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GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA

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ACT

No. 12 of 1990

Date of Assent: 20th July, 1990

An Act to provide the protection of the environment and the control of pollution; to establish the environmental Council and to prescribe the functions and powers of the Council; and to provide for matters connected with or incidental to the foregoing.

[23rd July, 1990

Enacted by the Parliament of Zambia

PART I

Preliminary

1. This act may be cited as the Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act, 1990, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by statutory instrument, appoint.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires - "abatement" means the reduction or removal of environmental pollution to permitted or prescribed levels; "Advisory Committee constituted under section twenty one;

"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Council, appointed under section four;

"committee" means a committee constituted by the Council under section nine;

"conservation" means the preservation of the natural resources and their protection from misuse, fire or waste;

"contaminant" means a substance or physical agent, or a combination of substances and physical agents that may contribute to or create a condition of pollution;

"Council" means the Environmental Council Established by section three;

"Deputy Director" means the Deputy Director of the Council, appointed under section nineteen;

"Director" means the Director of the Council, appointed under section nineteen;

"ecological system" means a living functional system which contains all organisms including man, their environments and their environments and the relationships that exists between them;

"conservation" means the preservation of the natural resources and their protection from misuse, fire or waste;

"contaminant" means a substance or physical agent, or a combination of substances and physical agents that may contribute to or create a condition of pollution;

"environment", except as otherwise defined in PART IX, means land, water, air and other external influences and conditions which affect the development and life of all organisms including man;

"Inspectorate" means the Environmental Inspectorate established under section eighty-one'

"member" means a member of the Council;

"person" means an individual, partnership, corporation or association;

"pollution" means the presence in the environment of one or more contaminants in such qualities and for such duration and under such conditions as may cause discomfort to or endanger the health; safety and welfare of persons, or which may cause injury or damage to plant or animal life or property, or which may interfere unreasonably with the normal enjoyment of life or use of proper or conduct of business;

"pollutor" means the a person who contributes to or creates a

condition of pollution;

"Secretary" means the Secretary of the Council, appointed under section twenty;

"standards" means the limits of pollution prescribed under this Act and any regulations made under this Act;

#### Establishment of Environmental Council

"Vice-Chairman" means the Vice -Chairman of the Council appointed under section four;

#### PART II

#### The Environmental Council

3. There is hereby established the Environmental Council which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal, capable of suing and of being sued in its corporate name, and with power, subject to this act, to do all such acts and things as a body corporate may lawfully do or perform.

4. (1) The Council shall consist of the following members:

(a) the Chairman and Vice-Chairman who shall be appointed by the Minister:

(b) a representative from each of the following ministries or organisations-

(i) the ministry responsible for water, lands and natural resources:

(ii) the ministry responsible for agriculture;

(iii) the ministry responsible for commerce and trade;

(iv) the ministry responsible for mines;

(v) the ministry responsible for health;

(vi) the ministry responsible for power, transport and communications;

(vii) the ministry responsible for general education, youth and sport;

(ix) the ministry responsible for higher education science and technology;

(x) the ministry responsible for information;

(xi) the ministry responsible for local administration;

(xii) the ministry responsible for tourism;

(xiii) the ministry responsible for legal affairs;

(xiv) the National Commission for Development Planning;

(xv) the National Council for Scientific Research;

(xvi) the University of Zambia;

- (xvii) the Copperbelt University
- (xviii) the Industrial Development Company Limited;
- (xix) the Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines Limited;
- (xx) the Commercial Farmers Bureau;
- (xxi) the Chamber of Commerce;
- (xxii) the Zambia Association of Manufacturers;
- (xxiii) the Zambia Bureau of Standards;

Tenure of office and vacancies

Functions of Council

- (xxiv) a non-governmental organisation concerned with the conservation of nature designated by the Chairman; and
- (xxv) two other persons in their personal capacities appointed by the Minister.

(2) Where any member except the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and a member referred to in paragraph (xxv) of subsection (i) is unable to attend any meeting of the Council his Ministry or organisation as the case may be, may in writing nominate another person to attend in his stead and such person shall be deemed to be a member for the purpose of that meeting.

5. (1) The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members referred to in paragraphs (xiv) to (xxiv) of subsection (i) of section four shall hold office for three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

(2) Any member referred to in paragraph (a) of subsection (i) of section four may resign upon giving one month's notice in writing to the Minister and may be removed by the Minister at any time.

(3) The members referred to in paragraph (b) of subsection (I) of section four may resign upon giving one month's notice in writing to the Ministry or authority which appointed him and may be removed by the Ministry or authority which appointed him at any time.

(4) The office of a member shall become vacant -

- (a) if he is declared to be of unsound mind;
- (b) if he is an undischarged bankrupt;
- (c) if he is detained, or his freedom of movement is restricted under any law in force in Zambia for a period in excess of six months;
- (d) if he is sentenced to a term of imprisonment for a period in excess of six months;
- (e) if he is convicted of an offence involving dishonesty;
- (f) upon resignation or removal under subsection (2) and (3); or

(g) if he absent without reasonable cause from three consecutive meetings of the Council of which he had notice.

6. (1) Subject to the other provisions of this act the functions of the Council shall be to do all such things as are necessary to protect the environment and control pollution, so as to provide for the health and welfare of persons, animals, plants and the environment.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) the Council may-

(a) advise the Government on the formulation of policies relating to good management of natural resources and environment;

(b) recommended measures aimed at controlling pollution resulting from industrial processes or otherwise;

(c) advise on any aspect of conservation;

(d) advise on the need to conduct and promote research analysis, surveys, studies, investigations and training, of personnel, in the field of environmental conservation protection and pollution control;

(e) receive and review reports and make recommendations to the Government on environmental matters;

(f) conduct studies and make recommendations on standards relating to the improvement of the environment and the maintenance of a sound ecological system;

(g) co-ordinate the activities of all Ministries and other bodies concerned with the protection of the environment and control of pollution;

(h) advise on co-operation between national and international organisation on environmental matters;

(i) advise on the need for, and embark upon, general educational programmes for the purpose of creating an enlightened public opinion regarding the environment and an awareness of an individual and the public of their role in the protection and improvement of the environment;

(j) identify projects or types of projects, plans and policies for which environmental impact assessment are necessary and undertake or request others to undertake such assessments for consideration by the Council;

(k) consider and advise, on all major development projects at an initial state and for that purpose the Council may request information on the major development projects.

