CA | Cambule & Américo
SOCIEDADE DE ADVOGADOS

LEGAL NEWSLETTER | 2026

NEW LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE:

Cybersecurity, Cybercrime, Insurance, Local Content and the Mining Sector

AUG/26

NEW LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE:

Cybersecurity, Cybercrime, Insurance, Local Content and the Mining Sector

In recent months, Mozambique's legal framework has undergone a significant set of legislative changes, listed below, with particular emphasis on the cybersecurity, mineral resources, local content in the oil industry, and intellectual property sectors.

JUNE

- Law No. 7/2026 of 3 June, approving the Mining Law and repealing Law No. 20/2014 of 18 August
- Law No. 8/2026 of 3 June 2026, approving the Petroleum Law (and repealing Law No. 21/2014 of 18 August and Law No. 16/2022 of 19 December)
- Law No. 9/2026 of 3 June 2026, approving the Local Content Law
- Decree No. 20/2026 of 5 June 2026, approving the Regulation on the Protection and Respect of the Fundamental Rights and Freedoms of Persons with Disabilities
- Decree No. 21/2026 of 5 June 2026, approving the Regulation on the Universal Energy Access Fee
- Law No. 17/2026 of 15 June 2026, establishing the Mozambique Development Bank (BDM)
- Resolution No. 53/2026 of 30 June 2026, approving the Intellectual Property Policy and Strategy (PEPI) 2026-2035

JULY

- Law No. 13/2026 of 1 July 2026, approving the Cybersecurity Law
- Law No. 14/2026 of 1 July 2026, approving the Cybercrime Law
- Decree No. 34/2026 of 16 July, approving the Regulation on the Legal Regime for Civil Identification and the National Citizen's Identity Card
- Decree No. 36/2026 of 16 July 2026, approving the Regulation on the Licensing of Telecommunications and Scarce Resources
- Decree No. 40/2026 of 27 July 2026, approving the Regulation on Mere Prior Notification for the Exercise of Economic Activities
- Decree No. 41/2026 of 27 July 2026, approving the Regulation on Simplified Licensing for the Exercise of Economic Activities
- Decree No. 42/2026 of 28 July, approving the Regulation on the Licensing of Private Air Operators
- Decree-Law No. 1/2026 of 31 July, approving the Legal Regime for Insurance
- Notice No. 4/GBM/2026, of 28 July – Sets limits on overseas payments made using bank cards.

In this edition, we analyse the main aspects of the Cybersecurity Law, the Cybercrime Law, the Local Content Law, the new Mining Law, the Legal Regime for Insurance, and the updated Intellectual Property strategy, highlighting practical implications for companies and investors.

CYBERSECURITY LAW

The Cybersecurity Law, approved by Law No. 13/2026 of 1 July 2026, which enters into force 90 days after its publication, establishes, for the first time in Mozambique, a comprehensive legal regime for the protection of the digital space, applicable to both the public and private sectors. Its application extends to operators of critical infrastructure, providers, and digital services.

Under this Law, the National Cybersecurity System is created, comprising bodies and entities to guarantee and safeguard security in cyberspace.

Companies are now subject to enhanced cyber risk management obligations and must adopt internal information security policies and incident response mechanisms. Accordingly, we set out below some practical tips that can already be applied:

- **Conduct internal IT security audits;**
- **Implement compliance policies in cybersecurity;**
- **Define incident response plans;**
- **Review contracts with digital service providers.**

Taken as a whole, this Cybersecurity Law is grounded in structuring principles such as proportionality, privacy, and accountability, and establishes a new legal framework for the protection of the national cyberspace, bringing Mozambique closer to international best practices in cybersecurity and strengthening trust in the digital economy.

CYBERCRIME LAW

Approved by Law No. 14/2026 of 1 July 2026, the Cybercrime Law complements the cybersecurity framework and establishes the penal regime applicable to crimes committed in the digital space, setting out the substantive and procedural criminal provisions applicable to the prevention, investigation, prosecution and adjudication of crimes committed through information and communication technologies.

At its core, the main criminalised offences include (1) unlawful access to computer systems, (2) unlawful interception of electronic communications, (3) interference with data and systems, (4) misuse of devices, (5) computer forgery, (6) computer and communications fraud, (7) cyber espionage, (8) cyberterrorism and violent cyber extremism, (9) cyber extortion, (10) child sexual abuse material in the digital environment, and (11) punishment of attempts in respect of the prescribed offences.

Legal persons and equivalent entities are criminally liable for the crimes provided for in this Law, under the terms of the Criminal Code, which reinforces their duty of diligence and the adoption of effective prevention and control mechanisms.

