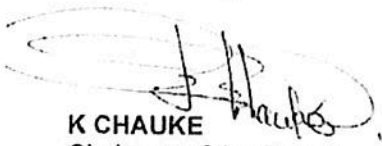
Substitute the clause with the following:

"CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) INDICATORS - ACROSS THE BOARD WAGE INCREASES OF ACTUAL HOURLY RATES OF PAY EFFECTIVE FROM THE FIRST FULL PAY WEEK OF MAY 2026 AND MAY 2027 IN RESPECT OF ADDENDUMS 2 AND 3

Across the board hourly wage rate increases of actual hourly wage rates effective from the first full pay week of May 2026 and May 2027 shall be applicable as reflected above.

If the official CPI rate for the year ending February 2026 and February 2027 is below 3%, the employer party to this Agreement may request to renegotiate the across the board hourly wage rate increases and if it is above 8.5% the trade union parties may request to renegotiate the across the board hourly wage rate increases for the periods effective from the first full pay week of May 2026 and/or the first full pay week of May 2027, provided that such requests must be submitted and reach the other parties by not later than 15 March of the applicable year.”.

Agreement signed at Johannesburg on this 9 February 2026.



K CHAUKE
Chairman of the Council



D WILLIAMS
Vice-Chairman of the Council



WA JANSE VAN RENSBURG
General Secretary