(l) monitor trend in the use of natural resources and their impact on the environment;

(m) identify, promote and advise on projects which further or are likely to further conservation for sustainable development and the protection and improvement of the environment;

(n) hold seminar, symposia and prepare studies on matters relating to environmental and natural resources use and protection;

(o) request for information on projects proposed, planned or in progress by any person anywhere in Zambia;

(p) request for information on the quantity, quality and management methods of natural resources and environmental conditions from any individual or organisations anywhere in Zambia.

(q) provide support for environmental conservation protection and improvement by way of grants or loans the provision of accommodation, equipment and the common use thereof.

(r) advise on the effects of any sociological or economic development on the environment;

(s) publicise all relevant information on any aspect of the environment;

(t) carry out any other activities relating to the protection of the environment and the control of pollution which are necessary or conducive to the better performance of its functions under this Act.

(3) The Council may, subject to such terms and conditions as it considers fit, delegate in writing any of its functions under this Act to the Director, any member, the Inspectorate or the Secretary.

(4) The Minister may give to the Council such general or specific directions with respect to the discharge of its functions as he may consider necessary and the Council shall give effect to those directions.

Proceedings of Council

Seal of Council

7. (1) Subject to the other provisions of this Act, the Council may regulate its own procedure.

(2) The Council shall meet for the transaction of business at least once in every three months at such places and at such times as the Chairman may determine.

(3) Upon giving notice of not less than fourteen days, a meeting of the Council may be called by the Chairman and shall be called if not less than seven members so request in writing;

Provided that if the urgency of any particular matter does not permit the giving of such notice a special meeting may be called upon giving of such notice a special meeting may be called upon giving a short notice.

(4) Half of the members shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Council;

(5) There shall preside at any meeting of the Council, the Chairman or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman or in the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman, such member as the members present may elect for the purpose of that meeting.

(6) A decision of the Council on any question shall be by a majority of the members present and voting at the meeting and, in the event of an equality of votes, the person presiding at the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his deliberative vote.

(7) The Council may invite any person, whose presence is in its opinion desirable, to attend and participate in the deliberations of a meeting but that person shall have no vote.

(8) The validity of any proceedings, act or decision of the Council shall not be affected by any vacancy in its membership or by any defect in the appointment of any member or because any person not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings.

(9) The Council shall cause to be kept minutes of the proceedings of every meeting of the council and of every meeting of any committee constituted by the Council.

8. (1) The seal of the Council shall be such device as may be determined by the Council and shall be kept by the Secretary.

(2) The Council may use a water or rubber stamp in lieu of the seal.

Committee of Council

Disclosure of interest

Immunity of members

(3) The affixing of the seal shall be authenticated by the Chairman or the Vice Chairman, and the Secretary or one other person authorised in that behalf by a resolution of the Council.

(4) Any contract or instrument which, if entered into or executed by a person not being a body corporate would not be required to be under seal, may be entered into or executed without a seal on behalf of Council by the Director or any other person authorised in that behalf by a resolution of the Council.

(5) Any document purporting to be a document under the seal of the Council or issued on behalf of the Council shall be received in evidence and shall be deemed to be so executed or issued, as the case may be, without further proof, unless the contrary is proved.

9. (1) The Council may, for the purpose of performing its functions under this Act, constitute any committee the Chairman of which shall be a member of the Council and may delegate to that committee any of its functions.

(2) The Council may appoint as members of a committee established under subsection (1), persons who are or are not members of the council and those persons shall hold office for such period as the Council may determine.

(3) Subject to any specific or general directions of the Council, any committee established under subsection (1) may regulate its own procedure.

10. (1) If any person is present at a meeting of the Council or a committee of the Council at which any matter in which that person or his spouse is directly or indirectly interested in a private capacity is the subject of consideration he shall, as soon as practicable after the commencement of the meeting, disclose that interest and shall not, unless the Council or committee otherwise directs, take part in any consideration or discussion of, or any other question touching that matter.

(2) A disclosure of interest made under this section shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is made.

11. No action or other proceedings shall lie or be instituted against any member or any member of a committee for, or in respect

of, any act or thing done or omitted to be done in good faith in the exercise or purported exercise of his functions under this Act.

Prohibition of publication or disclosure of information to unauthorised persons

Remuneration of member of council

Funds of Council

12. (1) No person shall, without the consent in writing given by or on behalf of the Council, publish or disclose to any person, otherwise than in the course of his duties the contents of any document, communication or information whatsoever, which relates to, and which has come to his knowledge in the course of, his duties under this Act.

(2) Any person who knowingly contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand kwacha or to both.

(3) If any person having information which to his knowledge has been published or disclosed in contravention of subsection (1) unlawfully publishes or communicates any such information to any other person, he shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

13. A member of the Council or Committee shall be paid such remuneration or allowances as the Minister may determine.

14. (1) The funds of the Council shall consist of such moneys as may -

(a) be appropriated by Parliament for the purposes of the Council;  
(b) be paid to the Council by way of fees, grants or donations; and  
(c) otherwise vest in or accrue to the Council.

(2) Then Council may -

(a) accept moneys by way of grants or donations from any source in Zambia and with the approval of the Minister, from any source outside Zambia;  
(b) with the approval of the Minister, raise by way of loans or otherwise, such moneys as it may require for the discharge of its functions;  
(c) in accordance with regulations made under this Act, charge and collect fees in respect of consultancy and other services provided

by the Council and the Standing Technical Advisory Committee; and  
(d) charge and collect fees in respect of programmes, seminars and environmental impact assessments conducted by the Council;

(3) There shall be paid from the funds of the Council -

(a) the salaries and allowance and loans to the staff of the Council;

Investment of funds

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(b) such reasonable travelling and subsistence allowances for members or members of any committee of the Council when engaged on the business of the Council and at such rates as the minister may determine;

(c) grants or loans for the support of environmental conservation, protection and improvement; and

(d) any other expenses incurred by the Council in the performance of its functions.

