

Newsletter

Law n. ° 17/24, of 28 October – Gaming Activity Law



31 October 2024

Update of Rules Applicable to the Gaming Operation Activity

On 28 October 2024, Law n. ° 17/24 was published, repealing Law n. ° 5/16, of 17 May, updating the rules applicable to gaming operations.

This Law represents another manifestation of the Angolan National Assembly's ('AN') intention to grant gaming operations in Angola greater efficiency, security and stability, particularly with regard to strengthening the legal framework for regulating and supervising the institutions involved in this sector, in order to harmonise it with the international standards currently in force.

In this context, one of the main highlights of this new law is the specific regulation of online gaming, by means of a licence, and the establishment of a reinforced supervision and taxation structure for this type of activity.

We also highlight the following changes:

- i) Reinforcement of the State's inspection and supervision powers, carried out by the Regulation, Supervision and Inspection Body for Gaming Activities;
- ii) Disaggregation of the concession for the Operation of Games of Chance and Social Games;
- iii) Requirement of detailed information and documentation in order to formulate a request for the incorporation of a Gaming Operating Entity, namely, among other elements:
 - Identification of the shareholders;
 - Existence of solid corporate governance mechanisms;
 - Submission of the commercial registration certificate, articles of association or bylaws.

The incorporation of these entities is subject to registration.

- iv) In addition to requiring adequate share capital and own funds for gaming operating entities, the new Law introduces minimum thresholds for these, which will later be specified in a separate regulation;
- v) In cases where an individual or corporate entity seeks to hold a qualifying holding in a Gaming Operating Entity, in situations of merger, demerger and dissolution, as well as for changes to the articles of association, a request and respective authorisation from the entity with supervisory powers is required;

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- vi) A more structured tax system is established, with fixed rates for the various types of gaming operation, varying according to whether they are gross revenue or prizes, and exemptions are introduced. Similarly, obligations to declare the results of the financial year to the supervisory body are established;
- vii) Establishment of norms promoting responsible gambling, aimed at raising awareness of the consequences of improper gambling, gambling advertising and compliance with the obligations laid down in the law on Prevention and Combating against Money Laundering, Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction;
- viii) Lastly, with regard to sanctions, the list of regulatory offences has been expanded, allowing for the possible joint application of accessory penalties, and gaming-related crimes. On the other hand, there is a general reduction in the applicable criminal offences.

For more information, see [here](#).

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