

THE PROTECTION FROM RADIATION ACT, 2001

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SIGNED this 25th day of *January*, 2002.

ALHAJI AHMAD TEJAN KABBAH,
President.

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No. 14

2001

Sierra Leone

The Protection from Radiation Act, 2001

Short title.

Being an Act to protect the public and workers from dangers resulting from the use of devices or materials capable of producing ionizing radiation and for other related purposes.

/ Date of commencement.

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

PART I—PRELIMINARY

Interpretation.

1. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“disposal”, in relation to waste, includes its removal, deposit or destruction, its discharge, whether into water or into the air or into a sewer or drain or otherwise, or its burial, whether underground or otherwise;

“facility” means an assembly of devices, equipment, structures or natural features, whether simple or complex, which serves some purposes or performs some function, in the course of which ionizing radiation is, or is capable of being created;

“ionizing radiation” means electromagnetic or corpuscular radiation, consisting of protons or particles capable of producing ions directly or indirectly, in its passage through matter;

“irradiating device” means an apparatus capable of producing ionizing radiation;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for energy and power;

“owner” means the person having administrative control over a radiation source;

“public” means any person not designated as a worker;

“radiation source” means any irradiating device or radioactive material;

“radio-active material” means any material emitting ionizing radiation of sufficient intensity to entail significant risk of disability or disease as a result of exposure;

“Registrar” means the person appointed as such under section 6;

“waste” includes a substance which constitutes scrap material or an effluent or other unwanted surplus substance arising from the application of any process, and also includes any substance or article which requires to be disposed of as being broken, worn out, contaminated or otherwise spoilt;

“workers” includes all persons potentially exposed to ionizing radiation as a result of their occupation.

PART II—ADMINISTRATION

2. There is hereby established a body to be known as the Protection from Radiation Board (in this Act referred to as “the Board”).

Establishment
of Board.

3. (1) The Board shall consist of—

Composition
of Board.

- (a) the Dean of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, Fourah Bay College who shall be the chairman;
- (b) the Head, Division of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, Ministry of Health;
- (c) the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Power;
- (d) the Principal, College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences;
- (e) the General Manager, National Power Authority;
- (f) the Director-General of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sanitation;
- (g) the Director, Environment Protection Department, Ministry of Lands, Housing and the Environment;

- (h) the Director, Standards Bureau, Ministry of Trade and Industry;
- (i) the Solicitor-General;
- (j) a representative of the Physics Department, University of Sierra Leone;
- (k) the Comptroller of Customs; and
- (l) the Director of Mines, Ministry of Mineral Resources.

(2) Members of the Board shall be appointed by the President and on such terms and conditions as may be stipulated in their letters of appointment.

(3) The Registrar shall be the secretary to the Board.

Functions of Board.

4. The Board shall—

- (a) have responsibility for all matters relating to the use and disposal of irradiating devices or radio-active materials to ensure protection of the public and workers from danger resulting from ionizing radiation;
- (b) assist Government in formulating policies on the safe use and disposal of irradiating devices or radio-active materials;
- (c) establish and operate a system to control importation, exportation, manufacture, possession, sale of or any dealing in irradiating devices or radio-active materials;
- (d) establish and maintain a register or registers of importers, exporters, manufacturers, users and operators of devices or materials capable of producing ionizing radiation;