15. The Council may invest in such manner as it considers fit any of its funds which it does not immediately require for the performance of its functions.

16. The financial year of the Council shall be the period of twelve months ending on 31st December in each year.

17. The Council shall cause to be kept proper books of account and other records relating to its accounts.

18. (1) As soon as practicable but not later than six months after the expiry of each financial year, the Council shall submit to the Minister a report concerning its activities during such financial year.

(2) The report of the Council shall include information on the financial affairs of the Council and their shall be appended to it

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- (a) an audited balance sheet;
- (b) an audited statement of income and expenditure; and
- (c) such other information as the Minister may require.

(3) The Minister shall, not later than fourteen days after the sitting of the National Assembly next after receipt of the report referred to in subsection (1), lay it before the National Assembly

### PART III

#### Administration

19. (1) Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Council shall appoint on such terms and conditions as it may determine, a Director who shall be the Chief executive officer of the Council and who, subject to the control of the Council, shall be responsible for the overall management and administration of the Council.

#### Secretary and other staff

#### Standing Technical Advisory committee

(2) Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Council may appoint a Deputy Director who -

- (a) shall assist the Director in the performance of his duties under the Act, and
- (b) shall discharge the functions of the Director whenever the office of the Director is vacant or the Director is absent or is for any other cause unable to discharge the functions of his office.

(3) The Director or in his absence the Deputy Director shall attend meetings of the Council and may address the meetings, but shall not vote on any matter;

Provided that the person presiding at any such meeting, may for good cause, require the Director or Deputy Director as the case may be, to withdraw from the meeting.

(4) The provisions of sections ten and eleven will apply with necessary modifications to the Director and Deputy Director.

20. (1) The Council shall appoint a Secretary on such terms and conditions as the Council may determine.

(2) The Secretary shall be responsible for the administration of the day to day affairs of the Council under the general supervision of

the Director.

(3) The Council may appoint, on such terms, and conditions as it may determine, such other staff as it considers necessary for the performance of its functions under this Act.

21. (1) The Council shall constitute a Standing Technical Advisory Committee whose members shall be experts in fields relevant to the environment, pollution, pesticides and toxic substances, noise, ionising radiation, hazardous wastes, and waste management.

(2) The members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed, by the Council on such terms and conditions as it may determine

(3) The functions of the Advisory Committee shall be to advise the Council and any Minister on -

#### Interpretation

(a) the formulation and periodic revision of standards and regulations for pollution control relating to water, air, solid waste, hazardous wastes, pesticides and toxic substances, noise emission and ionising radiation;

(b) the methods and equipment to be used for the monitoring and control of pollution in the environment, particularly water, air, solid wastes, hazardous wastes pesticides and toxic substances, noise and ionising radiation;

(c) sound natural resources conservation, including the creation of natural resources preserves for the propagation and maintenance of stocks of all indigenous species and their germ plasm;

(d) proper land use practices;

(e) methods and procedures of rehabilitation of derelict land; and

(f) any other matter referred to it by the Council.

#### Part IV

##### Water

22. In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires "aquatic environment" means all surface and ground waters, but does not include water in installations and facilities for industrial effluent sewage collection and treatment;

"discharge" means spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting,

emptying or dumping;

"effluent" means waste water or other fluid of domestic, agricultural, trade or industrial origin, treated or untreated, and discharged directly or indirectly into the aquatic environment;

"licence" means a licence to discharge effluent issued under section thirty-one;

#### Responsibility of Council

"pollutant" means any substance or energy, which if it enters or is discharged into water may cause discomfort to, or endanger the health, safety and welfare of persons, or may cause injury or damage to plant or animal life or property, or which may interfere unreasonably with the normal enjoyment of life or property or use of property or conduct of business, and those objects or substances as may inadvertently obstruct or divert the natural flow of a water course when discharged or dumped into it;

"sewage" means waste water generated by residential and commercial establishment;

"sewage system" includes sewage treatment plants;

"waste water" means water which has been used for domestic, commercial, agricultural, trading or industrial purposes and as a result of such uses may cause water pollution when discharged into the aquatic environment;

"water pollution" means the introduction of, directly or indirectly of pollutants into an aquatic environment.

23. The Council shall-

(a) establish water quality and pollution control standards;

(b) determine conditions for the discharge of effluents into the aquatic environment;

(c) formulate rules for the preservation of fishing areas, aquatic areas, drinking water sources and reservoirs, recreational and other areas, Where water may need special protection;

(d) identify areas of research and initiate or sponsor research in the effects of water pollution on the environment, human beings, flora and fauna;

(e) order or carry out investigations of actual or suspected water

pollution including the collection of data;

(f) take steps or authorise any works to be carried out which appear to be necessary to prevent or abate water pollution from natural causes or from abandoned works or undertakings;

Prohibition of  
water pollution

Duty to apply  
information to  
Inspectorate

(g) lay down the analytical methods by which water quality and pollution control standards can be determined and establish or appoint laboratories for the analytical services required by the Inspectorate;

(h) initiate and encourage international co-operation in the control of water pollution, in particular with those neighbouring countries with which Zambia shares river basins;

(i) collect, maintain and interpret data from industries and local authorities on the pretreatment, nature and levels of effluents;

(j) collect, maintain and interpret data on water quality and hydrology which is relevant to the granting of licences under this Part:

(k) enforce rulings made under this Part; and

(i) do all such things as appear to be necessary for the monitoring and control of water pollution.

24. No person may discharge or apply any poisonous, toxic or toxic, obnoxious or obstructing matter, radiation or other pollutant or permit any person to dump or discharge such matter or pollutant into the aquatic environment in contravention of water pollution control standards established by the Council under this Part.

25. (1) Owners or operators of irrigation schemes, sewage system, industrial production plants, workshops or any other undertaking which may discharge effluent shall submit to the Inspectorate such information about the quantity and quality of such effluent.

(2) The Inspectorate may require an owner or operator of irrigation schemes, sewage system, industrial production plants, workshops or any other undertaking which the Inspectorate has reasonable grounds

to believe may cause or causes the discharge of effluent into the aquatic environment to submit all information relating to the quantity and quality of effluent as the Inspectorate may require.

