



**THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

LAWS OF KENYA

---

## **THE EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES ACT**

CHAPTER 517

Revised Edition 2019 [1990]

Published by the National Council for Law Reporting  
with the Authority of the Attorney-General

[www.kenyalaw.org](http://www.kenyalaw.org)



**CHAPTER 517****EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES ACT****ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS****PART I – PRELIMINARY***Section*

1. Short title
2. Interpretation

**PART II – THE EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES AUTHORITY**

3. Establishment and membership of the Export Processing Zones Authority
4. Meetings and procedures of the Authority
5. Seal and execution of documents
6. Appointment of chief executive of the Authority
7. Appointment and remuneration of staff
8. Protection from legal action
9. Objectives of the Authority
10. Power of the Authority to make rules
11. General fund and annual budget of the Authority
12. Accounts, etc., of the Authority
13. Disclosure of information
14. Committees

**PART III – EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES**

15. Declaration of export processing zone
16. Facilities, etc., within an export processing zone
17. Activities permitted within an export processing zone
18. Power of Minister to make rules

**PART IV – LICENSING PROVISIONS**

19. Licences
20. Register of licences

**PART V – EXPORT PROCESSING  
ZONE DEVELOPERS AND OPERATORS**

21. Qualifications of export processing zone developers and operators
22. Powers of export processing zone developers and operators

**PART VI – EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE ENTERPRISES**

23. Establishment of export processing zone enterprises

**PART VII – OPERATIONS WITHIN  
THE EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES**

24. Goods deemed to be exported and imported into Kenya
25. Goods within an export processing zone
26. Prohibited activities within the export processing zone
27. Removal of goods from the export processing zone

*Export Processing Zones*

---

28. Exchange controls on receipts and payments by export processing zone enterprises

PART VIII – BENEFITS TO EXPORT  
PROCESSING ZONE ENTERPRISES, ETC.

29. Benefits accruing to export processing zone enterprises, etc.  
30. Inspection facilities

PART IX – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

31. Appeal to the Minister  
32. Power of Minister to give directions  
33. Report to the Minister  
34. Regulations  
35. General powers of the Minister

SCHEDULES

---

## CHAPTER 517

## EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES ACT

*[Date of assent: 21st November, 1990.]**[Date of commencement: 23rd November, 1990.]*

**An Act of Parliament to provide for the establishment of export processing zones and the Export Processing Zones Authority; to provide for the promotion and facilitation of export oriented investments and the development of enabling environment for such investment and for connected purposes**

[Act No. 12 of 1990, Act No. 14 of 1991, Act No. 7 of 1993, Act No. 11 of 1993, Act No. 6 of 1994, Act No. 8 of 1997, Act No. 5 of 1998, Act No. 4 of 1999, Act No. 9 of 2000, Act No. 6 of 2001, Act No. 4 of 2004, Act No. 7 of 2007, Act No. 18 of 2018.]

## PART I – PRELIMINARY

**1. Short title**

This Act may be cited as the Export Processing Zones Act, 1990.

**2. Interpretation**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

**"adequate security"** means security which has been accepted as adequate by the Authority for the purposes of section 10;

**"Authority"** means the Export Processing Zones Authority established by section 3;

**"commercial activity"** means trading in, breaking bulk, grading, repacking or relabelling of goods and industrial raw materials;

**"company"** means a company within the meaning of the Companies Act (Cap. 486) or a company incorporated outside Kenya but registered in Kenya under the Companies Act;

**"customs control"** means the measures applied to ensure compliance with the laws and regulations which the customs officers are responsible for enforcing;

**"customs officer"** means a customs officer appointed under the Customs and Excise Act (Cap. 472);

**"customs territory"** means the territory in which the customs laws of Kenya apply in full, but does not include an export processing zone;

**"domestic Kenyan business"** means any individual, partnership, corporation or other entity conducting a trade or business within Kenya, which is not an export processing zone enterprise;

**"duty"** means the fiscal, customs and excise duty for the time being leviable under any written law;

**"eligible activities"** includes activities to enable agricultural activities preceding processing and value addition directly related to value addition conducted in Kenya within a gazetted export processing zone in aquaculture, horticulture, tea, coffee, floriculture, dairy and ranching, and silviculture;