

ACT No. 11 OF 2008

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH  
THE CORPORATION OF  
GOVERNMENT NEWS PAPERS  
AND TO PROVIDES FOR  
OTHER MATTERS  
CONNECTED THERE WITH.



ACT NO. 11 OF 2008

**THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION OF  
GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPERS ACT, 2008**

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ACT NO. 11 OF 2008

I ASSENT

  
(AMANI ABEID KARUME)  
PRESIDENT OF ZANZIBAR

AND  
CHAIRMAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL

  
31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2008

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE CORPORATION OF  
GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPERS AND TO PROVIDE  
FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED  
THERE WITH

ENACTED by the House of Representatives of Zanzibar.

PART I  
PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

Short title and Commencement. 1. This Act may be cited as the Establishment of the Corporation of Government Newspapers Act, 2008 and shall come into operation immediately after being assented to by the President.

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

"Corporation" means the Corporation of the Government Newspapers as established under section 3 (1) of this Act;

"Newspaper" means a set of large printed sheets of paper containing news, articles, advertisement, etc and published in hard or electronic forms;



"Board" means the Board of Directors of the Corporation as established under section 11 of this Act;

"Discipline" means procedures established in resolving misconduct or contravention of rules made under the provision of this Act;

"Financial Year" means in relation to :-

(a) the Government:

a period of twelve months commencing on 1st day of July of each calenda year;

(b) a public authority or other body:

the period specified by or under the relevant law or instrument relating to that authority or body or as determined by the competent authority of that authority or body;

"Gazette" means the Official Gazette of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Government;

"Managing Editor" means a person appointed as such under section 7 of this Act;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for information matters;

"President" means the President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council;

"Editorial Units" means units which deal directly with the production of newspaper i.e. news desk, photo desk, subbing desk and layout and design.

## PART II ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION

Establishment of the Corporation.

3.(1) There is hereby established a corporation to be known as the Corporation of Government Newspapers.



(2) The Office Headquarter of the Corporation shall be in Zanzibar and there shall be a sub office in any where found necessary by the Board of Directors.

Legal Status.

4. The Corporation shall be an autonomous body corporate and shall:

- (i) have perpetual succession and common seal;
- (ii) be capable of possessing and disposing any movable or immovable property;
- (iii) borrow and lend money;
- (iv) invest;
- (v) be capable of suing and being sued;
- (vi) enter into contract with any other institution;
- (vii) have power to do anything specified under this Act.

Functions of the Corporation.

5.(1) The Corporation shall have the duty to coordinate the publication of the newspapers of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar and shall have responsibilities as follows:

- (a) dissemination of news, information and the government policies to the public;
- (b) administration, control and management of the Government Newspapers;
- (c) carry out all such other acts as may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objectives of the Corporation or in the exercise of its powers.

Powers of the Corporation.

6.(1) Without prejudice to the functions conferred under section 5 of this Act, the Corporation shall have powers to make rules as may be required for the purpose of ensuring the publication and distribution of the Government newspapers within and outside Zanzibar.



(2) All rules made under this section shall be approved by the Board and published in the Official Gazette.

### **PART III APPOINTMENT OF MANAGING EDITOR, DEPUTY MANAGING EDITOR AND THEIR FUNCTIONS**

Appoint-  
ment of  
Managing  
Editor.

7.(1) The Corporation shall be headed by Managing Editor, who shall be appointed by the President.

- (2) A person shall not qualify to be appointed as Managing Editor unless:
- (a) at least he or she is a holder of first degree; or
  - (b) equivalent in journalism studies or related fields; and
  - (c) with at least five years experience in media activities.

Duties of  
Managing  
Editor.

8. The Managing Editor shall have the following duties:

- (a) be a Chief Executive Officer of the day to day functions of the Corporation;
- (b) be a Supervisor of the performance of functions of the Corporation;
- (c) performing any other duties as directed by the Board in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Appoint-  
ment of  
Deputy  
Managing  
Editor.

9.(1) There shall be a Deputy Managing Editor who shall be appointed by the President.

(2) In appointing the Deputy Managing Editor the minimum qualification shall be at least first degree or educational qualification equivalent in journalism studies or related fields with at least five years experience in media activities.

Appoint-  
ment of  
Officers and  
staff.

10. Subject to recommendations and approval of the Board with respect to the:-

- (a) organizational structure;
- (b) manning levels; and



- (c) appointment of senior qualified officials of the Corporation;

the Managing Editor may appoint officers and staff of the Corporation as approved by the Board.

#### PART IV ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Establishment of Board of Directors.

11.(1) There shall be a Board of Directors constituted of members who will serve for the period of three years, which shall consist of the following members:-

- (a) Chairperson who have experience in the field of news media appointed by the President;
- (b) Director of Department of Information;
- (c) State Attorney from Attorney General Chamber;
- (d) three member appointed by the Minister one among them shall come from private news media institution; and
- (e) the Managing Editor.

(2) The members of the Board shall elect from amongst their member a person who shall be a Vice Chairperson and shall hold office for so long as he remains a member of the Board.

(3) There shall be the Secretary to the Board who shall appointed by the Board.

Disqualification to become a member.