(3) The Inspectorate may order an owner or operator referred to under this section, at his expense, to instal such metering devices, and to have such samples taken and analysed, and to keep such records, as the Inspectorate may require.

Permission to discharge effluent into sewage system

Condition for acceptance of effluent

Offence relating to effluent

Treatment of effluent

Licence to discharge effluent

Application for licence for new undertaking etc., likely to discharge effluent

26. The owner or operator of a trade or industrial under-taking who wishes to discharge into an existing sewage system effluent from his plant will shall obtain written permission to do so from the local authority operating, or supervising the sewage system.

27. (1) The local authority operating or supervising a sewage system may impose conditions of under which an effluent can be accepted or may prescribe methods of pre-treating the effluent prior to acceptance into the system.

(2) A local Authority may vary the conditions of acceptance of an industrial or trade effluent, but a variation shall not be made unless the authority gives six months' notice

28. Any person who discharges any effluent into a sewage system in contravention of the conditions imposed by the local authority, shall be guilty of an offence.

29. (1) An effluent may be mixed for treatment prior to discharge or for conveying to a common point of discharge.

(2) No person shall withdraw water from a water course or nay other source for the purpose of diluting an effluent to make it acceptable except under a licence issued by the Inspectorate.

30. (1) No local authority operating a sewerage system or owner or

operator of any industry or trade shall discharge effluent into the aquatic environment without a licence.

(2) The owner or operator or an undertaking discharging an effluent before the commencement of this Act or whom the Inspectorate so requests shall apply for a licence within twelve months after the commencement of this Act.

(3) The Inspectorate may grant a licence for the discharge of effluent under this Part.

31. (1) Any person intending to erect, instal or develop a new industrial or trade plant, an agricultural scheme or an undertaking likely to discharge effluent shall inform the Inspectorate of his intention during the early planning stage.

Circumstances under which extension deemed new

Grant or refusal of licences

Contents of application and conditions of licence

(2) The Inspectorate may, without undue delay after the receipt and consideration of the information submitted under subsection (1), requirement any person referred to in that subsection to apply for licence.

(3) The application for a licence under this section shall be submitted to the Inspectorate not less than six months prior to the commencement of the discharge of effluent.

32. An extension of an existing industrial or trade plant or agricultural scheme or undertaking shall be deemed to be new if the extension-

(a) will increase the effluent of the existing plant either in the quantity or concentration of pollutants;

(b) will discharge its effluent into a different water course; or

(c) will introduce a new type of pollutant into the environment.

33. (1) The Inspectorate, may or not grant a licence after considering the details of-

(a) the possible effects on the quality of an affected water course or other source;

(b) the existing licences affecting the same water course or other source; and

(c) the water requirements of riparian residents, human settlements and agricultural schemes which depend on the water course.

(2) If a licence is not granted, the notice of refusal shall state the reasons for the refusal.

34. Regulations made under section ninety-six shall prescribe the contents of an application and conditions for a licence to discharge effluent.

Interpretation

Responsibilities of Council

## PART V

Air

35. In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires-

"air pollution" means a condition of the ambient air arising wholly or partly from the presence of one or more pollutants in the air that endangers the health, safety or welfare of persons or that interferes with the normal enjoyment of life or property;

"ambient air" means the atmosphere surrounding the earth, but does not include the atmosphere within a structure or within any underground space;

"air quality" means the concentration of, prescribed under this part, of a pollutant in the atmosphere at the point of measurement;

"emissions standards" means the amount, specified under this Part, of a pollutant emitted from a specific source

"licence" means a licence to emit pollutants into the ambient air;

"operator" in relation to works, industry undertaking or business, means the person having the control of the works, undertaking or business;

"pollutant" means any substance or energy which if it enters or is discharged into the ambient air is likely to render the air offensive or harmful to human, animal or plant life;

"stationary source" means any source of emission of one or more pollutants other than a motor vehicle, ship, train, aircraft or other similar vehicle or conveyance.

36. The Council shall-

- (a) establish air ambient quality and emission standards and guidelines;
- (b) on the advice of the Advisory Committee, specify the analytical methods for monitoring air contaminants and establish laboratories for analytical services needed by the Inspectorate;
- (c) identify areas of research on the effects of air pollutants on human beings, the environment, flora and fauna;

Controlled areas

Emission standards

All pollution prohibited

Emergency situation

- (d) order or carry out investigations of actual or suspected air pollution including the collection of data;
- (e) initiate and encourage international co-operation in matters of air pollution, especially with neighbouring countries;
- (f) order any industry or other source of air pollution to file such returns and provide such information as the Council may require;

(g) enforce rulings made under This Part; and

(h) do all such things as appear necessary for the monitoring and control of air pollution.

37 (1) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, declare by statutory instrument any area to be a controlled area for the purpose of this Part.

(2) The Council may with the approval of the Minister and within a controlled area, prescribe emission standards from industrial or business activities, from burning liquids or solids fuels,

38. (1) When establishing or prescribing emissions standards the Council shall consider-

- (a) the rate of emission, concentration and nature of the pollutants emitted; and
- (b) the best practicable technology available in controlling

pollutants during the emission process.

(2) The emission standards prescribed by the Council under this Part shall be published in the Gazette at least ninety days before the date upon which they shall come into effect.

39. No person may emit any pollutants which cause air pollution in contravention of emission standards established or prescribed by the Council under this Part.

40. (1) In the case of an emergency involving very hazardous pollutants, the the Inspectorate shall take and advise on appropriate measures to be taken for the protection of persons and the environment.

Information regarding emissions into ambient air

Licence of emissions

Application for licence for new sources of emission

Circumstances under which extension deemed new

Grant or refusal of licence

(2) No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie or be instituted for or in respect of any act or thing done or omitted to be done in good faith by any Inspector in the exercise or purported exercise of his duties under this section.

41. The Inspectorate may request an owner or operator of an operation of which the Inspectorate has reasonable grounds to believe results in the emissions into the ambient air of any air contaminant, to submit all information relating to those emissions as the Inspectorate require.

42. An owner or operator who before the commencement of this Act is emitting a pollutant which is likely to cause air pollution or whom the inspectorate so requests, shall apply for a licence within twelve months after the commencement of this Act.

