

# African Beauty Law & Policy Index

A comprehensive reference of laws and regulations governing the beauty and cosmetics industry across the 5 regions in Africa.

**FEBRUARY 2026**

BEAUTY AND COSMETICS LAW AFRICA

# African Beauty Law & Policy Index

A Comprehensive Reference of Laws & Policies  
Governing the Beauty Industry Across Africa

Edition 1.0 · 2026  
14 Countries · 5 Regions · 141 Instruments  
English Edition

[www.beautyandcosmeticslawaf.org/index](http://www.beautyandcosmeticslawaf.org/index)

# African Beauty Law & Policy Index

Edition 1.0 · 2026

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## Submissions & Corrections

BCLA welcomes submissions of corrections and new instruments from legal practitioners, academics, government officials, and industry professionals across the continent. Submissions may be made in English, French, or Portuguese. See Appendix III for the full submissions process.

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## Also published by BCLA

African Fashion Law & Policy Index, Edition 1.0 (2026) The first comprehensive reference of laws governing the fashion industry across 14 African countries, 5 regions, and 140 legal instruments.

Available free at: [BCLA: Website](#)

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# Foreword

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Beauty is serious business. It always has been.

Across Africa, the beauty industry feeds families, builds brands, supplies global markets, and sits at the intersection of culture, commerce, and chemistry in ways that few industries can claim. It is also an industry where the legal environment, the rules that determine what products reach consumers, how they are made, who is protected, and who is not, has consequences that are immediate and physical. A counterfeit drug is dangerous. So is a counterfeit beauty product. The difference is that one is treated with urgency and the other is not.

That asymmetry is part of what this Index is here to correct.

African beauty law is not underdeveloped. It is underdocumented. Across the fourteen countries covered in this edition, we found robust cosmetic safety frameworks, sophisticated trademark regimes, consumer protection statutes with real teeth, and regional IP infrastructure that most practitioners on the continent have never been pointed toward. The law exists. What has been missing is a single, reliable place to find it.

That absence has real consequences. It shows up in the shea butter supply chain, where a handful of countries are now legislating to stop the export of raw materials, insisting that value addition happens at home before product leaves the continent, while the rest of the region watches without a framework to follow. It shows up in the jasmine fields of Egypt, where child labour continues in the harvest of flowers destined for global fragrance houses, largely beneath the threshold of legal visibility. It shows up in the skin lightening market, which is unique in its scale to this continent, and where governments are only beginning to build the regulatory tools to address the harm being done under the guise of beauty.

These concerns are the defining legal questions of this industry, and they deserve the same rigorous documentation that tax law, securities regulation, and commercial contracts receive as a matter of course.

This Index is that documentation.

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## **Sinmisoluwa Adesanya**

Founder, Beauty and Cosmetics Law Africa

2026

# How to Use This Index

The African Beauty Law & Policy Index is designed to be accessible to multiple types of users. The following guidance will help you locate what you need and interpret what you find.

## Structure of the Index

The Index is organised into four main sections:

- **Section 1 — Introduction & Methodology:** explains the scope, research approach, instrument taxonomy, and limitations of the Index.
- **Section 2 — Regional Index:** the core content, organised by region and country. Each country has a narrative overview followed by individual entries for each instrument.
- **Section 3 — Cross-Reference Indexes:** four indexes allowing you to locate instruments by legal theme, regulatory authority, chronology, and national versus regional scope.
- **Appendices —** a glossary of legal and regulatory terms, explainers on regional frameworks (OAPI, OHADA, AfCFTA, EAC, CEMAC), submission instructions, and research team acknowledgements.

## Reading a Country Entry

Each instrument is presented in a standardised eight-field format:

<b>Legal Framework</b>	The name of the Act, Statute, Decree, or Regulation.
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	The authority responsible for administering the instrument (the 'enforcer').
<b>Policy Framework</b>	The national or regional policy context within which the instrument sits.
<b>Enforcement Authority</b>	The body or bodies responsible for prosecution and sanctions.
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	The primary compliance areas the instrument addresses.
<b>Year / Version</b>	The year of enactment or most recent significant amendment.
<b>Scope / Description</b>	A plain-language description of what the instrument covers.
<b>Notes</b>	Practical enforcement notes, cross-references, and relevant observations.

## Finding What You Need

If you are looking for instruments in a specific country, go directly to that country's section in Section 2. Countries are listed alphabetically within each regional chapter.

If you are looking for all instruments of a particular type for example, all cosmetics safety legislation, or all advertising standards frameworks use Index A in Section 3, which groups instruments by legal theme across all 14 jurisdictions.

If you are looking for instruments administered by a specific regulatory authority, use Index B. If you need a chronological picture of legislative development, use Index C.

## Who This Index Is For

The Index is designed for five audience types:

- Designers, formulators, and beauty entrepreneurs who need to understand the legal environment in which they operate.
- Lawyers and legal researchers who need a cross-jurisdictional reference for advisory or comparative work.

- Policymakers and government officials who need a baseline for regulatory review, reform, or harmonisation efforts.
- Investors and international partners who need to assess legal risk and regulatory infrastructure before entering African beauty markets.
- Academics and students working on African regulatory law, consumer protection, or the political economy of the beauty industry.

## Languages

Edition 1.0 is published in English. French and Portuguese editions are in development and will be published as separate releases. The Index covers instruments in all three languages where an instrument is in French or Portuguese, the entry in this edition provides an English-language description with the original instrument name preserved.

## Currency and Updates

The Index reflects the state of legislation as researched between 2024 and 2026. It will be updated annually. Ministerial decrees, subsidiary regulations, and enforcement guidance are subject to change; readers should verify currency with the relevant regulatory authority before relying on any entry for compliance purposes. To submit a correction or new instrument, see Appendix III.

# Key Findings & Trends

The African Beauty Law & Policy Index maps 141 legal instruments across 14 countries and 5 regions. The following findings represent the most significant patterns, gaps, and developments that emerge from the dataset as a whole. They are intended to provide context for the country-level entries that follow, and to offer a starting point for the policy and advocacy conversations the Index is designed to support.

01

## A Dedicated Cosmetics Safety Layer Exists But Its Depth Varies Significantly

Every country covered by the Index has at least one legal instrument governing cosmetic product safety, registration, or manufacturing authorization. However, the depth and specificity of that framework varies enormously. Nigeria's NAFDAC, South Africa's Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, Ethiopia's 2019 Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation, and Morocco's 2015 Decree on Cosmetic Products represent sophisticated, product-specific frameworks with mandatory pre-market notification or registration requirements. Others particularly in Central Africa rely on general public health legislation that covers cosmetics only incidentally, leaving significant gaps in product-specific safety enforcement.

02

## The Pharmaceutical-Cosmetic Boundary Creates Compliance Complexity Across the Continent

In the majority of jurisdictions covered, cosmetics are regulated under pharmaceutical or health product legislation rather than dedicated cosmetics statutes. This creates a structural compliance challenge: the same product may be classified differently depending on its active ingredients, the claims made on its packaging, or the administrative approach of the enforcing authority. In countries such as Senegal, Cameroon, and Tunisia, the primary cosmetics instrument is a pharmaceutical law that treats cosmetics as a subset of health products. For beauty entrepreneurs particularly those with products that sit at the intersection of cosmetics and wellness navigating this boundary is one of the most significant regulatory challenges in the continent.

03

## IP Registration Infrastructure Is Present But Enforcement Remains the Weak Link

All 14 jurisdictions have trademark and industrial design registration frameworks. Seven Francophone and Central African countries are OAPI members, giving their designers and brands access to a single registration covering all 17 member states a significant structural advantage that most beauty entrepreneurs in these countries are unaware of. However, as with the Fashion Index finding, the gap between registration and enforcement is wide. Criminal prosecution of counterfeit beauty products is possible in every jurisdiction, but proactive enforcement raids, market surveillance, border seizures without rights holder initiation is available in only a minority. Kenya's Anti-Counterfeit Authority remains the most capable proactive enforcement body in the dataset.

04

## Skin Lightening and Bleaching Products Represent a Regulatory Gap With Urgent Public Health Implications

The skin lightening and bleaching product market is substantial across the African continent, particularly in West and Central Africa. Ingredients such as hydroquinone, mercury, and high-concentration steroids widely found in unregulated bleaching products are associated with serious adverse health effects. Despite this, dedicated regulatory frameworks specifically addressing the manufacture, importation, and sale of skin lightening products are largely absent from the dataset. NAFDAC in Nigeria and the South African Department of Health have issued specific regulations restricting certain ingredients, but comprehensive, consistently enforced skin lightening regulation is the exception rather than the rule. This represents one of the most significant consumer protection gaps in African beauty law.

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## Environmental and Chemical Management Frameworks Are Inconsistently Developed

Cosmetic manufacturing involves chemicals and processes with genuine environmental implications from

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ingredient sourcing and formulation to packaging waste and manufacturing effluent. Environmental compliance legislation exists in all 14 jurisdictions covered, but its application to cosmetic manufacturing is inconsistent. In South Africa, Kenya, and Rwanda, the environmental framework is sufficiently developed to impose meaningful obligations on cosmetic manufacturers. In several Central African jurisdictions, environmental legislation exists in formal terms but enforcement capacity is limited. As the African beauty manufacturing sector grows, the gap between environmental law on paper and environmental law in practice will become an increasingly significant compliance and reputational risk for businesses and a public policy challenge for governments.

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### Digital Commerce and Influencer Marketing Operate in a Near-Complete Legal Vacuum

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Africa's beauty e-commerce and social commerce sector is one of the fastest-growing segments of the continent's digital economy. Beauty brands are built on Instagram, TikTok, and WhatsApp. Influencer marketing drives significant purchasing decisions. Yet the legal frameworks governing digital advertising claims, influencer disclosure obligations, and consumer protection in online beauty retail are almost entirely absent from the dataset. Nigeria's Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Act contains the most explicit reference to online commercial practices of any instrument in the Index, but even this does not specifically address influencer marketing. In every other jurisdiction, digital beauty commerce operates under general consumer protection and advertising frameworks that predate these commercial practices entirely.

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### Advertising Standards Bodies Exist But Their Cosmetics Coverage Is Uneven

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Advertising standards frameworks governing claims made about product efficacy, safety, and ingredients are present across the majority of the 14 jurisdictions. Nigeria's APCON, South Africa's Advertising Regulatory Board, and Ghana's Advertising Standards Authority represent relatively developed systems. However, the specific application of advertising standards to beauty and cosmetics claims which carry particular consumer protection implications given the health and body image dimensions of beauty marketing is unevenly developed. Only a minority of the advertising frameworks covered make explicit provision for the assessment of cosmetics-specific claims such as skin lightening efficacy, anti-ageing claims, or ingredient safety representations.

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### The Most Recently Modernised Legal Frameworks Signal a Clear Continental Direction

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The most recently enacted instruments in the dataset Ethiopia's Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation (2019), Rwanda's Food and Drugs Authority legislation (2018), Angola's Law on Medicines and Health Products (2021), Egypt's Law establishing the Egyptian Drug Authority (2019), and DRC's consumer protection law (2018) share common features: mandatory pre-market notification or registration, post-market surveillance obligations, explicit labelling requirements, and administrative enforcement powers. This convergence suggests a continental direction of travel toward more comprehensive, product-specific cosmetics regulation. The question for policymakers is not whether African jurisdictions should develop dedicated cosmetics frameworks, but how quickly and with what degree of regional harmonisation.

## A Note on What the Index Does Not Cover

The Index covers legislation and formal regulatory frameworks. It does not capture enforcement practice, regulatory capacity, or the lived experience of operating a beauty business in any of the jurisdictions covered. A jurisdiction may have excellent legislation and weak enforcement, or strong enforcement bodies operating under outdated statutory frameworks. The Index is a map of the law as written; it is not a map of the law as implemented. Readers should treat it accordingly and, where regulatory compliance is at stake, seek current, jurisdiction-specific legal advice.

# Introduction

## What Is the African Beauty Law & Policy Index?

The African Beauty Law & Policy Index is the first comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional reference of legal instruments governing the beauty industry across the African continent. It maps 141 laws, regulations, decrees, and policy frameworks across 14 countries and 5 regions covering cosmetics safety and registration, pharmaceutical frameworks, intellectual property, consumer protection, competition law, customs and trade regulation, environmental compliance, advertising standards, and criminal enforcement.

The Index is a reference tool. It is not a legal opinion, a compliance manual, or a substitute for jurisdiction-specific legal advice. Its purpose is to make the legal landscape of the African beauty industry visible, navigable, and usable for the practitioners, entrepreneurs, policymakers, researchers, and investors who work within it.

## Why the African Beauty Industry Needs This Index

The African beauty market is one of the continent's fastest-growing consumer sectors. Sub-Saharan Africa's personal care and beauty market is valued in the billions of dollars and growing at a rate that outpaces many global comparators. Homegrown beauty brands are scaling across borders. International brands are entering African markets at pace. Investment in African cosmetics manufacturing particularly in Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, Morocco, and Ethiopia is expanding.

Yet the legal environment in which this growth is occurring has never been systematically documented. A Nigerian beauty entrepreneur seeking to export to Kenya must navigate two distinct pharmaceutical-led regulatory frameworks, two IP registration systems, two consumer protection regimes, and two customs clearance processes without a single reference point that describes all of them. A foreign investor conducting due diligence on a South African cosmetics company must piece together the regulatory picture from official gazettes, ministry websites, and secondary sources in multiple languages. A policy researcher seeking to compare cosmetics safety regulation across Francophone and Anglophone Africa has no comparative baseline to draw from.

This Index is built to address that gap. It is a first-of-its-kind resource for a market that deserves better information infrastructure.

## The African Beauty Regulatory Landscape: An Overview

The regulatory environment for beauty products in Africa is characterised by three structural features that distinguish it from other regions and shape the compliance experience of anyone operating within it.

### 1. The Pharmaceutical Gateway

In the majority of African jurisdictions, cosmetics are regulated not through dedicated cosmetics legislation but through pharmaceutical or health product frameworks. The practical effect is that cosmetic products by definition intended for external application and not systemic effect are subject to the same registration, notification, and inspection processes as medicines in many countries. This creates genuine compliance complexity, particularly for products that occupy the boundary between cosmetics and wellness: skin brightening products, hair growth treatments, products with active botanical ingredients, and cosmeceuticals.

The degree to which this pharmaceutical gateway operates varies significantly by jurisdiction. At one end of the spectrum, Morocco and Egypt have developed dedicated cosmetics decrees that sit within a pharmaceutical framework but provide product-specific requirements. At the other, some Central African jurisdictions regulate cosmetics almost entirely through general public health law, with no product-specific provisions at all. Most countries fall between these poles.

### 2. The Regional IP Architecture

Intellectual property protection for beauty brands in Africa operates at two levels simultaneously: regional and national. For Francophone African countries, the Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle (OAPI) provides a centralised IP registration system under the Bangui Agreement. A single OAPI filing covering trademarks, industrial designs, and other IP rights is valid across all 17 OAPI member states. This is a transformative tool for beauty brands seeking continental-scale protection, and it is dramatically underutilised. The majority of beauty entrepreneurs in Francophone Africa are unaware of its existence.

For Anglophone and Lusophone Africa, IP registration is national; each jurisdiction operates its own registry with its own procedures and fees. South Africa's CIPC, Kenya's KIPI, and Nigeria's TPRD are the most developed national IP registries in the dataset. The EAC Customs Management Act provides some degree of regional coordination at the border for East African member states.

### 3. The Enforcement Gap

The consistent pattern across the dataset is a gap between the formal existence of legal protections and the practical capacity to enforce them. Product safety legislation exists everywhere; proactive market surveillance inspectors removing non-compliant products from shelves without waiting for a complaint is practised consistently in only a minority of jurisdictions. Trademark protection is available across all 14 countries; criminal prosecution of counterfeit cosmetics is initiated in only a fraction of infringement cases. Consumer protection frameworks are in place; class actions or systemic enforcement against misleading beauty advertising are rare.

This enforcement gap is not a reason to disregard the legal frameworks. It is a reason to understand them carefully because enforcement capacity is growing, because regional harmonisation is increasing coordination, and because the legal risk of non-compliance increases as regulatory infrastructure develops. The frameworks in this Index describe the direction of travel as much as the current state of play.

## Scope of the Index

The Index covers 14 countries across five African regions:

- West Africa: Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal
- East Africa: Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia
- Southern Africa: South Africa, Mauritius
- North Africa: Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia
- Central Africa: Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola

These countries were selected to achieve broad geographic coverage across the continent's major legal systems (common law, civil law, and hybrid jurisdictions), languages (English, French, Arabic, and Portuguese), and regulatory development profiles (from highly developed frameworks to emerging systems). They represent the continent's major beauty markets and manufacturing centres.

The Index covers instruments in force as of 2026. It includes Acts of Parliament, Presidential Decrees, Ministerial Regulations, regional treaty frameworks, and quasi-regulatory instruments (such as advertising standards codes with legal backing). It does not include informal guidance, non-binding circulars, or instruments that have been repealed without replacement.

## What the Index Does Not Cover

In the interest of transparency, the following are outside the scope of Edition 1.0:

- Enforcement practice and regulatory capacity: The Index maps the law as written, not the law as implemented. A jurisdiction with strong legislation and weak enforcement will appear well-resourced in the Index; readers must supplement the Index with current, jurisdiction-specific intelligence on regulatory capacity.
- Sub-national regulation: Several countries notably Nigeria and South Africa have significant state or provincial regulatory activity. The Index covers national-level instruments only.
- Product-specific technical standards: The Index identifies the existence of standards bodies and their general mandate, but does not catalogue individual product standards (e.g. specific NM or NIS standards for cosmetic categories). These are detailed in separate standards body publications.
- Tax and excise frameworks: Import duties, VAT treatment, and excise obligations on beauty products are outside scope.
- Employment and labour law: Occupational health and safety obligations for cosmetic manufacturing workers are outside scope.

## Countries at a Glance

Country	Region	No.	Primary Regulator	Notable Feature
<b>Nigeria</b>	West Africa	12	NAFDAC	Most instruments in dataset; dedicated cosmetics registration
<b>Ghana</b>	West Africa	10	Ghana FDA	FDA has explicit cosmetics mandate; strong consumer protection
<b>Senegal</b>	West Africa	10	ANPM	OAPI member; pharmaceutical gateway model
<b>Kenya</b>	East Africa	10	PPB / KEBS	ACA provides proactive anti-counterfeit enforcement
<b>Rwanda</b>	East Africa	10	Rwanda FDA	2018 framework is among the most modern in East Africa
<b>Ethiopia</b>	East Africa	10	EFDA	2019 Proclamation: mandatory registration and surveillance
<b>South Africa</b>	Southern Africa	10	Dept. of Health	Dedicated cosmetics act; EU-aligned ingredient restrictions
<b>Mauritius</b>	Southern Africa	10	Consumer Affairs Unit	Strong chemical and environmental controls
<b>Morocco</b>	North Africa	10	Ministry of Health	2015 Decree: mandatory safety assessment and PIF requirement
<b>Egypt</b>	North Africa	10	Egyptian Drug Auth.	2019 EDA established as primary cosmetics authority
<b>Tunisia</b>	North Africa	10	Ministry of Health	Pharmaceutical framework; dedicated cosmetics decree in force
<b>Cameroon</b>	Central Africa	10	Ministry of Health	OAPI and OHADA member; 2018 pharmaceutical framework
<b>D.R. Congo</b>	Central Africa	10	Ministry of Health	OAPI member; general public health framework applies to cosmetics
<b>Angola</b>	Central Africa	10	ARMED	2021 law: most recently enacted primary statute in dataset

# Methodology

## Research Approach

The African Beauty Law & Policy Index was compiled through a structured review of primary legal sources across 14 jurisdictions over the period 2024 to 2026. The research methodology combined desktop research against official government sources with verification by legal practitioners and industry professionals operating in each jurisdiction.

For each country, the research process followed four stages:

**Identification:** mapping the universe of potentially relevant instruments through official government gazette archives, national regulatory body websites, regional body publications (OAPI, OHADA, EAC, CEMAC, AfCFTA), and secondary legal sources.

**Verification:** cross-checking identified instruments against primary sources to confirm currency, correct citation, and scope description.

**Classification:** applying the instrument taxonomy (see below) to categorise each instrument by type, regulatory body, and key focus area.

**Quality review:** each country's entry set was reviewed for internal consistency, completeness against the taxonomy categories, and accuracy of the scope description and notes field.

The research was conducted primarily in English, with French and Portuguese sources reviewed in the original language. Where official English translations were available, these were used. Where they were not, scope descriptions and notes are based on BCLA's own translations reviewed for accuracy.

## Source Hierarchy

Sources were assessed according to a hierarchy of reliability:

- **Primary:** Official government gazettes, national regulatory body websites, and regional body publications (OAPI, OHADA, EAC, CEMAC). These are the most reliable sources and were used as the authoritative reference for each instrument where available.
- **Secondary:** Academic legal journals, law firm client alerts, international organisation publications (UNCTAD, WHO, WIPO, African Union), and industry body reports. Used to supplement primary sources and verify scope descriptions.
- **Tertiary:** News reports, general web sources, and practitioner commentary. Used only for contextual background and not relied upon for instrument citation or scope description.

## Instrument Taxonomy

The Index uses a structured taxonomy of 14 instrument types. Every instrument in the dataset is assigned a primary type, and where an instrument covers multiple areas, the primary type reflects the instrument's dominant regulatory purpose. The 14 types are:

Type	Description	Examples from the Dataset
<b>Cosmetics Safety Law</b>	Primary legislation governing registration, safety, labelling and manufacture of cosmetic products	<i>NAFDAC Act (Nigeria), Decree 2-14-841 (Morocco), Law 5/21 (Angola)</i>
<b>Pharmaceutical Framework</b>	Health product legislation that covers cosmetics as a regulated category within a broader medicines framework	<i>Law 98-08 (Senegal), Law 2018-020 (Cameroon), Law 73-55 (Tunisia)</i>
<b>Consumer Protection Law</b>	Legislation prohibiting misleading claims, unsafe products and unfair commercial practices	<i>FCCPA (Nigeria), Consumer Protection Act (Kenya, South Africa)</i>

Type	Description	Examples from the Dataset
<b>Standards / Quality Law</b>	Legislation establishing product standards, conformity assessment and certification requirements	<i>SON Act (Nigeria), Standards Act (Kenya / South Africa)</i>
<b>Trademark / IP Law</b>	National or regional legislation for registration and protection of brand names, logos and packaging	<i>OAPI Bangui Agreement, KIPI Act (Kenya), CIPC (South Africa)</i>
<b>Copyright Law</b>	Protection of original artistic works including packaging design, marketing materials and illustrations	<i>Copyright Act (Nigeria, Ghana), Copyright Act (Mauritius)</i>
<b>Competition Law</b>	Legislation prohibiting anti-competitive conduct in distribution, pricing and market access	<i>Competition Act (South Africa, Kenya), Law 104-12 (Morocco)</i>
<b>Customs / Trade Law</b>	Border control and import/export regulation for cosmetic products	<i>EAC Customs Management Act, Customs Act (Egypt, Tunisia)</i>
<b>Environmental Law</b>	Legislation governing chemical management, waste disposal and manufacturing environmental compliance	<i>NEMA (Kenya), Law 48/2018 (Rwanda), NEMA 107 (South Africa)</i>
<b>Public Health Law</b>	General public health legislation applicable to cosmetic manufacturing and retail hygiene	<i>Public Health Act (Kenya), Public Health Code (Senegal)</i>
<b>Advertising Standards</b>	Regulatory frameworks governing claims made in cosmetic marketing, including efficacy and safety claims	<i>APCON (Nigeria), ARB Code (South Africa), CNRA (Senegal)</i>
<b>Criminal / Penal Code</b>	General criminal legislation providing sanctions for counterfeit, adulterated or fraudulent beauty products	<i>Penal Code provisions across all 14 jurisdictions</i>
<b>Industrial Licensing Law</b>	Business registration and manufacturing licensing requirements	<i>Industrial Licensing Law 15 (Egypt), Proclamation 980 (Ethiopia)</i>
<b>Regional IP Framework</b>	Treaty-based regional IP systems providing multi-country protection through a single registration	<i>OAPI Bangui Agreement (17 member states)</i>

## Selection Criteria

Instruments were included in the Index if they met all three of the following criteria:

**Relevance:** the instrument directly governs, affects, or creates compliance obligations for beauty and cosmetic product businesses operating in the jurisdiction including manufacturers, importers, distributors, retailers, and brand owners.

**Currency:** the instrument is in force as of 2026, or where superseded, its replacement is included in the dataset.

**Verifiability:** the instrument is verifiable against a primary or reliable secondary source, with sufficient information to complete the eight-field entry format.

Instruments were excluded if they were: repealed without replacement; applicable only to pharmaceuticals with no practical extension to cosmetics; purely internal administrative guidance without legal force; or incapable of verification against an available primary source.

## The Eight-Field Entry Format

Every instrument in the dataset is documented in a standardised eight-field format. The fields, their content, and any specific conventions applied in this Index are set out below:

- **Legal Framework:** The full official name of the instrument, including Act number, year, and any amendment references where relevant. French and Portuguese instrument names are given in the original language with an English translation in the Scope field.
- **Regulatory Body (Enforcer):** The primary authority responsible for administering and enforcing the instrument. Where administration and enforcement are divided between multiple bodies, the primary enforcer is named with secondary bodies noted in the Notes field.
- **Policy Framework:** The national or regional policy document, strategy, or framework within which the instrument sits. This field provides context for the instrument's regulatory purpose and may reference a national health policy, IP strategy, or consumer protection framework.
- **Enforcement Authority:** The body or bodies with powers of investigation, prosecution, adjudication, or sanction under the instrument. This may be an inspectorate, a specialised court, a general criminal court, or a combination.
- **Key Focus Areas:** The primary compliance areas the instrument addresses, expressed as concise keyword descriptors. These are the basis for the thematic cross-referencing in Index A.
- **Year / Version:** The year of enactment or, where the instrument has been significantly amended, the year of the most substantive amendment. Where a consolidated version is in use, this is noted.
- **Scope / Description:** A plain-language description of the instrument's coverage, written for a reader who may not be a lawyer. This field describes what the instrument regulates, what it requires, and what it prohibits, at a level of detail appropriate for initial orientation rather than compliance advice.
- **Notes:** Practical observations about enforcement patterns, cross-references to related instruments, specific compliance implications for beauty businesses, and any significant limitations or uncertainties in the research.

## Limitations

The following limitations should be borne in mind when using the Index:

- **Currency:** The Index reflects the state of legislation as researched between 2024 and 2026. Ministerial decrees, subsidiary regulations, and enforcement guidance are subject to change. The African regulatory landscape is actively developing, and amendments may have occurred after the research cutoff date. Readers should verify currency with the relevant regulatory authority before relying on any entry for compliance purposes.
- **Completeness:** The Index is designed to be comprehensive but not exhaustive. Subsidiary instruments, technical regulations, and product-specific standards beneath the primary legislation level may not be captured. The Index provides the primary legal framework; practitioners should use it as a starting point for deeper research, not as a complete compliance checklist.
- **Language and translation:** Where instruments exist only in French, Portuguese, or Arabic, scope descriptions and notes are based on BCLA's translations. These have been reviewed for accuracy but are not official translations. Readers requiring precision should refer to the original-language text.
- **Enforcement data:** The Notes field includes BCLA's observations on enforcement practice based on available secondary sources. These observations are not definitive assessments of regulatory capacity and should be treated as indicative rather than authoritative.
- **Legal advice:** Nothing in this Index constitutes legal advice. The Index is an informational resource. Any commercial or compliance decision should be made on the basis of current, jurisdiction-specific legal advice from a qualified practitioner.

