



**AN ACT TO AMEND THE FOOD, DRUGS AND  
COSMETICS ACT NO. 2 OF 2006**

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ACT NO. 3 OF 2017

I ASSENT

{ DR. ALI MOHAMED SHEIN }  
PRESIDENT OF ZANZIBAR  
AND

CHAIRMAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL

28<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

AN ACT TO AMEND THE FOOD, DRUGS AND  
COSMETICS ACT NO. 2 OF 2006

ENACTED by the House of Representatives of Zanzibar.

PART I  
PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

- Short title and commencement      1. This Act may be cited as the Zanzibar Food, Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, of 2017 and shall come into operation immediately upon being assented to by the President.
- Construction.                      2. This Act shall be read together as one with the Zanzibar Food, Drugs and Cosmetics Act No. 2 of 2006, hereby referred to as "Principal Act".

PART II  
AMENDMENT PROVISIONS

- Amendment of section 2.                      3. Section 2 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by-
- (a) deleting the interpretation of the words "Principal Secretary";
  - (b) deleting the interpretation of the word "Registrar" and replacing it by the words "Executive Director" in this section and wherever it appears;
  - (c) deleting the interpretation of the word "Board" and replacing it by the word "Agency" in this section and wherever it appears except when it refers to Advisory Board;
  - (d) adding the interpretation of the following new words in alphabetical order:





“Agency” means the Zanzibar Food, Drugs and Cosmetics Regulatory Agency established under section 3 of this Act;

“Board” means the Advisory Board of the Agency as established under section 5A of this Act;

“Chairperson” means a Chairperson of the Board appointed under section 5A(1)(a) of this Act, and includes any person performing the functions of the Chairperson;

“Executive Director” means Executive Director of the Agency appointed under the provisions of section 6 of this Act;

“feed” means any substance or product, including additives, whether processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended to be used for oral feeding to animals or fish;

“Government” means the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar;

“Health facility” means health services or care that are provided in health care centers such as hospitals, clinics, outpatient care centers and specialized care centers such as birthing centers and psychiatric care centers;

“President” means the President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council;

“retail food business” means the handling and processing of food and its storage at the point of sale or delivery to the final consumer and includes distribution terminals, catering operations, canteens, institutional catering, restaurants and other similar food service operations, shops, supermarkets, distribution centers and wholesale outlets.

Amendment  
of section 3.

**4.** Section 3 of the Principal Act is hereby repealed and replaced with the new section as follows-

Establishment  
of the Agency

**3.**-(1) There is hereby established the Government agency to be known as Zanzibar Food, Drugs and Cosmetics Agency by its acronyms ZFDA.

(2) The Agency shall be semi-autonomous with perpetual succession and common seal and shall be capable in its name of-

- (a) borrowing and lending money;
- (b) taking, purchasing or otherwise acquiring, holding, changing and disposing of movable and immovable property; and





- (c) doing or performing all such other acts which are lawfully done by an Agency.

Amendment  
of section 4

**5.** Section 4 of the Principal Act is hereby amended as follows-

- (a) in subsection (1) by-

(i) deleting the word “prescribe” in paragraph (k) and replacing it by the word “regulate”;

- (ii) deleting paragraph (s) and replacing it by the following-

“(s) control and where necessary take legal measures on improper disposal of products regulated under this Act”;

- (b) adding new paragraph (t) as follows-

“(t) conduct post marketing surveillance of safety and quality of medical products;”

- (c) by repealing subsection (2) and replacing it by the following-

“(2) In the performance of its functions, the Agency shall-

- (a) maintain a system of consultation and cooperation at National and International level with public and private institutions established by or under any other law and having functions similar to those specified in subsection (1) of this section or having functions which relates to food, animal feed, drugs, medical devices, herbal drugs and cosmetics;
- (b) recognize and comply with the National, Regional, Continental and International Standards;
- (c) take proper measures to ensure effective National and International cooperation to combat the production, circulation and use of falsified and substandard of products regulated under this Act; and
- (d) foster National and International cooperation and harmonization of regulations of medical products.