43. (1) A person who intends to erect or instal a new industrial plant or develop a new industrial plant or develop a new industrial process which is likely to cause air pollution shall inform the Inspectorate during the planning stages, and shall apply for a licence.

(2) The application for a licence shall be submitted to be Inspectorate not less than six months prior to the commencement of

operations.

44. (1) A change or extension to an existing plant, undertaking or process shall be considered new if the change:-

- (a) increases the emission of the existing plant, in quantity or concentration of pollutants; or
- (b) introduces a new type of pollutant into the ambient air.

(2) No owner or operator or individual who operates a motor vehicle, ship, train, aircraft or other similar conveyance shall-

- (a) operate in a manner that will cause air pollution in contravention of the established emission standards;
- (b) import any machinery, equipment, device or similar thing that will cause emission into the ambient air in contravention of prescribed emission standards.

45. (1) The Inspectorate may or may not grant a licence after considering the details of-

- (a) the possible effects on the quality of ambient air of the sea;
- (b) the existing licences affecting the same air resource;

Contents of application and conditions for licence

Interpretation

- (c) the requirements of residents, human settlements and other industrial or commercial activities;
- (d) the comments from the local authority and other concerned organisations.

(2) If a licence is not granted, the notice of refusal shall state the reasons for the refusal.

46. Regulations made under section ninety-six shall prescribe the contents of an application and the conditions for a licence issued under this part.

## PART VI

Wastes

47. In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires-

"collection" means the act of removing waste, or materials which have been separated for the purpose of recycling, from a storage point;

"disposal" means the storing, handling, processing, treatment and utilisation and final location of waste to avoid undesired effects on the environment;

"hazardous waste" means waste which is poisonous, corrosive, irritant, explosive, inflammable, toxic or harmful to man, animal, plant or the environment;

"licence" means a licence to operate a waste disposal site or plant issued under this Part;

"management" means a person who is, directly or through an agent, involved in waste management;

"disposal site" means the land or water area on which waste disposal facilities are physically located;

"waste" means garbage, refuse, sludges and other discarded substances resulting from industrial and commercial operations and from domestic and community activities but does not include waste water as defined in Part IV;

"Storage" means the interim containment of waste after generation and prior to collection for ultimate recovery or disposal.

Control of local authorities Act No. 15 of 1980

Responsibilities of Council

Prohibition against disposal of waste

48. The Council shall give specific or general directions to District Councils regarding their function relating to the collection and disposal of waste operations under the Local Administration Act, 1980.

49. The Council shall:-

- (a) formulate and provide standards on the classification and analysis of wastes and formulate and advise on standard disposal methods and means;
- (b) regulate the handling, storage, transportation, segregation and destruction of any hazardous waste;
- (c) control the export and generation of hazardous waste;
- (d) provide for the monitoring and regulation of any waste disposal sites;
- (e) publicise the correct means of storage, collection and disposal of any class of wastes;

- (f) monitor the contamination and degradation of the environment arising from the operation of any disposal site;
- (g) monitor the safety and health of workers at disposal sites;
- (h) provide for members of the public to make representations to the Council on any matter arising from this Part where the matter may have an influence on the health or aesthetic value of their surroundings;
- (i) initiate and undertake research into problems relating to the collection of, storage, transportation and disposal of any class of waste;
- (j) maintain statistical data on the nature, quantity and volume of waste generated, and on sites and waste processing where waste disposal is taking or has taken place;
- (k) provide technical and advisory services to waste operators;
- (l) enforce rulings made under this Part; and
- (m) do all such things as appear to be reasonably necessary for the monitoring and control of waste.

50. (1) No person shall discharge waste so as to cause pollution in the environment.

(2) No person shall transport waste to any waste other than-

- (a) in accordance with a licence;
- (b) to a disposal site established in accordance with a licence.

## Licences

### Application for licence

### Application for licence for existing disposal site or plant

### Ceasation of activity relating to hazardous waste

### Contents of application and conditions of licence

### Import, export and transportation of hazardous waste

### Interpretation

(3) No person shall operate a waste disposal site or plant or generate hazardous waste without a licence.

51. (1) The Inspectorate may, on application, grant a licence to generate hazardous waste or to operate a waste disposal site or plant subject to such conditions if any as it may impose.

(2) If a licence is not granted the notice of refusal shall state

the reasons.

52. (1) Any person intending to operate a waste disposal site or plant or generate hazardous waste or whom the Inspectorate so requests shall apply in writing to the Inspectorate for a licence.

(2) An application for a licence to operate a waste disposal site shall only be granted where the applicant has obtained approval of the town and country planning authority.

53. Any person who owns or operates a waste disposal site or plant or generates hazardous wastes before the commencement of this act shall apply for a licence within six months after the commencement of this Act.

54. The Council shall by an order made by a court immediately stop any hazardous waste generation, handling transportation, storage and disposal activity which presents an imminent and substantial danger to health and the environment.

55. Regulations made under section ninety-six shall prescribe the contents of an application and the conditions for a licence issued under this Part.

56. (1) No person shall import any hazardous waste into Zambia.

(2) No hazardous waste shall be exported to any country without a permit from the Council and the Consent of the receiving country.

(3) No hazardous waste shall be transported within or through Zambia without a permit from the Council.

## PART VII

### Pesticides And Toxic Substances

57. In this part, unless the context otherwise requires-

#### Responsibilities of Council

"container" means a package, can, bottle, bag, barrel, drum, tank or other container, excluding spray applicator tanks, used to enclose a pesticide or toxic substance;

"label" means any legend, word, mark, symbol or design applied or attached to, included in, belonging to, or accompanying, any pesticides or toxic substances;

"manufacture" means an establishment engaged in the mechanical or chemical transformation of materials or substance into new products, as pesticides and toxic substances;

"packed" means a contain, wrapping, covering or holder in which a pesticide or toxic substance is wholly or partly packed;

"pesticide" means a substance or mixture of substances or organism intended for controlling, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest, and a substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant or desfoliant;

"sale" includes offering, advertising and exposing, for sale a pesticide, or toxic substances;

"toxic substances" means a poisonous substance which causes any adverse physiological effects to man, animal plant or the environment;

"trade name" means the registered name of the manufactured pesticides or toxic substances;

"use" means any act of handling or release of a pesticide or the exposure of human beings and animals or the environment to a pesticide.