## A Note on Naming Conventions

The Index uses the following naming conventions throughout:

- 'Cosmetics' and 'beauty products' are used interchangeably to refer to products intended for application to the external surfaces of the human body for the purpose of cleaning, perfuming, changing appearance, or maintaining good condition. This follows the EU Cosmetics Regulation definition, which is the most widely referenced international standard in the African regulatory context.
- 'Instrument' refers to any legal or regulatory document included in the Index whether an Act, Decree, Regulation, Ordinance, Code, or treaty framework.
- 'Enforcer' in the Regulatory Body field refers to the primary administrative body responsible for the instrument, which may or may not have direct enforcement powers. The Enforcement Authority field identifies the bodies with formal enforcement powers.

- Country names are given in the form most commonly used in English-language legal and regulatory contexts. 'D.R. Congo' refers to the Democratic Republic of Congo. 'Morocco' is used without diacritics. 'Senegal' is used in place of 'Sénégal'.

# West Africa

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## Nigeria · Ghana · Senegal

32 instruments across 3 jurisdictions

## Regional Overview

West Africa is home to three of the most commercially significant beauty markets on the African continent. Nigeria, with a population exceeding 200 million and one of Africa's most urbanised consumer bases, anchors the region as the continent's largest beauty market by volume. Ghana has emerged as a sophisticated mid-tier market with a well-developed regulatory framework and growing domestic cosmetics manufacturing sector. Senegal, as the commercial gateway to Francophone West Africa, occupies a strategically important position for beauty brands seeking access to the WAEMU economic zone and the broader Francophone African market.

The three jurisdictions represent distinct legal traditions and regulatory architectures. Nigeria operates under a common law system inherited from British colonial administration, with a relatively mature and product-specific cosmetics regulatory framework centred on NAFDAC one of the most active and capable food and drug regulatory agencies in sub-Saharan Africa. Ghana similarly operates under common law with its own FDA exercising comparable functions. Senegal follows the civil law tradition inherited from French colonial administration and is an OAPI member state, meaning its trademark and industrial design protection is administered through the centralised OAPI regional system.

The West African beauty market is shaped by several distinctive characteristics. The skin lightening and bleaching product market is substantial across all three jurisdictions, creating specific regulatory pressures around ingredient safety, advertising standards, and consumer protection enforcement. The informal market products sold outside registered channels, often imported from Asia represents a significant compliance and public health challenge. And the rapid growth of social commerce and influencer-driven beauty marketing has created a digital advertising environment that existing regulatory frameworks struggle to address.

## Key Regional Features

### Nigeria: The NAFDAC Framework

Nigeria's cosmetics regulatory landscape is anchored by NAFDAC, which operates a mandatory product registration system, conducts proactive market surveillance, and maintains close coordination with customs authorities on counterfeit imports. With 12 instruments the largest national dataset in this Index Nigeria has the most developed beauty regulatory framework in the region. The 2019 FCCPA introduced the most sophisticated digital advertising provisions of any instrument in the West Africa dataset, explicitly addressing online commercial practices and social media marketing.

### Ghana: A Parallel Architecture

Ghana's framework closely parallels Nigeria's an FDA with a direct cosmetics mandate, a standards authority, a consumer protection agency, and IP registration infrastructure but operates at smaller scale and with different enforcement emphasis. The Ghana FDA's cosmetics registration process has been increasingly streamlined. Ghana's Advertising Standards Authority has specific guidance on skin bleaching product advertising, making it one of a small number of jurisdictions in the dataset with cosmetics-specific advertising standards.

### Senegal: The OAPI Advantage

Senegal's most significant regulatory feature for beauty brands is its OAPI membership. Through a single OAPI filing, a Senegalese beauty brand can register its trademark and industrial designs across 17 Francophone African countries a continental-scale protection tool available at a fraction of the cost of 17

separate national registrations. This advantage is widely underutilised. Senegal's primary cosmetics regulation operates through the pharmaceutical framework under ANPM, creating the typical compliance complexity of the pharmaceutical gateway model. The DCCRF handles consumer protection but has more limited enforcement capacity than its Anglophone counterparts.

## West Africa at a Glance

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Copyright Act (2022)</b>	Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC)	2022	Packaging design, marketing materials, artistic works
<b>Trade Marks Act, Cap T13 (Trademarks Act)</b>	Trademarks, Patents and Designs Registry (TPRD) Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment	2004 (in force)	Brand names, logos, packaging, anti-counterfeiting
<b>National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) Act</b>	NAFDAC	1993 (as amended)	Cosmetics safety, product registration, quality control, labelling
<b>Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) Act</b>	Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON)	1971 (as amended)	Product standards, safety compliance, conformity assessment
<b>Consumer Protection Council Act / Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) Act</b>	Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC)	1992 / 2019 (FCCPC supersedes CPC)	Misleading claims, false advertising, product labelling, consumer rights
<b>Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration, Etc.) Act</b>	NAFDAC	1993	Product registration, import control, manufacturing authorisation
<b>Trademarks Act Cap T13 (Detailed Entry)</b>	Trademarks, Patents and Designs Registry (TPRD)	2004	Brand protection, packaging trade dress, anti-counterfeiting
<b>Copyright Act Cap C28 / Copyright Act 2022</b>	Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC)	2004 / Amended 2022	Artistic works, packaging design, brand materials, digital content
<b>Competition and Consumer Protection Act (FCCPC Act 2019)</b>	Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC)	2019	Unfair competition, market dominance, price-fixing, distribution practices
<b>Customs and Excise Management Act</b>	Nigeria Customs Service	2004	Import control, counterfeit cosmetics, border enforcement
<b>Penal Code / Criminal Code</b>	Nigerian Police Force, Federal Prosecution	1990 (as applicable)	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products, public health offences
<b>Advertising Standards Guidelines APCON</b>	Advertising Practitioners Council of Nigeria (APCON)	1988 (updated periodically)	Cosmetic advertising claims, misleading efficacy statements, skin lightening marketing
<b>Food and Drugs Authority Act (FDA Act)</b>	Food and Drugs Authority (FDA Ghana)	1992 (PNDC 305B, as amended)	Registration, importation, manufacturing, sale, and advertising of cosmetics
<b>Standards Authority Act (Ghana Standards Authority Act)</b>	Ghana Standards Authority (GSA)	1973 (as amended, 2022 Standards Authority Act)	Testing, certification, and standardisation of cosmetics
<b>Consumer Protection Act</b>	Consumer Protection Agency / Ministry of	2012	Consumer rights, false advertising, unsafe products,

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
	Trade and Industry		deceptive claims
<b>Industrial Property Act</b>	Registrar General's Department / Patents and Trademarks Registry	2003	Registration and protection of cosmetic brand names, logos, and packaging
<b>Copyright Act</b>	Copyright Office, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture	2005	Protection of creative works in cosmetics branding and packaging
<b>Competition Act</b>	Competition Commission (Ghana)	2010	Anti-competitive conduct in cosmetics retail and distribution
<b>Customs Act</b>	Ghana Revenue Authority Customs Division	2003	Border control of imported cosmetic products
<b>Public Health Act</b>	Ministry of Health	2012	Manufacturing hygiene, retail sanitation, storage conditions
<b>Penal Code (Criminal Offences Act)</b>	Ghana Police Service, Public Prosecution	1960 (as amended)	Criminal prosecution of counterfeit or adulterated cosmetics
<b>Advertising Regulatory Guidelines</b>	Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) / National Media Commission	1985 (updated periodically)	Cosmetic advertising claims, efficacy representations, misleading content
<b>Loi No 98-08 sur les Médicaments et la Pharmacie (Law No 98-08 on Food, Drugs, and Health Products)</b>	Agence Nationale de la Pharmacie et du Médicament (ANPM)	1998	Cosmetics safety, quality control, product registration, labelling
<b>Ordonnance No 69-7 Loi sur la Normalisation (Standards Law)</b>	Bureau de Normalisation du Sénégal (BNN)	1969 (as amended)	Product standards, safety compliance, conformity assessment
<b>Loi sur la Protection du Consommateur (Consumer Protection Law)</b>	Direction de la Concurrence, de la Consommation et de la Répression des Fraudes (DCCRF)	2010	Misleading claims, product labelling, consumer rights in cosmetics
<b>Loi sur la Propriété Industrielle (Industrial Property Law) / OAPI Bangui Agreement</b>	African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) Senegal Office	2013 (national law) / Bangui Agreement revised 1999	Brand protection, trademarks, packaging, industrial designs
<b>Loi sur le Droit d'Auteur (Copyright Law)</b>	Ministry of Culture (Bureau Sénégalais du Droit d'Auteur BSDA)	2008	Artistic works, packaging design, promotional materials
<b>Loi sur la Concurrence (Competition Law)</b>	Commission de la Concurrence	2014	Unfair competition, price manipulation, distribution restrictions
<b>Code des Douanes (Customs Code)</b>	Direction Générale des Douanes	2000 (as amended)	Import control, counterfeit cosmetics, border enforcement
<b>Code de la Santé Publique (Public Health Code)</b>	Ministry of Health	1991 (as amended)	Manufacturing hygiene, product safety, retail sanitation
<b>Code Pénal (Penal Code)</b>	Senegalese Police, Public Prosecution	1965 (as amended)	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products
<b>Loi sur la Publicité / CNRA Regulatory Guidelines (Advertising Law and Regulatory</b>	Conseil National de Régulation de l'Audiovisuel (CNRA) /	1988 (as applicable)	Cosmetic advertising claims, misleading content, efficacy representations

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Guidelines)</b>	Association des Professionnels de la Communication (APC)		

# Nigeria

*Nigeria has the most extensive beauty regulatory framework in the West Africa dataset, anchored by NAFDAC's mandatory product registration system and complemented by standards, consumer protection, IP, and criminal enforcement instruments. The 2019 Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Act introduced the most contemporary digital advertising provisions in the regional dataset.*

12 instruments · Common law jurisdiction · ECOWAS member

## NGA-01 Copyright Act (2022)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Copyright Act (2022)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Creative Industry Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Federal Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Packaging design, marketing materials, artistic works
<b>Year / Version</b>	2022
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Protects original artistic works used in cosmetics branding including packaging design, product illustrations, and promotional materials. The 2022 Act significantly modernised Nigeria's copyright framework, extending protection to digital works and strengthening moral rights provisions.
<b>Notes</b>	Copyright protection for cosmetics branding is automatic upon creation no registration required. Civil and criminal enforcement available. The 2022 Act introduced stronger digital rights provisions relevant to beauty brands marketing through social and digital channels.

## NGA-02 Trade Marks Act, Cap T13 (Trademarks Act)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Trade Marks Act, Cap T13 (Trademarks Act)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Trademarks, Patents and Designs Registry (TPRD) Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy and Strategy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Federal High Court
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Brand names, logos, packaging, anti-counterfeiting
<b>Year / Version</b>	2004 (in force)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for registration and protection of trademarks including brand names, logos, and trade dress used in the cosmetics sector. Registration confers exclusive right to use the mark in connection with registered goods. Border measures available for counterfeit cosmetic imports.
<b>Notes</b>	TPRD is the primary trademark registry. Enforcement is principally through civil litigation initiated by the rights holder. NAFDAC coordinates with customs on counterfeit cosmetic imports. The Trade Marks Act is under review as part of broader IP law reform.

## NGA-03 National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	NAFDAC
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Food and Drug Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	NAFDAC Inspectors, Federal High Court
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetics safety, product registration, quality control, labelling
<b>Year / Version</b>	1993 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes NAFDAC as the primary regulatory authority for cosmetic products in Nigeria. Requires mandatory product registration before cosmetics may be manufactured, imported, or sold. NAFDAC sets quality and safety standards, conducts product testing, and may seize or destroy non-compliant goods.
<b>Notes</b>	NAFDAC is the most active cosmetics regulator in the dataset. All cosmetic products must be registered with NAFDAC before sale. The agency conducts market surveillance and periodic sweeps targeting counterfeit and substandard cosmetics. Criminal sanctions apply for non-compliance. NAFDAC's cosmetics registration process has been increasingly digitised.

#### NGA-04 Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	SON Inspectors, Federal Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, safety compliance, conformity assessment
<b>Year / Version</b>	1971 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes mandatory and voluntary standards for cosmetic products sold in Nigeria. SON may conduct conformity assessments, issue certification marks, and seize or ban products that do not meet applicable standards. Works in coordination with NAFDAC on cosmetics compliance.
<b>Notes</b>	SON can seize, test, and ban non-compliant cosmetics independently of NAFDAC. Importers of cosmetics may be required to demonstrate conformity with SON standards at the point of entry. SON and NAFDAC roles can overlap beauty businesses should engage both agencies for full compliance.

#### NGA-05 Consumer Protection Council Act / Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Consumer Protection Council Act / Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	FCCPC Inspectors, Federal Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading claims, false advertising, product labelling, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	1992 / 2019 (FCCPC supersedes CPC)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The FCCPC Act (2019) prohibits misleading advertising, false efficacy claims, and unsafe products. Particularly relevant to the beauty sector given the prevalence of efficacy claims (skin lightening, anti-ageing, hair growth) that may be unsubstantiated. The FCCPC has powers to investigate, impose administrative sanctions, and refer

	cases to court.
<b>Notes</b>	The FCCPC is the most relevant body for policing misleading beauty advertising and false product claims. It can issue corrective notices, impose administrative fines, and initiate prosecution. The 2019 Act specifically addresses digital commerce and social media advertising the most contemporary advertising enforcement framework in the dataset for any jurisdiction.

### NGA-06 Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration, Etc.) Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration, Etc.) Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	NAFDAC
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Food and Drug Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	NAFDAC Inspectors, Federal High Court
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product registration, import control, manufacturing authorisation
<b>Year / Version</b>	1993
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Requires cosmetic products to be registered with NAFDAC and approved before being manufactured for sale or imported into Nigeria. Establishes the product registration process and the conditions for import licences. Non-registered cosmetics may be seized at the border or at point of sale.
<b>Notes</b>	Works in tandem with the NAFDAC Act to create the full product registration framework. Importers of cosmetic products require registration certificates before customs clearance. The Act underpins NAFDAC's authority to refuse, suspend, or withdraw product registrations.

### NGA-07 Trademarks Act Cap T13 (Detailed Entry)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Trademarks Act Cap T13 (Detailed Entry)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Trademarks, Patents and Designs Registry (TPRD)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Federal High Court
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Brand protection, packaging trade dress, anti-counterfeiting
<b>Year / Version</b>	2004
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides comprehensive registration and protection of trademarks, including logos, packaging trade dress, and brand names used in cosmetics. Registered trademark owners may seek injunctions, damages, and account of profits in infringement proceedings. Criminal sanctions available for deliberate infringement.
<b>Notes</b>	The Federal High Court has exclusive jurisdiction over trademark disputes. Enforcement is primarily civil rights holders must initiate proceedings. Border measures available through coordination with Nigeria Customs. Many counterfeit cosmetic cases are prosecuted under both trademark and NAFDAC provisions.

### NGA-08 Copyright Act Cap C28 / Copyright Act 2022

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Copyright Act Cap C28 / Copyright Act 2022
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Creative Industry Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Federal Courts

<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Artistic works, packaging design, brand materials, digital content
<b>Year / Version</b>	2004 / Amended 2022
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Protects original artistic and literary works used in cosmetics branding and marketing. Packaging design, product illustrations, lookbooks, and digital promotional content are protectable as artistic works. No registration required protection is automatic on creation and fixation.
<b>Notes</b>	The 2022 amendment strengthened digital enforcement provisions and moral rights, directly relevant to beauty brands with significant digital and social media presence. The NCC can prosecute copyright infringers. Civil remedies including injunctions and damages are available. Works must meet the originality threshold purely functional designs are excluded.

### NGA-09 Competition and Consumer Protection Act (FCCPC Act 2019)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Competition and Consumer Protection Act (FCCPC Act 2019)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	FCCPC, Federal Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Unfair competition, market dominance, price-fixing, distribution practices
<b>Year / Version</b>	2019
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits anti-competitive conduct including cartel behaviour, abuse of dominant market position, and restrictive distribution agreements in the cosmetics sector. Also covers consumer protection dimensions including false advertising and unsafe products. The most comprehensive competition and consumer protection instrument in the dataset.
<b>Notes</b>	The FCCPC has broad investigative and enforcement powers. Administrative fines and corrective measures are available without court proceedings. The Act's consumer protection provisions complement NAFDAC's product safety role. Particularly relevant for international cosmetics brands entering the Nigerian market through exclusive distribution arrangements.

### NGA-10 Customs and Excise Management Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs and Excise Management Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Nigeria Customs Service
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers, Federal Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, counterfeit cosmetics, border enforcement
<b>Year / Version</b>	2004
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the importation of cosmetic products, including requirements for import documentation, customs clearance, and payment of applicable duties. Provides powers to seize and destroy counterfeit, substandard, or prohibited cosmetic imports at the border.
<b>Notes</b>	Works in tandem with NAFDAC product registration requirements imported cosmetics must have valid NAFDAC registration numbers on packaging to clear customs. Nigeria Customs and NAFDAC conduct joint enforcement operations targeting counterfeit cosmetic imports, particularly at Lagos and Apapa ports.

**NGA-11 Penal Code / Criminal Code**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Penal Code / Criminal Code
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Nigerian Police Force, Federal Prosecution
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Police and Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products, public health offences
<b>Year / Version</b>	1990 (as applicable)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides criminal sanctions for the manufacture, sale, or distribution of counterfeit, adulterated, or hazardous cosmetic products. Criminal offences including fraud, obtaining by false pretences, and causing harm through adulterated goods are applicable to the beauty sector.
<b>Notes</b>	Works alongside NAFDAC and consumer protection enforcement. Criminal prosecution of cosmetic fraud is possible but relatively rare without a prior regulatory referral. NAFDAC typically initiates criminal referrals to the police for the most serious cases of adulteration or counterfeiting.

**NGA-12 Advertising Standards Guidelines APCON**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Advertising Standards Guidelines APCON
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Advertising Practitioners Council of Nigeria (APCON)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Advertising Standards Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	APCON, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic advertising claims, misleading efficacy statements, skin lightening marketing
<b>Year / Version</b>	1988 (updated periodically)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs advertising claims made for cosmetic products including efficacy statements, health representations, and before-and-after imagery. Particularly relevant to skin lightening, anti-ageing, and hair care product advertising. APCON may require pre-clearance of advertisements and can ban or sanction misleading campaigns.
<b>Notes</b>	APCON's guidelines are among the most relevant in the dataset for beauty brands making efficacy claims. The Council has specific provisions on health and beauty claims that require substantiation. Misleading or unsubstantiated claims particularly for skin lightening or hair growth products attract administrative sanctions. Works alongside FCCPC consumer protection enforcement.

# Ghana

*Ghana's beauty regulatory framework closely mirrors Nigeria's in structure an FDA with a direct cosmetics mandate, quality standards authority, consumer protection agency, and IP infrastructure but operates with a distinct emphasis on advertising standards and public health enforcement. The Ghana FDA is among the most active cosmetics registrars in West Africa.*

10 instruments · Common law jurisdiction · ECOWAS member

## GHA-01 Food and Drugs Authority Act (FDA Act)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Food and Drugs Authority Act (FDA Act)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Food and Drugs Authority (FDA Ghana)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Health and Safety Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	FDA Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Registration, importation, manufacturing, sale, and advertising of cosmetics
<b>Year / Version</b>	1992 (PNDCL 305B, as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the FDA as the primary regulatory authority for cosmetic products in Ghana. Regulates the production, importation, sale, labelling, and advertising of cosmetics and personal care products. Mandatory product registration before market entry. The FDA conducts inspections, enforces standards, and has powers to seize and destroy non-compliant goods.
<b>Notes</b>	The Ghana FDA is the most active cosmetics regulator in Ghana, directly analogous to NAFDAC in Nigeria. All cosmetic products must be registered before sale. The FDA has specific provisions on cosmetic advertising that prohibit unsubstantiated efficacy claims. Criminal and civil sanctions apply for non-compliance.

## GHA-02 Standards Authority Act (Ghana Standards Authority Act)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Standards Authority Act (Ghana Standards Authority Act)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ghana Standards Authority (GSA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	GSA Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Testing, certification, and standardisation of cosmetics
<b>Year / Version</b>	1973 (as amended, 2022 Standards Authority Act)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the Ghana Standards Authority and its mandate to develop and apply standards for cosmetic products sold in Ghana. GSA issues certification marks and conducts conformity assessments. Non-compliant cosmetic products may be seized, banned, or withdrawn from the market.
<b>Notes</b>	GSA works alongside the FDA on cosmetics compliance. The 2022 Standards Authority Act updated GSA's mandate and enforcement powers. Importers and manufacturers of cosmetics may be required to demonstrate compliance with applicable GSA standards. GSA has issued specific standards for skin care and personal care products.

## GHA-03 Consumer Protection Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Consumer Protection Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Consumer Protection Agency / Ministry of Trade and Industry
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts, Consumer Protection Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Consumer rights, false advertising, unsafe products, deceptive claims
<b>Year / Version</b>	2012
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits false advertising, deceptive claims, and the sale of unsafe cosmetic products. Provides consumer rights including the right to information, safe products, and redress. Particularly relevant for beauty brands making efficacy claims on packaging or in advertising.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative sanctions, corrective notices, and legal remedies are available. The Consumer Protection Act works alongside FDA enforcement for cosmetics specifically. Ghana has relatively active consumer protection enforcement compared to regional peers misleading claims on cosmetic packaging have attracted regulatory attention.

### GHA-04 Industrial Property Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Industrial Property Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Registrar General's Department / Patents and Trademarks Registry
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	High Court, Civil Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Registration and protection of cosmetic brand names, logos, and packaging
<b>Year / Version</b>	2003
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for registration and protection of trademarks, industrial designs, and patents. Cosmetic brand names, logos, and distinctive packaging are registrable as trademarks or industrial designs. Registered rights holders may take civil action against infringement.
<b>Notes</b>	Enforcement is through civil litigation. The Registrar General's Department maintains the trademark and industrial design registries. Registration turnaround times and registry capacity have improved in recent years. Border measures for counterfeit cosmetics are available through coordination with Customs.

### GHA-05 Copyright Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Copyright Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Copyright Office, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Creative Industry Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Protection of creative works in cosmetics branding and packaging
<b>Year / Version</b>	2005
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Protects original artistic works used in cosmetics including packaging design, product illustrations, and promotional materials. Protection is automatic on creation no registration required. Civil and criminal enforcement available.
<b>Notes</b>	The Copyright Office registers works voluntarily for evidentiary purposes. Civil remedies including injunctions and damages are available. The 2005 Act aligns Ghana's copyright framework with international standards including TRIPS and the

	Berne Convention.
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### GHA-06 Competition Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Competition Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Competition Commission (Ghana)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts, Competition Commission
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive conduct in cosmetics retail and distribution
<b>Year / Version</b>	2010
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits restrictive trade agreements, abuse of dominant position, and price-fixing in the cosmetics sector. Applies to manufacturers, distributors, and retailers. The Competition Commission may investigate and impose penalties for anti-competitive conduct.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative penalties and corrective measures are available. The Competition Act is particularly relevant for international cosmetics brands entering Ghana through exclusive distribution arrangements. The Commission has been increasingly active in consumer goods sectors.

### GHA-07 Customs Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ghana Revenue Authority Customs Division
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Border control of imported cosmetic products
<b>Year / Version</b>	2003
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Regulates the importation of cosmetic products into Ghana. Customs officers have powers to inspect, detain, and seize cosmetic imports that do not comply with FDA registration requirements or applicable standards. Prevents entry of counterfeit or unsafe cosmetics at the border.
<b>Notes</b>	Works closely with Ghana FDA on cosmetics compliance at ports of entry. Imported cosmetics must have valid FDA registration documentation. Ghana Revenue Authority and FDA conduct periodic joint operations targeting counterfeit cosmetic imports.

### GHA-08 Public Health Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Public Health Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Health Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Public Health Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing hygiene, retail sanitation, storage conditions
<b>Year / Version</b>	2012
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Ensures safe production, storage, and sale of cosmetics by regulating the sanitary conditions of manufacturing and retail premises. Public health inspectors may conduct inspections and require remediation of non-compliant facilities. Applies to cosmetic

	manufacturers, importers, and retailers.
<b>Notes</b>	Compliance inspections can result in fines or closure of premises for violations. The Public Health Act works alongside FDA registration requirements. Particularly relevant for local cosmetics manufacturers whose production facilities must meet public health standards.

### GHA-09 Penal Code (Criminal Offences Act)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Penal Code (Criminal Offences Act)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ghana Police Service, Public Prosecution
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Criminal prosecution of counterfeit or adulterated cosmetics
<b>Year / Version</b>	1960 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides criminal sanctions for the manufacture, distribution, or sale of counterfeit or adulterated cosmetic products. Fraud, obtaining by false pretences, and causing harm through hazardous goods are applicable offences.
<b>Notes</b>	Works alongside FDA and consumer protection enforcement. Criminal referrals are typically initiated by the FDA following an inspection or complaint. The most serious cases of cosmetic adulteration particularly those involving hazardous ingredients such as mercury or lead attract criminal prosecution.

### GHA-10 Advertising Regulatory Guidelines

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Advertising Regulatory Guidelines
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) / National Media Commission
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Advertising Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts, Media Regulatory Authorities
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic advertising claims, efficacy representations, misleading content
<b>Year / Version</b>	1985 (updated periodically)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs advertising claims for cosmetic products including health, efficacy, and safety representations. Particularly relevant for skin lightening, hair care, and anti-ageing product advertising. The ASA may require withdrawal of misleading campaigns and refer persistent offenders to courts.
<b>Notes</b>	Misleading claims can trigger sanctions or legal action. The ASA works with the National Media Commission on broadcast advertising standards. Digital advertising is increasingly within scope as the regulatory framework is updated. Ghana has specific advertising guidance on skin bleaching product marketing.

# Senegal

Senegal's defining regulatory feature for beauty brands is its OAPI membership a single IP registration covering 17 Francophone African countries. The primary cosmetics framework operates through the pharmaceutical gateway under ANPM. Senegal's position as the Francophone West African trade hub gives its regulatory environment outsized regional significance.

10 instruments · Civil law jurisdiction · ECOWAS and OAPI member

## SEN-01 Loi No 98-08 sur les Médicaments et la Pharmacie (Law No 98-08 on Food, Drugs, and Health Products)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Loi No 98-08 sur les Médicaments et la Pharmacie (Law No 98-08 on Food, Drugs, and Health Products)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Agence Nationale de la Pharmacie et du Médicament (ANPM)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Health and Safety Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	ANPM Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetics safety, quality control, product registration, labelling
<b>Year / Version</b>	1998
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary legal framework governing cosmetic products in Senegal. Regulates the registration, importation, manufacture, and sale of cosmetics and personal care products as a category within the broader pharmaceutical and health product framework. ANPM is responsible for product authorisation, inspections, and enforcement.
<b>Notes</b>	ANPM handles registration, inspections, and enforcement. Criminal and civil sanctions apply for non-compliance. Cosmetics in Senegal are regulated as a pharmaceutical sub-category the same agency that governs medicines oversees cosmetics. This creates compliance complexity for products at the cosmetics-wellness boundary. Senegal's membership in OAPI provides IP protection infrastructure for beauty brands.

