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Privacy Policy

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Introduction

This Privacy Notice describes how Prime Meridian Direct (Pty) Ltd ('We', 'us', 'our') collects, uses, discloses, retains and protects your personal information, in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA) and other relevant laws.

The Privacy Notice applies to any website, application, form, document, product or service which references this Privacy Notice.

POPIA defines personal information as "information which relates to an identifiable, living, natural person, and where it is applicable, an identifiable, existing juristic person". This includes, but is not limited to, your name, sex, gender, address, contact details, identity number and medical or health information.

What information we collect

Please note that we are handling your personal information as part of our role as an intermediary and administrator, the personal information we may process includes the following:

- Information about you – for example, your name, identity number, age, gender, date of birth, nationality, and occupation. In the event that you make a claim, we may also collect personal information from you about the claim and any relevant third parties. Note that we will use that information strictly in accordance with applicable laws and for insurance purposes (including assessing the terms of the insurance contract, dealing with changes to the policy and/or dealing with claims).
- Contact information –for example, we may receive your email, address, phone number and postal address.
- Online information – for example, cookies and IP address (your computer's internet address), if you use our websites, apps and/or social media channels.
- Financial information – we may process information related to payments you make or receive in the context of an insurance policy or claim.

In certain instances, we may need consent to process your personal information. If you give us your consent for a specific context, you are free to withdraw this consent at any time. Please note that where you have withdrawn your consent, this will not affect the processing that took place prior to such withdrawal and it will not affect the processing of your personal information where consent is not required.

You may refuse to provide us with your personal information in which case we may not be able to provide you with a relevant service or would have to terminate our business relationship. The supply of certain items of personal information, especially those collected to comply with regulation, is legally mandatory.

How we collect information

We collect personal information about you and any other person whose details you provide to us in accordance with the relevant laws, either:

- Directly from you when you complete a product or service application form, electronically, telephonically or by way of a hard copy;
- Indirectly from you when you interact with us electronically by way of our website, apps, or social media channels, which may include the collection of metadata (data about data);
- Where relevant, from third-party sources, such as, public databases, data aggregators, other financial institutions, credit bureaus, and fraud prevention agencies.
- We will also collect your information where you have only partially completed and/or abandoned any information which you began to apply to our website and/or other online forms. Given that we already consider you a customer at this stage, we may use this information to contact you in order to remind you to complete outstanding information.

Where we require personal information in order to provide you with our products and services, your failure to provide us with the necessary information, will result in us being unable to provide you with our products and services. Where such services include financial advice, the appropriateness of the advice may be compromised if you do not provide complete and accurate information. You are responsible for informing Prime Meridian if your information changes.

Collection of information by third parties

Owners or information system administrators of third-party websites that have links to our website, may collect personal information about you when you use these links. We do not control the collection or use of personal information by third parties and this privacy statement does not apply to third parties.

Prime Meridian Direct does not accept any responsibility or liability for third-party policies or your use of a third-party app, platform or service.

We also use certain social networking services such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and Twitter to communicate with the public and our clients. When you communicate with us through these services, that social networking service may collect your personal information for its own purposes. These services may track your use of our digital channels on those pages where the links are displayed. If you are logged into those services (including any Google service) while using our digital channels, their tracking will be associated with your profile with those service providers. These services have their own privacy policies which are independent of our privacy policies and practices. Please ensure that you fully acquaint yourself with the terms of any such third-party privacy policies and practices.

Prime Meridian Direct will only provide data to third-party information exchange services with your consent.

Why we process your personal information

We have regulatory obligations, including compliance with anti-money laundering legislation, to process your personal information. This includes verifying your identity or the identity of your beneficial owner and/or controlling persons. We are also required by various laws to maintain a record of our dealings with clients.

In order for us to provide clients with the financial products and services they have requested and to notify them of important changes to such products and services, we need to collect, use and disclose the personal information of clients, their representatives, controlling persons of entities, business contacts, staff of clients and service providers.

To the extent permissible under applicable laws, we may use your information:

- To provide you with our financial products and services, and maintain our relationship with you;
- To provide you with financial advice and intermediary services;
- To conclude and administer your application, which may include underwriting;
- To execute a transaction in accordance with your request;
- To assess, check, and process claims;
- To meet our contractual obligations with you or take steps necessary for the conclusion of a contract with you;
- To comply with legislative and regulatory requirements, including codes of conduct and requirements of our regulators (including the Financial Sector Conduct Authority and Prudential Authority);
- For the detection and prevention of unlawful activity, fraud, money-laundering and loss, including as part of party due diligence required under applicable laws;
- To execute our strategic initiatives;
- To perform any risk analysis or for purposes of risk management to you or our business in general;
- To record and/or monitor and have access to your telephone calls (i.e., voice recordings), correspondence and electronic communications to/with us (or any of our employees, agents or contractors) in order to accurately carry out your instructions and requests, to use as evidence and in the interests of crime prevention;
- To maintain the security of our digital channels and systems;
- For statistical analysis and research purposes;
- For audit and record-keeping purposes;
- For purposes of proof and legal proceedings;
- To enhance your experience when interacting with us and to help us improve our offerings to you;
- To conduct market research and provide you with information about our products and services from time to time via email, telephone or other means;
- To process your marketing preferences (where you have unsubscribed from certain direct marketing communications, keeping a record of your information and request to ensure that we do not send such direct marketing to you again); and
- For any purpose related to and compatible with the above.

