FINANCIAL MARKETS DIVISION

NATIONAL PAYMENT SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT (NPSD)

NPSD CIRCULAR 02/2026

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To: All Payment Services Providers, Banks and Payment System Participating institutions

Attention: Chief Executive Officers and Managing Directors

Issued in terms of the National Payment Systems Act [Chap: 24:23]

1. The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) hereby issues the **Digital Financial Services (DFS) Technical Security Guideline**, effective **1 August 2026**.
2. The Guideline complements the Reserve Bank's **Cyber Security and Resilience Guideline** issued in August 2025 by prescribing sector-specific cybersecurity and operational resilience requirements applicable to digital financial services and payment systems. It is intended to strengthen the security, resilience, and integrity of Zimbabwe's digital financial services ecosystem in response to the increasing sophistication and frequency of cyber threats.
3. The Technical Guideline was developed through the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe's collaboration with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ). It is informed by international best practices while considering the unique characteristics and risk profile of Zimbabwe's digital financial services environment.
4. Accordingly, all regulated institutions falling within the scope of the Technical Guideline are required to:

   4.1 Review the Technical Guideline and ensure that their governance arrangements, cybersecurity frameworks, policies, and operational practices are aligned with the prescribed minimum requirements.

   4.2 Conduct a comprehensive gap assessment against the Technical Guideline to identify areas requiring enhancement.

   4.3 Develop and approve a time-bound implementation plan to address identified gaps.

   4.4 Maintain ongoing compliance with the Guideline and periodically review their cybersecurity and operational resilience arrangements to address emerging risks and evolving threat landscapes.
5. Any enquiries regarding this Circular or the implementation of the Technical Guideline may be directed to the National Payment Systems Department.

Please be guided accordingly.

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Financial Market Division -National Payment Systems

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