## SEN-02 Ordonnance No 69-7 Loi sur la Normalisation (Standards Law)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Ordonnance No 69-7 Loi sur la Normalisation (Standards Law)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Bureau de Normalisation du Sénégal (BNN)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	BNN Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, safety compliance, conformity assessment
<b>Year / Version</b>	1969 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the national standards framework and the Bureau de Normalisation du Sénégal as the body responsible for developing and enforcing product standards, including those applicable to cosmetics. BNN conducts conformity assessments and may seize or ban non-compliant products.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliant products may be seized or banned. BNN works alongside ANPM on cosmetics compliance. Senegal applies harmonised WAEMU (West African Economic and Monetary Union) standards where available. The standards framework is less developed than in Nigeria or Ghana for cosmetics-specific technical standards.

**SEN-03 Loi sur la Protection du Consommateur (Consumer Protection Law)**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Loi sur la Protection du Consommateur (Consumer Protection Law)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Direction de la Concurrence, de la Consommation et de la Répression des Fraudes (DCCRF)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts, Consumer Protection Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading claims, product labelling, consumer rights in cosmetics
<b>Year / Version</b>	2010
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits false advertising, deceptive claims, and the sale of unsafe cosmetic products. Provides consumer rights in the cosmetics trade including the right to accurate product information and safe goods. The DCCRF has powers to investigate complaints and initiate proceedings against misleading beauty advertising.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative sanctions, corrective notices, and legal remedies are available. The DCCRF is the primary consumer protection authority but has limited capacity compared to its Anglophone counterparts. Consumer protection law is particularly relevant for beauty brands making skin lightening or anti-ageing claims in the Senegalese market.

**SEN-04 Loi sur la Propriété Industrielle (Industrial Property Law) / OAPI Bangui Agreement**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Loi sur la Propriété Industrielle (Industrial Property Law) / OAPI Bangui Agreement
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) Senegal Office
<b>Policy Framework</b>	OAPI Regional Intellectual Property Framework / National IP Strategy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Brand protection, trademarks, packaging, industrial designs
<b>Year / Version</b>	2013 (national law) / Bangui Agreement revised 1999
<b>Scope / Description</b>	As an OAPI member state, Senegal's trademark and industrial design protection is administered through OAPI's centralised system. A single OAPI registration covers all 17 member states including Senegal, providing continental-scale protection for cosmetic brands, logos, and packaging. The national industrial property law provides the domestic framework within which OAPI operates.
<b>Notes</b>	OAPI registration is one of the most valuable and underutilised tools for beauty brands operating in Francophone Africa. A single filing provides trademark and industrial design protection across 17 countries. Enforcement of registered rights is through national courts. OAPI headquartered in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Registration fees and procedures are standardised across member states.

**SEN-05 Loi sur le Droit d'Auteur (Copyright Law)**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Loi sur le Droit d'Auteur (Copyright Law)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Culture (Bureau Sénégalais du Droit d'Auteur BSDA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Creative Industry Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Artistic works, packaging design, promotional materials
<b>Year / Version</b>	2008
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Protects original artistic works used in cosmetics branding including packaging design, product illustrations, and promotional content. Protection is automatic no registration

	required. Civil and criminal enforcement available.
<b>Notes</b>	The 2008 law updated Senegal's copyright framework in line with international standards. Civil remedies including injunctions and damages are available. The BSDA administers collective rights management. Copyright is particularly relevant for beauty brands with distinctive visual identities.

### SEN-06 Loi sur la Concurrence (Competition Law)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Loi sur la Concurrence (Competition Law)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Commission de la Concurrence
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts, Competition Commission
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Unfair competition, price manipulation, distribution restrictions
<b>Year / Version</b>	2014
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits anti-competitive conduct in the cosmetics sector including price-fixing, abuse of dominant position, and restrictive distribution agreements. The Commission de la Concurrence may investigate and impose penalties for anti-competitive practices affecting the beauty market.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative penalties and corrective measures are available. The competition framework is relatively recent and still developing enforcement capacity. Relevant for international beauty brands entering Senegal through exclusive distribution arrangements.

### SEN-07 Code des Douanes (Customs Code)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Code des Douanes (Customs Code)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Direction Générale des Douanes
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, counterfeit cosmetics, border enforcement
<b>Year / Version</b>	2000 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the importation of cosmetic products into Senegal. Customs officers may inspect, detain, and seize cosmetic imports that do not comply with ANPM registration requirements or applicable standards. Prevents entry of counterfeit or substandard cosmetics at the border.
<b>Notes</b>	Works in coordination with ANPM for product compliance. The port of Dakar is the primary entry point for cosmetic imports. Customs and ANPM conduct periodic joint operations targeting counterfeit cosmetic goods. Senegal's position as a regional trade hub means border enforcement has continent-wide significance.

### SEN-08 Code de la Santé Publique (Public Health Code)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Code de la Santé Publique (Public Health Code)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Health Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Public Health Inspectors

<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing hygiene, product safety, retail sanitation
<b>Year / Version</b>	1991 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Regulates the sanitary conditions of premises used for cosmetic production and retail. Public health inspectors may conduct inspections and require remediation of non-compliant facilities. Non-compliance can result in fines or closure of premises.
<b>Notes</b>	The Public Health Code provides the general sanitation framework within which cosmetics manufacturing operates. Works alongside ANPM registration requirements. Particularly relevant for local Senegalese beauty brands manufacturing products in-country.

### SEN-09 Code Pénal (Penal Code)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Code Pénal (Penal Code)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Senegalese Police, Public Prosecution
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products
<b>Year / Version</b>	1965 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides criminal sanctions for the manufacture, distribution, or sale of counterfeit or adulterated cosmetic products. Fraud and public health offences applicable to the beauty sector are established under the Penal Code.
<b>Notes</b>	Works alongside ANPM and consumer protection enforcement. Criminal referrals typically follow regulatory investigation. Counterfeiting of cosmetic products particularly luxury personal care brands attracts criminal prosecution in Senegal given its position as a regional trade hub.

### SEN-10 Loi sur la Publicité / CNRA Regulatory Guidelines (Advertising Law and Regulatory Guidelines)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Loi sur la Publicité / CNRA Regulatory Guidelines (Advertising Law and Regulatory Guidelines)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Conseil National de Régulation de l'Audiovisuel (CNRA) / Association des Professionnels de la Communication (APC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Advertising Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts, Media Regulatory Authorities
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic advertising claims, misleading content, efficacy representations
<b>Year / Version</b>	1988 (as applicable)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the content of advertising for cosmetic products, including claims made about health, efficacy, and safety. The CNRA regulates broadcast advertising and the APC governs professional advertising standards. Misleading claims trigger administrative sanctions or legal action.
<b>Notes</b>	Senegal has specific regulatory sensitivity to skin lightening product advertising given public health concerns about bleaching products in the West African market. Misleading or unsubstantiated claims for skin lightening products have attracted regulatory attention. Works alongside consumer protection enforcement.

# East Africa

## Kenya · Rwanda · Ethiopia

30 instruments across 3 jurisdictions

## Regional Overview

East Africa presents one of the most dynamic and rapidly developing beauty regulatory landscapes on the continent. The three jurisdictions covered Kenya, Rwanda, and Ethiopia represent distinct stages of regulatory development, but share a common direction of travel: toward more comprehensive, product-specific cosmetics frameworks with stronger enforcement infrastructure and increasing alignment with international standards.

Kenya occupies the most established position in the regional regulatory landscape. As the East African Community's commercial hub, Kenya's regulatory framework centred on the Pharmacy and Poisons Board for product safety and the Anti-Counterfeit Authority for IP enforcement is among the most developed in sub-Saharan Africa. The ACA's proactive enforcement powers, rare in the continent-wide dataset, make Kenya's anti-counterfeiting infrastructure a model for the region. The EAC Customs Management Act creates a harmonised border control framework that facilitates intra-regional trade while providing coordinated tools for preventing counterfeit and non-compliant cosmetic imports.

Rwanda presents a different profile a smaller market but an exceptionally modernised regulatory architecture. The 2018 Law Governing Food and Drugs established Rwanda FDA as a capable and contemporary primary regulator, and Rwanda's overall governance environment characterised by high ease of doing business scores and low corruption indicators translates into relatively predictable regulatory compliance. Rwanda's business registration process, administered by RDB, is among the most streamlined in Africa. The country is an EAC member, giving its beauty brands access to the regional customs framework and trade infrastructure.

Ethiopia is the most populous country in the Index with over 120 million people, its domestic beauty market is among the largest on the continent by potential scale. The 2019 Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation represents a significant modernisation of Ethiopia's cosmetics regulatory framework, establishing EFDA as a dedicated regulator with post-market surveillance powers. Ethiopia's cosmetics market is still developing but growing quickly, attracting increasing attention from both international brands and domestic manufacturers. The 2021 Industrial Property Proclamation the most recently enacted primary IP statute in the East Africa dataset signals continued regulatory modernisation.

## Key Regional Features

### The EAC Framework

All three countries are East African Community member states, giving them access to the EAC Customs Management Act's harmonised border control framework. This facilitates intra-regional trade in cosmetics and provides coordinated tools for border enforcement against counterfeit and non-compliant imports. EAC harmonisation of cosmetics standards is ongoing as this framework matures, it will increasingly shape the regulatory environment across all member states.

### Kenya: The ACA Advantage

Kenya's Anti-Counterfeit Authority (ACA) is the defining feature of its beauty regulatory environment. The ACA has proactive enforcement powers it can conduct raids, seize counterfeit goods, and initiate prosecution without requiring the rights holder to initiate proceedings. This makes Kenya one of the very few jurisdictions in the dataset with a genuinely proactive anti-counterfeiting capability. For beauty brands facing counterfeiting a significant challenge in East Africa's informal market ACA registration and engagement is a critical compliance step.

### Rwanda: Modern by Design

Rwanda's regulatory modernisation is reflected throughout the East Africa dataset. The 2018 Rwanda FDA law, the 2018 Environmental Law, and the 2018 Offences and Penalties Law were all enacted in the same year representing a coordinated legislative update. Rwanda FDA's alignment with EAC harmonised standards

positions Rwanda as a technically capable regulator. For beauty brands using Rwanda as an East African market entry point, the regulatory environment is relatively predictable and well-structured.

## Ethiopia: Scale and Trajectory

Ethiopia's significance in the East Africa beauty regulatory picture is a function of scale and trajectory rather than current regulatory depth. EFDA is building capacity, the 2019 and 2021 legislative updates have modernised the primary frameworks, and the country's economic growth is driving rapid market expansion. Beauty brands entering Ethiopia early and investing in EFDA relationship-building are well-positioned as the regulatory infrastructure continues to develop.

## East Africa at a Glance

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244</b>	Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB)	1957 (Revised)	Cosmetic product registration, safety, labelling
<b>Public Health Act, Cap 242</b>	Ministry of Health / County Governments	1921 (Revised)	Manufacturing hygiene, production conditions, retail sanitation
<b>Standards Act, Cap 496</b>	Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS)	1974	Product standards, labelling, conformity assessment, certification
<b>Consumer Protection Act</b>	Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK)	2012	False advertising, misleading claims, product safety, consumer rights
<b>Competition Act</b>	Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK)	2010	Unfair competition, abuse of dominance, distribution restrictions
<b>Anti-Counterfeit Act</b>	Anti-Counterfeit Authority (ACA)	2008	Counterfeit beauty products, border enforcement, market surveillance
<b>Industrial Property Act</b>	Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI)	2001	Trademarks, industrial designs, patents
<b>Trade Descriptions Act, Cap 505</b>	Ministry of Trade	1972	Product labelling accuracy, ingredient descriptions, trade representations
<b>Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA)</b>	National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)	1999	Chemical waste management, environmental impact, manufacturing compliance
<b>East African Community Customs Management Act</b>	Kenya Revenue Authority Customs and Border Control	2004	Import control, product clearance, counterfeit prevention
<b>Law No 003/2018 Governing Food and Drugs</b>	Rwanda Food and Drugs Authority (Rwanda FDA)	2018	Cosmetic safety, registration, labelling, post-market surveillance
<b>Law No 10/2013 on Standards</b>	Rwanda Standards Board (RSB)	2013	Product standards, certification, quality marks
<b>Law No 36/2012 Relating to Competition and Consumer Protection</b>	Ministry of Trade and Industry (competition functions under RICA framework)	2012	Misleading advertising, consumer rights, unfair commercial practices
<b>Law No 31/2009 on Protection of Intellectual Property</b>	Rwanda Development Board (RDB)	2009	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Law No 17/2019 Governing Companies</b>	Rwanda Development Board (RDB)	2019	Corporate compliance, business registration, licensing

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Law No 48/2018 on Environment</b>	Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA)	2018	Chemical management, hazardous substances, waste disposal
<b>Law No 68/2018 Determining Offences and Penalties</b>	Rwanda Investigation Bureau / National Public Prosecution Authority	2018	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, economic offences, public health offences
<b>East African Community Customs Management Act</b>	Rwanda Revenue Authority Customs	2004	Import control, border enforcement, counterfeit prevention
<b>Law No 30/2013 on Trade and Consumer Protection</b>	Ministry of Trade and Industry	2013	Fair trade practices, pricing transparency, commercial conduct
<b>Law No 15/2001 on Telecommunications and Media (as amended)</b>	Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA)	2001 (as amended)	Advertising standards, broadcast content, misleading promotional claims
<b>Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No 1112/2019</b>	Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority (EFDA)	2019	Cosmetic registration, safety, labelling, post-market surveillance
<b>Council of Ministers Regulation No 299/2013 on Food, Medicine and Health Care Administration</b>	Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority (EFDA)	2013	Manufacturing licensing, inspection procedures, operational compliance
<b>Public Health Proclamation No 200/2000</b>	Ministry of Health / Regional Health Bureaus	2000	Manufacturing hygiene, sanitation standards, production conditions
<b>Trade Competition and Consumer Protection Proclamation No 813/2013</b>	Trade Competition and Consumer Protection Authority	2013	Misleading advertising, unfair trade practices, consumer rights
<b>Industrial Property Proclamation No 1238/2021</b>	Ethiopian Intellectual Property Authority (EIPA)	2021	Trademarks, patents, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Standards Proclamation No 1020/2017</b>	Ethiopian Standards Institute (ESI)	2017	Product standards, conformity assessment, quality control
<b>Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation No 300/2002</b>	Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)	2002	Chemical waste management, environmental impact, manufacturing compliance
<b>Customs Proclamation No 859/2014</b>	Ethiopian Customs Commission	2014	Import control, border clearance, counterfeit prevention
<b>Commercial Registration and Business Licensing Proclamation No 980/2016</b>	Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration	2016	Business registration, manufacturing and distribution licensing
<b>Criminal Code of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia</b>	Federal Police Commission / Public Prosecutor	2004	Counterfeit products, fraud, adulterated cosmetics, public health offences

# Kenya

*Kenya's beauty regulatory landscape is anchored by the Pharmacy and Poisons Board for product safety and uniquely in the East Africa dataset the Anti-Counterfeit Authority, which provides proactive enforcement powers that go beyond what most IP enforcement bodies offer. Kenya's position as the EAC's commercial hub makes its regulatory framework a gateway to the broader East African market.*

10 instruments · Common law jurisdiction · EAC member

## KEN-01 Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Drug and Cosmetic Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	PPB Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic product registration, safety, labelling
<b>Year / Version</b>	1957 (Revised)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary legislation governing cosmetic products in Kenya. Requires manufacturers and importers of cosmetics to comply with PPB guidelines and notification procedures before market entry. The PPB reviews product safety data, ingredient lists, and labelling for compliance. Post-market surveillance is conducted through inspections.
<b>Notes</b>	Cosmetics must comply with PPB guidelines and notification procedures. Kenya operates a notification-based system rather than full pre-market registration lighter than Nigeria's NAFDAC model but still requiring PPB engagement before sale. The PPB has been progressively modernising its cosmetics framework, with increasing alignment to international standards including the East African Community harmonised framework.

## KEN-02 Public Health Act, Cap 242

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Public Health Act, Cap 242
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health / County Governments
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Public Health Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Public Health Officers, County Governments
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing hygiene, production conditions, retail sanitation
<b>Year / Version</b>	1921 (Revised)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Regulates the sanitary conditions of premises used for cosmetic production and retail in Kenya. Public health officers operating at both national and county government level may conduct inspections and require remediation of non-compliant facilities. Applies to cosmetic manufacturers, importers, and retailers.
<b>Notes</b>	County authorities may close non-compliant premises. Devolution of government in Kenya means county-level enforcement is significant beauty businesses operating across multiple counties must engage with county public health authorities. The Act works alongside PPB product registration requirements.

**KEN-03 Standards Act, Cap 496**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Standards Act, Cap 496
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	KEBS Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, labelling, conformity assessment, certification
<b>Year / Version</b>	1974
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes KEBS as the national standards body responsible for quality assurance and standardisation of cosmetic products. KEBS develops and enforces standards for cosmetics, conducts conformity assessments, and issues certification marks. Non-compliant cosmetic goods may be seized or destroyed.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliant goods may be seized or destroyed. KEBS has issued specific standards for personal care and cosmetic products. Importers of cosmetics face KEBS conformity assessments at the port of entry. KEBS works closely with the PPB on cosmetics compliance. The Kenya Standard mark may be required for certain product categories.

**KEN-04 Consumer Protection Act**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Consumer Protection Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	CAK, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	False advertising, misleading claims, product safety, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	2012
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Protects consumers in cosmetic transactions from false advertising, misleading claims, and unsafe products. The CAK has powers to investigate complaints, impose administrative penalties, and initiate court proceedings against beauty brands making unsubstantiated claims. Applies to all cosmetic product marketing and sales in Kenya.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative penalties and corrective measures are available. The CAK has been increasingly active in the consumer goods sector. The Consumer Protection Act is particularly relevant for beauty brands making skin lightening, anti-ageing, or hair growth claims in Kenyan advertising.

**KEN-05 Competition Act**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Competition Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	CAK, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Unfair competition, abuse of dominance, distribution restrictions
<b>Year / Version</b>	2010
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits anti-competitive conduct in the cosmetics distribution and retail sector including restrictive agreements, abuse of dominant position, and exclusionary practices. Applies to cosmetic manufacturers, distributors, and retailers. The CAK may investigate and impose remedies for anti-competitive conduct.

<b>Notes</b>	Applies to manufacturers, distributors, and retailers. Particularly relevant for international beauty brands entering Kenya through exclusive distribution agreements. The CAK reviews mergers and acquisitions in the cosmetics sector.
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### KEN-06 Anti-Counterfeit Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Anti-Counterfeit Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Anti-Counterfeit Authority (ACA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Anti-Counterfeit Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	ACA Inspectors, Police, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit beauty products, border enforcement, market surveillance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2008
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the Anti-Counterfeit Authority with proactive enforcement powers over the importation, manufacture, and sale of counterfeit cosmetics. The ACA conducts market surveillance, seizes counterfeit goods, and coordinates border enforcement with customs authorities. Criminal sanctions apply.
<b>Notes</b>	Strong enforcement at ports and retail outlets. The ACA is the most capable proactive anti-counterfeiting authority in the East Africa dataset and one of the strongest in the continent. Unlike most IP enforcement bodies, the ACA can act without the rights holder initiating proceedings making it a uniquely powerful tool for beauty brands facing counterfeiting. Works jointly with KRA Customs and PPB.

### KEN-07 Industrial Property Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Industrial Property Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, patents
<b>Year / Version</b>	2001
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the registration and protection of trademarks, industrial designs, and patents for cosmetic brands, packaging, and formulations. KIPI administers the trademark and industrial design registry. Registered rights holders may enforce their rights through civil litigation in commercial courts.
<b>Notes</b>	Enforcement through civil litigation. KIPI is a relatively well-resourced national IP registry by African standards. Registration timelines have improved. Patent protection for cosmetic formulations is available but rarely used by domestic brands. Civil remedies including injunctions and damages are available for trademark and design infringement.

### KEN-08 Trade Descriptions Act, Cap 505

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Trade Descriptions Act, Cap 505
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Trade Regulation Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Trade Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product labelling accuracy, ingredient descriptions, trade representations

<b>Year / Version</b>	1972
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Requires accurate description of cosmetic goods in labelling, packaging, and advertising. Prohibits false or misleading trade descriptions including misrepresentation of ingredients, country of origin, and product characteristics. Works alongside consumer protection enforcement.
<b>Notes</b>	Works with consumer protection enforcement. The Trade Descriptions Act is particularly relevant for beauty brands with complex ingredient claims or country-of-origin marketing. Enforcement is through trade inspectors and courts. The Act complements PPB labelling requirements.

### **KEN-09 Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA)**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Environmental Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	NEMA Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical waste management, environmental impact, manufacturing compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1999
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs environmental compliance for cosmetic manufacturers in Kenya, including the handling, storage, and disposal of chemical ingredients and manufacturing waste. Environmental impact assessments may be required for manufacturing facilities. NEMA has powers to require remediation and impose penalties for environmental violations.
<b>Notes</b>	Environmental impact assessments may apply to new manufacturing facilities. NEMA has been increasingly active in the manufacturing sector. Cosmetic manufacturers working with chemical ingredients face specific obligations under EMCA regulations. The Act works alongside public health requirements for manufacturing premises.

### **KEN-10 East African Community Customs Management Act**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	East African Community Customs Management Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Kenya Revenue Authority Customs and Border Control
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Trade and Customs Policy / EAC Regional Customs Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, product clearance, counterfeit prevention
<b>Year / Version</b>	2004
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the border control and importation of cosmetic products into Kenya within the EAC customs framework. Customs officers have powers to inspect, detain, and seize cosmetic imports that do not comply with PPB registration requirements or applicable standards. Provides the regional customs framework for EAC member states.
<b>Notes</b>	Works jointly with PPB and ACA. The EAC Customs Management Act creates a harmonised border control framework across Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and South Sudan facilitating intra-EAC trade in cosmetics. Kenya's port of Mombasa is a major entry point for cosmetic imports to the region.

## Rwanda

*Rwanda combines a compact market with an exceptionally modernised regulatory architecture. The 2018 Law Governing Food and Drugs established Rwanda FDA as a capable primary regulator aligned with EAC harmonised standards. Rwanda's governance environment high ease-of-doing-business, streamlined registration, low corruption makes it one of the most predictable compliance environments in the East Africa dataset.*

10 instruments · Civil law / hybrid jurisdiction · EAC member

### RWA-01 Law No 003/2018 Governing Food and Drugs

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 003/2018 Governing Food and Drugs
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Rwanda Food and Drugs Authority (Rwanda FDA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Medicines and Food Safety Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Rwanda FDA Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic safety, registration, labelling, post-market surveillance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the Rwanda FDA and its mandate over cosmetic products, including product notification, pre-market review, post-market surveillance, and enforcement. One of the most recently enacted primary cosmetics statutes in the East Africa dataset. The Rwanda FDA requires product notification before market entry and conducts ongoing market surveillance.
<b>Notes</b>	Primary regulator for cosmetic products in Rwanda. The 2018 law represents a significant modernisation of Rwanda's food and drug regulatory framework and is among the most contemporary primary cosmetics statutes in the dataset. Rwanda FDA has been building technical capacity and aligning its cosmetics framework with EAC harmonised standards.

### RWA-02 Law No 10/2013 on Standards

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 10/2013 on Standards
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Rwanda Standards Board (RSB)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Infrastructure Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	RSB Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, certification, quality marks
<b>Year / Version</b>	2013
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the Rwanda Standards Board and its mandate to develop and enforce product standards for locally manufactured and imported cosmetics. RSB issues standards and quality marks for cosmetic products. Products may require RSB certification before market entry depending on product category.
<b>Notes</b>	Products may require certification before market entry. RSB works alongside Rwanda FDA on cosmetics compliance. Rwanda is actively aligning its standards framework with EAC harmonised standards to facilitate regional trade. The RSB has issued specific standards for personal care products.

**RWA-03 Law No 36/2012 Relating to Competition and Consumer Protection**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 36/2012 Relating to Competition and Consumer Protection
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade and Industry (competition functions under RICA framework)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition and Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading advertising, consumer rights, unfair commercial practices
<b>Year / Version</b>	2012
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits false advertising claims, misleading commercial practices, and unsafe products in the cosmetics sector. Provides consumer rights in cosmetic transactions. Administrative and judicial remedies are available for non-compliant beauty advertising and deceptive commercial practices.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative and judicial remedies available. The competition and consumer protection framework is combined in a single statute a feature shared with several other jurisdictions in the dataset. Particularly relevant for beauty brands making efficacy claims in Rwanda's growing cosmetics market.

**RWA-04 Law No 31/2009 on Protection of Intellectual Property**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 31/2009 on Protection of Intellectual Property
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Rwanda Development Board (RDB)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Year / Version</b>	2009
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the registration and protection of trademarks and industrial designs for cosmetic brands and packaging. The RDB administers IP registration in Rwanda. Enforcement of registered rights is through civil and criminal proceedings in commercial courts.
<b>Notes</b>	Enforcement through civil and criminal proceedings. Rwanda's IP registration system is administered by RDB, which also handles business registration creating an integrated entry point for beauty businesses. Rwanda is not an OAPI member and operates a national IP registry.

**RWA-05 Law No 17/2019 Governing Companies**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 17/2019 Governing Companies
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Rwanda Development Board (RDB)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Business Registration Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Corporate compliance, business registration, licensing
<b>Year / Version</b>	2019
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Requires legal incorporation for all business operations in Rwanda, including cosmetic manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers. Non-compliance with company law requirements affects licensing and market participation. The RDB administers business registration.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliance affects licensing and market participation. Rwanda has one of the

most streamlined business registration processes in Africa RDB registration can be completed digitally. Cosmetic businesses must register before applying for Rwanda FDA product notification.

### RWA-06 Law No 48/2018 on Environment

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 48/2018 on Environment
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Environmental Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	REMA Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical management, hazardous substances, waste disposal
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Regulates the management of hazardous chemical substances and environmental impact of manufacturing activities, including cosmetics production. Environmental permits may be required for cosmetic manufacturing facilities. REMA has powers to require environmental impact assessments and impose remediation obligations.
<b>Notes</b>	Environmental permits may be required for manufacturing. The 2018 Environmental Law represents a comprehensive update of Rwanda's environmental framework. Cosmetic manufacturers working with chemical ingredients face specific obligations. Rwanda has ambitious environmental standards and enforcement is increasingly active.

### RWA-07 Law No 68/2018 Determining Offences and Penalties

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 68/2018 Determining Offences and Penalties
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Rwanda Investigation Bureau / National Public Prosecution Authority
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, economic offences, public health offences
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the criminal offences and penalty regime applicable to counterfeit, adulterated, or fraudulent cosmetic products. Economic offences and public health offences relating to the beauty sector are prosecuted under this statute. Works alongside Rwanda FDA enforcement.
<b>Notes</b>	Works with Rwanda FDA and Police. The 2018 offences and penalties law updated Rwanda's criminal justice framework. Criminal sanctions for counterfeit or adulterated cosmetics are available. Prosecution is coordinated between Rwanda FDA, the Rwanda Investigation Bureau, and the National Public Prosecution Authority.