Amendment  
of section 5.

**6.** Section 5 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (d) and replacing it by the following-

“(d) perform any other act as may be conferred under this Act or any other law”.





Addition of  
new sections  
5A and 5B.

7. The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding new sections 5A and 5B immediately after section 5 as follows-

Establishment  
of Board

**5A.**-(1) There is hereby established Advisory Board of the Zanzibar Food and Drugs Agency which shall be composed of the following members-

- (a) Chairperson who is appointed by the President;
- (b) Executive Director of the Agency;
- (c) Chief Government Pharmacist;
- (d) other members appointed by the Minister from:
  - (i) Ministry responsible for Trade;
  - (ii) Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Livestocks, Fisheries and Environment;
  - (iii) State Attorney authorized by Attorney General; and
  - (iv) Zanzibar Chamber of Commerce and Industries.

(2) A person shall be eligible to be appointed as chairperson if he holds relevant knowledge and experience for a period of not less than ten years in the field of health administration, health sciences or any other related fields.

(3) The Minister shall, before appointing members under paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of this section, seek consultation with the respective institutions, and ensure that the members have sufficient knowledge, experience and qualifications in related field and shall consider gender.

(4) The Advisory Board shall appoint a qualified lawyer from the Agency to be the Secretary of the Board.

(5) The provisions of the Schedule to this Act shall have effect as to the tenure of office of members, cessation of membership, proceedings of meetings of the Board and other related matters to the Board.





Powers and duties of the Board.

**5B.**-(1) The Board shall have a general advisory power in respect to the performance of the functions of the Agency, and in particular shall have power to-

- (a) advise the functions of the Agency in relation to inspection, registration, quality control, quality management system on the products and services regulated under this Act;
- (b) provide strategic guidance to the Agency in the discharge of its functions;
- (c) advice on the annual strategic and work plan and budget for the Agency;
- (d) advice sound corporate governance, policies, framework and practices are in place and implemented;
- (e) secure and ensure efficient use of resources, including advice on annual budget of the Agency;
- (f) review operational, financial audit and any other report of the Agency;
- (g) propose staff establishment and staff development plan to be prepared by the management within financial resources of the Agency in line with Public Service Act; and
- (h) do any other functions as it deems necessary for the efficiency and effectiveness in the performance of its functions under this Act.

(2) In the discharge of its functions under this Act, the Board shall be answerable to the Minister.

Amendment of section 6

**8.** Section 6 of the Principal Act is hereby repealed and replaced by new section as follows-

Executive Director.

**6.**-(1) There shall be an Executive Director of the Agency who shall be appointed by the President.

(2) A person shall qualify to be appointed as an Executive Director if he-





- (a) is a Zanzibari;
- (b) is a holder of at least a masters degree in pharmaceutical sciences or its equivalent or any other related field from a recognized University; and
- (c) has at least seven years working experience in the related field.

(3) The Executive Director shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Agency and shall be responsible for the management affairs and the day to day operation of the Agency.

Amendment of section 7      **9.** Section 7 of the Principal Act is hereby repealed and replaced by the new section as follows-

Departments of the Agency      **7.**-(1) There is hereby established Departments of the Agency as follows-

- (a) Food Safety Control;
- (b) Medicine, Cosmetics and other Medical Products;
- (c) Laboratory Services; and
- (d) Agency Services.

(2) The Agency may establish other departments or units as may deem necessary, subject to the Public Service Act.

Amendment of section 12.      **10.** Section 12 of the Principal Act is hereby repealed and replaced by the following-

Technical Committees      **12.**-(1) Agency may establish Technical Committees and assign responsibilities for each committee with the intent to facilitate execution and performance of operational functions of the Agency as it may deem fit.

