

CLIENT COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

xxx is an authorised Financial Services Provider and as such we have certain specific duties to you, our client. One of these duties is the establishment of a formal complaints resolution procedure, which will enable you to exercise your rights as provided for in the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act.

The purpose of this document is to inform you of the procedure that must be followed in order to submit a formal complaint with us. Please be advised that our internal complaints resolution procedure may be amended or cancelled by us at any time.

Our Complaints Officer is James Burgess and can be contacted on (021) 140 1565 or james@powerhouseafrica.co.za.

COMPLAINT HAS TO BE RELEVANT

In terms of the FAIS Act, a “complaint” means a specific complaint relating to a financial service rendered by the FSP or a representative of the FSP, to the complainant on or after the date of commencement of the FAIS Act, and in which complaint it is alleged that the FSP or representative:

- has contravened or failed to comply with a provision of the FAIS Act and that as a result thereof the complainant has suffered or is likely to suffer financial prejudice or damage; or
- has wilfully or negligently rendered a financial service to the complainant which has caused prejudice or damage to the complainant or which is likely to result in such prejudice or damage; or
- has treated the complainant unfairly

The financial services environment is complex. We will endeavour to address all reasonable requests from our clients, but may also refer you to a more appropriate facility. Where the complaint relates to any aspect of our service, or any disclosures that ought to be made by us, we will endeavour to address those complaints in writing, within seven days.

In instances where the complaint relates to any matter that is not within our control, such as product information or investment performance, we will forward the complaint to the product supplier concerned. Please be advised that we reserve the right to recover costs or damages that we suffer as a result of clients making frivolous, vexatious or unreasonable claims.

COMPLAINT MUST BE IN WRITING

In order for a complaint to receive the attention that it deserves, we request that your complaint be submitted to us in writing. Please ensure that where the complaint is delivered by hand or by any other means, you obtain and keep proof of delivery.

PROCEDURE

Our internal complaints resolution process is intended to provide fair and effective resolution of complaints. The time periods set-out in this procedure will be adhered to as strictly as possible but may be varied if necessary. The following step-by-step guideline sets out the procedures we will adopt and shows how a complaint will be dealt with, once received by us:

- Your complaint and all communications in connection with your complaint must be in writing. All verbal communications made in connection with the complaint must be confirmed in writing within three days of the communication.
- Please indicate the following information:
 - Your name, surname and contact details
 - A complete description of your complaint and the date on which the financial service that led to your complaint was rendered
 - The name of the person who furnished the financial advice or rendered the intermediary service that led to your complaint
 - How you would prefer to receive future communications regarding your complaint i.e. by e-mail, fax or post
- The complaint will be captured in our Complaints Register on the same day that it is made, and written confirmation of receipt will be forwarded to you. We will keep record of the complaint, and maintain such record for 5 years as required by legislation. Please take into consideration that the method of communication chosen by you will determine how quickly we will respond to your complaint.
- The complaint will immediately be drawn to the attention of the senior manager in charge of the relevant department for allocation to a trained and skilled person who is able to properly respond to your complaint.
- The complaint will be investigated and we will revert to you with our preliminary findings within **seven working days** from the date of receipt of the complaint. In all instances we will advise you of the reasons for our decisions.

- The preliminary findings will be discussed with all internal parties concerned, and a proposed solution will be communicated to you within a **further seven working days**. In all instances we will advise you of the reasons for our decisions.
- If you are not satisfied with our solution, you may refer the complaint to the Managing Director of our business. The Managing Director may amend the solution or confirm it. Please be informed that certain decisions may have to be approved by the management committee of the FSP. In such a case we will communicate that fact to you, as well as the date on which a decision will be taken.
- If, after having referred the complaint to the Managing Director, you are still not satisfied with the outcome, we will regard the complaint as being unsatisfactorily resolved. In such a case, you may approach the office of the Ombud for Financial Services Providers or take such other steps as may be advised by your legal representatives.
- The Ombud is appointed by the Financial Services Board to act as an adjudicator in disputes between clients and financial services providers. The referral to the office of the Ombud must be done in accordance with the provisions of section 21 of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act 2002 and the rules promulgated in terms of that section.
- In instances where we have not been able to arrive at a resolution **within six weeks** after you have submitted your complaint, the matter may automatically be referred to the Ombud. The Ombud acts independently and objectively and has jurisdiction in respect of complaints relating to advice or intermediary services, which has arisen after 15 November 2002.
- You must, if you wish to refer a matter to the Ombud, do so **within six months** from the date of the notice in which we inform you that we are unable to resolve the complaint to your satisfaction. The Ombud will not adjudicate in matters exceeding a value of R800 000.
- The Ombud may be contacted at their offices in Pretoria at the following address:

Physical Address:

Sussex Office Park

Ground Floor, Block B

473 Lynnwood Road (Cnr Lynnwood Road & Sussex Avenue)

Lynnwood

0081

Telephone: +27 12 762 5000 / +27 12 470 9080

Facsimile: +27 86 764 1422 / +27 12 348 3447

E-mail Address: info@faisombud.co.za

Website: www.faisombud.co.za