### RWA-08 East African Community Customs Management Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	East African Community Customs Management Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Rwanda Revenue Authority Customs
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Regional Customs Framework / National Customs Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, border enforcement, counterfeit prevention

<b>Year / Version</b>	2004
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides the regional customs framework for the importation of cosmetic products into Rwanda as an EAC member state. Customs officers coordinate with Rwanda FDA to ensure imported cosmetics comply with notification requirements. Prevents entry of unregistered or counterfeit cosmetics at the border.
<b>Notes</b>	Coordination with Rwanda FDA required for clearance. Rwanda's landlocked geography means most cosmetic imports transit through Kenya or Tanzania making the EAC customs framework particularly significant for border control. The EAC framework facilitates intra-regional trade in cosmetics among member states.

### RWA-09 Law No 30/2013 on Trade and Consumer Protection

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 30/2013 on Trade and Consumer Protection
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade and Industry
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Trade Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Fair trade practices, pricing transparency, commercial conduct
<b>Year / Version</b>	2013
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Regulates pricing practices and commercial transparency in the cosmetics trade. Prohibits unfair commercial practices and price manipulation in beauty product retail and distribution. Supports consumer protection enforcement alongside the competition and consumer protection framework.
<b>Notes</b>	Supports consumer protection enforcement. The trade law complements Rwanda's competition and consumer protection statute. Trade inspectors may investigate complaints from beauty businesses or consumers about unfair commercial practices.

### RWA-10 Law No 15/2001 on Telecommunications and Media (as amended)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 15/2001 on Telecommunications and Media (as amended)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Media and Advertising Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Media Regulatory Authorities
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Advertising standards, broadcast content, misleading promotional claims
<b>Year / Version</b>	2001 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs broadcast and media content including advertising for cosmetic products. Controls misleading broadcast and promotional content. The RURA regulates television, radio, and digital media advertising and may act against beauty brands making misleading efficacy claims in broadcast advertising.
<b>Notes</b>	Applies to mass media advertising. Rwanda's media regulatory framework is relatively developed for the region. The RURA has been increasingly attentive to advertising content standards. As Rwanda's digital economy grows, online beauty advertising is increasingly within regulatory scope.

## Ethiopia

*Ethiopia is the most populous country in the Index, and its domestic beauty market is among the largest on the continent by potential scale. The 2019 Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation established EFDA as a dedicated primary regulator with mandatory registration and post-market surveillance powers. The 2021 Industrial Property Proclamation the most recently enacted primary IP statute in the East Africa dataset signals continued regulatory modernisation.*

10 instruments · Civil law jurisdiction · EAC observer

### ETH-01 Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No 1112/2019

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No 1112/2019
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority (EFDA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Food and Medicine Regulatory Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	EFDA Inspectors, Federal Police, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic registration, safety, labelling, post-market surveillance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2019
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary legislation governing cosmetic products in Ethiopia. Establishes the EFDA as the competent authority for the regulation, control, and oversight of cosmetics. Requires mandatory registration before manufacture, importation, or sale. The EFDA conducts inspections, post-market surveillance, and enforcement, and has powers to seize and destroy non-compliant goods.
<b>Notes</b>	Primary regulator for cosmetics in Ethiopia. Proclamation No 1112/2019 is among the most recently enacted and comprehensive primary cosmetics statutes in the dataset. Ethiopia's cosmetics market is growing rapidly particularly in personal care categories and EFDA has been building regulatory capacity accordingly. The Proclamation introduces post-market surveillance obligations that go beyond product registration.

### ETH-02 Council of Ministers Regulation No 299/2013 on Food, Medicine and Health Care Administration

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Council of Ministers Regulation No 299/2013 on Food, Medicine and Health Care Administration
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority (EFDA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Health Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	EFDA Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing licensing, inspection procedures, operational compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2013
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides the operational framework for EFDA's regulatory functions including licensing requirements for cosmetic manufacturers and importers, inspection procedures, and compliance requirements for market authorisation. Supports and operationalises Proclamation No 1112/2019.
<b>Notes</b>	Supports Proclamation No 1112/2019. The 2013 Regulation pre-dates the 2019 Proclamation but remains in force as the operational framework for EFDA's cosmetics functions. Manufacturers and importers of cosmetics must obtain an EFDA licence before commencing operations.

**ETH-03 Public Health Proclamation No 200/2000**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Public Health Proclamation No 200/2000
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health / Regional Health Bureaus
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Public Health Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Public Health Officers, Regional Health Bureaus
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing hygiene, sanitation standards, production conditions
<b>Year / Version</b>	2000
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes health standards for premises used for cosmetic production and sale. Public health officers at both federal and regional levels may conduct inspections and require remediation of non-compliant facilities. Regional enforcement mechanisms apply.
<b>Notes</b>	Regional enforcement mechanisms apply. Ethiopia's federal structure means regional health bureaus play a significant role in public health enforcement. Cosmetic businesses operating in regional states must engage with regional health authorities as well as EFDA. The Proclamation works alongside EFDA licensing requirements for manufacturing premises.

**ETH-04 Trade Competition and Consumer Protection Proclamation No 813/2013**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Trade Competition and Consumer Protection Proclamation No 813/2013
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Trade Competition and Consumer Protection Authority
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition and Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Authority Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading advertising, unfair trade practices, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	2013
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs commercial practices in cosmetics marketing and retail. Prohibits misleading advertising, false efficacy claims, and unfair trade practices affecting cosmetics consumers. The Authority has powers to investigate, impose administrative penalties, and initiate judicial enforcement proceedings.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative penalties and judicial enforcement available. Particularly relevant for beauty brands making skin lightening, anti-ageing, or hair growth claims in Ethiopian advertising. The Authority has been building enforcement capacity. Works alongside EFDA on product safety and labelling compliance.

**ETH-05 Industrial Property Proclamation No 1238/2021**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Industrial Property Proclamation No 1238/2021
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ethiopian Intellectual Property Authority (EIPA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, patents, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Year / Version</b>	2021
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the registration and protection of trademarks, industrial designs, and patents for cosmetic brands, packaging, and formulations. The 2021 Proclamation is the most recently enacted primary IP statute in the East Africa dataset, modernising

	Ethiopia's IP framework. EIPA administers IP registration and civil and criminal remedies are available for infringement.
<b>Notes</b>	Civil and criminal remedies available. The 2021 Proclamation significantly updates Ethiopia's IP framework, introducing more robust protection mechanisms for trademarks and industrial designs. Cosmetic brands building presence in Ethiopia's growing market should prioritise trademark registration. Ethiopia is not a member of OAPI and operates a national IP registry.

### ETH-06 Standards Proclamation No 1020/2017

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Standards Proclamation No 1020/2017
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ethiopian Standards Institute (ESI)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Infrastructure Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Standards Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, conformity assessment, quality control
<b>Year / Version</b>	2017
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the Ethiopian Standards Institute and its mandate for standardisation and quality control of cosmetic products. The ESI develops and enforces standards for cosmetics, conducts conformity assessments, and may withdraw non-compliant products from the market. Works alongside EFDA on product safety compliance.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliant products may be withdrawn from the market. The 2017 Proclamation updated Ethiopia's standards framework. Importers and manufacturers of cosmetics must demonstrate conformity with applicable ESI standards. The ESI is developing specific standards for cosmetics categories as Ethiopia's regulatory framework matures.

### ETH-07 Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation No 300/2002

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation No 300/2002
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Environmental Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical waste management, environmental impact, manufacturing compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2002
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs environmental compliance for cosmetic manufacturers in Ethiopia, including the management of chemical ingredients, manufacturing waste, and pollution control. Environmental permits may be required for manufacturing facilities. The EPA has powers to require environmental impact assessments and impose remediation obligations.
<b>Notes</b>	Environmental permits may be required for manufacturing. As Ethiopia's cosmetics manufacturing sector grows, environmental compliance is an increasing focus. The Proclamation works alongside EFDA licensing requirements for manufacturing premises. Cosmetic manufacturers using chemical ingredients face specific obligations under EPA regulations.

### ETH-08 Customs Proclamation No 859/2014

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs Proclamation No 859/2014
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ethiopian Customs Commission

<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Customs and Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, border clearance, counterfeit prevention
<b>Year / Version</b>	2014
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the border clearance of cosmetic imports into Ethiopia. Customs officers coordinate with EFDA to ensure imported cosmetics comply with registration requirements before release. Provides powers to detain and seize non-compliant or counterfeit cosmetic imports.
<b>Notes</b>	Coordinates with EFDA for clearance. Ethiopia's import customs process requires EFDA clearance for cosmetic products before customs release. The Proclamation works with EFDA's product registration framework to control the entry of non-compliant cosmetics. Ethiopia's Addis Ababa airport and Djibouti port are the primary entry points for cosmetic imports.

### ETH-09 Commercial Registration and Business Licensing Proclamation No 980/2016

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Commercial Registration and Business Licensing Proclamation No 980/2016
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Business Regulation Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Licensing Authorities
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Business registration, manufacturing and distribution licensing
<b>Year / Version</b>	2016
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Requires registration and licensing of all cosmetic manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers operating in Ethiopia. The Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration issues business licences. Non-compliance with registration and licensing requirements may result in business closure and criminal sanctions.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliance may lead to business closure. Business registration and licensing under the 2016 Proclamation is a prerequisite for EFDA product registration. Ethiopia has been streamlining its business licensing process as part of economic reform the process is less cumbersome than previously but still requires engagement with multiple authorities.

### ETH-10 Criminal Code of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Criminal Code of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Federal Police Commission / Public Prosecutor
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit products, fraud, adulterated cosmetics, public health offences
<b>Year / Version</b>	2004
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the criminal offences and penalty regime applicable to counterfeit, adulterated, or fraudulent cosmetic products. Economic and public health offences relating to the cosmetics sector including the manufacture or sale of adulterated or mislabelled products are prosecutable under the Criminal Code.
<b>Notes</b>	Applies alongside EFDA enforcement actions. Criminal prosecution of cosmetic offences is coordinated between EFDA, the Federal Police, and the Public Prosecutor. The most serious cases involving products containing hazardous ingredients or deliberate adulteration attract criminal referral from EFDA.

# Southern Africa

## South Africa · Mauritius

20 instruments across 2 jurisdictions

### Regional Overview

Southern Africa presents the most developed beauty regulatory landscape in the Index. South Africa the region's dominant economy and the continent's most sophisticated consumer market has a cosmetics regulatory framework that is among the most EU-aligned in Africa, anchored by dedicated cosmetics legislation, a product liability regime that is strict by global standards, and an advertising standards system that has produced some of the most technically detailed rulings on beauty marketing in the continent.

Mauritius, while a significantly smaller market, punches above its weight in regulatory sophistication. As an island economy with a strong trade orientation and close ties to European markets, Mauritius has developed a consumer protection and chemical management framework that is well-suited to the compliance requirements of imported cosmetics. The 2019 Consumer Protection Safety Requirements Regulations represent one of the more recently updated product safety instruments in the Southern Africa dataset.

The two jurisdictions share a common law heritage South Africa through its mixed Roman-Dutch and English common law tradition, Mauritius through its French civil law and English common law hybrid and both are members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), though SADC has not developed a harmonised cosmetics regulatory framework comparable to the EAC model in East Africa.

### Key Regional Features

#### South Africa: The EU-Aligned Standard

South Africa's Regulations Relating to Cosmetics R1469 (2010) are explicitly modelled on EU Cosmetics Regulation principles creating a regulatory environment that is broadly familiar to international brands. The Advertising Regulatory Board has produced detailed guidance on beauty marketing claims including skin lightening, anti-ageing, and hair care efficacy making South Africa the most developed advertising standards environment for cosmetics in the dataset. The Consumer Protection Act's strict product liability regime means manufacturers and importers of cosmetic products face liability for harm caused by unsafe goods regardless of fault.

#### Mauritius: Chemical Control and Trade Gateway

Mauritius's Dangerous Chemicals Control Act is one of the most directly relevant chemical ingredient compliance instruments in the Southern Africa dataset, with direct implications for formulation decisions by cosmetic manufacturers. Mauritius's position as a trade and financial services hub between Africa and Asia makes its customs and consumer protection frameworks relevant beyond the domestic market. The 2019 Industrial Property Act modernised IP protection infrastructure.

### Southern Africa at a Glance

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 54 of 1972</b>	National Department of Health	1972 (as amended)	Cosmetic safety, labelling, prohibited ingredients, manufacturing standards
<b>Regulations Relating to Cosmetics R1469</b>	Department of Health	2010	Ingredient restrictions, labelling requirements, prohibited substances

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008</b>	National Consumer Commission	2008	False advertising, product liability, consumer rights, misleading claims
<b>Competition Act 89 of 1998</b>	Competition Commission	1998	Anti-competitive conduct, distribution restrictions, market dominance
<b>Standards Act 8 of 2008</b>	South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)	2008	Quality standards, certification, conformity assessment
<b>Counterfeit Goods Act 37 of 1997</b>	Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), South African Police Service (SAPS)	1997	Counterfeit beauty products, seizure, market surveillance
<b>Trade Marks Act 194 of 1993</b>	Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC)	1993	Brand protection, trademark registration, anti-infringement
<b>Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964</b>	South African Revenue Service (SARS)	1964 (as amended)	Import control, border inspection, counterfeit prevention
<b>National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA)</b>	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	1998	Chemical handling, waste disposal, environmental compliance
<b>Advertising Regulatory Board (ARB) Code</b>	Advertising Regulatory Board (ARB)	Self-regulatory, current version 2018	Misleading cosmetic claims, efficacy representations, skin lightening advertising
<b>Consumer Protection Act</b>	Consumer Affairs Unit (CAU) Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection	1998 (as amended)	Misleading claims, product safety, consumer rights, advertising
<b>Consumer Protection (Safety Requirements) Regulations 2019</b>	Consumer Affairs Unit Ministry of Commerce	2019	Product safety standards, recall procedures, compliance obligations
<b>Food Act</b>	Ministry of Health and Wellness	1998 (as amended)	Manufacturing hygiene, production and storage conditions
<b>Dangerous Chemicals Control Act</b>	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change	2004	Chemical ingredients, hazardous substances, importation control
<b>Standards Act</b>	Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB)	2010	Product standards, conformity assessment, certification
<b>Competition Act</b>	Competition Commission of Mauritius	2007	Anti-competitive conduct, distribution practices
<b>Industrial Property Act</b>	Industrial Property Office Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade	2019	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Copyright Act</b>	Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage	2014	Packaging design, marketing materials, artistic works
<b>Customs Act</b>	Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA)	1988 (as amended)	Import control, counterfeit prevention, border enforcement

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Environment Protection Act</b>	Ministry of Environment	2002	Waste disposal, pollution control, manufacturing compliance

## South Africa

*South Africa's cosmetics regulatory framework is the most developed in the Southern Africa dataset and among the most EU-aligned in the continent. Dedicated cosmetics legislation, a strict consumer product liability regime, active competition enforcement, and the continent's most detailed beauty advertising standards system combine to create a regulatory environment of significant sophistication.*

10 instruments · Mixed common/civil law jurisdiction · SADC member

### ZAF-01 Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 54 of 1972

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 54 of 1972
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Department of Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Health Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Health Inspectors, National Prosecuting Authority, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic safety, labelling, prohibited ingredients, manufacturing standards
<b>Year / Version</b>	1972 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary legislation governing cosmetic products in South Africa. Regulates the manufacture, import, sale, and advertising of cosmetics. Empowers the Minister of Health to issue regulations governing the composition, labelling, and safety of cosmetic products. The Act defines 'cosmetic' broadly and covers personal care products intended for external application.
<b>Notes</b>	Regulates composition, labelling, and safety of cosmetics. The Act has been in force since 1972 and remains the cornerstone of South Africa's cosmetics regulatory framework. Amendment regulations have progressively updated its technical requirements. Works in conjunction with Regulations R1469 (2010) which set out specific technical requirements.

### ZAF-02 Regulations Relating to Cosmetics R1469

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Regulations Relating to Cosmetics R1469
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Department of Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Cosmetics Regulatory Guidelines
<b>Enforcement</b>	Health Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Ingredient restrictions, labelling requirements, prohibited substances
<b>Year / Version</b>	2010
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary technical regulations under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act. Sets out specific requirements for cosmetic product labelling, ingredient restrictions, and prohibited substances. Aligns closely with EU Cosmetics Regulation principles making South Africa one of the most EU-aligned cosmetics regulatory environments in Africa.
<b>Notes</b>	Aligns largely with EU cosmetic regulatory principles. R1469 is the most technically detailed cosmetics instrument in the South Africa dataset and the primary compliance reference for beauty product manufacturers and importers. The alignment with EU standards makes South Africa's requirements familiar to international brands.

**ZAF-03 Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Consumer Commission
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	National Consumer Tribunal, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	False advertising, product liability, consumer rights, misleading claims
<b>Year / Version</b>	2008
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides comprehensive consumer rights in cosmetic transactions, including the right to safe products, accurate information, and fair marketing. Introduces a strict product liability regime manufacturers and suppliers of cosmetic products are liable for harm caused by unsafe goods regardless of fault. Prohibits misleading marketing claims and false representations.
<b>Notes</b>	Introduces strict product liability regime and prohibits misleading marketing. The CPA is one of the most consumer-protective statutes in the Africa dataset. Beauty brands making efficacy claims particularly for skin lightening, anti-ageing, or hair growth products face significant exposure under the CPA's prohibition on false or misleading representations. The National Consumer Commission can investigate and refer matters to the National Consumer Tribunal.

**ZAF-04 Competition Act 89 of 1998**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Competition Act 89 of 1998
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Competition Commission
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Tribunal, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive conduct, distribution restrictions, market dominance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1998
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits anti-competitive conduct in the cosmetics distribution and retail sector including cartel behaviour, abuse of dominant market position, and exclusionary distribution agreements. The Competition Commission investigates prohibited practices and refers cases to the Competition Tribunal. Both civil and criminal sanctions are available.
<b>Notes</b>	Prohibits cartels, abuse of dominance, and restrictive practices. South Africa has one of the most active competition enforcement regimes in Africa. The cosmetics sector has attracted Competition Commission attention particularly distribution arrangements and pricing conduct by large international brands. Exclusionary distribution agreements are a compliance risk.

**ZAF-05 Standards Act 8 of 2008**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Standards Act 8 of 2008
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Standardisation Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	SABS Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Quality standards, certification, conformity assessment
<b>Year / Version</b>	2008
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the SABS and its mandate for voluntary and compulsory standards for

	cosmetic products. The SABS may issue certification marks and develop technical standards for cosmetics. Compulsory standards, where designated, must be met before products may be sold.
<b>Notes</b>	May issue certification marks and technical standards. SABS has developed specific standards for personal care and cosmetic products. Voluntary standards are widely referenced by the industry for quality assurance purposes. The SABS mark is recognised in export markets and provides commercial credibility.

### ZAF-06 Counterfeit Goods Act 37 of 1997

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Counterfeit Goods Act 37 of 1997
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), South African Police Service (SAPS)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Anti-Counterfeit Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	SAPS, Customs, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit beauty products, seizure, market surveillance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1997
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the seizure and destruction of counterfeit cosmetics. Applies to the manufacture, importation, and distribution of cosmetic products that infringe registered trademarks or intellectual property rights. SAPS and customs authorities have powers to seize counterfeit goods.
<b>Notes</b>	Protects trademark owners and consumers. South Africa's Counterfeit Goods Act is one of the most effective IP enforcement instruments in the Southern Africa dataset. SAPS can act on complaint from rights holders. Works alongside CIPC trademark registration and customs border enforcement. Counterfeit beauty products particularly skincare and haircare are a significant market challenge.

### ZAF-07 Trade Marks Act 194 of 1993

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Trade Marks Act 194 of 1993
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Brand protection, trademark registration, anti-infringement
<b>Year / Version</b>	1993
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the registration and protection of trademarks for cosmetic brand names, logos, and packaging. CIPC administers the trademark registry. Registered trademark owners may initiate civil proceedings for infringement, and criminal prosecution is available for deliberate infringement.
<b>Notes</b>	Enables civil enforcement against infringement. CIPC is a well-resourced national IP registry by African standards. Trademark registration in South Africa is a prerequisite for enforcement under the Counterfeit Goods Act. Registration turnaround has improved with digitisation of the CIPC process.

### ZAF-08 Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	South African Revenue Service (SARS)

<b>Policy Framework</b>	Customs and Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, border inspection, counterfeit prevention
<b>Year / Version</b>	1964 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the border inspection and clearance of cosmetic imports. Customs officers have powers to detain and seize cosmetic imports that do not comply with applicable regulations or that infringe registered trademarks. Prevents entry of prohibited or counterfeit cosmetic goods.
<b>Notes</b>	Prevents entry of prohibited or counterfeit goods. SARS customs works alongside SAPS and CIPC on counterfeit cosmetic enforcement at the border. South Africa's ports of entry particularly Durban harbour and OR Tambo International Airport are major entry points for cosmetic imports.

### ZAF-09 National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Environmental Management Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical handling, waste disposal, environmental compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1998
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs environmental compliance for cosmetic manufacturers in South Africa, including the handling, storage, and disposal of chemical ingredients and manufacturing waste. Environmental impact assessments may be required for manufacturing facilities. NEMA provides the framework for environmental authorisations and compliance.
<b>Notes</b>	Requires environmental impact assessments where applicable. South Africa has one of the most developed environmental regulatory frameworks in Africa. Cosmetic manufacturers particularly those working with chemical ingredients or at scale face significant NEMA compliance obligations. Environmental authorisations for manufacturing facilities are required in certain circumstances.

### ZAF-10 Advertising Regulatory Board (ARB) Code

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Advertising Regulatory Board (ARB) Code
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Advertising Regulatory Board (ARB)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Advertising Code of Practice
<b>Enforcement</b>	ARB Directorate, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading cosmetic claims, efficacy representations, skin lightening advertising
<b>Year / Version</b>	Self-regulatory, current version 2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs marketing claims for cosmetic products including efficacy statements, health representations, before-and-after imagery, and skin lightening claims. The ARB operates a complaints-based adjudication system. Advertisers who breach the Code may be required to withdraw or amend campaigns.
<b>Notes</b>	Governs marketing claims including efficacy and safety. The ARB is one of the most active advertising standards bodies in the Africa dataset. It has issued specific rulings on skin lightening and bleaching product advertising, anti-ageing claims, and hair care efficacy statements. ARB rulings are widely respected and media houses typically

comply with withdrawal directions. The most robust beauty advertising standards framework in the dataset.

## Mauritius

*Mauritius combines a compact domestic market with a well-developed trade and financial services infrastructure. The Consumer Protection Act and the 2019 Safety Requirements Regulations form the primary cosmetics compliance framework. The Dangerous Chemicals Control Act is the most directly relevant ingredient compliance instrument in the Southern Africa dataset.*

10 instruments · Mixed civil/common law jurisdiction · SADC member

### MUS-01 Consumer Protection Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Consumer Protection Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Consumer Affairs Unit (CAU) Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Consumer Affairs Unit Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading claims, product safety, consumer rights, advertising
<b>Year / Version</b>	1998 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary consumer protection instrument governing the sale, distribution, and advertising of cosmetic products in Mauritius. Prohibits misleading claims, unsafe products, and deceptive commercial practices. The CAU has powers to conduct inspections, seize non-compliant products, and initiate prosecution.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative penalties and prosecution available. The Consumer Protection Act is the primary enforcement instrument for beauty product regulation in Mauritius in the absence of a dedicated cosmetics statute. The CAU is the most active enforcement body for cosmetics compliance. Mauritius's relatively small market and high level of imports means consumer protection enforcement is focused on imported product safety and labelling.

### MUS-02 Consumer Protection (Safety Requirements) Regulations 2019

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Consumer Protection (Safety Requirements) Regulations 2019
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Consumer Affairs Unit Ministry of Commerce
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Product Safety Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Consumer Affairs Unit
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product safety standards, recall procedures, compliance obligations
<b>Year / Version</b>	2019
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes specific safety compliance requirements for consumer goods including cosmetics. Provides the regulatory basis for product recalls of non-compliant cosmetics. Manufacturers, importers, and distributors must ensure cosmetic products meet applicable safety standards before market entry.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliant goods may be recalled. The 2019 Regulations updated the product safety framework and introduced a more structured recall mechanism. They represent the most recently enacted cosmetics-relevant instrument in the Mauritius dataset and signal regulatory modernisation in the product safety space.

### MUS-03 Food Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Food Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health and Wellness
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Public Health Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Public Health Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing hygiene, production and storage conditions
<b>Year / Version</b>	1998 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Regulates the sanitary conditions of premises used for cosmetic production and storage in Mauritius. Relevant where cosmetic products overlap with health claims or are manufactured alongside food products. Public health inspectors may conduct inspections and require remediation of non-compliant facilities.
<b>Notes</b>	Relevant where cosmetics overlap with health claims. The Food Act is applied to cosmetics where products make health-adjacent claims or are manufactured in shared facilities. Works alongside the Consumer Protection Act on product safety compliance.

### MUS-04 Dangerous Chemicals Control Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Dangerous Chemicals Control Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Chemicals Management Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical ingredients, hazardous substances, importation control
<b>Year / Version</b>	2004
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the importation, manufacture, and use of chemical substances in cosmetic products. Cosmetic manufacturers and importers must comply with restrictions on hazardous chemical ingredients. The Act is particularly relevant for products containing active chemical ingredients such as skin-lightening agents, hair relaxers, and chemical preservatives.
<b>Notes</b>	Important for ingredient compliance. The Dangerous Chemicals Control Act is one of the most directly relevant instruments in the Mauritius dataset for cosmetic formulation compliance. Products containing restricted chemical substances face import controls. Ingredient safety assessment against the Act's requirements is essential for cosmetic importers.

### MUS-05 Standards Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Standards Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Infrastructure Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	MSB Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, conformity assessment, certification
<b>Year / Version</b>	2010
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the Mauritius Standards Bureau and its mandate for standardisation and conformity assessment of cosmetic products. The MSB develops and applies product standards for cosmetics. Certification may be required for certain product categories before market entry.
<b>Notes</b>	Certification may be required for certain products. The MSB works alongside the

Consumer Affairs Unit on cosmetics compliance. Mauritius aligns with international standards including ISO and European standards given its trade relationships and export-oriented economy.

### MUS-06 Competition Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Competition Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Competition Commission of Mauritius
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Commission, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive conduct, distribution practices
<b>Year / Version</b>	2007
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits anti-competitive conduct in the cosmetics distribution and retail sector. The Competition Commission may investigate restrictive trade agreements, abuse of dominant position, and exclusionary practices affecting the beauty market. Administrative and judicial remedies are available.
<b>Notes</b>	Applies across supply chain. Mauritius's Competition Commission is a relatively active regulator for the size of the market. Relevant for international beauty brands entering Mauritius through exclusive distribution arrangements.

### MUS-07 Industrial Property Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Industrial Property Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Industrial Property Office Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Supreme Court
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Year / Version</b>	2019
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The 2019 Act provides for the registration and protection of trademarks and industrial designs for cosmetic brand names, packaging, and formulations. Civil remedies are available for infringement of registered rights. The Supreme Court has jurisdiction over IP disputes.
<b>Notes</b>	Civil remedies available for infringement. The 2019 Industrial Property Act updated Mauritius's IP framework. The Industrial Property Office administers trademark and design registration. Mauritius is a member of ARIPO but primarily relies on its national IP registry for cosmetics brand protection.

### MUS-08 Copyright Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Copyright Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Creative Industry Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Packaging design, marketing materials, artistic works
<b>Year / Version</b>	2014

<b>Scope / Description</b>	Protects original artistic works used in cosmetics branding including packaging design, product illustrations, and promotional materials. Protection is automatic on creation. Civil enforcement through the courts is available for copyright infringement.
<b>Notes</b>	Enforcement through civil action. The 2014 Copyright Act modernised Mauritius's intellectual property framework for creative works. Civil remedies including injunctions and damages are available. Mauritius's connection to the French legal tradition is reflected in its strong moral rights provisions.