(2) The Technical Committees established under subsection (1) of this section, may regulate its own proceedings.

Addition of new section 13A.      **11.** The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding new section 13A immediately after section 13 as follows-





Appointment  
of Analyst

**13A.**-(1) The Executive Director shall recommend to the Board and upon approval of the Board, shall issue notice published in the Gazette, of a qualified person among chemists, food scientists, pharmacists, microbiologists, biotechnologists, scientists, biochemists, laboratory technicians, engineers or any related field to be Analyst for the purpose of enforcement of the provisions of this Act.

(2) A person shall not qualify to be appointed as Analyst under the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, if that person has an interest in the storage, manufacture, import or sale of any product regulated under this Act.

Repealing of  
section 14.

**12.** Section 14 of the Principal Act is hereby repealed.

Addition of  
sections 15A,  
15B and 15C.

**13.** The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding new sections 15A, 15B and 15C immediately after section 15 as follows-

Transparency  
and  
Information  
sharing

**15A.**-(1) The Agency establishes quality management system based on International Standards to improve efficiency and transparency.

(2) The Agency shall set up system to provide for the creation of a regional information management system with which it may share relevant regulatory information.

(3) The Agency shall establish electronic web-based copies including but not limited to regulations, laws, forms, applications and registers of medical products.

Protection  
and access  
to  
information

**15B.**-(1) A person shall not be allowed to disclose to any person or institution any information acquired by him in the exercise of his powers or the performance of his functions under this Act relating to the business or affairs of any person or use such information for self-gain or for the benefit of his employer.

(2) A person may be permitted to disclose information-

- (a) for the purpose of the exercise of his powers or the performance of his functions under this Act with the written authority of the Agency;
- (b) when required to do so by any competent court or under any law; or
- (c) if it is for the public interest with the written authority of the Agency.





National  
Monitoring  
and  
Evaluation  
frame work.

**15C.**-(1) The Agency shall establish a National Monitoring and Evaluation frame work charged with reviewing and assessing the performance of the Agency.

(2) The Agency shall prepare quarterly reports and present to the Board.

Amendment  
of  
section 20.

**14.** Section 20 of the Principal Act is hereby amended as follows-

(a) in subsection (3), by deleting the word “two” appears between the word “than” and “million” and replace it by the word “three”; and

(b) in subsection (4), by deleting the word “two” appears between the word “than” and “hundred” and replace it by the word “three”.

Amendment  
of section 27.

**15.** Section 27(2) of the Principal Act is hereby amended by adding the words “retail food business” in paragraph (b) between the words “sale” and “or”.

Addition of  
new  
sections 60A,  
60B and 60C.

**16.** The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding new sections 60A, 60B and 60C immediately after section 60 as follows-

Pharmacovi-  
gilance

**60A.**-(1) The Agency shall establish a pharmacovigilance programme to monitor and report on the safety of medical products.

(2) Subject to subsection (1) of this section, the programme shall undertake-

- (a) monitor and analyse the adverse effects or events relating to products regulated under this Act;
- (b) identifying and reporting adverse events relating to clinical trials;
- (c) establishing causality, taking remedial actions to the victims of adverse effect of drugs and reporting to international safety monitoring systems; and
- (d) appropriate regulatory action when necessary, including but not limited to revising the marketing authorisation or labelling requirements of the medical product.





(3) The Agency may issue guidelines to provide for mandatory reporting and submission of periodic safety updates by the manufacturers and distributors, and voluntary reporting by health care professionals and the public.

Quality  
Monitoring

**60B.** The Agency shall institute a risk-based testing scheme consisting of sampling of medical products throughout the supply chain, to identify the products that are most at risk or likely to be falsified or sub-standard, and shall take appropriate action to protect public health, including enforcement measures under this Act.