58. The Council shall-

- (a) control the importataion, exportation, manufacture, storage, distribution, sale, use, packing, transportation, disposal and advertise,emt of pesticides and toxic substances;
- (b) regulate the registration of pesticides and toxic substances;
- (c) provide for the proper labelling and packaging of pesticides and toxic substances;
- (d) review the use and efficacy of pesticides and toxic substances;
- (e) provide for the monitoring, in the environment, of pesticides, and toxic substances and their residues;

Application for registration of new or reprocessed pesticide or toxic substance

Application for registration of pesticide or toxic substance in use before commencement of Act

Information required for, and period of registration

Registration

- (f) establish or prescribe laboratories which shall operate as standard laboratories for pesticides and toxic substances;
- (g) establish and enforce procedures and regulations for the storage of packages and containers of pesticides toxic substances;
- (h) collect data from industry on the production, use and health effects of pesticides and toxic substances;
- (i) keep records and reports necessary for the administration of this Part; and
- (j) do all things as appear necessary for the monitoring and control of pesticides and toxic substances.

59. (1) A person who intends to manufacture, import or process a new pesticides or toxic substance or who intends to reprocess an existng pesticide otor txic substance and give the Inspectorate ninety days notice in writing before imporrting, manufacturing, processing or reprocessing such pesticide or toxic substances.

(2) The application referred to in subsection (1) shall include the name of trade mark or the pesticide or toxic substances, chemical identity, molecular structure, proposed categories of use, an estimate of the amount, by-products, processing and disposal of the pesticide or toxic substance, and any test data related to health and environmental effects.

60. (1) A person who has manufactured, imported or processed a pesticide or toxic substance in use before the commencement of this Act or whom the Inspectorate so requires shall apply for registration within six months after the commencement of this Act.

(2) Applications for registration shall be accompanied by all relevant data to enable the Inspectorate assess the suitability and efficacy of the pesticide or toxic substance.

61. (1) The Inspectorate shall publish guidelines for pesticides and toxic substances specifying the information and data which will be required to support registration.

(2) A pesticide or toxic substance shall be registered for three years, unless some other period is specified by the Inspectorate and may be renewed for like period.

62. (1) The Inspectorate may on application register a pesticides or toxic substance subject to conditions as it may determine.

Contents of application and conditions for registration

Offenses relating topesticides and toxic substances

## Seizure of pesticides and toxic substances

(2) Where the Inspectorate refuses to register any pesticide or toxic substance the notice of refusal shall state the reasons.

63. Regulations made under section ninety-six shall prescribe the contents of an application and the conditions for registration of pesticides and toxic substances under this Part.

64. (1) No person shall-

(a) detach, alter, or destroy labelling as prescribed under this Part of a pesticide or toxic substance;

(b) change the composition or toxic substance contrary to the provisions of this part;

(b) change the composition of a pesticide or toxic substance contrary to the provisions of this Part;

(c) use or dispose into the environment a pesticide, or toxic substance in contravention of this Part.

(2) No person shall distribute, sell, offer for sale, hold for sale, import, deliver for importation to, or receive from, deliver or offer to deliver, to any other person any unregistered pesticide or toxic substance.

(3) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand kwacha or imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years.

65. (1) Any pesticide or toxic substance which an Inspector reasonably suspects to be subject matter of an offence under this Part shall be liable to seizure.

(2) Whenever any pesticide or toxic substance is seized under subsection (1) an Inspector shall serve a notice of seizure on the owner of the pesticide, or toxic substance as soon as practably possible.

(3) Whenever any or toxic substance is seized under this section the pesticide or toxic substance shall be placed under the custody of such person or such authority as the Inspector may determine.

(4) Any pesticide or toxic substance placed under custody shall be released if after six months-

(a) no prosecution under this Part is instituted with regard to the pesticide or toxic substance; or

(b) no person is convicted fo an offence under this Part.

Interpretation

Responsibilities of Council

Noise emission in excess of established standards prohibited

Exemption

## PART VIII

Noise

66. In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires-

"noise" means any undesirable sound, that is intrinsically objectionable or that can cause adverse effects on human beings, animals or the environment;

"noise level" means the level of noise, measured in decibels or other suitable units;

"noise emission standards" established by the Council under section sixty-eight.

67. The Council shall-

- (a) set up standards procedures for noise measurement;
- (b) establish noise level and noise emission standards for construction sites; plants, machinery, motor vehicles, aircraft including sonic booms, industrial and commercial activities;
- (c) apply appropriate measures to ensure the abatement to ensure the abatement and control of noise from the sources referred to in paragraph (b);
- (d) measure the level of noise emanating from the sources referred to in paragraph (b), details of which measurement shall be given to the owner of occupier of the premises from which the measurement was taken; and
- (e) advise on noise pollution abatement measures.

68. Subject to section sixty-ninety no person shall emit noise in excess of the noise emission standards established under section sixty-seven.

69. (1) Notwithstanding section sixty-eight the Inspectorate may grant a permit in writing allowing excessive emission of noise under such terms and conditions as it may determine.

(2) Where an exemption has been granted under subsection (1), workers exposed to excessive levels of noise shall be adequately protected in accordance with the directives of the Inspectorate.

#### Interpretation

Responsibilities of Council

Cap. 552

Cap. 332

70. The noise emission standards and guidelines as well as zones prescribed for the purposes of this Part shall be published in the Gazette at least ninety days before the date upon which they shall come into effect.

#### PART IX

##### Ionising Radiation

71. In this part, unless the context otherwise requires-

"emergency" means a sudden situation associated with an incident arising from the exposure of the public or the environment to the harmful effects of ionising radiation;

"environment" means the total terrestrial, atmospheric and aquatic environs but does not include the area within the boundaries of prescribed installations handling radioactive material or radiation sources;

"facility" means an assembly of devices, equipment, structures or natural features whether simple or complex which serves some specific purpose or performs some specific functions.