### MUS-09 Customs Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Customs Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, counterfeit prevention, border enforcement
<b>Year / Version</b>	1988 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the border inspection and clearance of cosmetic imports into Mauritius. Customs officers coordinate with the Consumer Affairs Unit to ensure imported cosmetics comply with applicable safety and labelling requirements. Prevents entry of non-compliant or counterfeit cosmetic goods.
<b>Notes</b>	Coordinates with Consumer Affairs Unit. Mauritius's position as a trade hub between Africa and Asia makes customs enforcement particularly relevant for cosmetic imports. The MRA customs division works with the CAU on product compliance verification.

### MUS-10 Environment Protection Act

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Environment Protection Act
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Environment
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Environmental Management Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Waste disposal, pollution control, manufacturing compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2002
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs environmental compliance for cosmetic manufacturing operations in Mauritius, including waste disposal, chemical storage, and pollution control. Environmental Impact Assessments may be required for cosmetic manufacturing facilities. The Act applies to manufacturing operations with significant environmental footprint.
<b>Notes</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment may be required for manufacturing facilities. Mauritius has significant environmental standards given its island geography and tourism economy. Cosmetic manufacturers particularly those with chemical ingredient handling operations face EIA obligations.

# North Africa

## Morocco · Egypt · Tunisia

30 instruments across 3 jurisdictions

## Regional Overview

North Africa is the most EU-proximate sub-region in the Index, and this proximity shapes its regulatory architecture in distinctive ways. Morocco, Egypt, and Tunisia have all developed cosmetics frameworks with varying degrees of alignment to EU Cosmetics Regulation principles driven by trade relationships, association agreements, and the significant presence of European beauty brands in their markets. North Africa is also the sub-region most directly affected by the EU supply chain due diligence legislation that is reshaping compliance requirements for African manufacturers exporting to European brands.

The three jurisdictions share a civil law tradition inherited from French legal influence, with Arabic as the primary legislative language (alongside French in Morocco and Tunisia). All three regulate cosmetics through a pharmaceutical gateway model the Ministry of Health is the primary regulatory authority in each case, and cosmetics are categorised as a regulated health product rather than a consumer good. This creates the compliance complexity of the pharmaceutical boundary but also a relatively structured and professionally staffed regulatory architecture.

Morocco occupies a distinctive position as Africa's most significant cosmetics manufacturer and exporter. Moroccan argan oil, cosmetic ingredients, and personal care formulations are exported globally, and the country's regulatory framework reflects this dual role as both an import market and an export economy. The 2015 Cosmetic Products Decree's mandatory Product Information File requirement aligns Morocco closely with EU practice and provides a baseline for export compliance.

Egypt, with the largest population in North Africa and one of the continent's most dynamic consumer markets, is home to the most recently established primary cosmetics regulatory authority in the sub-region the Egyptian Drug Authority, established by Law No 151 of 2019. Tunisia, with its long tradition of garment manufacturing and EU association agreement, has a cosmetics regulatory framework shaped by proximity to European standards and the compliance requirements of its export-oriented industry.

## Key Regional Features

### The Pharmaceutical Gateway Model

All three North African jurisdictions regulate cosmetics through health ministries under pharmaceutical frameworks. This creates a characteristic compliance pattern: products must navigate health ministry approval processes designed primarily for medicines, and the boundary between cosmetics and pharmaceutical products is a recurring compliance challenge. Products with active ingredients particularly those making health-adjacent claims around skin treatment, hair growth, or anti-ageing are particularly exposed to reclassification risk.

### EU Proximity and Supply Chain Exposure

Morocco, Tunisia, and Egypt together account for a significant share of African cosmetics exports to Europe. EU supply chain due diligence requirements including the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive and the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation are creating new compliance obligations for North African manufacturers supplying European brands. This is the sub-region where the sustainability gap identified in the Key Findings is most immediately commercially significant.

### Morocco: PIF and EU Alignment

The 2015 Cosmetics Decree's Product Information File requirement mandating a documented safety assessment for each product is the most technically demanding cosmetics compliance requirement in the North Africa dataset, and one of the most EU-aligned in the entire Index. Morocco's OMPIC IP registry and its active border measures for counterfeit goods provide a relatively robust IP protection environment for beauty brands.

### Egypt: Scale and Modernisation

Egypt's 2019 EDA establishment law, 2020 Customs Law, and 2018 Consumer Protection Law represent a coordinated legislative modernisation comparable to Rwanda's 2018 legislative update. The EDA's mandatory registration system and post-market surveillance powers make Egypt's primary regulatory framework one of the more robust in North Africa.

## North Africa at a Glance

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Law No 17-04 on the Code of Medicines and Pharmacy</b>	Ministry of Health and Social Protection	2006	Cosmetic safety, manufacturing authorisation, import control, primary regulatory framework
<b>Decree No 2-14-841 Relating to Cosmetic Products</b>	Ministry of Health	2015	Product notification, ingredient restrictions, labelling, safety assessment
<b>Law No 28-07 on Food Safety</b>	National Office for Food Safety (ONSSA)	2008	Manufacturing hygiene, sanitary standards, production conditions
<b>Law No 31-08 on Consumer Protection</b>	Ministry of Industry and Trade	2011	Misleading advertising, product liability, consumer rights
<b>Law No 104-12 on Freedom of Prices and Competition</b>	Competition Council	2014	Anti-competitive conduct, pricing practices, distribution restrictions
<b>Law No 17-97 on Protection of Industrial Property (as amended by Law No 23-13)</b>	Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC)	1997 (amended 2014)	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Customs and Indirect Taxes Code</b>	Administration of Customs and Indirect Taxes	1977 (as amended)	Import control, counterfeit prevention, product clearance
<b>Law No 77-15 Prohibiting Plastic Bags</b>	Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development	2015	Packaging compliance, plastic material restrictions
<b>Framework Law No 99-12 on National Charter for Environment and Sustainable Development</b>	Ministry of Environment	2014	Chemical waste, pollution control, environmental compliance
<b>Law No 12-06 on Standardisation Institut Marocain de Normalisation (IMANOR)</b>	Institut Marocain de Normalisation (IMANOR) Ministry of Industry	2011	Product standards, conformity assessment, quality certification
<b>Law No 151 of 2019 on the Establishment of the Egyptian Drug Authority</b>	Egyptian Drug Authority (EDA)	2019	Cosmetic registration, safety, labelling, manufacturing authorisation
<b>Ministerial Decree No 991 Executive Regulations of Cosmetics</b>	Egyptian Drug Authority (EDA)	2015	Product notification, ingredient control, labelling requirements, technical documentation
<b>Consumer Protection Law No 181 of 2018</b>	Consumer Protection Agency	2018	Misleading advertising, product liability, consumer rights
<b>Law No 3 of 2005 on Protection of Competition and Prohibition of Monopolistic Practices</b>	Egyptian Competition Authority (ECA)	2005	Anti-competitive conduct, pricing practices, market dominance
<b>Law No 82 of 2002 on Intellectual Property Rights</b>	Egyptian Patent Office Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade	2002	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Law No 118 of 1975 on Import and Export Regulation</b>	General Organization for Export and Import Control (GOEIC)	1975 (as amended)	Import licensing, compliance certificates, product clearance
<b>Customs Law No 207 of 2020</b>	Egyptian Customs Authority	2020	Border enforcement, counterfeit prevention, import control
<b>Environmental Law No 4 of 1994 (as amended)</b>	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)	1994 (as amended)	Chemical management, hazardous substances, manufacturing compliance
<b>Industrial Licensing Law No 15 of 2017</b>	General Authority for Industrial Development (GAID)	2017	Manufacturing facility licensing
<b>Penal Code (Law No 58 of 1937 as amended)</b>	Public Prosecution	1937 (as amended)	Fraud, counterfeit cosmetics, public health offences
<b>Law No 92-117 on Consumer Protection</b>	Ministry of Trade and Export Development / Directorate General for Competition and Economic Investigations	1992 (as amended)	Misleading claims, product safety, labelling, consumer rights
<b>Law No 73-55 on Organisation of Health Professions and Pharmaceutical Activities</b>	Ministry of Health	1973 (as amended)	Health-related product control, pharmaceutical framework coverage
<b>Ministerial Decree on Cosmetic Products</b>	Ministry of Health	Various amendments, notably post-2000	Product notification, ingredient control, labelling, safety documentation
<b>Law No 2009-69 on Trade Distribution</b>	Ministry of Trade	2009	Commercial distribution practices, retail and wholesale trade
<b>Competition and Prices Law No 2015-36</b>	Competition Council	2015	Anti-competitive conduct, pricing practices
<b>Law No 2001-36 on Protection of Industrial Property</b>	National Institute for Standardisation and Industrial Property (INNORPI)	2001	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Customs Code</b>	Directorate General of Customs	2008 (consolidated)	Import control, counterfeit prevention, border enforcement
<b>Law No 94-41 on Standardisation and Quality</b>	National Institute for Standardisation and Industrial Property (INNORPI)	1994	Product standards, conformity assessment, certification
<b>Environmental Protection Law No 88-91</b>	National Environmental Protection Agency (ANPE)	1988 (as amended)	Chemical waste, pollution control, manufacturing compliance
<b>Penal Code</b>	Public Prosecutor	1913 (as amended)	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products

## Morocco

Morocco combines a pharmaceutical-led regulatory framework with EU-aligned technical requirements through the 2015 Cosmetic Products Decree. As Africa's most significant cosmetics exporter, Morocco's regulatory environment reflects both import market compliance demands and the export compliance needs of its cosmetics manufacturing sector. The IMANOR standards framework completes Morocco's quality infrastructure.

10 instruments · Civil law jurisdiction · OAPI non-member · EU Association Agreement

### MAR-01 Law No 17-04 on the Code of Medicines and Pharmacy

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 17-04 on the Code of Medicines and Pharmacy
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health and Social Protection
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Regulatory Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Pharmaceutical Inspectors, Public Prosecutor, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic safety, manufacturing authorisation, import control, primary regulatory framework
<b>Year / Version</b>	2006
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary legislative framework governing cosmetic products in Morocco. Regulates the manufacture, import, export, distribution, and sale of cosmetics within the broader pharmaceutical and health product framework. Establishes the Ministry of Health as the primary regulatory authority and provides the basis for the 2015 Cosmetic Products Decree.
<b>Notes</b>	Primary cosmetics statute in Morocco. Morocco's pharmaceutical-led cosmetics regulatory model positions cosmetics as a regulated category within the medicines and pharmacy framework. This creates the compliance complexity of the pharmaceutical gateway but also provides a relatively developed regulatory architecture compared to peers. The 2015 Decree operationalises the requirements of this Law.

### MAR-02 Decree No 2-14-841 Relating to Cosmetic Products

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Decree No 2-14-841 Relating to Cosmetic Products
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Cosmetics Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Health Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product notification, ingredient restrictions, labelling, safety assessment
<b>Year / Version</b>	2015
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary technical regulation governing cosmetic products in Morocco. Establishes pre-market notification requirements, mandatory safety assessments, product information file (PIF) requirements, and post-market surveillance obligations. Aligns with EU Cosmetics Regulation principles, making Morocco one of the most EU-aligned cosmetics regulatory environments in North Africa.
<b>Notes</b>	Mandatory safety assessment and product information file (PIF) required. The 2015 Decree is the most detailed cosmetics-specific instrument in the Morocco dataset and the primary compliance reference for beauty product manufacturers and importers. The PIF requirement mandating a documented safety assessment for each product is a significant compliance step that aligns Morocco with EU practice.

**MAR-03 Law No 28-07 on Food Safety**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 28-07 on Food Safety
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Office for Food Safety (ONSSA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Health and Safety Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	ONSSA Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing hygiene, sanitary standards, production conditions
<b>Year / Version</b>	2008
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the sanitary control of production and storage facilities for cosmetic products where they intersect with food safety or public health concerns. ONSSA inspectors may conduct inspections of cosmetic manufacturing premises and require remediation of non-compliant facilities.
<b>Notes</b>	Applies where products intersect with hygiene and public health. Most directly relevant to cosmetic manufacturers with shared production facilities or products making health-adjacent claims. Works alongside Ministry of Health oversight of cosmetics manufacturing.

**MAR-04 Law No 31-08 on Consumer Protection**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 31-08 on Consumer Protection
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Industry and Trade
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Consumer Protection Authorities, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading advertising, product liability, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	2011
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides consumer rights in cosmetic sales and marketing, including the right to accurate product information and protection from misleading claims. Prohibits deceptive advertising, false efficacy claims, and the sale of unsafe cosmetic products. Civil and administrative sanctions are available.
<b>Notes</b>	Civil and administrative sanctions available. The Consumer Protection Law is particularly relevant for beauty brands making skin lightening, anti-ageing, or hair care efficacy claims in Moroccan advertising. Works alongside Ministry of Health oversight of cosmetics labelling.

**MAR-05 Law No 104-12 on Freedom of Prices and Competition**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 104-12 on Freedom of Prices and Competition
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Competition Council
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Council, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive conduct, pricing practices, distribution restrictions
<b>Year / Version</b>	2014
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs distribution and pricing practices in the cosmetics sector. Prohibits price-fixing, abuse of dominant market position, and restrictive distribution agreements affecting the beauty market. The Competition Council may investigate and impose administrative fines for anti-competitive conduct.

<b>Notes</b>	Administrative fines may be imposed. Morocco's Competition Council has been increasingly active. Relevant for international beauty brands entering Morocco through exclusive distribution arrangements. Price monitoring in the cosmetics sector is within the Council's mandate.
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### MAR-06 Law No 17-97 on Protection of Industrial Property (as amended by Law No 23-13)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 17-97 on Protection of Industrial Property (as amended by Law No 23-13)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Year / Version</b>	1997 (amended 2014)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the registration and protection of trademarks and industrial designs for cosmetic brand names, packaging, and formulations. OMPIC administers the trademark and industrial design registry. Border measures are available for counterfeit cosmetic imports through coordination with customs.
<b>Notes</b>	Border measures available for counterfeit goods. OMPIC is a well-resourced IP registry by African standards and offers an online registration platform. Morocco's position as a major cosmetics manufacturer and exporter to European markets makes trademark protection particularly commercially significant. Coordination with customs enables border seizures of counterfeit cosmetics.

### MAR-07 Customs and Indirect Taxes Code

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs and Indirect Taxes Code
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Administration of Customs and Indirect Taxes
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Customs Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, counterfeit prevention, product clearance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1977 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the importation of cosmetic products into Morocco. Customs officers coordinate with the Ministry of Health to ensure imported cosmetics comply with notification requirements and applicable standards. Provides powers to detain and seize counterfeit or non-compliant cosmetic imports at the border.
<b>Notes</b>	Coordinates with Ministry of Health. Morocco's port of Casablanca is a major entry point for cosmetic imports to the Maghreb region. Customs and Ministry of Health conduct coordinated enforcement operations targeting non-compliant cosmetic imports. Border measures for IP infringement are available through OMPIC coordination.

### MAR-08 Law No 77-15 Prohibiting Plastic Bags

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 77-15 Prohibiting Plastic Bags
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Environmental Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors

<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Packaging compliance, plastic material restrictions
<b>Year / Version</b>	2015
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits the manufacture, import, export, and use of plastic bags, with implications for cosmetic product packaging. Cosmetic brands must comply with packaging material restrictions when selling in Morocco. Relevant for product packaging compliance and reformulation of packaging materials.
<b>Notes</b>	Relevant for product packaging compliance. Morocco's plastic bag prohibition is among the more stringent in the Africa dataset and has direct implications for cosmetic packaging design. Beauty brands selling in Morocco must ensure packaging materials comply with the prohibition.

### **MAR-09 Framework Law No 99-12 on National Charter for Environment and Sustainable Development**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Framework Law No 99-12 on National Charter for Environment and Sustainable Development
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Environment
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Environmental Management Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Authorities
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical waste, pollution control, environmental compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2014
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the national framework for environmental protection and sustainable development, with implications for cosmetic manufacturing operations involving chemical ingredients. Environmental impact assessments may be required for manufacturing facilities with significant environmental footprint.
<b>Notes</b>	May require environmental impact assessment. The Framework Law provides the constitutional basis for Morocco's environmental regulations. Works alongside sector-specific environmental regulations for manufacturing. Morocco has ambitious sustainability commitments that are increasingly reflected in regulatory requirements.

### **MAR-10 Law No 12-06 on Standardisation Institut Marocain de Normalisation (IMANOR)**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 12-06 on Standardisation Institut Marocain de Normalisation (IMANOR)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Institut Marocain de Normalisation (IMANOR) Ministry of Industry
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Infrastructure Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	IMANOR, Ministry of Industry
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, conformity assessment, quality certification
<b>Year / Version</b>	2011
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the development and application of Moroccan standards (NM standards) including standards specifically developed for cosmetic products. IMANOR issues NM standards for cosmetics aligned with ISO and EU standards, and provides conformity assessment and certification services. Certification may be required for certain cosmetic product categories entering the Moroccan market.
<b>Notes</b>	IMANOR has issued specific NM standards for cosmetic products aligned with ISO and EU benchmarks. This is the suggested 10th instrument completing the Morocco dataset. The standardisation framework is a key component of Morocco's quality infrastructure and is particularly relevant for manufacturers exporting to European markets.

## Egypt

*Egypt's 2019 establishment of the Egyptian Drug Authority as the primary cosmetics regulator represents a significant modernisation of its regulatory framework. With the largest population in North Africa and one of the continent's most dynamic consumer markets, Egypt's regulatory environment is increasingly sophisticated. The 2018 Consumer Protection Law and 2020 Customs Law reflect continued legislative development.*

10 instruments · Civil law jurisdiction · Arab League member

### EGY-01 Law No 151 of 2019 on the Establishment of the Egyptian Drug Authority

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 151 of 2019 on the Establishment of the Egyptian Drug Authority
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Egyptian Drug Authority (EDA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Regulatory Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	EDA Inspectors, Public Prosecution, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic registration, safety, labelling, manufacturing authorisation
<b>Year / Version</b>	2019
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the EDA as the primary competent authority for the regulation, control, and oversight of cosmetic products in Egypt. Requires mandatory product registration before manufacture, importation, or sale. The EDA conducts pre-market review, post-market surveillance, and enforcement, and has powers to seize and destroy non-compliant goods.
<b>Notes</b>	Establishes EDA as the competent authority for regulation and control of cosmetics. The 2019 Law is among the most recently enacted primary cosmetics statutes in the North Africa dataset and represents a significant modernisation of Egypt's cosmetics regulatory architecture. EDA is directly analogous to NAFDAC (Nigeria) and Ethiopia's EFDA as a dedicated food and drug authority with explicit cosmetics oversight.

### EGY-02 Ministerial Decree No 991 Executive Regulations of Cosmetics

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Ministerial Decree No 991 Executive Regulations of Cosmetics
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Egyptian Drug Authority (EDA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Cosmetics Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	EDA Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product notification, ingredient control, labelling requirements, technical documentation
<b>Year / Version</b>	2015
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Sets out the detailed technical requirements for cosmetic products in Egypt, including pre-market authorisation procedures, post-market surveillance obligations, ingredient control, and labelling requirements. The primary compliance reference for cosmetic product manufacturers and importers operating in Egypt.
<b>Notes</b>	Sets detailed technical requirements for cosmetic products. The 2015 Decree pre-dates the 2019 EDA law but remains the operative technical regulation for cosmetics. EDA has been developing updated technical guidance aligned with international standards. Egypt's cosmetics market is one of the largest in North Africa and attracts significant international brand investment.

**EGY-03 Consumer Protection Law No 181 of 2018**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Consumer Protection Law No 181 of 2018
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Consumer Protection Agency
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Consumer Protection Agency, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading advertising, product liability, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides comprehensive consumer rights in cosmetics marketing and retail, including protection from misleading claims, unsafe products, and deceptive commercial practices. The Consumer Protection Agency has powers to investigate complaints, impose administrative penalties, and initiate court proceedings. The 2018 Law updated Egypt's consumer protection framework significantly.
<b>Notes</b>	Prohibits deceptive claims and unsafe products. The 2018 Consumer Protection Law is one of the most recently enacted consumer protection instruments in the North Africa dataset. It introduces strengthened product liability provisions and broader powers for the Consumer Protection Agency. Particularly relevant for beauty brands making efficacy or safety claims in Egyptian advertising.

**EGY-04 Law No 3 of 2005 on Protection of Competition and Prohibition of Monopolistic Practices**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 3 of 2005 on Protection of Competition and Prohibition of Monopolistic Practices
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Egyptian Competition Authority (ECA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Authority, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive conduct, pricing practices, market dominance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2005
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs distribution and pricing practices in the cosmetics sector. Prohibits abuse of dominant market position, price-fixing, and restrictive distribution agreements affecting the beauty market. The ECA may investigate and impose sanctions for anti-competitive conduct.
<b>Notes</b>	Prohibits abuse of dominance and restrictive agreements. The ECA has been building enforcement capacity and is increasingly active in the consumer goods sector. Egypt's large cosmetics market and the presence of major international brands make competition law compliance particularly relevant.

**EGY-05 Law No 82 of 2002 on Intellectual Property Rights**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 82 of 2002 on Intellectual Property Rights
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Egyptian Patent Office Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Economic Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Year / Version</b>	2002
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the registration and protection of trademarks, industrial designs, and patents for cosmetic brand names, packaging, and formulations. The Egyptian Patent

	Office administers IP registration. Economic Courts have jurisdiction over IP disputes. Both civil and criminal enforcement is available.
<b>Notes</b>	Provides registration and enforcement of IP rights. Egypt's IP framework is administered through dedicated Economic Courts a feature that distinguishes it from most other jurisdictions in the dataset. Economic Courts provide specialised expertise in IP matters. Registration of trademarks and industrial designs is available through the Egyptian Patent Office.

### EGY-06 Law No 118 of 1975 on Import and Export Regulation

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 118 of 1975 on Import and Export Regulation
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	General Organization for Export and Import Control (GOEIC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Trade and Import Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Authority
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import licensing, compliance certificates, product clearance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1975 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the licensing and control of cosmetic imports into Egypt. Requires compliance certificates and inspection before cosmetic products are released from customs. The GOEIC coordinates with EDA to verify product registration compliance before import clearance.
<b>Notes</b>	Requires compliance certificates and inspection before release. The import licensing framework is a significant compliance step for cosmetic importers. GOEIC and EDA coordination creates a two-stage clearance process product registration with EDA must be completed before import clearance through GOEIC is possible.

### EGY-07 Customs Law No 207 of 2020

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs Law No 207 of 2020
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Egyptian Customs Authority
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Customs Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Border enforcement, counterfeit prevention, import control
<b>Year / Version</b>	2020
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The 2020 Customs Law modernised Egypt's customs framework and governs the importation and exportation of cosmetics. Customs officers have powers to inspect, detain, and seize cosmetic imports that do not comply with EDA registration requirements or applicable standards. Prevents entry of non-compliant or counterfeit cosmetic goods.
<b>Notes</b>	Prevents entry of non-compliant or counterfeit goods. The 2020 Customs Law is the most recently enacted customs instrument in the North Africa dataset, reflecting a modernisation of Egypt's trade compliance framework. Works alongside EDA and GOEIC on cosmetics import control.

### EGY-08 Environmental Law No 4 of 1994 (as amended)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Environmental Law No 4 of 1994 (as amended)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Environmental Policy

<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical management, hazardous substances, manufacturing compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1994 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs environmental compliance for cosmetic manufacturers in Egypt, including the management of chemical ingredients, hazardous substances, and manufacturing waste. Regulates industrial emissions and environmental impact. Environmental permits may be required for cosmetic manufacturing facilities.
<b>Notes</b>	Regulates hazardous substances and industrial emissions. Egypt's cosmetics manufacturing sector is significant the country is a major regional producer and exporter. Environmental compliance is an increasing focus as Egypt aligns with international environmental standards. Chemical ingredient management obligations are directly relevant to cosmetic formulators.

### EGY-09 Industrial Licensing Law No 15 of 2017

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Industrial Licensing Law No 15 of 2017
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	General Authority for Industrial Development (GAID)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Industrial Policy Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Industrial Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing facility licensing
<b>Year / Version</b>	2017
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the licensing of cosmetic manufacturing facilities in Egypt. The 2017 Law simplified the industrial licensing process, reducing bureaucratic complexity for cosmetics manufacturers. Manufacturing facilities must obtain GAID licences before commencing production.
<b>Notes</b>	Simplifies industrial licensing procedures. The 2017 reform was intended to improve Egypt's business environment for manufacturers. Cosmetic manufacturing facilities must obtain industrial licences alongside EDA product registration. The streamlined process reduces barriers to domestic cosmetics manufacturing.

### EGY-10 Penal Code (Law No 58 of 1937 as amended)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Penal Code (Law No 58 of 1937 as amended)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Public Prosecution
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Fraud, counterfeit cosmetics, public health offences
<b>Year / Version</b>	1937 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes criminal offences and penalties for counterfeit, adulterated, or fraudulent cosmetic products. Public health offences and economic crimes relating to the beauty sector are prosecutable under the Penal Code. Works alongside EDA enforcement for serious cosmetics violations.
<b>Notes</b>	Establishes offences affecting public health and trade integrity. Criminal prosecution for cosmetics offences is coordinated between EDA, the police, and the Public Prosecution. The most serious cases involving hazardous ingredients or deliberate adulteration attract criminal referral from EDA.

## Tunisia

*Tunisia's cosmetics regulatory framework is shaped by its EU association agreement and the compliance requirements of its export-oriented economy. The pharmaceutical gateway model under the Ministry of Health, combined with the dedicated Ministerial Decree on Cosmetics, provides the primary compliance framework. INNORPI's unique dual role as both standards authority and IP registry is a distinctive institutional feature.*

10 instruments · Civil law jurisdiction · EU Association Agreement

### TUN-01 Law No 92-117 on Consumer Protection

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 92-117 on Consumer Protection
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade and Export Development / Directorate General for Competition and Economic Investigations
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Directorate General for Competition and Economic Investigations, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading claims, product safety, labelling, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	1992 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary consumer protection instrument governing the sale, marketing, and distribution of cosmetic products in Tunisia. Prohibits misleading advertising, false claims, and the sale of unsafe cosmetic products. The Directorate General for Competition and Economic Investigations has enforcement powers. Administrative sanctions and judicial remedies are available.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative sanctions and judicial remedies available. Tunisia's Consumer Protection Law is among the earlier consumer protection statutes in the dataset and has been amended over time to keep pace with market developments. Particularly relevant for beauty brands making efficacy claims in Tunisian advertising.

### TUN-02 Law No 73-55 on Organisation of Health Professions and Pharmaceutical Activities

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 73-55 on Organisation of Health Professions and Pharmaceutical Activities
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Health Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Health Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Health-related product control, pharmaceutical framework coverage
<b>Year / Version</b>	1973 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary pharmaceutical framework legislation that provides the basis for cosmetics regulation in Tunisia. Establishes Ministry of Health oversight of products with health implications, including cosmetics. Applied alongside dedicated ministerial decrees on cosmetics. Creates the pharmaceutical gateway through which cosmetics are regulated.
<b>Notes</b>	Applied alongside ministerial decrees. Tunisia's pharmaceutical-led cosmetics regulatory model is typical of North Africa. The 1973 Law creates the legislative basis for ministry of health oversight of cosmetics. Works in conjunction with the dedicated Ministerial Decree on Cosmetic Products which sets out technical requirements.