Sharing your Information

We will only share your personal information with third parties if there is a legitimate reason to do so. We may disclose the personal information you provide to us to the following entities:

- Our third-party service providers and other Group entities who are involved in the delivery and/or administration of financial products and services;
- Other third parties in relation to the purposes set out under the previous section (How we use your information);
- Other insurers, public bodies and law enforcement (either directly or through shared databases) for fraud detection and prevention; and

We will not sell, rent, or trade your personal information to any third party. We will disclose information when lawfully required to do so:

- To comply with any relevant legislation;
- To comply with any legal process; and
- By any regulatory authority (for example, the Financial Sector Conduct Authority or Prudential Authority).

Transfer across borders

Some of the persons to whom we disclose your personal information may be situated outside of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) in jurisdictions that may not have similar data protection laws to the RSA. In this regard, we may send your personal information to service providers outside of the RSA for storage or processing on Sanlam's behalf. However, we will not send your information to a country that does not have information protection legislation similar to that of the RSA, unless we have ensured that the recipient agrees to effectively adhere to the principles for processing of information in accordance with POPIA.

Security and storage of information

We intend to protect the integrity and confidentiality of your personal information. We have implemented appropriate technical and organisational information security measures to keep your information secure, accurate, current, and complete. However, we cannot guarantee the security of any information you transmit to us online and you do so at your own risk.

Where third parties are required to process your personal information in relation to the purposes set out in this notice and for other lawful requirements, we ensure that they are contractually bound to apply the appropriate security practices.

Your personal information will be held and used for as long as permitted for legal, regulatory, fraud prevention and legitimate business purposes.

Right of access to information

The Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA) coupled with POPIA offer an individual the right to access information held by a public or private body in certain instances. This right can be exercised in accordance with the Prime Meridian PAIA manual.

Correction of your information

In accordance with POPIA, you have a right to correct any of your personal information held by us. If you would like to engage with us regarding the updating of your personal information, please contact us our Client Services Team on 011 745 7800 or at info@primemeridian.co.za.

Objection to processing of your information

In accordance with POPIA, you may object to our processing of your personal information on reasonable grounds relating to your particular situation, unless legislation provides for such processing.

Marketing

Where you provide your personal information to a Prime Group entity in the context of a sale of one of our products or services, you agree to such Prime Group entity sending you information on news, trends, services, events and promotions for our own similar products and or services, always subject to your right to opt out of receiving such marketing at the time your information is collected and on each subsequent marketing communication thereafter. You may object to receiving direct marketing from us at any time by contacting the Client Service Center at 011 745 7800.

Where you choose to exercise your right to opt out of direct marketing, please allow up to 21 days for us to effect that change.

Clickstream data

We may collect anonymous information from visitors to its websites. In the process, we ensure the information cannot be used to identify you. This information is sometimes known as "clickstream data". We or our analytics vendors may use this data to analyse trends and statistics and to provide better customer service.

The information, referred to as traffic data, which may be collected includes:

- Your IP address;
- The search terms you have used;
- The pages accessed on the website and the links you've clicked on;
- The date and time you visited the website;
- The referring website (if any) through which you clicked through to our website; and
- The type of website browser you use.

As mentioned, the traffic data is aggregated and not personally identifiable and our website analysis will also respect any 'do not track' setting you might have on your web browser.

Cookies

A cookie is a small text file that is downloaded onto 'terminal equipment' (for example, a computer or smartphone) when you access a website. It allows the website to recognise your device and store some information about your preferences or past actions.

What cookies do we use?

Some cookies which we use are essential to the functioning of our website. Some cookies help us with the performance and design of our website. This allows us to measure how many times a page has been visited, whether a page has been visited on the website through an advertisement or by other means. Other cookies help us to remember your settings which you may have selected or assist with other functionality when you browse and use our website. This helps us to remember what you have selected, so on your return visit – we remember your preferences.

In addition, we also use cookies on certain pages of our website to communicate with third-party data suppliers in order to extrapolate your digital behaviour. This helps us to understand and target more relevant advertising in the future. The information we receive is all aggregate and anonymous, but will include statistics such as demographics, online behaviour, product interests and lifestyle.

How do I disable cookies?

If you do not want to receive a cookie from the website, you have the option of setting your browser to notify you when you receive a cookie, so that you may determine whether to accept it or not. However, please be aware that if you do turn off 'cookies' in your browser, you will not be able to fully experience some of the features of the website. For example, you will not be able to benefit from automatic log-on and other personalisation features.

Updates

This privacy statement was last updated on 1 June 2021. A notice will be posted on our website home page whenever the Privacy Notice is materially changed.

Please check the website regularly to ensure that you are aware of the latest version of this Privacy Notice.

Particulars of Prime Meridian Direct

Prime Meridian Direct is a licensed financial services provider. Our office's registered address is Building 6, Bryanston Gate Office Park, 170 Curzon Road, Bryanston.

Should you have a complaint or concern regarding the processing of your personal information, your complaint may be submitted to complaints@primemeridian.co.za.

Whereas we would appreciate the opportunity to first address any complaints regarding our processing of your personal information, you have the right to complain to the Information Regulator, whose contact details are:

The Information Regulator (South Africa)

Address: JD House, 27 Stiemens Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg, 2001

Complaint's email: complaints.IR@justice.gov.za

General enquiries email: inforeg@justice.gov.za