consumer goods council of south africa
Helping members trade better.

MEDIA RELEASE

## The Summit 2026 to Explore South Africa's Blueprint for Accelerating Impact

Johannesburg, 06 October 2026 – Business leaders, policymakers, industry experts and key stakeholders from across the consumer goods value chain will gather in Johannesburg on 7 October 2026 for The Summit 2026, one of South Africa's leading platforms for strategic dialogue, thought leadership and collaboration.

Convened by the Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA), this year's Summit will be held under the theme: *Accelerating Impact: The South African Blueprint*.

The Summit will explore the partnerships, innovations and practical solutions required to strengthen economic growth, improve competitiveness and build a more resilient and inclusive future for South Africa.

At a time when businesses are navigating complex economic conditions, technological disruption, changing consumer expectations and sustainability challenges, The Summit will bring together leaders from business, government, academia and civil society to exchange perspectives and identify practical opportunities for impact.

The discussions take place against a backdrop of subdued economic growth, high unemployment, constrained household incomes and increasing operating costs. Businesses continue to face pressures arising from energy costs, infrastructure constraints, illicit trade, food insecurity, supply chain disruptions and evolving regulatory requirements.

Against this backdrop, The Summit provides an opportunity to move beyond identifying challenges and focus on practical solutions that can contribute to growth, resilience and competitiveness.

The programme has been designed to stimulate meaningful engagement on a range of issues shaping South Africa's future, including:

- Economic growth and competitiveness.

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- Leadership in a rapidly changing operating environment.
- Building stronger and more collaborative value chains.
- Innovation and digital transformation.
- Sustainability and circular economy opportunities.
- Trusted data, traceability and technology-enabled commerce.
- Enterprise and supplier development.
- Skills development and inclusive growth.
- Consumer engagement and evolving retail trends.
- The role of partnerships in accelerating impact.

The Summit will also explore how innovation, trusted data and globally recognised standards are helping businesses improve efficiency, transparency and interoperability across supply chains. As organisations prepare for the future of commerce, technologies such as next-generation 2D barcodes, enhanced traceability solutions and Digital Product Passports are expected to play an increasingly important role in enabling more informed consumer choices and more connected value chains.

The consumer goods sector remains a critical contributor to South Africa's economy, supporting investment, entrepreneurship, manufacturing, logistics, retail, food security and employment. Through meaningful dialogue and collaboration, The Summit seeks to contribute to the development of practical solutions that support sustainable economic growth and social progress.

The Summit 2026 will take place at Vodaworld, Midrand, on 7 October 2026.

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