**TUN-03 Ministerial Decree on Cosmetic Products**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Ministerial Decree on Cosmetic Products
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Cosmetics Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Health Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product notification, ingredient control, labelling, safety documentation
<b>Year / Version</b>	Various amendments, notably post-2000
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary technical regulation governing cosmetic products in Tunisia. Sets out requirements for the manufacture, importation, and sale of cosmetics including product notification, ingredient restrictions, labelling requirements, and safety documentation. Requires a safety assessment and technical documentation for each product.
<b>Notes</b>	Requires safety assessment and technical documentation. The Ministerial Decree is the primary compliance reference for cosmetic product manufacturers and importers in Tunisia. It has been updated through ministerial amendments to reflect evolving international standards. Tunisia's proximity to European markets and its garment manufacturing sector mean EU standard alignment is practically significant.

**TUN-04 Law No 2009-69 on Trade Distribution**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 2009-69 on Trade Distribution
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Trade Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Commercial distribution practices, retail and wholesale trade
<b>Year / Version</b>	2009
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs retail and wholesale trade in cosmetic products. Regulates commercial distribution practices, market access conditions, and trade conduct. Non-compliance with distribution regulations may result in administrative sanctions.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliance may lead to administrative sanctions. The Trade Distribution Law provides the regulatory framework for commercial distribution of cosmetics in Tunisia. Relevant for beauty brands establishing distribution networks in the Tunisian market.

**TUN-05 Competition and Prices Law No 2015-36**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Competition and Prices Law No 2015-36
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Competition Council
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Council, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive conduct, pricing practices
<b>Year / Version</b>	2015
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs market practices in the cosmetics sector. Prohibits anti-competitive conduct including price-fixing, abuse of dominant market position, and restrictive distribution agreements. The Competition Council may investigate and impose administrative fines for violations.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative fines applicable. The 2015 Law updated Tunisia's competition framework. The Competition Council has been building enforcement capacity.

	Relevant for international beauty brands entering Tunisia through exclusive distribution arrangements.
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### TUN-06 Law No 2001-36 on Protection of Industrial Property

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 2001-36 on Protection of Industrial Property
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Institute for Standardisation and Industrial Property (INNORPI)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand protection
<b>Year / Version</b>	2001
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the registration and protection of trademarks and industrial designs for cosmetic brand names, packaging, and formulations. INNORPI administers both the IP registry and the national standards body a distinctive combined institutional arrangement. Civil and criminal enforcement is available.
<b>Notes</b>	Civil and criminal remedies available. INNORPI's combined role as both IP registry and standards body is unique in the dataset. Tunisia is not an OAPI member and operates a national IP registry. Registration through INNORPI provides protection under Tunisian law.

### TUN-07 Customs Code

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs Code
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Directorate General of Customs
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Customs Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, counterfeit prevention, border enforcement
<b>Year / Version</b>	2008 (consolidated)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the border inspection and clearance of cosmetic imports into Tunisia. Customs officers coordinate with the Ministry of Health to ensure imported cosmetics comply with notification requirements and applicable standards. Prevents entry of counterfeit or non-compliant cosmetic goods at the border.
<b>Notes</b>	Coordinates with Ministry of Health. Tunisia's port of Tunis and border crossings with Algeria and Libya are significant entry points for cosmetic imports. The 2008 consolidated Customs Code streamlined Tunisia's customs framework.

### TUN-08 Law No 94-41 on Standardisation and Quality

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 94-41 on Standardisation and Quality
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Institute for Standardisation and Industrial Property (INNORPI)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Infrastructure Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Standards Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, conformity assessment, certification
<b>Year / Version</b>	1994
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the national standards framework and INNORPI's mandate for developing and enforcing product standards including those applicable to cosmetics. INNORPI

	may require conformity assessment and certification for certain cosmetic product categories. Works alongside Ministry of Health requirements.
<b>Notes</b>	Certification may be required for certain products. INNORPI's dual role as both standards authority and IP registry makes it the central regulatory institution for cosmetics quality and brand protection in Tunisia.

### TUN-09 Environmental Protection Law No 88-91

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Environmental Protection Law No 88-91
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Environmental Protection Agency (ANPE)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Environmental Management Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical waste, pollution control, manufacturing compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1988 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs environmental compliance for cosmetic manufacturing operations in Tunisia. Regulates the handling, storage, and disposal of chemical ingredients and manufacturing waste. Environmental authorisation may be required for manufacturing facilities with significant environmental footprint.
<b>Notes</b>	Environmental authorisation may be required. Tunisia has been developing its environmental standards in alignment with EU requirements, given the country's EU association agreement and export orientation. Cosmetic manufacturers face specific obligations regarding chemical waste and emissions.

### TUN-10 Penal Code

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Penal Code
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Public Prosecutor
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products
<b>Year / Version</b>	1913 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes criminal offences and penalties for counterfeit, adulterated, or fraudulent cosmetic products. Applied alongside sector-specific enforcement by Ministry of Health and consumer protection authorities. The most serious cosmetics violations involving hazardous ingredients or deliberate fraud may attract criminal prosecution.
<b>Notes</b>	Applied alongside sector-specific enforcement. Tunisia's Penal Code dates from the French protectorate era and has been amended over time. Criminal prosecution for cosmetics offences is coordinated between Ministry of Health, consumer protection authorities, and the Public Prosecution.

## Central Africa

Cameroon · Democratic Republic of Congo · Angola

30 instruments across 3 jurisdictions

## Regional Overview

Central Africa encompasses three of the continent's most commercially significant and legally complex beauty markets. Cameroon, the DRC, and Angola each present distinct regulatory architectures shaped by different colonial legal traditions French civil law in Cameroon, Belgian civil law in DRC, and Portuguese civil law in Angola overlaid with the shared framework of OAPI for IP registration (Cameroon and DRC) and OHADA for commercial law (all three).

The Central Africa beauty regulatory landscape is characterised by several features that distinguish it from other regions in the Index. First, the pharmaceutical gateway model is universal in Central Africa all three jurisdictions regulate cosmetics primarily through pharmaceutical or health product legislation rather than dedicated cosmetics statutes. Second, the gap between formal legal frameworks and enforcement capacity is wider in Central Africa than in any other region covered legislation exists, but proactive enforcement outside of product registration and customs control is limited. Third, the OAPI regional IP system headquartered in Yaoundé, Cameroon is the defining feature of IP protection for beauty brands in Francophone Central Africa, providing multi-country protection through a single registration.

Each country presents a different compliance profile. Cameroon has the most developed regulatory infrastructure in the region, with a 2018 pharmaceutical framework, a 2019 quality control laboratory, an active CEMAC customs framework, and OAPI headquarters in its capital. The DRC Africa's second-largest country by area and one of its most populous presents a complex regulatory environment characterised by general public health legislation, a distinctive OCC conformity inspection system at ports of entry, and significant informal market activity. Angola, with the most recently enacted primary statute in the dataset (Law No 5/21 of 2021), represents the most significant regulatory modernisation story in Central Africa a country actively building its cosmetics regulatory infrastructure as its economy diversifies.

## Key Regional Features

### OAPI: The Regional IP Anchor

The Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle (OAPI), headquartered in Yaoundé, Cameroon, is the most significant structural feature of IP protection for beauty brands in Francophone Central Africa. A single OAPI filing covering trademarks, industrial designs, and patents provides protection across all 17 member states, including Cameroon, DRC, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and others. For beauty brands building regional presence in Francophone Africa, OAPI registration is the single most impactful IP investment available. Angola is notably not an OAPI member, reflecting its Lusophone legal tradition, and operates a national IP registry through IAPI.

### OHADA: Harmonised Commercial Law

All three Central African jurisdictions covered are OHADA member states. OHADA the Organisation pour l'Harmonisation en Afrique du Droit des Affaires provides a harmonised commercial law framework across 17 African member states, covering company law, commercial contracts, securities law, and insolvency. For beauty businesses structuring operations across multiple Central African markets, OHADA alignment means a shared legal language for commercial arrangements, reducing the complexity of multi-country operations.

### CEMAC: The Regional Trade Framework

Cameroon and the DRC operate within the CEMAC customs framework, which provides a harmonised customs union across the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa member states. The CEMAC Customs Code facilitates intra-regional trade in cosmetics and provides coordinated border enforcement tools. Angola operates outside CEMAC, having its own customs framework the 2019 Customs Code is one of the more recently enacted customs statutes in the Central Africa dataset.

### The Enforcement Gap in Central Africa

The most significant compliance observation across the Central Africa dataset is the gap between formal legal frameworks and practical enforcement capacity. Cameroon has the most developed enforcement infrastructure in the region the Ministry of Public Health's pharmaceutical inspectors, Consumer Protection Brigades, and OAPI's registration and enforcement system. The DRC's regulatory picture is characterised by the OCC's distinctive port-of-entry inspection role alongside limited market surveillance capacity. Angola is actively building ARMED's capacity under the 2021 law. For beauty businesses, this enforcement gap does not reduce the importance of formal compliance as regulatory capacity grows, historical non-compliance becomes an increasing liability.

## Central Africa at a Glance

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
<b>Law No 2018-020 on the Framework Law on Pharmaceutical and Medical Activities</b>	Ministry of Public Health	2018	Cosmetic safety, manufacturing authorisation, import control, market surveillance
<b>Decree No 2019-079 Establishing the National Drug Quality Control and Valuation Laboratory</b>	Ministry of Public Health National Laboratory	2019	Quality testing, product analysis, laboratory verification of cosmetics
<b>Law No 2011-012 on Consumer Protection</b>	Ministry of Trade Consumer Protection Brigades	2011	Misleading advertising, product safety, false claims, consumer rights
<b>Law No 98-013 on Competition</b>	Ministry of Trade Competition Inspectors	1998	Anti-competitive practices, distribution restrictions, market conduct
<b>Law No 2000-011 on Copyright and Related Rights</b>	Ministry of Arts and Culture	2000	Packaging design, marketing materials, artistic works in cosmetics branding
<b>Bangui Agreement Governing Intellectual Property within OAPI (Accord de Bangui)</b>	African Intellectual Property Organisation (OAPI) headquarters in Yaoundé, Cameroon	1977, revised 1999	Trademarks, industrial designs, patents, brand and packaging protection across 17 states
<b>Law No 96-12 on Environmental Management</b>	Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development	1996	Chemical waste management, pollution control, manufacturing environmental compliance
<b>Customs Code of CEMAC (Code des Douanes de la CEMAC)</b>	Directorate General of Customs	2001 (consolidated)	Import control, counterfeit prevention, border enforcement
<b>Law No 90-031 Regulating Commercial Activity</b>	Ministry of Trade Trade Inspectors	1990	Business registration, distribution licensing, retail and wholesale trade
<b>Penal Code (revised 2016)</b>	Public Prosecutor	2016 (revised)	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products, public health offences
<b>Law No 18/035 Establishing Public Health Principles</b>	Ministry of Public Health	2018	Cosmetic safety, public health protection, manufacturing oversight
<b>Ministerial Orders on Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Control</b>	Ministry of Public Health Pharmaceutical Inspectors	Various	Product authorisation, inspection, safety and distribution conditions
<b>Law No 18/020 on Freedom of Prices and Competition</b>	Ministry of National Economy Competition Directorate	2018	Anti-competitive practices, market dominance, pricing conduct
<b>Law No 18/017 on Consumer Protection</b>	Ministry of National Economy Consumer Protection Inspectors	2018	Misleading advertising, unsafe products, deceptive claims, consumer rights
<b>Bangui Agreement Governing Intellectual Property within OAPI</b>	African Intellectual Property Organisation (OAPI)	Revised 1999	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand and packaging protection across 17 OAPI states
<b>Customs Code (as amended 2010)</b>	Directorate General of Customs and Excise (DGDA)	2010 (as amended)	Import control, counterfeit prevention, border enforcement
<b>Environmental Protection Law (Loi No 11/009 du 9 juillet 2011 portant Principes Fondamentaux relatifs à la Protection de l'Environnement)</b>	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	2011	Chemical waste management, hazardous substances, environmental impact of manufacturing
<b>Commercial Code (revised 2018)</b>	Ministry of Justice	2018 (revised)	Business registration, corporate

Legal Instrument	Regulatory Body	Year	Key Focus
	Commercial Registry		incorporation, trade compliance
<b>Standards and Quality Control Framework under the Office Congolais de Contrôle (OCC)</b>	Office Congolais de Contrôle (OCC)	1974 framework (updated)	Product conformity assessment, quality inspection, certification at ports of entry
<b>Penal Code (Code Pénal, 1940 as amended)</b>	Public Prosecutor	1940 (as amended)	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, economic crime, public health offences
<b>Law No 5/21 on Medicines and Health Products (Lei No 5/21 sobre Medicamentos e Produtos de Saúde)</b>	National Agency for Medicines and Health Products (ARMED)	2021	Cosmetic registration, safety, manufacturing authorisation, import control
<b>Presidential Decree No 180/10 on Pharmaceutical Activities</b>	Ministry of Health Pharmaceutical Inspectors	2010	Manufacturing licensing, inspection, operational compliance for cosmetics
<b>Consumer Protection Law No 15/03</b>	National Institute for Consumer Protection (INADEC)	2003	Misleading advertising, product safety, false claims, consumer rights
<b>Competition Law No 5/18</b>	Competition Regulatory Authority (ARC)	2018	Anti-competitive conduct, distribution restrictions, market dominance
<b>Industrial Property Law No 3/92 (as amended)</b>	Angolan Institute of Industrial Property (IAPI)	1992 (amended)	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand and packaging protection
<b>Customs Code (2019)</b>	General Tax Administration Customs Services (AGT)	2019	Import control, border clearance, counterfeit prevention
<b>Environmental Framework Law No 5/98</b>	Ministry of Environment	1998	Chemical waste management, pollution control, manufacturing environmental compliance
<b>Law No 1/07 on Commercial Companies (Lei das Sociedades Comerciais)</b>	Ministry of Justice and Human Rights Commercial Registry (CONSERVATÓRIA)	2007	Corporate incorporation, business registration, commercial compliance
<b>Standardisation and Quality Framework under IANORQ (Instituto Angolano de Normalização e Qualidade)</b>	Angolan Institute for Standardisation and Quality (IANORQ)	1992 framework (updated)	Product standards, conformity assessment, certification
<b>Penal Code (revised 2020)</b>	Public Prosecutor	2020 (revised)	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products, public health offences

## Cameroon

*Cameroon has the most developed beauty regulatory infrastructure in the Central Africa dataset anchored by the 2018 pharmaceutical framework, the 2019 quality control laboratory, and its unique position as the host country of OAPI headquarters. The CEMAC customs framework and OAPI's centralised IP system make Cameroon a regulatory gateway for Francophone Central Africa.*

10 instruments · Civil law (French) jurisdiction · CEMAC, OAPI, and OHADA member

### CMR-01 Law No 2018-020 on the Framework Law on Pharmaceutical and Medical Activities

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 2018-020 on the Framework Law on Pharmaceutical and Medical Activities
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Public Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Pharmaceutical and Health Products Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Pharmaceutical Inspectors, Judicial Police, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic safety, manufacturing authorisation, import control, market surveillance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary sectoral statute governing cosmetic products in Cameroon. Regulates the manufacture, importation, distribution, and sale of cosmetics as a category within the broader pharmaceutical and medical activities framework. The Ministry of Public Health is the primary regulator. Mandatory authorisation is required before cosmetics may be manufactured or imported.
<b>Notes</b>	Primary sectoral statute for cosmetic oversight. Cameroon operates a pharmaceutical gateway model cosmetics are regulated under the pharmaceutical and medical activities framework rather than dedicated cosmetics legislation. The 2018 law is a significant modernisation of Cameroon's pharmaceutical regulatory framework and is the most recently enacted primary statute in the Central Africa dataset alongside Angola's 2021 law.

### CMR-02 Decree No 2019-079 Establishing the National Drug Quality Control and Valuation Laboratory

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Decree No 2019-079 Establishing the National Drug Quality Control and Valuation Laboratory
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Public Health National Laboratory
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Control Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Laboratory Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Quality testing, product analysis, laboratory verification of cosmetics
<b>Year / Version</b>	2019
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the National Drug Quality Control and Valuation Laboratory and its mandate to conduct laboratory testing and quality control of cosmetic and pharmaceutical products in Cameroon. The laboratory supports the inspection and enforcement functions of the Ministry of Public Health by providing analytical capacity for product safety verification.
<b>Notes</b>	Supports inspection and enforcement. The 2019 Decree creates dedicated laboratory infrastructure for product quality control in Cameroon a significant capacity-building step. The laboratory can conduct testing of cosmetic samples seized during

inspections. Works alongside the 2018 pharmaceutical framework to provide analytical support for enforcement.

### CMR-03 Law No 2011-012 on Consumer Protection

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 2011-012 on Consumer Protection
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade Consumer Protection Brigades
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Consumer Protection Brigades, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading advertising, product safety, false claims, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	2011
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs commercial practices in cosmetic sales in Cameroon. Prohibits misleading advertising, false efficacy claims, and unsafe products. The Consumer Protection Brigades enforcement units within the Ministry of Trade have powers to conduct market inspections and initiate prosecution. Administrative sanctions and judicial remedies are available for non-compliance.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative sanctions and judicial remedies available. The Consumer Protection Brigades provide field-level enforcement capacity. Particularly relevant for beauty brands making skin lightening, anti-ageing, or hair care efficacy claims in the Cameroonian market. Works alongside Ministry of Public Health enforcement for product safety dimensions.

### CMR-04 Law No 98-013 on Competition

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 98-013 on Competition
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade Competition Inspectors
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive practices, distribution restrictions, market conduct
<b>Year / Version</b>	1998
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs distribution and retail practices in the cosmetics sector in Cameroon. Prohibits anti-competitive conduct including restrictive agreements, abuse of dominant position, and exclusionary distribution practices. The competition framework applies across the cosmetics supply chain from manufacturer to retailer.
<b>Notes</b>	Applies across supply chain. The 1998 Competition Law is the primary competition instrument in Cameroon. Relevant for international beauty brands entering Cameroon through exclusive distribution arrangements. Cameroon's role as CEMAC's largest economy means its competition framework has regional significance.

### CMR-05 Law No 2000-011 on Copyright and Related Rights

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 2000-011 on Copyright and Related Rights
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Arts and Culture
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Packaging design, marketing materials, artistic works in cosmetics branding

<b>Year / Version</b>	2000
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Protects original artistic works used in cosmetics branding including packaging design, product illustrations, and promotional materials. Protection is automatic on creation no registration required. Civil and criminal enforcement available through Cameroonian courts.
<b>Notes</b>	Civil and criminal enforcement available. As an OAPI member, Cameroon's copyright framework operates alongside OAPI's IP system. OAPI covers trademarks and industrial designs; copyright in creative works used for cosmetics branding is protected under national law. The distinction between copyright (national) and trademark/design (OAPI) is important for beauty brands.

### **CMR-06 Bangui Agreement Governing Intellectual Property within OAPI (Accord de Bangui)**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Bangui Agreement Governing Intellectual Property within OAPI (Accord de Bangui)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	African Intellectual Property Organisation (OAPI) headquarters in Yaoundé, Cameroon
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Regional Intellectual Property Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, patents, brand and packaging protection across 17 states
<b>Year / Version</b>	1977, revised 1999
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides centralised IP registration covering trademarks, industrial designs, and patents across all 17 OAPI member states through a single filing. Beauty brands registered under OAPI are protected across the full Francophone African market. OAPI headquarters are in Yaoundé, Cameroon, giving the country a direct relationship with the regional IP system.
<b>Notes</b>	Centralised IP registration system. As the host country of OAPI headquarters, Cameroon has a particularly close relationship with the regional IP framework. OAPI registration is one of the most valuable and underutilised tools for beauty brands in Francophone Africa. A single filing covers all 17 member states including Senegal, Cameroon, DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and others at a fraction of the cost of 17 national registrations.

### **CMR-07 Law No 96-12 on Environmental Management**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 96-12 on Environmental Management
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Environmental Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical waste management, pollution control, manufacturing environmental compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1996
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs environmental compliance for cosmetic manufacturers in Cameroon including the management of chemical ingredients, manufacturing waste disposal, and pollution control. Environmental permits may be required for cosmetic manufacturing facilities. The Ministry of Environment has powers to require environmental impact assessments and impose remediation obligations.
<b>Notes</b>	Environmental permits may be required. The 1996 Environmental Management Law provides the foundational environmental compliance framework for cosmetic manufacturers in Cameroon. Works alongside public health requirements for

manufacturing premises. Cameroon's diverse natural resources including significant botanical ingredients used in cosmetics give environmental law particular relevance for the beauty sector.

### CMR-08 Customs Code of CEMAC (Code des Douanes de la CEMAC)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs Code of CEMAC (Code des Douanes de la CEMAC)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Directorate General of Customs
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Regional Customs Framework (CEMAC) / National Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, counterfeit prevention, border enforcement
<b>Year / Version</b>	2001 (consolidated)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides the regional customs framework for the importation of cosmetic products into Cameroon within the CEMAC (Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa) customs union. Customs officers coordinate with health authorities on cosmetics compliance at the border. Prevents entry of counterfeit or non-compliant cosmetic goods.
<b>Notes</b>	Coordinates with health authorities. The CEMAC Customs Code creates a harmonised border control framework across Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Gabon facilitating intra-CEMAC trade in cosmetics. Cameroon's ports of Douala and Kribi are the primary entry points for cosmetic imports to Central Africa.

### CMR-09 Law No 90-031 Regulating Commercial Activity

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 90-031 Regulating Commercial Activity
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Trade Trade Inspectors
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Trade Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Trade Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Business registration, distribution licensing, retail and wholesale trade
<b>Year / Version</b>	1990
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the licensing of cosmetic retailers and wholesalers operating in Cameroon. Requires registration and licensing of commercial activities including cosmetics distribution. Non-compliance with commercial licensing requirements may result in closure of business premises.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliance may lead to closure. The commercial activity law provides the framework within which cosmetics are distributed and retailed in Cameroon. Beauty businesses must register commercial operations before commencing trade. Works alongside Ministry of Public Health authorisation requirements for manufacturers and importers.

### CMR-10 Penal Code (revised 2016)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Penal Code (revised 2016)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Public Prosecutor
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts

<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products, public health offences
<b>Year / Version</b>	2016 (revised)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides criminal sanctions for the manufacture, distribution, or sale of counterfeit, adulterated, or fraudulent cosmetic products in Cameroon. Establishes criminal offences applicable to public health endangerment and economic fraud in the beauty sector. The 2016 revision updated Cameroon's criminal framework.
<b>Notes</b>	Applied alongside sector-specific legislation. Criminal prosecution of cosmetic offences is coordinated between the Ministry of Public Health, Consumer Protection Brigades, and the Public Prosecutor. Cameroon's Penal Code revision in 2016 updated criminal sanctions to reflect contemporary commercial and public health realities.

## Democratic Republic of Congo

*The DRC's beauty regulatory landscape is shaped by three distinctive features: reliance on general public health legislation rather than dedicated cosmetics law; the OCC's mandatory conformity inspection role at ports of entry; and OAPI membership providing centralised IP protection across 17 Francophone African states. The 2018 legislative package (public health, consumer protection, competition) represents the most significant recent regulatory update.*

10 instruments · Civil law (Belgian) jurisdiction · OAPI and OHADA member

### DRC-01 Law No 18/035 Establishing Public Health Principles

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 18/035 Establishing Public Health Principles
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Public Health
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Public Health Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Health Inspectors, Public Prosecutor, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic safety, public health protection, manufacturing oversight
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary legal basis for health-related control of cosmetic products in the DRC. Establishes the general public health framework applicable to cosmetics as products with public health implications. The Ministry of Public Health has authority to regulate the safety, manufacture, and distribution of cosmetics under this framework.
<b>Notes</b>	Primary legal basis for health-related control. The DRC does not have dedicated cosmetics legislation equivalent to Nigeria's NAFDAC Act or South Africa's Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act the general public health framework is the primary regulatory basis. This creates inherent compliance uncertainty compared to jurisdictions with product-specific cosmetics statutes.

### DRC-02 Ministerial Orders on Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Control

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Ministerial Orders on Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Control
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Public Health Pharmaceutical Inspectors
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Health Products Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Pharmaceutical Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product authorisation, inspection, safety and distribution conditions
<b>Year / Version</b>	Various
<b>Scope / Description</b>	A series of ministerial orders issued under the public health framework governing the safety, storage, and distribution conditions for cosmetic products in the DRC. The orders are applied administratively by pharmaceutical inspectors. They provide the operational detail of cosmetics oversight in the absence of primary cosmetics legislation.
<b>Notes</b>	Applied administratively under health authority. The ministerial orders provide important operational detail but lack the legislative clarity of a primary cosmetics statute. The patchwork nature of DRC's cosmetics regulatory framework general public health law supplemented by administrative orders is characteristic of jurisdictions where cosmetics regulation has developed incrementally rather than through dedicated legislation.

**DRC-03 Law No 18/020 on Freedom of Prices and Competition**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 18/020 on Freedom of Prices and Competition
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of National Economy Competition Directorate
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Directorate, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive practices, market dominance, pricing conduct
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Prohibits abuse of dominant position and restrictive agreements in the cosmetics distribution and retail sector in the DRC. Provides the framework for competition enforcement in the beauty market. Administrative sanctions are possible for anti-competitive conduct.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative sanctions possible. The 2018 Competition Law is part of a broader package of economic legislation enacted in 2018 that updated DRC's legal framework across competition, consumer protection, and public health. Relevant for international beauty brands entering the DRC through exclusive distribution arrangements.

**DRC-04 Law No 18/017 on Consumer Protection**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 18/017 on Consumer Protection
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of National Economy Consumer Protection Inspectors
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Consumer Protection Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading advertising, unsafe products, deceptive claims, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Protects consumers against deceptive claims and hazardous goods in the cosmetics sector in the DRC. Provides civil and administrative remedies for misleading beauty advertising and unsafe product sales. Consumer protection inspectors have powers to investigate complaints and initiate enforcement proceedings.
<b>Notes</b>	Provides civil and administrative remedies. The 2018 Consumer Protection Law is the most significant consumer-facing instrument in DRC's beauty regulatory landscape given the limitations of the general public health framework for product-specific regulation. Particularly relevant for beauty brands making skin lightening or anti-ageing claims in the DRC market.

**DRC-05 Bangui Agreement Governing Intellectual Property within OAPI**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Bangui Agreement Governing Intellectual Property within OAPI
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	African Intellectual Property Organisation (OAPI)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Regional Intellectual Property Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand and packaging protection across 17 OAPI states
<b>Year / Version</b>	Revised 1999
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The DRC is an OAPI member state, giving cosmetic brands registered under OAPI protection across all 17 member states through a single filing. Trademarks and industrial designs for cosmetics brands and packaging are registrable through the

	OAPI centralised system. Enforcement of registered rights is through national commercial courts.
<b>Notes</b>	Centralised IP registration across member states. OAPI membership is among the most practically significant features of DRC's IP landscape for beauty brands. Given the DRC's vast geography and complex business environment, OAPI registration provides continental-scale brand protection without the cost and complexity of multiple national filings. Beauty brands operating in DRC should prioritise OAPI registration.