In the effective application of this Law, in-scope entities are expected to:

- **Strengthen access and authentication controls;**
- **Raise employees' awareness of cyber risks;**
- **Establish digital evidence preservation protocols;**
- **Create internal incident reporting channels.**

LOCAL CONTENT LAW

With good reason, it can be said that the most anticipated Law in recent years, especially given the development of the Mozambique LNG project in Cabo Delgado, is the Local Content Law, approved by Law No. 9/2026 of 3 June. It introduces specific obligations for the oil and gas sector, aiming to maximise the participation of the national economy and ensure that natural resources contribute to sustainable development.

The main obligations introduced establish priority in the hiring and training of Mozambican labour and the mandatory adoption of local content plans and human resource development. Consequently, investors and operators will need to restructure supply chains and hiring policies to comply with the applicable quotas and legal requirements.

At this stage, companies can map certified local suppliers, develop training programmes for national workers, and establish mechanisms for the continuous monitoring of compliance levels to ensure legal compliance.

REVISION OF THE MINING LAW

The mining sector is expanding rapidly and is of highly strategic importance in Mozambique. The new Mining Law, approved by Law No. 7/2026 of 3 June, reshapes the legal regime governing mining activity, with a focus on transparency, sustainability, and greater State participation.

Among its new features, the new Law reinforces the principle of State ownership of mineral resources, introduces mining contracts with a minimum State participation (free carry) and imposes greater local content and social responsibility requirements.

Investors in this sector face a more demanding regulatory framework, with greater scrutiny and social, environmental, and economic obligations.

Companies should implement strategic changes to ensure full legal compliance, such as:

- **Reviewing contractual structures and regulatory compliance;**
- **Assessing contract renegotiation risks;**
- **Ensuring environmental compliance and transparency.**

REVISION OF THE INSURANCE LEGAL REGIME

The new regime, approved by Decree-Law No. 1/2026 of 31 July, modernises the legal framework governing insurance activity in Mozambique, aligning it with international best practices, increasing investor confidence and sector stability. Key changes include:

- **Greater protection for policyholders, insureds, and beneficiaries of insurance contracts.**
- **Harmonisation of the legal framework with international principles on the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing.**
- **New rules for risk distribution in reinsurance operations.**
- **Expansion of the offences and sanctions regime for irregularities in the conduct of the activity.**
- **Definition of general conduct rules for operators, aimed at consumer protection.**
- **Introduction of clear principles for the winding-up process of insurers and reinsurers.**

From a practical standpoint, the law requires insurers, reinsurers, and other market operators to review their governance models, risk management policies and compliance mechanisms, aligning non-bank financial institutions with the integrity and stability standards demanded by today's global market.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY AND STRATEGY (PEPI) 2026-2035

Approved by the Council of Ministers, Resolution No. 53/2026 of 30 June introduces PEPI 2026-2035, the first document to combine, in a single instrument, an Intellectual Property (IP) policy and strategy for Mozambique, succeeding the 2008-2018 IP Strategy.

The Resolution establishes the National Intellectual Property Committee (CONPI), chaired by the Prime Minister, and consolidates the legal framework, improving the administration and oversight of IP in light of the challenges posed by artificial intelligence and the digital environment.

Implementation will span a 10-year horizon, with an estimated total budget of 1 billion Meticais, and will be monitored through periodic assessments. Companies with relevant trademarks, patents, industrial designs, or geographical indications should closely monitor the announced modernisation of the registration systems, which may change deadlines and procedures at the Industrial Property Institute (IPI) and the National Institute of Cultural and Creative Industries (INICC).

Overall, this package reflects a clear strategic direction by Mozambique to strengthen digital sovereignty, combat cybercrime, promote domestic economic development, and ensure the sustainable exploitation of natural resources.

For the entities concerned, the moment calls for a proactive compliance approach with rapid adaptation to the new legal requirements.

CONVERSATIONS ON JUSTICE, GOVERNANCE AND LEGAL CERTAINTY IN MOZAMBIQUE

Recent months have been marked by institutional developments with a direct impact on legal certainty and the business environment, as well as a new development on the labour front.

PACT FOR JUSTICE AND THE DEMOCRATIC RULE OF LAW 2026-2046

Representatives of the Judiciary, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Ministries of Justice and the Interior, and the Mozambican Bar Association signed, in Maputo, the Pact for Justice and the Democratic Rule of Law 2026-2046, at the closing of the 1st Congress of the Justice Sector. The document establishes as a priority the administrative and financial autonomy of the Judiciary and the strengthening of the higher councils of the judiciary and public prosecution, with a view to making justice more efficient and predictable.

For companies, procedural delays and the predictability of court decisions continue to be cited as factors directly linked to legal certainty and investment attractiveness, meaning that the evolution of this Pact in the coming years warrants close monitoring.

FIGHTING CORRUPTION AND LEGAL CERTAINTY FOR INVESTMENT

The Attorney-General of the Republic warned that corruption schemes involving members of the Superior Council of the Public Prosecution Magistracy would not be tolerated, stressing that corruption undermines the credibility of institutions and public trust in the administration of justice.

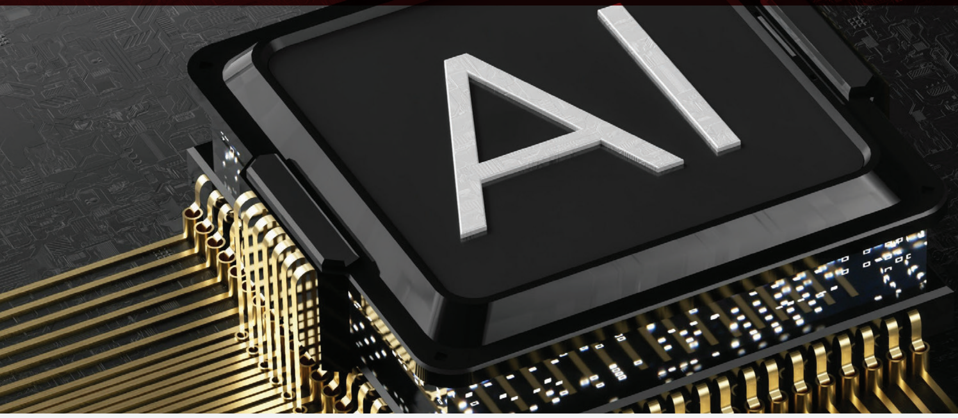
At a panel of Banking, Financial Services and Insurance Mozambique (BFSI) 2026, the Mozambican Bar Association reiterated that strengthening legal certainty, together with the modernisation of public institutions, is essential to creating a more competitive business environment and increasing investor confidence, arguing that "there is no sustainable investment without legal certainty".

DOMESTIC WORK REGULATION

The Council of Ministers approved a new Domestic Work Regulation in Mozambique, filling a regulatory gap long identified in this employment sector, with potential implications for private employers and placement agencies. The publication of the regulation is awaited in order t a more detailed analysis of its scope and obligations.

BEYOND BORDERS

AI REGULATION AND COPYRIGHT



On the international front, two developments stand out as directly relevant to companies that operate, or intend to operate, with artificial intelligence technologies.

EUROPEAN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LAW (AI ACT)

The European Union, through the so-called "Digital Omnibus", has postponed the AI Act's high-risk regime to 2027-2028, while maintaining the 2 August 2026 deadline for the entry into force of transparency obligations and oversight of general-purpose AI (GPAI) models. Companies that develop or integrate AI systems and have operations or clients in the EU should review their compliance timeline accordingly.

COPYRIGHT IN THE TRAINING OF AI MODELS

Several leading publishers have sued Google, alleging the use of protected content to train the Gemini model beyond the scope of the licences granted, in a dispute that shifts the debate from "fair use" to breach of licence. This case is relevant for content companies and intellectual property rights holders negotiating licences with AI providers.

LEGAL NEWSLETTER | 2026

A LEGAL HELPING HAND With: CA Cambule & Américo SOCIEDADE DE ADVOGADOS

1 DID YOU KNOW THAT THE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF INTERMEDIARY PROVIDERS OF ELECTRONIC SERVICES AND DIGITAL PLATFORM OPERATORS IS ALREADY UNDERWAY?

Open the link below to access, free of charge, our Practical Guide to the Licensing of Intermediary Providers of Electronic Services and Digital Platform Operators, to help you and your company act safely and confidently.

Link: https://www.ca.co.mz/xms/files/Guia_pratico_impressao.pdf

2 IS YOUR COMPANY PREPARED TO RESPOND TO A CYBER INCIDENT?

Although the Cybercrime Law's main objective is to combat cybercrime, it also poses challenges for companies, which must be able to preserve electronic evidence and cooperate with the competent authorities whenever legally required.

Good practices to adopt:

- **Implement internal information security and cyber incident response policies;**
- **Properly preserve logs and other digital evidence, ensuring their integrity;**
- **Train employees on cyber risks, computer fraud, phishing and social engineering;**
- **Review contracts with technology service providers, including security, confidentiality and incident response clauses;**
- **Develop internal procedures for incident management and communication, in coordination with the legal and technology teams.**

CA Cambule & Américo SOCIEDADE DE ADVOGADOS

+258 878 885 500
info@ca.co.mz

Edifício JN130
Avenida Julius Nyerere,
Nr.130 - 6º Andar Dto.
Cidade de Maputo, Moçambique.

www.ca.co.mz