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THE CONTEMPT OF COURT ACT

NO. 46 OF 2016

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CONTEMPT OF COURT ACT

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NO. 46 OF 2016

CONTEMPT OF COURT ACT

[Date of assent: 23rd December, 2016.]

[Date of commencement: 13th January, 2017.]

AN ACT of Parliament to define and limit the powers of courts in punishing for contempt of court and for connected purposes

[Act No. 46 of 2016.]

PART I – PRELIMINARY

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Contempt of Court Act, 2016.

2. Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

"Chief Justice" means the Chief Justice appointed under Article 166 of the Constitution;

"contempt of court" has the meaning assigned to it under section 4;

"corporation" means any corporation, council, board, committee or other body which has power to act under and for the purposes of any written law relating to undertakings of public utility or otherwise to administer funds belonging to or granted by the Government or money raised by rates, taxes or charges in pursuance of any such law;

"judge" means any person appointed under Article 166 (1) of the Constitution;

"judicial officer" has the meaning assigned to it by Article 260 of the Constitution;

"Order" has the meaning assigned to it under section 2 of the Civil Procedure Act;

"Rules" means rules made by the Chief Justice pursuant to this Act;

"State organ" has the meaning assigned to it by Article 260 of the Constitution;

"subordinate court" has the meaning assigned to it by Article 169(1) of the Constitution;

"superior court" has the meaning assigned to it by Article 162(1) of the Constitution and includes the Employment and Labour Relations Court and the Environment and Land Court.

3. Objectives of this Act

The objectives of this Act are to —

- (a) uphold the dignity and authority of the court;
- (b) ensure compliance with the directions of court;
- (c) ensure the observance and respect of due process of law;