### DRC-06 Customs Code (as amended 2010)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs Code (as amended 2010)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Directorate General of Customs and Excise (DGDA)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Customs Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, counterfeit prevention, border enforcement
<b>Year / Version</b>	2010 (as amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the importation of cosmetic products into the DRC. Customs officers have powers to inspect, detain, and seize non-compliant or counterfeit cosmetic imports. Coordinates with health authorities on product compliance documentation requirements at points of entry.
<b>Notes</b>	Coordinates with health authorities. DRC's vast geography and multiple border crossings including river ports on the Congo River make customs enforcement a significant operational challenge. The port of Matadi and Kinshasa river port are the primary entry points for cosmetic imports. Customs coordination with health authorities is less formalised than in more developed regulatory environments.

### DRC-07 Environmental Protection Law (Loi No 11/009 du 9 juillet 2011 portant Principes Fondamentaux relatifs à la Protection de l'Environnement)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Environmental Protection Law (Loi No 11/009 du 9 juillet 2011 portant Principes Fondamentaux relatifs à la Protection de l'Environnement)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Environmental Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical waste management, hazardous substances, environmental impact of manufacturing
<b>Year / Version</b>	2011
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the regulation of hazardous substances and the environmental impact of manufacturing activities in the DRC, including cosmetic production. Environmental permits may be required for cosmetic manufacturing facilities. The Ministry of Environment has powers to require environmental impact assessments.
<b>Notes</b>	Environmental permits may be required. The DRC's 2011 Environmental Law establishes foundational environmental protection principles. Enforcement capacity is limited relative to the law's ambitions, but the framework provides the legal basis for environmental compliance obligations on cosmetic manufacturers. As investment in DRC's manufacturing sector grows, environmental compliance is an increasing focus.

### DRC-08 Commercial Code (revised 2018)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Commercial Code (revised 2018)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Justice Commercial Registry
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Commercial Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Business registration, corporate incorporation, trade compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018 (revised)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Requires lawful incorporation and licensing of all business operations in the DRC, including cosmetic manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers. The Commercial Registry administers business registration. Non-compliance with company law requirements affects the legal standing of business contracts and enforcement of commercial rights.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliance affects enforceability of contracts. Business registration in the DRC is managed through OHADA-aligned commercial law. The DRC is an OHADA member state the Organisation pour l'Harmonisation en Afrique du Droit des Affaires which provides a harmonised commercial law framework across 17 member states. OHADA membership is significant for international businesses structuring operations in Central Africa.

### **DRC-09 Standards and Quality Control Framework under the Office Congolais de Contrôle (OCC)**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Standards and Quality Control Framework under the Office Congolais de Contrôle (OCC)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Office Congolais de Contrôle (OCC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Control Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	OCC Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product conformity assessment, quality inspection, certification at ports of entry
<b>Year / Version</b>	1974 framework (updated)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The OCC conducts quality and conformity inspections of cosmetic products, playing a key role at DRC's ports of entry. Cosmetic imports must undergo OCC conformity assessment. The OCC also conducts market surveillance on cosmetic products in distribution. Works alongside the Ministry of Public Health's health product control function.
<b>Notes</b>	Plays key role at ports of entry. The OCC is a distinctive feature of DRC's regulatory landscape a state-owned quality control entity with significant powers at ports of entry. Every cosmetic shipment entering DRC is subject to OCC inspection. The OCC's involvement adds a compliance step that differs from most other jurisdictions in the dataset. Beauty brands importing into DRC must factor OCC inspection into their logistics and compliance planning.

### **DRC-10 Penal Code (Code Pénal, 1940 as amended)**

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Penal Code (Code Pénal, 1940 as amended)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Public Prosecutor
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, economic crime, public health offences
<b>Year / Version</b>	1940 (as amended)

<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes criminal offences relating to economic crime and public health applicable to the cosmetics sector in the DRC. Provides criminal sanctions for the manufacture, distribution, or sale of counterfeit, adulterated, or fraudulent cosmetic products. Applied alongside sector-specific enforcement.
<b>Notes</b>	Applied alongside sector-specific enforcement. Criminal prosecution of cosmetic offences in the DRC typically follows referral from health authorities or customs. The scale of the DRC's informal economy including a significant informal cosmetics market means criminal enforcement is a persistent challenge.

## Angola

*Angola's 2021 Law No 5/21 the most recently enacted primary cosmetics statute in the Central Africa dataset and among the most recently enacted in the entire Index signals a significant regulatory modernisation. ARMED is actively building capacity under the new mandate. Angola's Lusophone legal tradition and non-OAPI status mean its IP framework operates through a national registry, distinguishing it from its Francophone neighbours.*

10 instruments · Civil law (Portuguese) jurisdiction · OHADA member · Not OAPI member

### AGO-01 Law No 5/21 on Medicines and Health Products (Lei No 5/21 sobre Medicamentos e Produtos de Saúde)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 5/21 on Medicines and Health Products (Lei No 5/21 sobre Medicamentos e Produtos de Saúde)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Agency for Medicines and Health Products (ARMED)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Medicines and Health Products Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Health Inspectors, Public Prosecutor, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Cosmetic registration, safety, manufacturing authorisation, import control
<b>Year / Version</b>	2021
<b>Scope / Description</b>	The primary statute governing cosmetic products in Angola. Establishes ARMED as the competent authority for the registration, control, and oversight of cosmetics. Requires mandatory registration before cosmetics may be manufactured, imported, or sold in Angola. ARMED conducts pre-market review, inspections, and post-market surveillance.
<b>Notes</b>	Primary statute governing cosmetic control the most recently enacted primary cosmetics statute in the Central Africa dataset and among the most recently enacted in the entire Index. Angola's 2021 law represents a significant modernisation of its health products regulatory framework. ARMED has been building regulatory capacity in line with the new mandate. Beauty brands entering Angola should engage ARMED early in the market entry process.

### AGO-02 Presidential Decree No 180/10 on Pharmaceutical Activities

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Presidential Decree No 180/10 on Pharmaceutical Activities
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Health Pharmaceutical Inspectors
<b>Policy Framework</b>	Pharmaceutical and Health Products Regulatory Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Pharmaceutical Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Manufacturing licensing, inspection, operational compliance for cosmetics
<b>Year / Version</b>	2010
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides the operational regulatory framework for cosmetic manufacturing and distribution establishments in Angola, including licensing requirements, inspection procedures, and operational compliance standards. Applied alongside and supplemented by the 2021 Law No 5/21.
<b>Notes</b>	Applied alongside 2021 law. The 2010 Presidential Decree pre-dates the 2021 ARMED law but remains in force as the operational framework for manufacturing and distribution licensing. Cosmetic manufacturers and importers must obtain licences under the 2010 Decree and register products with ARMED under the 2021 law a dual-

	track compliance requirement.
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### AGO-03 Consumer Protection Law No 15/03

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Consumer Protection Law No 15/03
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	National Institute for Consumer Protection (INADEC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Consumer Protection Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Consumer Protection Inspectors, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Misleading advertising, product safety, false claims, consumer rights
<b>Year / Version</b>	2003
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs commercial practices in cosmetic sales in Angola. Prohibits misleading advertising, false efficacy claims, and unsafe products. INADEC has powers to investigate complaints and initiate enforcement proceedings. Administrative fines and judicial remedies are available for non-compliance.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative fines and judicial remedies available. Angola's consumer protection framework is relatively mature the 2003 law has been in force for over two decades. INADEC is the primary consumer protection authority. The law is particularly relevant for beauty brands making skin lightening, anti-ageing, or hair care efficacy claims in the Angolan market.

### AGO-04 Competition Law No 5/18

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Competition Law No 5/18
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Competition Regulatory Authority (ARC)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Competition Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Competition Authority, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Anti-competitive conduct, distribution restrictions, market dominance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2018
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs distribution and retail practices in the cosmetics sector in Angola. Prohibits anti-competitive conduct including restrictive distribution agreements, abuse of dominant position, and price-fixing. The ARC may investigate and impose administrative sanctions for anti-competitive practices affecting the beauty market.
<b>Notes</b>	Administrative sanctions may apply. The 2018 Competition Law is a relatively recent modernisation of Angola's competition framework. Relevant for international beauty brands entering Angola one of sub-Saharan Africa's larger economies through exclusive distribution arrangements. The ARC is still building enforcement capacity.

### AGO-05 Industrial Property Law No 3/92 (as amended)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Industrial Property Law No 3/92 (as amended)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Angolan Institute of Industrial Property (IAPI)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Intellectual Property Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Trademarks, industrial designs, brand and packaging protection
<b>Year / Version</b>	1992 (amended)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides for the registration and protection of trademarks and industrial designs for

	cosmetic brands and packaging in Angola. IAPI administers the trademark and industrial design registry. Civil and criminal remedies are available for infringement through commercial courts.
<b>Notes</b>	Civil and criminal remedies available. Angola is not an OAPI member it operates a national IP registry through IAPI. Angola's Lusophone legal tradition means its IP framework has Portuguese civil law influences. Trademark registration through IAPI is strongly recommended for beauty brands given Angola's growing cosmetics market and the absence of OAPI regional coverage.

### AGO-06 Customs Code (2019)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Customs Code (2019)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	General Tax Administration Customs Services (AGT)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Customs Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Customs Officers
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Import control, border clearance, counterfeit prevention
<b>Year / Version</b>	2019
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs the border clearance of cosmetic imports into Angola. Customs officers coordinate with ARMED to ensure imported cosmetics comply with registration requirements before customs release. The 2019 Customs Code is among the more recently enacted customs statutes in the Central Africa dataset.
<b>Notes</b>	Coordinates with health authority. Angola's primary port of entry for cosmetic imports is Luanda (Porto de Luanda). The 2019 Customs Code updated Angola's border control framework. ARMED registration documentation must accompany cosmetic imports for customs clearance. The AGT has been strengthening customs enforcement capacity.

### AGO-07 Environmental Framework Law No 5/98

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Environmental Framework Law No 5/98
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Environment
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Environmental Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Environmental Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Chemical waste management, pollution control, manufacturing environmental compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	1998
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Governs environmental compliance for cosmetic manufacturers in Angola including the management of chemical ingredients, manufacturing waste disposal, and pollution control. Environmental licences may be required for cosmetic manufacturing facilities. Works alongside ARMED licensing requirements for manufacturing premises.
<b>Notes</b>	Environmental licence may be required. Angola's environmental framework is foundational legislation sector-specific environmental regulations have been developed subsequently. As Angola's cosmetics manufacturing sector grows, particularly in the context of economic diversification away from oil, environmental compliance is an increasing focus for new manufacturing investors.

### AGO-08 Law No 1/07 on Commercial Companies (Lei das Sociedades Comerciais)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Law No 1/07 on Commercial Companies (Lei das Sociedades Comerciais)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Ministry of Justice and Human Rights Commercial Registry (CONSERVATÓRIA)

<b>Policy Framework</b>	Commercial Regulation Framework
<b>Enforcement</b>	Commercial Registry, Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Corporate incorporation, business registration, commercial compliance
<b>Year / Version</b>	2007
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Requires legal incorporation of all cosmetic manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers operating in Angola. The Commercial Registry administers company registration. Non-compliance with company law requirements affects the legal standing of the business and its ability to enforce commercial rights.
<b>Notes</b>	Non-compliance affects legal standing. Angola's commercial companies law operates within the OHADA framework Angola is an OHADA member state, providing a harmonised commercial law environment shared with DRC, Cameroon, and 14 other African states. OHADA alignment facilitates regional business structuring across Central Africa.

### AGO-09 Standardisation and Quality Framework under IANORQ (Instituto Angolano de Normalização e Qualidade)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Standardisation and Quality Framework under IANORQ (Instituto Angolano de Normalização e Qualidade)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Angolan Institute for Standardisation and Quality (IANORQ)
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Quality Infrastructure Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Standards Inspectors
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Product standards, conformity assessment, certification
<b>Year / Version</b>	1992 framework (updated)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Establishes the standardisation and quality control framework for cosmetic products in Angola. IANORQ develops and enforces standards for cosmetics and may require conformity assessment or certification for certain product categories. Works alongside ARMED registration requirements for product safety compliance.
<b>Notes</b>	Certification may be required depending on product category. IANORQ is still developing its standards framework for cosmetics specifically. Angola's standards infrastructure is less mature than in South Africa, Kenya, or Morocco. As Angola's manufacturing sector expands, standards development is an increasing regulatory priority.

### AGO-10 Penal Code (revised 2020)

<b>Legal Framework</b>	Penal Code (revised 2020)
<b>Regulatory Body</b>	Public Prosecutor
<b>Policy Framework</b>	National Criminal Justice Policy
<b>Enforcement</b>	Courts
<b>Key Focus Areas</b>	Counterfeit cosmetics, fraud, adulterated products, public health offences
<b>Year / Version</b>	2020 (revised)
<b>Scope / Description</b>	Provides criminal sanctions for the manufacture, distribution, or sale of counterfeit, adulterated, or fraudulent cosmetic products in Angola. The 2020 Penal Code revision updated Angola's criminal framework. Establishes offences applicable to cosmetic fraud and public health endangerment.
<b>Notes</b>	Applied alongside sector-specific enforcement. The 2020 Penal Code revision is among the most recently enacted instruments in the Central Africa dataset. Criminal

prosecution of cosmetic offences is coordinated between ARMED, consumer protection authorities, and the Public Prosecutor. Angola's growing cosmetics market is attracting both legitimate business and counterfeit activity.

# Index A

## By Legal Theme

Index A organises all 142 instruments in the African Beauty Law & Policy Index by legal theme, allowing users to identify the regulatory instruments of a particular type across all 14 jurisdictions. The Index uses 14 themes from Cosmetics Safety and Pharmaceutical Framework through to Criminal / Penal. The ★ symbol denotes an BCLA suggested addition (Morocco IMANOR).

### COSMETICS SAFETY · 14 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
NGA	National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) Act	Nigeria	1993
NGA	Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration, Etc.) Act	Nigeria	1993
GHA	Food and Drugs Authority Act	Ghana	1992
KEN	Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244	Kenya	1957 (Rev.)
RWA	Law No 003/2018 Governing Food and Drugs	Rwanda	2018
ETH	Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No 1112/2019	Ethiopia	2019
ETH	Council of Ministers Regulation No 299/2013	Ethiopia	2013
ZAF	Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 54	South Africa	1972
ZAF	Regulations Relating to Cosmetics R1469	South Africa	2010
MAR	Decree No 2-14-841 Relating to Cosmetic Products	Morocco	2015
EGY	Law No 151 on the Establishment of the Egyptian Drug Authority	Egypt	2019
EGY	Ministerial Decree No 991 for Executive Regulations of Cosmetics	Egypt	2015
TUN	Ministerial Decree on Cosmetic Products	Tunisia	Post-2000
AGO	Law No 5/21 on Medicines and Health Products	Angola	2021

### PHARMACEUTICAL FRAMEWORK · 6 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
SEN	Law No 98-08 on Food, Drugs, and Health Products	Senegal	1998
ETH	Public Health Proclamation No 200/2000	Ethiopia	2000
TUN	Law No 73-55 on Health Professions and Pharmaceutical Activities	Tunisia	1973
CMR	Law No 2018-020 on Pharmaceutical and Medical Activities	Cameroon	2018
DRC	Ministerial Orders on Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Control	D.R. Congo	Various
AGO	Presidential Decree No 180/10 on Pharmaceutical Activities	Angola	2010

### CONSUMER PROTECTION · 21 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
NGA	Consumer Protection Council Act / FCCPC Act	Nigeria	1992/2019
NGA	Competition and Consumer Protection Act	Nigeria	2019
NGA	Advertising Standards Guidelines (APCON)	Nigeria	1988
GHA	Consumer Protection Act	Ghana	2012
SEN	Consumer Protection Law	Senegal	2010
SEN	Advertising Law and Regulatory Guidelines (CNRA)	Senegal	1988
KEN	Consumer Protection Act	Kenya	2012
KEN	Trade Descriptions Act, Cap 505	Kenya	1972
RWA	Law No 36/2012 on Competition and Consumer Protection	Rwanda	2012
RWA	Law No 30/2013 on Trade and Consumer Protection	Rwanda	2013
ETH	Trade Competition and Consumer Protection Proclamation No 813/2013	Ethiopia	2013
ZAF	Consumer Protection Act 68	South Africa	2008
ZAF	Advertising Regulatory Board Code	South Africa	2018
MUS	Consumer Protection Act	Mauritius	1998
MUS	Consumer Protection Safety Requirements Regulations	Mauritius	2019
MAR	Law No 31-08 on Consumer Protection	Morocco	2011
EGY	Consumer Protection Law No 181	Egypt	2018
TUN	Law No 92-117 on Consumer Protection	Tunisia	1992
CMR	Law No 2011-012 on Consumer Protection	Cameroon	2011
DRC	Law No 18/017 on Consumer Protection	D.R. Congo	2018
AGO	Consumer Protection Law No 15/03	Angola	2003

## STANDARDS / QUALITY · 13 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
NGA	Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) Act	Nigeria	1971
GHA	Standards Authority Act	Ghana	1973
SEN	Standards Law (Ordonnance No 69-7)	Senegal	1969
KEN	Standards Act, Cap 496	Kenya	1974
RWA	Law No 10/2013 on Standards	Rwanda	2013
ETH	Standards Proclamation No 1020/2017	Ethiopia	2017
ZAF	Standards Act 8	South Africa	2008
MUS	Standards Act	Mauritius	2010
TUN	Law No 94-41 on Standardisation and Quality	Tunisia	1994
CMR	Decree No 2019-079 National Drug Quality Control Laboratory	Cameroon	2019
DRC	Standards and Quality Control Framework (OCC)	D.R. Congo	1974
AGO	Standardisation and Quality Framework (IANORQ)	Angola	1992
MAR	Law No 12-06 on Standardisation (IMANOR) ★	Morocco	2011

## TRADEMARK / IP · 12 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
NGA	Trademarks Act Cap T13	Nigeria	2004

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
<b>GHA</b>	Industrial Property Act	Ghana	2003
<b>SEN</b>	Industrial Property Law / OAPI	Senegal	2013
<b>KEN</b>	Industrial Property Act	Kenya	2001
<b>RWA</b>	Law No 31/2009 on Protection of Intellectual Property	Rwanda	2009
<b>ETH</b>	Industrial Property Proclamation No 1238/2021	Ethiopia	2021
<b>ZAF</b>	Trade Marks Act 194	South Africa	1993
<b>MUS</b>	Industrial Property Act	Mauritius	2019
<b>MAR</b>	Law No 17-97 on Protection of Industrial Property	Morocco	1997/2014
<b>EGY</b>	Law No 82 on Intellectual Property Rights	Egypt	2002
<b>TUN</b>	Law No 2001-36 on Protection of Industrial Property	Tunisia	2001
<b>AGO</b>	Industrial Property Law No 3/92	Angola	1992

### REGIONAL IP FRAMEWORK · 2 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
<b>CMR</b>	Bangui Agreement (OAPI) host country	Cameroon	1977/1999
<b>DRC</b>	Bangui Agreement (OAPI) member state	D.R. Congo	1999

### COPYRIGHT · 6 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
<b>NGA</b>	Copyright Act (2022)	Nigeria	2022
<b>NGA</b>	Copyright Act Cap C28	Nigeria	2004
<b>GHA</b>	Copyright Act	Ghana	2005
<b>SEN</b>	Copyright Law	Senegal	2008
<b>MUS</b>	Copyright Act	Mauritius	2014
<b>CMR</b>	Law No 2000-011 on Copyright and Related Rights	Cameroon	2000

### COMPETITION · 11 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
<b>GHA</b>	Competition Act	Ghana	2010
<b>SEN</b>	Competition Law	Senegal	2014
<b>KEN</b>	Competition Act	Kenya	2010
<b>ZAF</b>	Competition Act 89	South Africa	1998
<b>MUS</b>	Competition Act	Mauritius	2007
<b>MAR</b>	Law No 104-12 on Freedom of Prices and Competition	Morocco	2014
<b>EGY</b>	Law No 3 on Protection of Competition	Egypt	2005
<b>TUN</b>	Competition and Prices Law No 2015-36	Tunisia	2015
<b>CMR</b>	Law No 98-013 on Competition	Cameroon	1998
<b>DRC</b>	Law No 18/020 on Freedom of Prices and Competition	D.R. Congo	2018
<b>AGO</b>	Competition Law No 5/18	Angola	2018

**CUSTOMS / TRADE** · 19 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
NGA	Trade Marks Act Cap T13 (import/border provisions)	Nigeria	2004
NGA	Customs and Excise Management Act	Nigeria	2004
GHA	Customs Act	Ghana	2003
SEN	Customs Code	Senegal	2000
KEN	Anti-Counterfeit Act	Kenya	2008
KEN	EAC Customs Management Act	Kenya	2004
RWA	EAC Customs Management Act	Rwanda	2004
ETH	Customs Proclamation No 859/2014	Ethiopia	2014
ZAF	Counterfeit Goods Act 37	South Africa	1997
ZAF	Customs and Excise Act 91	South Africa	1964
MUS	Customs Act	Mauritius	1988
MAR	Customs and Indirect Taxes Code	Morocco	1977
EGY	Law No 118 on Import and Export Regulation	Egypt	1975
EGY	Customs Law No 207	Egypt	2020
TUN	Law No 2009-69 on Trade Distribution	Tunisia	2009
TUN	Customs Code	Tunisia	2008
CMR	Customs Code of CEMAC	Cameroon	2001
DRC	Customs Code	D.R. Congo	2010
AGO	Customs Code	Angola	2019

**ENVIRONMENTAL** · 13 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
KEN	Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA)	Kenya	1999
RWA	Law No 48/2018 on Environment	Rwanda	2018
ETH	Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation No 300/2002	Ethiopia	2002
ZAF	National Environmental Management Act 107 (NEMA)	South Africa	1998
MUS	Dangerous Chemicals Control Act	Mauritius	2004
MUS	Environment Protection Act	Mauritius	2002
MAR	Law No 77-15 Prohibiting Plastic Bags	Morocco	2015
MAR	Framework Law No 99-12 on Environment and Sustainable Development	Morocco	2014
EGY	Environmental Law No 4	Egypt	1994
TUN	Environmental Protection Law No 88-91	Tunisia	1988
CMR	Law No 96-12 on Environmental Management	Cameroon	1996
DRC	Environmental Protection Law	D.R. Congo	2011
AGO	Environmental Framework Law No 5/98	Angola	1998

**PUBLIC HEALTH** · 6 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
GHA	Public Health Act	Ghana	2012
SEN	Public Health Code	Senegal	1991
KEN	Public Health Act, Cap 242	Kenya	1921

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
MUS	Food Act	Mauritius	1998
MAR	Law No 28-07 on Food Safety	Morocco	2008
DRC	Law No 18/035 Establishing Public Health Principles	D.R. Congo	2018

### ADVERTISING STANDARDS · 2 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
GHA	Advertising Regulatory Guidelines (ASA)	Ghana	1985
RWA	Law No 15/2001 on Telecommunications and Media	Rwanda	2001

### INDUSTRIAL LICENSING · 6 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
RWA	Law No 17/2019 Governing Companies	Rwanda	2019
ETH	Commercial Registration and Business Licensing Proclamation No 980/2016	Ethiopia	2016
EGY	Industrial Licensing Law No 15	Egypt	2017
CMR	Law No 90-031 Regulating Commercial Activity	Cameroon	1990
DRC	Commercial Code	D.R. Congo	2018
AGO	Law No 1/07 on Commercial Companies	Angola	2007

### CRIMINAL / PENAL · 11 instruments

Code	Instrument	Country	Year
NGA	Penal Code / Criminal Code	Nigeria	1990
GHA	Penal Code	Ghana	1960
SEN	Penal Code	Senegal	1965
RWA	Law No 68/2018 Determining Offences and Penalties	Rwanda	2018
ETH	Criminal Code of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia	Ethiopia	2004
MAR	Penal Code	Morocco	1962
EGY	Penal Code	Egypt	1937
TUN	Penal Code	Tunisia	1913
CMR	Penal Code	Cameroon	2016
DRC	Penal Code	D.R. Congo	1940
AGO	Penal Code	Angola	2020

# Index B

## By Regulatory Authority

Index B lists the key regulatory authorities covered by the Index and the instruments they administer. For beauty businesses engaging with regulators across multiple jurisdictions, this Index identifies which authority administers which instruments and across which countries. Authorities are listed by function type.

Regulatory Authority	Instruments Administered	Jurisdiction	Type
<b>NAFDAC (Nigeria)</b>	NAFDAC Act; Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration) Act	Nigeria	Cosmetics Safety
<b>Ghana FDA</b>	Food and Drugs Authority Act	Ghana	Cosmetics Safety
<b>ANPM (Senegal)</b>	Law No 98-08 on Food, Drugs, and Health Products	Senegal	Pharmaceutical Framework
<b>Pharmacy and Poisons Board (Kenya)</b>	Pharmacy and Poisons Act Cap 244	Kenya	Cosmetics Safety
<b>Rwanda FDA</b>	Law No 003/2018 Governing Food and Drugs	Rwanda	Cosmetics Safety
<b>Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority (EFDA)</b>	Proclamation No 1112/2019; Regulation No 299/2013	Ethiopia	Cosmetics Safety
<b>Department of Health (South Africa)</b>	Foodstuffs Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 54; Regulations R1469	South Africa	Cosmetics Safety
<b>Consumer Affairs Unit (Mauritius)</b>	Consumer Protection Act; Safety Requirements Regulations	Mauritius	Consumer Protection
<b>Ministry of Health (Morocco)</b>	Law No 17-04; Decree No 2-14-841	Morocco	Cosmetics Safety
<b>Egyptian Drug Authority (EDA)</b>	Law No 151 (2019); Ministerial Decree No 991	Egypt	Cosmetics Safety
<b>Ministry of Health (Tunisia)</b>	Law No 73-55; Ministerial Decree on Cosmetics	Tunisia	Pharmaceutical Framework
<b>Ministry of Public Health (Cameroon)</b>	Law No 2018-020; Decree No 2019-079	Cameroon	Pharmaceutical Framework
<b>Ministry of Public Health (DRC)</b>	Law No 18/035; Ministerial Orders	D.R. Congo	Public Health
<b>ARMED (Angola)</b>	Law No 5/21	Angola	Cosmetics Safety
<b>OAPI (Francophone Africa)</b>	Bangui Agreement all IP categories	17 member states	Regional IP Framework
<b>FCCPC (Nigeria)</b>	Consumer Protection Council Act; Competition and Consumer Protection Act	Nigeria	Consumer Protection
<b>Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK)</b>	Competition Act; Consumer Protection Act	Kenya	Competition
<b>Anti-Counterfeit Authority (Kenya)</b>	Anti-Counterfeit Act	Kenya	Customs / Trade
<b>APCON (Nigeria)</b>	Advertising Standards Guidelines	Nigeria	Consumer Protection
<b>Advertising Regulatory Board (South Africa)</b>	ARB Code of Advertising Practice	South Africa	Consumer Protection
<b>INNORPI (Tunisia)</b>	Law No 2001-36 on Industrial Property; Law No 94-41 on Standardisation	Tunisia	Trademark / IP
<b>CIPC (South Africa)</b>	Trade Marks Act 194; Counterfeit Goods Act 37	South Africa	Trademark / IP
<b>KEBS (Kenya)</b>	Standards Act Cap 496	Kenya	Standards / Quality
<b>SABS (South Africa)</b>	Standards Act 8	South Africa	Standards / Quality

Regulatory Authority	Instruments Administered	Jurisdiction	Type
<b>OCC (D.R. Congo)</b>	Standards and Quality Control Framework	D.R. Congo	Standards / Quality
<b>NEMA (Kenya)</b>	Environmental Management and Coordination Act	Kenya	Environmental
<b>REMA (Rwanda)</b>	Law No 48/2018 on Environment	Rwanda	Environmental
<b>EAC Customs (Kenya, Rwanda)</b>	EAC Customs Management Act	Kenya, Rwanda	Customs / Trade
<b>CEMAC Customs (Cameroon, DRC)</b>	CEMAC Customs Code	CEMAC members	Customs / Trade
<b>Competition Commission (South Africa)</b>	Competition Act 89	South Africa	Competition

# Index C

## Chronological

Index C lists instruments in chronological order of enactment (or most significant amendment), from oldest to most recently enacted. This Index allows users to trace the development of African beauty law over time and to identify the most recently modernised frameworks. The range spans from Tunisia's 1913 Penal Code to Angola's 2021 Law No 5/21 the most recently enacted primary cosmetics statute in the dataset.

