
THE FOOD AND NUTRITION ACT, 2020

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SCHEDULE

GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA

ACT

No. 3 of 2020

Date of Assent: 23rd October, 2020

An Act to provide for the implementation of a national food and nutrition programme; continue the existence of the National Food and Nutrition Commission and re-define its functions; establish the Board of the Commission and define its functions; re-constitute the Board of the Commission and re-define its functions; establish the Food and Nutrition Coordinating Committee and provide for its functions; repeal and replace the National Food and Nutrition Commission Act, 1967; and provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

[26th October, 2020

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia.

Enactment

PART I

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

1. This Act may be cited as the Food and Nutrition Act, 2020, and shall come into operation on the date appointed by the Minister by statutory instrument.

Short title
and
commencement

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires—

Interpretation

“authorised officer” means an employee of the Commission or any other officer authorised in writing to enforce this Act;

“Board” means the Board of the Commission constituted under section 6;

	“Chairperson” means the person appointed as Chairperson of the Board under section 6;
	“Commission” means the National Food and Nutrition Commission continued under section 3;
	“Coordinating Committee” means the Food and Nutrition Coordinating Committee constituted under section 30;
Cap. 1	“Emoluments Commission” means the Emoluments Commission established under the Constitution;
	“Executive Director” means the person appointed as Executive Director under section 9;
Act No. 7 of 2019	“food” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Food Safety Act;
	“food supplement” means a product, other than tobacco, intended to supplement the diet, and includes the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) contains concentrated source of one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) vitamins; (ii) minerals; (iii) amino acids; (iv) essential oils; (v) natural substances of plant or animal origin; (vi) enzymes; or (vii) substances with nutritional or physiological function or contains a combination of any of these; (b) is intended to be taken orally in the form of tablet, capsule, powder, softgel, gelcap, granules or liquid; (c) is not represented for use as a conventional food or as a sole item of a meal or the diet; and (d) is labelled as a food supplement;
Act No. 24 of 2009	“Health Professions Council of Zambia” means the Health Professions Council of Zambia established under the Health Professions Act;
Act No. 4 of 2013	“higher education institution” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Higher Education Act;
	“institution” means a public or private organisation, establishment, foundation or society involved in the promotion of public, educational or charitable programmes;

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- “legally disqualified” means having no legal capacity as provided in section 4 of the Mental Health Act;
- “malnutrition” means a condition resulting from an inadequate or excess intake of food resulting in either under nutrition or over nutrition;
- “micro-nutrient deficiency” means the inadequate availability of either vitamins or minerals, or both, required to maintain health in the body, and “micro-nutrient deficiencies” shall be construed accordingly;
- “national food and nutrition programme” means provision of services in an integrated manner to improve the food and nutrition situation of the population;
- “nutrition” means the intake of food, considered in relation to the body’s dietary needs for growth, development and maintenance of health;
- “nutrition group” means an organisation registered with the Commission that carries out food and nutrition programmes at community level;
- “nutritionist” means a person qualified in the field of human nutrition, dietetics, food and nutrition sciences and registered with the Commission or the Health Professions Council of Zambia;
- “nutritional security” means a person’s access to an optimal nutrition status relative to age, sex and physiological characteristics covering dietary energy, protein mineral and vitamin requirement;
- “nutritional supplement” means natural, processed or manufactured food in the form of a capsule, tablet, powder or liquid source of nutrients, or other substance with a nutritional or physiological effect capable of supplementing the normal diet;
- “Register” means the Register referred to under section 28;
- “repealed Act” means the National Food and Nutrition Commission Act;
- “Secretary” means the person appointed as Secretary to the Commission under section 10;
- “Vice-Chairperson” means the person elected as Vice-Chairperson under section 6;
- Act No. 6 of 2019
- Cap. 308