Recall and  
Withdrawal  
of  
Medical  
Products

**60C.** Whenever the Executive Director finds that any medical product does not conform with the standards of identity, strength, quality and purity or any other requirement specified in the documentation for registration, shall-

- (a) order the licensee to discontinue with the sale of the remainder of the batch, so far as is practicable; and
- (b) recall any portion of the batch already sold.

Addition of  
new  
section 61A.

**17.** The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding new section 61A immediately after section 61 as follows-

Disposal of  
medical  
products.

**61A.** Subject to section 61(1) of this Act, the Agency shall direct that such products be withdrawn from the market and disposed of in accordance with relevant laws, environmental guidelines and in the manner stipulated in the regulations made under this Act.

Addition of  
new  
section 73A.

**18.** The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding a new section 73A immediately after section 73 as follows-

Report  
adverse  
drugs  
reaction.

**73A.** Public and private health facility shall report adverse drug reaction to the Agency.

Addition of  
new  
section 93A.

**19.** The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding new section 93A immediately after section 93 as follows-

Illegal  
possession  
of drug  
labels.

**93A-**(1) A person shall not possess or hold illegal drug labels.

(2) A person who illegally possesses or holds drug labels contrary to subsection (1) of this section, commits an offence, and shall be liable on conviction, to imprisonment for a term of not less than six month or to a fine of not less than one million shillings or to both such imprisonment and fine.





Addition of new section 119A.

**20.** The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding a new section 119A immediately after section 119 as follows-

Declaration and conflict of interest.

**119A.**-(1) A staff of the Agency, member of the Board or Committee shall declare any interest related to any products or which may be relevant to any decision making.

(2) Identified conflicts of interest shall be appropriately managed in accordance with published guidelines by the Minister in the Government Gazette.

Amendment of section 123.

**21.** Section 123 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraphs (f) and (x) thereof.

Addition of new section 124A.

**22.** The Principal Act is hereby amended by adding a new section 124A as follows-

Compound- ing of offences.

**124A.**-(1) The Executive Director may compound an offence committed by a person under this Act or its Regulations by requiring him to pay the fine prescribed for such an offence, provided that the person-

(a) admits in writing that he has committed an offence and shall take due care not to repeat the same; and

(b) pays the fine payable under this Act or its Regulations.

(2) Subject to provisions of subsection (1) of this section, no subsequent prosecution for the alleged offence shall be instituted against the person.

Amendment of Schedule.

**23.** The Schedule of the Principal Act is hereby repealed and replaced by the following-









Tenure of members of the Board.

7. The members of the Board save for ex-officio member shall, unless their appointment one sooner terminated or otherwise cease to be members, hold office for a period of three years from the date of their appointment, and may be eligible for reappointment for another one term.

Cessation of membership.

8.-(1) A member of the Board shall cease to hold office if he-

- (a) dies;
- (b) is unable to perform the functions of his office;
- (c) commits misbehavior or misconduct;
- (d) is convicted of a criminal offence involving fraud, dishonest or moral turpitude;
- (e) fails to disclose his interest in issue discussed in the meeting;
- (f) absents himself from three consecutive meetings without the leave of Chairperson; or
- (g) resigns by given written notice to the appointing authority and the reasons thereof.

(2) If a member of the Board, save for ex-officio members, ceases to be a member for any reason provided under sub paragraph (1) of this paragraph before the expiration of his term of office, the appointing authority shall appoint another person in his place and the person so appointed shall hold office for the remaining term of office of his predecessor.

Remuneration of the Board.

9. The members of the Board shall be paid such allowances from Agency funds with such amount as determined by the Minister.

Disclaimer of interest of members.

10. A member who directly or indirectly has interest in issue to be discussed in the meeting of the Board, shall declare the nature of his interest to the Board and shall refrain from participating in the deliberation of the matter in issue.

**PASSED** by the House of Representatives of Zanzibar on 21 February, 2017

RAYA ISSA MSELLEM

*Clerk of the House of Representatives of Zanzibar.*