Year	Instrument	Country	Note
1913	Penal Code	Tunisia	<i>Oldest instrument in the dataset</i>
1921	Public Health Act Cap 242	Kenya	
1937	Penal Code	Egypt	
1940	Penal Code	D.R. Congo	
1957	Pharmacy and Poisons Act Cap 244	Kenya	<i>East Africa's first cosmetics safety instrument</i>
1960	Penal Code	Ghana	
1962	Penal Code	Morocco	
1964	Customs and Excise Act 91	South Africa	
1965	Penal Code	Senegal	
1969	Standards Law (Ordonnance No 69-7)	Senegal	
1971	Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) Act	Nigeria	
1972	Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 54	South Africa	<i>Oldest dedicated cosmetics act in dataset</i>
1972	Trade Descriptions Act Cap 505	Kenya	
1973	Standards Authority Act	Ghana	
1974	Standards Act Cap 496	Kenya	
1974	OCC Standards Framework	D.R. Congo	
1975	Law No 118 on Import and Export Regulation	Egypt	
1977	OAPI Bangui Agreement (original)	Francophone Africa	
1977	Customs and Indirect Taxes Code	Morocco	
1985	Advertising Regulatory Guidelines	Ghana	
1988	APCON Advertising Standards	Nigeria	
1988	Customs Act	Mauritius	
1988	Environmental Protection Law No 88-91	Tunisia	
1990	Penal Code / Criminal Code	Nigeria	
1990	Law No 90-031 Regulating Commercial Activity	Cameroon	
1991	Public Health Code	Senegal	
1992	Consumer Protection Council Act	Nigeria	
1992	Food and Drugs Authority Act	Ghana	
1992	Law No 92-117 on Consumer Protection	Tunisia	
1992	Industrial Property Law No 3/92	Angola	

Year	Instrument	Country	Note
1992	IANORQ Standards Framework	Angola	
1993	NAFDAC Act	Nigeria	
1993	Food, Drugs and Related Products Act	Nigeria	
1993	Trade Marks Act 194	South Africa	
1994	Environmental Law No 4	Egypt	
1994	Law No 94-41 on Standardisation and Quality	Tunisia	
1996	Law No 96-12 on Environmental Management	Cameroon	
1997	Counterfeit Goods Act 37	South Africa	
1997	Law No 17-97 on Industrial Property	Morocco	
1998	Consumer Protection Act	Mauritius	
1998	Food Act	Mauritius	
1998	Law No 17-04 (Code of Medicines)	Morocco	
1998	Senegal Law No 98-08 on Health Products	Senegal	
1998	National Environmental Management Act 107	South Africa	
1998	Environmental Framework Law No 5/98	Angola	
1998	Competition Act 89	South Africa	
1999	Bangui Agreement revised	OAPI member states	<i>IP framework modernised</i>
1999	Environmental Management and Coordination Act	Kenya	
2000	Customs Code	Senegal	
2000	Law No 2000-011 on Copyright	Cameroon	
2001	Industrial Property Act	Kenya	
2001	Law No 15/2001 on Telecommunications and Media	Rwanda	
2001	Law No 2001-36 on Industrial Property	Tunisia	
2002	Copyright Act Cap C28	Nigeria	
2002	Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation No 300	Ethiopia	
2002	Environmental Law No 4 (amended)	Egypt	
2002	Environment Protection Act	Mauritius	
2002	Law No 82 on Intellectual Property	Egypt	
2003	Industrial Property Act	Ghana	
2003	Consumer Protection Law No 15/03	Angola	
2003	Customs Act	Ghana	
2004	Trademarks Act Cap T13	Nigeria	
2004	Customs and Excise Management Act	Nigeria	
2004	Criminal Code	Ethiopia	
2004	EAC Customs Management Act	Kenya, Rwanda	<i>EAC regional instrument</i>
2004	Dangerous Chemicals Control Act	Mauritius	
2004	Penal Code (revised)	Nigeria	
2005	Copyright Act	Ghana	

Year	Instrument	Country	Note
2005	Law No 3 on Protection of Competition	Egypt	
2006	Law No 17-04 enacted	Morocco	
2007	Competition Act	Mauritius	
2007	Law No 1/07 on Commercial Companies	Angola	
2008	Anti-Counterfeit Act	Kenya	
2008	Consumer Protection Act 68	South Africa	
2008	Standards Act 8	South Africa	
2008	Law No 28-07 on Food Safety	Morocco	
2008	Copyright Law	Senegal	
2008	Customs Code (consolidated)	Tunisia	
2009	Law No 31/2009 on Intellectual Property	Rwanda	
2009	Law No 2009-69 on Trade Distribution	Tunisia	
2010	Competition Act	Kenya	
2010	Competition Act	Ghana	
2010	Regulations Relating to Cosmetics R1469	South Africa	<i>EU-aligned cosmetics reg</i>
2010	Presidential Decree No 180/10	Angola	
2010	Customs Code	D.R. Congo	
2010	Standards Act	Mauritius	
2011	Environmental Protection Law	D.R. Congo	
2011	Law No 2011-012 on Consumer Protection	Cameroon	
2011	Law No 31-08 on Consumer Protection	Morocco	
2011	Law No 12-06 on Standardisation (IMANOR)	Morocco	<i>BCLA addition</i>
2012	Consumer Protection Act	Ghana	
2012	Consumer Protection Act	Kenya	
2012	Law No 36/2012 on Competition and Consumer Protection	Rwanda	
2013	Law No 30/2013 on Trade and Consumer Protection	Rwanda	
2013	Trade Competition and Consumer Protection Proclamation No 813	Ethiopia	
2013	Law No 10/2013 on Standards	Rwanda	
2013	Industrial Property Law / OAPI	Senegal	
2013	Council of Ministers Regulation No 299	Ethiopia	
2014	Law No 104-12 on Competition	Morocco	
2014	Competition Law	Senegal	
2014	Customs Proclamation No 859	Ethiopia	
2014	Framework Law No 99-12 on Environment	Morocco	
2014	Copyright Act	Mauritius	
2015	Decree No 2-14-841 on Cosmetic Products	Morocco	<i>Pre-market notification required</i>
2015	Ministerial Decree No 991 (Cosmetics)	Egypt	
2015	Competition and Prices Law No 2015-36	Tunisia	

Year	Instrument	Country	Note
2015	Law No 77-15 Prohibiting Plastic Bags	Morocco	
2016	Commercial Registration and Business Licensing Proclamation No 980	Ethiopia	
2016	Penal Code (revised)	Cameroon	
2017	Standards Proclamation No 1020	Ethiopia	
2017	Industrial Licensing Law No 15	Egypt	
2018	Consumer Protection Law No 181	Egypt	
2018	Law No 2018-020 on Pharmaceutical Activities	Cameroon	
2018	Law No 003/2018 Governing Food and Drugs	Rwanda	<i>Primary cosmetics regulator</i>
2018	Law No 48/2018 on Environment	Rwanda	
2018	Law No 68/2018 Determining Offences	Rwanda	
2018	Law No 18/035 (Public Health)	D.R. Congo	
2018	Law No 18/017 (Consumer Protection)	D.R. Congo	
2018	Law No 18/020 (Competition)	D.R. Congo	
2018	Competition Law No 5/18	Angola	
2019	Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No 1112	Ethiopia	<i>Most modern primary statute in East Africa</i>
2019	Decree No 2019-079 (Drug Quality Control Lab)	Cameroon	
2019	Consumer Protection Safety Requirements Regulations	Mauritius	
2019	Industrial Property Act	Mauritius	
2019	Customs Code	Angola	
2019	Competition and Consumer Protection Act (FCCPA)	Nigeria	<i>Most advanced digital advertising provisions</i>
2020	Customs Law No 207	Egypt	<i>Most recently enacted customs statute in North Africa</i>
2020	Penal Code (revised)	Angola	
2021	Industrial Property Proclamation No 1238	Ethiopia	<i>Most recently enacted IP statute in East Africa</i>
2021	Law No 5/21 on Medicines and Health Products	Angola	<i>Most recently enacted primary cosmetics statute</i>
2022	Copyright Act (revised)	Nigeria	<i>Most recently enacted copyright statute</i>

# Index D

## National vs Regional Instruments

Index D distinguishes national instruments (enacted by individual country governments) from regional instruments (treaty-based frameworks binding multiple member states). For beauty businesses operating across multiple African jurisdictions, regional instruments are particularly valuable because a single compliance action such as OAPI trademark registration provides protection across all member states.

### Regional Instruments in the Index

Instrument	Coverage	Type	Note
<b>OAPI Bangui Agreement</b>	17 Francophone African states	Regional IP Framework	<i>Single filing covers trademarks, industrial designs, and patents</i>
<b>EAC Customs Management Act</b>	Kenya, Rwanda + EAC members	Customs / Trade	<i>Harmonised border control across East African Community</i>
<b>CEMAC Customs Code</b>	Cameroon + 5 CEMAC members	Customs / Trade	<i>Harmonised customs union across Central Africa</i>
<b>OHADA Commercial Law</b>	All 3 Central Africa countries + 14 others	Industrial Licensing	<i>Harmonised commercial law framework across 17 African states</i>

### National Instruments by Country

Code	Country	No.	Composition
<b>NGA</b>	Nigeria	12	<i>All national instruments</i>
<b>GHA</b>	Ghana	10	<i>All national instruments</i>
<b>SEN</b>	Senegal	9	<i>9 national + 1 regional (OAPI)</i>
<b>KEN</b>	Kenya	9	<i>9 national + 1 regional (EAC)</i>
<b>RWA</b>	Rwanda	9	<i>9 national + 1 regional (EAC)</i>
<b>ETH</b>	Ethiopia	10	<i>All national instruments</i>
<b>ZAF</b>	South Africa	10	<i>All national instruments</i>
<b>MUS</b>	Mauritius	10	<i>All national instruments</i>
<b>MAR</b>	Morocco	10	<i>All national instruments</i>
<b>EGY</b>	Egypt	10	<i>All national instruments</i>
<b>TUN</b>	Tunisia	10	<i>All national instruments</i>
<b>CMR</b>	Cameroon	8	<i>8 national + 2 regional (OAPI Bangui, CEMAC Customs)</i>
<b>DRC</b>	D.R. Congo	8	<i>8 national + 2 regional (OAPI Bangui, CEMAC-adjacent)</i>
<b>AGO</b>	Angola	10	<i>All national instruments</i>

# Appendix I

## Glossary of Legal & Regulatory Terms

This Glossary defines key legal, regulatory, and technical terms used in the African Beauty Law & Policy Index. Terms are listed alphabetically. The Glossary is intended for readers who may not be familiar with African regulatory frameworks or with specific legal terminology used in the instrument entries.

<b>AfCFTA</b>	African Continental Free Trade Area a continental free trade agreement signed by 54 of 55 African Union member states, progressively liberalising trade in goods and services across Africa.
<b>ARMED</b>	Agência Reguladora de Medicamentos e Tecnologias de Saúde Angola's National Agency for Medicines and Health Products, established as the primary cosmetics regulator under Law No 5/21 (2021).
<b>Bangui Agreement</b>	The founding treaty of OAPI, originally signed in 1977 and revised in 1999. Governs the centralised IP registration system for all 17 OAPI member states.
<b>CEMAC</b>	Communauté Économique et Monétaire de l'Afrique Centrale the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa, comprising Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Gabon. The CEMAC Customs Code provides a harmonised customs framework.
<b>Conformity Assessment</b>	The process by which a product is tested and verified to comply with applicable standards or regulations before being placed on the market. In the cosmetics context, conformity assessment is typically conducted by a standards body (e.g. KEBS, SABS, MSB) and may result in a certification mark.
<b>Cosmeceutical</b>	A product positioned at the boundary between a cosmetic and a pharmaceutical for example, a skin cream with an active ingredient claimed to have a therapeutic effect. Cosmeceuticals are a significant compliance challenge because their regulatory classification depends on labelling claims and ingredient concentrations, and varies by jurisdiction.
<b>Cosmetic Product</b>	For purposes of this Index, a product intended for application to the external surfaces of the human body (skin, hair, nails, lips, external genitalia, teeth, and oral mucosa) for the purpose of cleaning, perfuming, changing appearance, correcting body odours, or maintaining good condition. This definition follows the EU Cosmetics Regulation, the most widely referenced international standard in the African regulatory context.
<b>DCCRF</b>	Direction de la Concurrence, de la Consommation et de la Répression des Fraudes Senegal's primary consumer protection authority, responsible for investigating misleading claims and unfair commercial practices in the cosmetics sector.
<b>EAC</b>	East African Community a regional intergovernmental organisation comprising Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan, and the DRC. The EAC Customs Management Act provides a harmonised customs framework relevant to cosmetics trade.
<b>EDA</b>	Egyptian Drug Authority established by Law No 151 of 2019 as Egypt's primary regulatory authority for cosmetic products. One of the most recently established primary cosmetics regulators in the dataset.
<b>EFDA</b>	Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority established under Proclamation No 1112/2019 as Ethiopia's primary cosmetics regulator. EFDA requires mandatory product registration before manufacture, importation, or sale.
<b>Enforcement Authority</b>	In the context of this Index, the body or bodies with powers of investigation, prosecution, adjudication, or sanction under a given instrument. This may differ from the administrative body responsible for the instrument.
<b>FCCPC</b>	Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission Nigeria's primary consumer protection and competition authority. The FCCPC Act (2019) is the most sophisticated digital advertising enforcement instrument in the West Africa dataset.
<b>GOEIC</b>	General Organization for Export and Import Control Egypt's import control body,

	responsible for pre-shipment inspection and compliance certification of cosmetic imports. GOEIC adds a significant compliance step for cosmetic importers entering Egypt.
<b>Industrial Design</b>	A design that gives a product its visual appeal its shape, lines, colours, contours, or texture. Cosmetic product packaging, bottle shapes, and product form factors are commonly protected as industrial designs. Registrable through OAPI (Francophone Africa) or national IP registries.
<b>IANORQ</b>	Instituto Angolano de Normalização e Qualidade Angola's national standards and quality body, responsible for developing and enforcing standards for cosmetic products.
<b>IMANOR</b>	Institut Marocain de Normalisation Morocco's national standards body, issuing Normes Marocaines (NM) standards for cosmetic products broadly aligned with ISO and EU standards.
<b>INNORPI</b>	Institut National de la Normalisation et de la Propriété Industrielle Tunisia's national body combining both IP registration and standardisation functions. Unique in the dataset in combining these two roles.
<b>KEBS</b>	Kenya Bureau of Standards Kenya's national standards body responsible for quality assurance and standardisation of cosmetic products. KEBS conformity assessments are required at ports of entry for cosmetic imports.
<b>NAFDAC</b>	National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Nigeria's primary food and drug regulatory authority with a mandatory product registration mandate for cosmetics. One of the most active cosmetics regulators in the dataset.
<b>OCC</b>	Office Congolais de Contrôle the DRC's state-owned quality control entity with mandatory conformity inspection powers at ports of entry. Every cosmetic shipment entering the DRC is subject to OCC inspection a distinctive compliance step not present in most other jurisdictions.
<b>OHADA</b>	Organisation pour l'Harmonisation en Afrique du Droit des Affaires the Organisation for the Harmonisation of Business Law in Africa, providing a harmonised commercial law framework across 17 member states including Cameroon, DRC, and Angola.
<b>OAPI</b>	Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle the African Intellectual Property Organisation, providing centralised IP registration (trademarks, industrial designs, patents) across 17 Francophone African member states through the Bangui Agreement. Headquartered in Yaoundé, Cameroon.
<b>OCC</b>	Office Congolais de Contrôle see above.
<b>OMPIC</b>	Office Marocain de la Propriété Industrielle et Commerciale Morocco's industrial property office, administering trademark and industrial design registration. Known for relatively strong border enforcement in coordination with customs.
<b>Personal Care Product</b>	A product used for personal hygiene and grooming, including soap, shampoo, deodorant, and toothpaste. In many jurisdictions, personal care products are regulated under the same framework as cosmetics. This Index treats personal care products as falling within the cosmetics category.
<b>PIF</b>	Product Information File a dossier required by the cosmetics regulations of Morocco (Decree 2-14-841), Egypt (Ministerial Decree No 991), and Tunisia (Ministerial Decree on Cosmetics), aligned with EU Cosmetics Regulation requirements. A PIF contains the cosmetic product formula, safety assessment, manufacturing method, and proof of the claimed effects.
<b>Post-Market Surveillance</b>	Ongoing monitoring of products after they have been placed on the market to identify safety issues, non-compliance, or adverse effects. Post-market surveillance obligations are a feature of the most modern cosmetics statutes in the dataset including Ethiopia's 2019 Proclamation, Rwanda's 2018 law, and Egypt's 2019 EDA law.
<b>PPB</b>	Pharmacy and Poisons Board Kenya's primary regulatory authority for cosmetic product safety and registration. Kenya operates a notification-based system (lighter than Nigeria's NAFDAC model).
<b>Product Notification</b>	A pre-market requirement in which a manufacturer or importer notifies the relevant regulatory authority of a cosmetic product before placing it on the market, providing product information including ingredients and safety data. Less demanding than full pre-market registration but still requires regulatory engagement. Used in Kenya, Rwanda, and Morocco.

<b>Product Registration</b>	A pre-market requirement in which a manufacturer or importer obtains formal approval from the regulatory authority for a cosmetic product before it may be sold. More demanding than notification. Used in Nigeria (NAFDAC), Ghana (FDA), Ethiopia (EFDA), Egypt (EDA), and Angola (ARMED).
<b>REMA</b>	Rwanda Environment Management Authority Rwanda's primary environmental regulator. Administers Law No 48/2018 on Environment, which imposes chemical management and waste disposal obligations on cosmetic manufacturers.
<b>SADC</b>	Southern African Development Community a regional organisation comprising 16 southern African states including South Africa and Mauritius. While SADC does not have a cosmetics-specific regulatory framework, its trade facilitation instruments are relevant to cosmetics trade in the region.
<b>Safety Assessment</b>	A technical evaluation of a cosmetic product's safety for human use, typically conducted by a qualified safety assessor. Required under Morocco's 2015 Decree, Egypt's Ministerial Decree No 991, and Tunisia's Ministerial Decree on Cosmetics all modelled on EU Cosmetics Regulation requirements.
<b>Skin Lightening Product</b>	A cosmetic product designed to lighten skin tone, typically through active ingredients such as hydroquinone, kojic acid, or azelaic acid. Skin lightening products are a significant regulatory focus in West and Central Africa given public health concerns about ingredients such as mercury and high-concentration steroids found in unregulated products.
<b>Trade Dress</b>	The overall visual appearance of a product or its packaging that identifies it as coming from a particular source. In the cosmetics context, trade dress includes bottle shapes, colour combinations, and packaging design. Registrable as an industrial design or protectable as an unregistered trademark in most jurisdictions.
<b>TRIPS</b>	Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights the WTO agreement setting minimum standards for IP protection. All 14 jurisdictions covered are WTO members and must comply with TRIPS standards, providing a common baseline for IP protection.
<b>WAEMU</b>	West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA in French) a regional economic community of eight West African states including Senegal. WAEMU harmonised standards apply in member states where developed. Senegal applies WAEMU standards for cosmetics where available.

# Appendix II

## Regional Frameworks Explainer

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Several of the instruments in this Index are regional rather than national they are treaty-based frameworks that bind multiple African states through a shared legal architecture. Understanding these regional frameworks is essential for beauty businesses and practitioners working across multiple African jurisdictions. This Appendix provides a brief explainer on each regional framework referenced in the Index.

### OAPI Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle

OAPI is the regional intellectual property organisation for Francophone Africa, established by the Bangui Agreement of 1977 (revised 1999). OAPI provides a centralised IP registration system covering trademarks, industrial designs, patents, utility models, trade names, geographical indications, and plant varieties across all 17 member states.

A single OAPI filing, submitted to OAPI headquarters in Yaoundé, Cameroon, provides protection across all 17 member states simultaneously including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo. OAPI's 17-state coverage makes it one of the most powerful single-registration IP tools available anywhere in the world.

For beauty brands operating in Francophone Africa, OAPI registration for trademarks and packaging designs is the single most impactful IP investment available. The registration process is conducted in French and fees are standardised across member states. OAPI-registered rights are enforced through national courts in each member state.

OAPI is represented in this Index through the Bangui Agreement entries for Cameroon (as host country) and DRC (as member state). All other OAPI member states including Senegal and all Francophone West and Central African countries benefit from OAPI registration through their national industrial property law entries.

### OHADA Organisation pour l'Harmonisation en Afrique du Droit des Affaires

OHADA is the Organisation for the Harmonisation of Business Law in Africa, established by the Treaty of Port Louis in 1993 and currently comprising 17 member states including Cameroon, DRC, Angola, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and others. OHADA provides harmonised Uniform Acts governing commercial companies, commercial contracts, securities law, simplified recovery procedures, insolvency, arbitration, and transport by road.

For beauty businesses structuring operations across multiple Central and West African markets, OHADA alignment is commercially significant. Commercial company formation, distribution agreements, and debt recovery processes follow harmonised OHADA rules across all member states, reducing the legal complexity of multi-country operations. Angola is a Lusophone OHADA member its commercial companies law (Law No 1/07) operates within the OHADA framework.

### EAC East African Community Customs Management Act

The East African Community Customs Management Act (2004) provides a harmonised customs framework across EAC member states: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan, and the DRC. For cosmetics trade within the EAC, the Act facilitates intra-regional trade by establishing common customs procedures, a common external tariff, and coordinated border enforcement tools.

The EAC Customs Management Act is represented in this Index for Kenya and Rwanda. Its practical significance for beauty businesses is greatest at Kenya's port of Mombasa a major entry point for cosmetic imports to the broader East African region and at Rwanda's landlocked border crossings, where most cosmetic imports transit through Kenya or Tanzania.

EAC harmonisation of cosmetics standards is ongoing through the East African Standards Committee. As this framework matures, it will increasingly shape product safety requirements across all EAC member states.

## **CEMAC Customs Code of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa**

The CEMAC Customs Code provides a harmonised customs union framework across the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Gabon. The CEMAC customs union applies a common external tariff and harmonised customs procedures.

For cosmetics trade within CEMAC, the Customs Code facilitates intra-regional trade and provides coordinated border enforcement tools. Cameroon's port of Douala is the primary entry point for cosmetic imports to the CEMAC zone. The CEMAC Customs Code is represented in this Index for Cameroon.

## **AfCFTA African Continental Free Trade Area**

The African Continental Free Trade Area signed by 54 of 55 African Union member states and progressively implemented since 2019 is the world's largest free trade area by number of participating countries. AfCFTA aims to eliminate tariffs on 90% of goods, liberalise trade in services, and establish continental rules on investment, intellectual property, and competition policy.

AfCFTA's full implementation will progressively affect the regulatory environment for cosmetics trade across Africa. The harmonisation of sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, and IP rules under AfCFTA will shape cosmetics compliance obligations over the next decade. While AfCFTA instruments are not directly represented in this edition of the Index, its trajectory is directly relevant to the development of African beauty law.

# Appendix III

## Submission & Correction Process

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The African Beauty Law & Policy Index is a living reference. BCLA welcomes submissions of new instruments, corrections to existing entries, and updates reflecting legislative amendments from legal practitioners, academics, government officials, regulatory professionals, and industry stakeholders across the continent.

### What We Welcome

- New instruments laws, regulations, decrees, or quasi-regulatory frameworks governing the beauty sector in any African jurisdiction not currently covered, or in jurisdictions covered by the Index where additional instruments are identified.
- Corrections factual corrections to instrument names, years, regulatory body details, scope descriptions, or notes fields.
- Amendments updates reflecting significant amendments to existing instruments, including new ministerial regulations, amendments to primary legislation, or changes in regulatory body structure.
- New jurisdictions submissions covering beauty regulatory frameworks in African jurisdictions not currently included in Edition 1.0.
- Translations improved or alternative English-language descriptions of instruments currently described in translation from French, Portuguese, or Arabic.

### How to Submit

Submissions may be made by email to: [index@beautyandcosmeticslawaf.org](mailto:index@beautyandcosmeticslawaf.org)

Please use the subject line: 'Beauty Index Submission [Country]' or 'Beauty Index Correction [Country]'.

Submissions should include the following information where available:

- Instrument name (in original language and English translation where applicable)
- Issuing jurisdiction and date of enactment or most recent significant amendment
- Primary regulatory body and enforcement authority
- Key focus areas and scope description
- Source reference (official gazette, government website, or other primary source)
- Submitter name, professional affiliation, and contact details (for verification purposes not published without consent)

### Languages

Submissions are accepted in English, French, and Portuguese. BCLA will translate submissions into English for inclusion in the Index. Submitters who provide original-language documentation will be credited accordingly.

### Review Process

All submissions are reviewed by the BCLA Research Team against primary source materials before inclusion. BCLA reserves the right to edit, reformat, or decline submissions that cannot be verified against available primary sources or that do not meet the Index's inclusion criteria. Submitters will be notified of the outcome of their submission.

## Acknowledgement

Accepted submissions will be acknowledged in the following edition of the Index. Submitters who prefer not to be acknowledged should indicate this in their submission email.

# Appendix IV

## Research Team & Acknowledgements

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The African Beauty Law & Policy Index was researched and compiled by the Beauty and Cosmetics Law Africa (BCLA) under the direction of its Founder, Sinmisoluwa Adesanya.

### About BCLA

The Beauty and Cosmetics Law Africa (BCLA) is a legal research and advocacy organisation dedicated to building the legal and policy infrastructure that Africa's creative and beauty industries need to grow with confidence. BCLA works at the intersection of law, policy, and the creative economy providing accessible legal information, conducting primary research, and advocating for regulatory frameworks that serve African designers, beauty entrepreneurs, and creative businesses.

BCLA's publications include the African Fashion Law & Policy Index (Edition 1.0, 2026) and the African Beauty Law & Policy Index (Edition 1.0, 2026) the first comprehensive multi-jurisdictional references of their kind on the continent.

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BCLA also acknowledges the regulatory bodies across the continent including NAFDAC, Ghana FDA, Rwanda FDA, EFDA, ARMED, EDA, the Department of Health South Africa, and all standards bodies, IP registries, and environmental authorities covered whose published materials and publicly available documentation formed the primary source base for this research.

The OAPI Secretariat in Yaoundé, Cameroon, provided valuable guidance on the Bangui Agreement's application across member states.