"ionising radiation" means any electro-magnetic or particle radiation capable of producing ions, directly or indirectly, in its passage through matter;

"monitoring" means the measurement of radiation or radioactivity for the assessment or control of exposure to radiation or radioactive material;

"natural background levels" means radiation levels due to cosmic rays and natural radioactivity;

"nuclide" means a species of atom characterised by the constitution of its nucleus;

"radioactive contamination" means the deposition of radioactive material in any place where it is not desired, particularly where its presence may be harmful and the harm may be vitiating and experiment or procedure, or where it actually may be a source of danger to the public;

"radio nuclide" means any radioactive nuclide.

72. Without prejudice to the Ionising Radiation Act and the Prescribed Minerals and Materials Act, the Council shall-

(a) establish standards for the proper regulation of radioactive contamination;

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Powers of inspectors relation to ionising radiation

(b) inspect and examine any area, place or premises, or any vehicle, vessels, boat, aircraft or any carriage of any description in or upon which the Inspectorate has reasonable cause to believe that radioactive material or any source of ionising radiation is stored, used, transported or disposed of;

(c) examine any person with respect to matters under this Part, where there is reasonable cause to believe that that person is contaminated with radioactive material or is unlawfully in possession of an ionising radiation source;

(d) provide information, warn and protect the public, in case of actual or potential public exposure to radioactive materials or ionising radiation in the environment;

(e) liaise with the Radiation Protection Board established by section five of the Ionising Radiation Act, the Prescribed Minerals and Materials Commission established by section five of the Prescribed Minerals and Materials Commission Act, or any other organisation dealing with radioactive material;

(f) conduct an ionising radiation monitoring programme and advice on ionising radiation control and protection measures;

(g) maintain records of releases of radioactive contaminants into the environment and keep records of natural background levels of radiation in the environment;

(h) request any outside authority to offer assistance required to

help carry out the duties of the Inspectorate; and

(i) do all such things as appear to be necessary for the monitoring and control of pollution from radiation.

73. An inspector at any reasonable time may-

Cap. 552

Cap. 332

Offences relating to ionising radiation

Cap. 552

Cap. 332

Cap. 552

(a) enter, inspect and examine any place, area, premises, or any vehicle, vessel, boat, air or any carriage of any description in or on which he has reasonable grounds to believe that radioactive material or any source of ionising radiation is stored, used, transported or disposed of but no entry shall be made into a private dwelling house except under the authority of a court warrant;

(b) order presentation of-

(i) a licence authorising the possession or use of radioactive material or sources of dangerous ionising radiation;

(ii) a licence authorising the mining and processing of radioactive ores;

(iii) a register, certificate, notice or document kept under the Ionising Radiation Act or the Prescribed Minerals and Materials Commission Act;

(c) make enquiries from any person with respect to matters under this Part where there is reasonable cause to believe that such person is contaminated with radioactive material or is unlawfully in possession of an ionising radiation source; and

(d) exercise such other powers as are necessary for the carrying out of this Part.

74. (1) A person who imports, processes, mines, exports, possesses, transports, uses or disposes of radioactive material or other source of dangerous ionising radiation without a licence issued under the Prescribed Minerals and Materials Commission Act, or the Ionising

Radiation Act, shall be guilty of an offence and liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand kwacha or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding seven years or to both.

(2) In addition to the penalties provided in subsection (1), the radioactive material or other source of dangerous ionising radiation shall be liable on the order of a court, to seizure, impoundment, sealing, seizure of operation destruction or disposal in such manner as the court may consider necessary to protect the public and the environment and may only be returned to the original owner on the order of the court and under the conditions set out in a licence issued by the Ionising Radiation Protection Board established by section five of the Ionising Radiation Act.

Interpretation

Cap. 315

Responsibilities of Council

Rehabilitation works

## PART X

Natural Resources Conservation

75. In this part, unless the context otherwise requires-

"derelict land" means land that is damaged by extractive or other industrial or agriculture activities or that is unsightly and is incapable of reasonable beneficial use;

"land use" includes an activity that has an impact on land, water, soil, air, fauna and flora;

"natural resources" shall have the meaning assigned to it in the Natural Resources Conservation Act;

"rehabilitation" means the restoration of natural resources to their original state or to a reasonable state acceptable to the Inspectorate.

76. The Council shall-

(a) conduct or sponsor research on land use practices and their impact on natural resources, and such other studies which shall be the basis for better conservation and protection of natural

resources;

- (b) establish and review land use guidelines;
- (c) with the approval of the Minister, make regulations for the conservation and protection of natural resources;
- (d) monitor dereliction of land and where derelict land exists, assess the nature of rehabilitation works required;
- (e) monitor land contamination and where such contamination exists, assess the nature of any rehabilitation works required;
- (f) carry out campaigns to increase public awareness about natural resources conservation
- (g) take stock of the nation's natural resources and their utilisation in liason with other relevant agencies and experts dealing with natural resources conservation; and
- (h) do all such other acts and things as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this Part.

77. (1) The Council may direct any person responsible for land direliction or contamination to carry out rehabilitation works, within a reasonable specified time, to the satisfaction of the Inspectorate.

Powers of inspectors relating to natural resources

Repeal of certain parts of Cap. 315

Savings

Establishment of Inspectorate

2) Where the Inspectorate believes that land contamination warrants immediate correction, it may carry out rehabilitation works and may charge all or part of the costs of those works to the person responsible for causing the direction or contamination who shall pay such costs within a specified reasonable time.

(3) Any person who fails to comply with a directive made by the Inspectorate under this section-

- (a) shall be guilty of an offence; and
- (b) a court, in addition to any other penalty which it may impose, may make an order requiring that person to comply with the directive within a specified reasonable time.

78. An inspector may-

- (a) make such inquiries and examination as necessary to ascertain whether this Part is being compiled with;
- (b) carry out survey and interviews which will assist in the proper

management and conservation of natural resources;  
(c) inspect land uses to determine their impact on the quality and quantity of natural resources; and  
(d) publicise land use guidelines and natural resources conservation regulations.

79. Subject to section eight, Parts I, II, III and VIII of the Natural Resources Conservation Act are hereby repealed.

80. Notwithstanding section seventy-nine ministerial orders, conservation plans, and regulations made by statutory instrument under the Parts I, II, III and VIII of the Natural Resources Conservation Act shall remain in full force and effect until they are amended, rescinded or replaced by orders, conservation plans, or regulations under this Act.

## PART XI

### Inspectorate

81. The Council shall establish an Environmental Inspectorate with the necessary technical staff and facilities required to administer, monitor and enforce measures for the protection of the environment and the prevention of pollution in the environment.

### Delegation of duties to Inspectorate

### Appointment of Inspectors

### Powers of Inspectors

82. The Council may delegate all or any of the duties of the Inspectorate to a local authority in such areas as it may designate.

83 (1) In order to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Act and the Council shall appoint such number of Inspectors as it may consider necessary.

(2) Every inspector shall be provided with a certificate of appointment which shall be prima-facie evidence of the inspector's appointment as such.

(3) An inspector shall, on demand by a person affected by the exercise of the powers of the inspectors under this Act, produce for inspection the certificate referred to in subsection (2).

84. (1) An inspector, at any reasonable time may enter any area, place or premises that is or forms part of any industry, works,

undertaking or business, in which he reasonably believes there is being, or has been carried on an activity that may contribute or has contributed to pollution, and to examine and take samples or materials used in or resulting from the activity carried on there and inspect any vehicle or other conveyance but there shall be no entry into a private dwelling except with the consent of the occupant or under the authority of a court warrant.

(2) An inspector who enters an area, place or premises or inspects a vehicle under subsection (1) may order the person in charge to produce for inspection or for the purpose of obtaining copies or extracts, any books, documents or papers concerning any matter relevant to the administration of this Act or regulations made for the purposes of this Act.

(3) The owner or person in charge of-

- (a) any area, place, premises or vehicle referred to in subsection (1);
- (b) any waste disposal site referred to in Part VI;
- (c) the manufacturer, distribution or use of pesticides or toxic substances referred to in Part VII;

(d) any radioactive material or any source of dangerous ionising radiation, or a radioactive ore mining or processing facility referred to in Part IX; and any person found there shall give an inspector reasonable assistance, for the purpose of examination, enquiry collection of samples or otherwise.

(4) An inspector may-  
Obstruction of Inspector

Duty to report  
pollution

Secrecy

- (a) inspect and examine any vehicle, railway carriage or other conveyance in or upon which he had reasonable cause to believe that pesticide, toxic substance, hazardous waste or radioactive material, or other pollutant is being or has been transported;
- (b) order the production of any documents pertaining to the transportation of any such substance;
- (c) obtain any samples he considers necessary of any substance so transported;
- (d) request information from any person who appears to have custody or control of those substances so transported.

85. (1) A person shall be guilty of an offence if he-

- (a) wilfully delays or obstructs an inspector in the carrying out of his duties; or
- (b) knowingly or negligently gives an inspector false or misleading information orally, in writing or otherwise.

(2) Any person guilty of an offence under subsection (1) shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand kwacha or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.

## PART XII

### General

86. (1) A person who inadvertently or accidentally causes or witnesses an act causing pollution of any aspect of the environment shall without delay report to the inspectorate or the police or a local authority.

(2) The police or local authority shall submit a report to the Inspectorate on any report received under subsection (1) and take reasonable steps to protect the public.

(3) Any person who wilfully fails to make a report required under this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand kwacha or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both.

87. An inspector shall treat as confidential the source of any complaint bringing to his notice any contravention of this Act and shall give no intimation to the owner of the place inspected or his representative that a complaint was made, or any information that might identify the complaint.

### Renewal of licence

Inspector may request application for licence

### Pollutor obligations

### Offences and penalties

88. (1) The Inspectorate may renew any licence issued under this Act.

(2) In renewing a licence, the Inspectorate shall consider whether the applicant has complied with the provisions of the Act and any

regulations made hereunder.

89. Where an inspector considers that an industry, works, undertaking, business or any person is discharging, emitting, or disposing a contaminant or substance which may cause pollution he may require the owner or operator to apply to the Inspectorate for a licence to authorise that discharge, emissions, or disposal.

90. (1) Where the Inspectorate establishes that pollution or despoilation is occurring or has occurred, the Inspectorate shall inform the pollutor and order him to take appropriate abatement and control measures specified by the Inspectorate under this Act.

(2) Where the pollutor is unable or unwilling to take the abatement and control measures required under subsection (1), the Council may take the measures and in such cases, the cost incurred by the Council, shall be paid by the pollutor.

91. (1) A person who pollutes the environment or contravens any provision of this Act for which no penalt is provided shall be guilty of an offence and liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand kwacha or to improvement for a term not exceeding three years or both.

(2) For a continuing violation, a court may order a daily fine not exceeding fifty thousand kwacha.

(3) Where an offence under this Act is committed by a body of persons-

(a) in the case of a body corporate, every director or similar officer of the body shall be guilty of the offence; and

(b) in the case of a partnership, every partner shall be guilty of an offence.

(4) A person shall not be guilt of an offence under subsection (3); if he proves to the satisfaction of the court that the act constituting the offence was done without his knowledge, consent or connivance and that he did his part to prevent the commission of the offence having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

Applications for licences to be made to Inspectorate or local authority

Grant of licence or permit subject to public representation

Cessation of licences

Appeals

## Regulations

92. (1) An application for a licence, registration or permit under this Act shall be made to the Inspectorate or to a local authority to whom the Council has delegated power under section eight-three.

(2) Any application referred to in subsection (i) shall be made in such form and in such manner as the Council may prescribe.

93. No licence or permit shall be issued under this act unless the Inspectorate has, twenty-eight days before granting the licence or permit published its intention in the Gazette inviting representation from any interested person affected by the grant of the licence or permit.

94. Where any licence granted under this Act is for a duration of five years or more and after five years from the date of issue of a licence such discharge, emission or disposal authorised by the licence has not taken place or where such discharge, emission or disposal has ceased for a period of three years, the licence shall cease to be in force.

95. (1) A person aggrieved with any decision or ruling made by an Inspectorate under this Act, may appeal to the Council within forty-five days after the date of receipt of the ruling or decision.

(2) The Council within thirty days after the receiving an appeal, shall make and convey its decision to the appellant.

96. The minister in consultation with the Council, may by statutory instrument make regulations for anything which has to be prescribed under this Act, for the protection of any aspect of the environment and for the control of pollution in the environment.