12. A person shall not be eligible for appointment as a member of the Board if he:-

- (a) is not a Zanzibari;
- (b) is declared by Court as bankrupt;





- (c) has previously been convicted of an offence involving morale turpitude or has committed an offence for which he was sentenced to imprisonment for a term of more than six months.

Tenure of  
Officer

13. (1) All members other than those mentioned in section 11(1)(b) and (e) shall hold office for terms of three years, and shall be eligible for re-appointment for another term.

(2) A member shall cease to be a member upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- (a) if he dies;
- (b) if he is absent from three consecutive meetings without permission of the Chairperson;
- (c) if he is convicted of any criminal offence;
- (d) if, by writing under his hand addressed to his appointing authority, he resigns.

(3) Where any member of the Board is, by reason of absence from Zanzibar or for other sufficient cause, unable to perform his duties as a member of the Board, the appointing authority may appoint another member in his place, who shall hold office until the office of substantive member expires.

(4) When the office of a member of the Board becomes vacant due to resignation or death, the appointing authority may appoint another person in his place and to hold office for the unexplored portion of his term of office.

Powers  
and  
procedures  
of the  
Board.

14.(1) The Board shall have powers to determine its own procedures of the meeting.

(2) The Board shall ordinarily meet once in every four months for the transaction of business at such time and at such place as the Board may decide.

(3) The Chairperson in consultation with Managing Editor may convene an extra ordinary meetings when the need arises.



(4) The Chairperson shall preside at every meeting of the Board and in the absence of the Chairperson the Vice Chairperson shall preside a meeting.

(5) The quorum at any meeting of the Board shall be more than half of its members.

(6) Issues proposed at a meeting of the Board shall be decided by the majority of votes of the members present and in the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.

(7) The Board may at any time co-opt any person or persons to act as an advisor or advisors at any of its meetings but a person so co-opted shall not be entitled to vote at the meeting on any matter for the decision of the Board.

(8) The Board members shall be paid allowances as approved by the Minister.

Functions  
of the  
Board.

15. The Board shall, in discharge of its functions, have powers to:

- (a) determine the policy governing the operations of the Corporation;
- (b) decide on the number and names of the newspapers to be produced by the Corporation;
- (c) give lawful instructions to the Managing Editor in the management, performance and operational policies of the Corporation;
- (d) establish such organizational structure and work procedures as may be considered necessary for an efficient discharge of the functions and responsibilities of the Corporation;
- (e) decide on matters concerning discipline and benefits to the employees of the Corporation;



- (f) set action plans, objectives and appropriate work targets for each section of the Corporation and monitor its progress in achieving them on a continuous basis; and
- (g) appoint committees, whether of its own members or otherwise, to whom it may delegate such of its powers as it may deem appropriate.

#### PART V ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Establishment of Management Committee.

16. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Managing Editor shall establish a Management Committee which shall comprise of:

- (a) the Managing Editor who shall be the Chairperson;
- (b) the Deputy Managing Editor who shall be the Vice Chairperson;
- (c) the Administrative Officer who shall be the Secretary;
- (d) the heads of departments of the Corporation;
- (e) workers representatives.

Functions of the Management Committee.

17.(1) The Management Committee shall have the following functions:

- (a) to advise the Managing Editor on proper administration of the Corporation and production of the newspapers;
- (b) to discuss and plan the overall administration of the Corporation;

(2) The Management Committee shall meet at least once in every month to discharge its activities or at any time when it find necessary.



## PART VI FUNDS, EXPENDITURE AND AUDITING OF ACCOUNTS

Funds.

18.(1) The Corporation shall have its own fund.

(2) There shall be paid into the general fund:

- (a) Government grant as approved by the House of Representatives;
- (b) all such sums of money as may be received from selling of news papers and advertisement; and
- (c) all such sums of money as may be legally received by the Corporation from other sources for its operation.

(3) All liabilities of the Corporation incurred from discharging its functions under this Act, shall be paid out of the fund of the Corporation.

Annual  
Budget.

19. The annual budget of the Corporation shall be subject to approval by the Minister and any fund generated by the activities of the Corporation shall be used by the Corporation in accordance with this Act together with other existing Financial Administration Laws.

Accounts  
of the  
Corpora-  
tion.

20.(1) The Corporation shall cause proper books of accounts to be kept of its income and expenditure, assets and liabilities and all other transactions of the Corporation, and shall prepare an Annual Statement of Accounts within six months of the end of each financial year.

(2) The annual statement of accounts of the Corporation shall be audited in accordance with the provisions of existing laws regarding Auditing.

## PART VII MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Status of  
Zanzibar  
Leo  
Newspaper.

21. (1) The Zanzibar Leo Newspaper shall continue to exist and published under auspices of the Corporation established by this Act unless the Board recommended otherwise.



Vesting of  
assets and  
liabilities.

22.(1) All assets, liabilities and staff that allocated to Zanzibar Leo Newspaper preo to the commencement of this Act, shall be vested to the Corporation immediately after this Act comes into force.

(2) All acts which were done under the Zanzibar Leo Newspaper shall be deemed to be valid.

Powers to  
make  
regula-  
tions.

23. The Minister may make regulations consistent with the provisions of this Act for the better carrying out the purpose of this Act.

**PASSED** by the House of Representatives on 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2008.

(IBRAHIM MZEE IBRAHIM)  
CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES