


[Home](#)
[About Us](#) | [Contacts](#) | [Services](#) | [Media Desk](#) | [Tenders](#) | [Vacancies](#)
[Site Map](#)

Basic Guide to Bargaining Councils

Trade unions and employers' organisations may form bargaining councils. Bargaining councils deal with collective agreements, solve labour disputes, establish various schemes and make proposals on labour policies and laws.

Application

The Labour Relations Act applies to all employers, workers, trade unions and employers' organisations, but does not apply to –

- members of the:
 - National Defence Force;
 - National Intelligence Agency; or
 - South African Secret Service.

See

- [Labour Relations Act](#)

Applies to all workers and employers and aims to advance economic development, social justice, labour peace and the democracy of the workplace.

Registration

One or more registered trade unions and one or more registered employers' organisations may form a bargaining council by –

- adopting a constitution; and
- registering the bargaining council by submitting to the registrar –
 - the application form (Form LRA 3.3),
 - a copy of its constitution, and
 - any other relevant information.

Based on Legislation in Section 29, of the Labour Relations Act

Powers and Functions

The main powers and functions of a bargaining council are to:

- make and enforce collective agreements;
- prevent and resolve labour disputes;
- establish and manage a dispute resolution fund;
- promote and establish training and education schemes;
- establish and manage schemes or funds to benefit its parties or members; and
- make and submit proposals on policies and laws that affect a sector or area.

Based on Legislation in Section 28, of the Labour Relations Act

Related Links

- [Basic Guide to Collective Agreements](#)
The Labour Relations Act provides for agreements that alter conditions of employment
- [Basic Guide to Employers' Organisations](#)
Under the Labour Relations Act, employers may form or join groups that represent employers in collective bargaining
- [Basic Guide to Statutory Councils](#)
Statutory councils may be formed by registered trade unions and employers' organizations to manage labour disputes.
- [Basic Guide to Trade Unions](#)
Trade unions are necessary for bargaining for workers' rights and benefits and they regulate industrial relations.