

ACT

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THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 2020

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Passed in Parliament this *6th day of August*, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty.

PARAN UMAR TARAWALLY,
Clerk of Parliament.

THIS PRINTED IMPRESSION has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has passed Parliament and found by me to be a true and correct printed copy of the said Bill.

PARAN UMAR TARAWALLY,
Clerk of Parliament..

SIGNED this *25th day of August, 2020.*

DR. JULIUS MAADA BIO,
President.



No. 7



2020

Sierra Leone

The Consumer Protection Act, 2020.

Short title.

Being an Act to provide for the protection and promotion of the interests of consumers to provide for the establishment of the National Consumer Protection Commission and for other related matters.

[] Date of commencement.

ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.

PART 1- PRELIMINARY

Application. **1.** This Act applies to the supply of goods and services in trade or commerce in Sierra Leone, including supply by entities owned wholly or partly by the State.

Interpretation. **2.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

“acquire” includes purchase, exchange taking on lease, hire or by credit;

“adjudicator” means a legal practitioner appointed under section 24 (2) to determine a resolution to disputes between consumers, service providers and suppliers;

“appropriate laboratory” means an accredited laboratory or organization recognized by Government and includes any such laboratory or organization established by or under any enactment for carrying out analysis or tests of any goods with a view to determining whether the goods suffer from any defect;

“auction” means any sale of goods or services at which some or all of the persons present compete for the purchase of goods or services, whether by way of bidding or any other means;

“Chief Executive Officer” mean the Chief Executive Officer appointed under section 13;

“Commission” means the National Consumer Protection Commission of Sierra Leone established under section 3;

“complaint” means any aspect of the goods or services or the conduct of the supplier or service provider which cause or have the potential to cause detriment to a consumer;

“Consumer” means any person or body corporate who acquires goods or services for personal, domestic or household use or consumption whether for the benefit of themselves or other persons, but does not include a person who obtains such goods or services for resale or for any commercial purpose;

“commercial purpose” does not include use of goods or services duly registered exclusively for the purpose of earning a livelihood by means of self-employment;

“consumer association” means a voluntary body of persons duly registered under any enactments whose principal objective is to protect and promote consumer interests;

“consumer contract” means an agreement, whether or not in writing and whether of specific or general use, to supply goods or services to a consumer;

“consumer representative” means a person or organisation who with the agreement of the consumer provides assistance and support to the consumer in expressing views or taking other actions;

“credit” is provided if a right is granted by a person to another person to-

- (a) defer payment of a debt;
- (b) incur a debt and defer its payment; or
- (c) purchase property or services and defer payment for that purchase in whole or in part;

“credit contract” means a contract under which credit is or may be provided;