

Chapter 11

Impact of Electronic Communications and Transactions Act, No. 25 of 2002 Provision 27 in South Africa Education on Emerging Technologies

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ABSTRACT

This chapter assess the level of South African university implementation of The Electronic Communications and Transactions Act 25 of 2002 (ECTA) provision 27. The literature review from other countries was used as form analysis level of adoption of electronic filing. The research found that South African universities adopted information communication technologies; however, most students and academics were unfamiliar with ECTA provision 27 on filing in an electronic environment. Non-compliance with the ECTA is instrumental towards the lack of providing online teaching and learning. The researcher recommends universities to develop an ECTA implementation plan to improve filing on electronic records filing.

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the implementation of the Electronic Communication and Transactions Act, No. 25 of 2002 (ECTA) provision 27. which states that “any public body, that according to any law – accept the filing of a document or requires documents to be retained” For universities to retain electronic records efficiently, safely, systematically, and economically, the transition to electronic records management system is supported by legislation. The implementation of Information communication technologies

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interventions is at the forefront of South African universities. However, such undertakings are often far from straightforward as they require the university to develop policies and strategies, adopt records management standards, filing plan management, staff competencies in Information Communication technology. The researcher highlighted lessons learned to shows implementation of the act. has an impact on South African universities because requires universities to develop an electronic records management implementation plan.

BACKGROUND

The Electronic Communications and Transactions Act 25 of 2002 (ECTA) came into effect in South Africa on 30 August 2002. The purpose of this legislation is as follows:

- Recognize the importance of the information economy for the economic and social prosperity of the Republic of South Africa
- Promote the understanding and acceptance of and growth in the number of electronic transactions in the Republic of South Africa
- Promote e-government services and electronic communications and transactions with public and private bodies
- Ensure that electronic transactions in the Republic conform to the highest international standards.
- Encourage investment and innovation in respect of electronic transactions in the Republic of South Africa
- Develop a safe, secure, and effective environment for the consumer, business, and the Government to conduct and use electronic transactions
- Promote the development of electronic transactions services that are responsive to the needs of users and consumers
- Ensure that, about the provision of electronic transactions services, the special needs of communities and areas and the disabled are duly taken into account.
- Ensure compliance with accepted international standards in the provision and development of electronic communications and transactions.
- Promote the stability of electronic transactions in the Republic
- Promote the development of human resources in the electronic transactions' environment
- Ensure efficient use and management of the za. Domain namespace and
- Ensure that the national interest of the Republic is not compromised through the use of electronic communications.

ECTA offers instruction of electronic communications and transactions; to improve on an e-strategy; to promote access to electronic communications and transactions. The Act legalizes electronic communications and transactions to build prerequisites for teaching, learning, and research in electronic records. Digital records provide authenticity and reliability as evidence of a transaction.

ECTA provision 27 mandate all public institution to adopt electronic filing system for their records and archives management. An increase in digital communication and technology in South Africa has inevitably led to an increase in the amount of digital information being created.

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