

Fintech Update

A Review of the NRS February 2026 Notice

READ MORE



Fintech Update

On 3 February 2026, the Nigeria Revenue Service (NRS) issued an official notice clarifying the implementation and effective dates of the newly enacted tax laws, following public questions and debate regarding how and when the reforms would take effect. The notice provided guidance on the practical application of the 2025 Tax Reform Laws and reaffirmed the statutory commencement dates. For businesses and individuals, the clarification effectively signals the conclusion of the transition phase and it confirms that full compliance under the new tax regime is now expected.

The notice provides a critical distinction between when the laws were signed and when it will take effect.

- The Nigerian Tax Act and the Nigeria Tax Administration Act officially takes effect from the start of this year, 1 January 2026. This simply means that all payroll, VAT, and corporate filings from 1 January 2026 onwards must follow the new rules.
- The NRS (Establishment) Act and Joint Revenue Board Act commenced on 26 June 2025 to legally empower the agency to transition from the FIRS, upgrade its digital portals, and restructure its enforcement teams hence they are retrospective, all the administrative actions taken by the NRS between June 2025 and January 2026 are legally valid.

Fintech Update

According to the NRS, the new rules apply differently depending on the tax category:

- VAT, WHT, and Stamp Duty: The new rates apply only to transactions made from 1 January 2026 onwards. Any transactions completed in 2025 must follow the old laws, even if they are being filed now.
- Company Income Tax (CIT): The new framework applies to the 2026 Year of Assessment. Returns for the 2025 assessment year will remain under the old system.
- Capital Gains Tax (CGT): The applicable law depends on the asset disposal date. Sales made in 2025 use the old rates, while any sales on or after 1 January 2026 are subject to the new system.

Fintech Update

There is need for businesses to review and update their accounting systems, internal controls, and compliance processes to align with the new tax regulations. Given the penalty provisions under the Nigeria Tax Administration Act 2025, it is important to ensure full compliance. Taxpayers are therefore encouraged to seek professional advice where necessary to avoid potential sanctions and ensure adherence to the law.

Disclaimer:

The information shared in this post is to provide general guidance on the subject matter and does not constitute legal advice. For guidance tailored to your organisation's specific circumstances, contact info@goldsmithsllp.com

