

AN ACT TO REPEAL THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION OF GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPERS ACT, NO. 11 OF 2008 AND RE-ENACT THE ZANZIBAR NEWSPAPERS CORPORATION ACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING NEWSPAPAPER BUSINESS AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTIONS **TITLE**

PART ONE
PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

1. Short title and commencement.
2. Interpretation.

PART TWO
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION

3. Establishment of the Corporation.
4. Seal and logo of the Corporation.
5. Objectives of the Corporation.
6. Functions of the Corporation.

PART THREE
ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CORPORATION

7. Establishement and composition of the Board.
8. Qualifications of the Chairperson.
9. Functions of the Board.
10. Powers of the Board.
11. Proceedings of the Board.
12. Secretary of the Board.



13. Appointment of Managing Editor.

14. Functions of the Managing Editor.

15. Departments, units and divisions.

16. Staff of the Corporation.

PART FOUR
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION NEWSPAPERS

17. Corporate Newspapers.

18. Business and Editorial Policy of the Corporation.

19. Sale and distribution of newspapers.

20. Trade in stationery, office equipment and printing services.

21. Printing press.

PART FIVE
FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

22. Funds and resources of the Corporation.

23. Budget of the Corporation.

24. Accounts and Audit.

25. Opening a bank account.

PART SIX
MISCLLANEOUS PROVISIONS

26. Advertisement of the activities of the Government in the newspaper.

27. Corporate Social Responsibility.

28. Regulations.

29. Repeal and Saving.

SCHEDULE

ACT NO. 3 OF 2026

I ASSENT

{DR. HUSSEIN ALI MWINYI}
PRESIDENT OF ZANZIBAR AND CHAIRMAN OF
THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL

19/05/, **2026**

AN ACT TO REPEAL THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION OF GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPERS ACT, NO. 11 OF 2008 AND RE-ENACT THE ZANZIBAR NEWSPAPERS CORPORATION ACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING NEWSPAPAPER BUSINESS AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

ENACTED by the House of Representatives of Zanzibar.

PART ONE
PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

Short title and commencement.

1. This Act may be cited as the Zanzibar Newspapers Corporation Act, 2026 and shall come into operation after being assented to by the President.

Interpretation.

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

"Board" means the Board of Directors of the Corporation established under section 7(1) of this Act;

"Chairperson" means the Chairperson of the Board appointed pursuant to section 7(1)(a) of this Act;

"Corporate Newspapers" means newspapers established under section 17(1) of this Act;

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

"Government" means the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar;

"journal" means publication released at regular intervals that includes articles, information, news, analysis or professional insights on various topics.

"Managing Editor" means the Managing Editor of the Corporation appointed under section 13(1) of this Act;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for information;

"news" means information about recent events occurring within or outside the country or within a particular area of activity;

"newspaper" means any form of content designed and published or made available online by the Corporation in accordance with the provisions of this Act and registered in accordance with relevant laws; and

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

PART TWO
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION

Establishment of the Corporation.

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

(2) The Corporation shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession, common seal, and shall, subject to any relevant law, be capable of:

(a) suing and being sued;

(b) acquiring, holding, purchasing or disposing of any movable or immovable property;

(c) entering into any contract or transaction;

(d) borrowing any such sum of money from any financial institution; and



(e) performing or doing anything which the Corporation by its nature may perform in accordance with law.

Seal and logo of the Corporation.

4.-(1) There shall be the seal and logo of the Corporation in such form and manner as may be determined by the Board.

(2) The application of the seal and logo in any document of the Corporation shall be authenticated by the signature of the Managing Editor or any other officer authorized by the Managing Editor.

(3) Any document intended to be a document issued by the Corporation shall be sealed with the seal of the Corporation and shall be authenticated in accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section.

Objectives of the Corporation.

5. The objectives of the Corporation shall be:

(a) a centre for commercial media service and related businesses;

(b) a centre for quality content incorporating investigative and public interest journalism; and

(c) a link between the Government and the public.

Functions of the Corporation.

6. The functions of the Corporation are to:

(a) publish and circulate newspapers;

(b) publish advertisements and articles;

(c) trade in stationary, office equipment, and printing services;

(d) publish and disseminate Government Policies and strategies; and

(e) perform any other function related to or necessary for carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

PART THREE
ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CORPORATION

Establishement and compo sition of the Board.

7.-(1) There shall be a Board of Directors of the Corporation which shall compose of:

(a) a Chairperson who shall be appointed by the President;

(b) Managing Editor;

(c) Director responsible for information services;

(d) State Attorney from the Attorney General's Chamber;

(e) a representative from the Journalistic Associations qualified in journalism, mass communication or any other media related studies;

(f) a representative from the Zanzibar National Chamber of Commerce who is an expert in economics, finance, business or any other related field; and

(g) a person with experience in printing services.

(2) Members under paragraphs (d), (e), (f) and (g) of subsection (1) of this section shall be appointed by the Minister in consultation with heads of relevant institutions based on their qualifications, experience and gender.

Qualifications of the Chairperson.

8. A person shall be eligible to be appointed as Chairperson of the Board if such person has:

(a) at least a first degree in any field related to media studies, economic or business from an institution recognized by the Government;

(b) working experience of at least seven years in media services or business; and

(c) high level of integrity.

Functions of the Board.

9. The functions of the Board are to:

(a) oversee matters relating to the administration of Corporation and the performance of its functions;

(b) provide strategic direction to the Corporation;

(c) advise the Minister on the affairs of the Corporation;

(d) oversee the implementation of the policies of the Corporation;

(e) approve funds, resources and investments made by the Corporation; and

(f) perform any other function which may be necessary for achieving the purposes of the Corporation.

Powers of the Board.

10. The Board shall have powers to:

(a) direct the Managing Editor to furnish it with any information, report or other document which the Board considers necessary for performance of its function;

(b) approve:

(i) the budget, work plan and policies of the Corporation;

(ii) Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations;

(iii) fees and charges for services rendered by the Corporation;

(c) recommend organizational structure of the Corporation;

(d) take disciplinary action against the staff of the Corporation; and

(e) recruit staff in accordance with the provisions of the Public Service Act, No. 2 of 2011;

Proceedings of the Board.

11. The provisions related to proceedings of the Board shall be as prescribed in the Schedule of this Act.

Secretary of the Board.

12.-(1) The Board shall appoint an officer of the Corporation to be the Secretary to the Board.

(2) A person shall qualify to be appointed as Secretary of the Board if such person has:

(a) at least a first degree in law or corporate secretary from an institution recognized by the Government; and

(b) working experience of not less than five years in public service.

(3) The Secretary of the Board shall be responsible to the Board and shall:

(a) in consultation with the Chairperson, prepare agenda of the meetings of the Board;

(b) take accurate minutes of the meetings of the Board;

(c) maintain the correct and sufficient records of the Board;

(d) give proper notification of the meetings of the Board to the members; and

(e) perform any other duty as directed by the Board.

Appointment of Managing Editor.

13.-(1) There shall be a Managing Editor of the Corporation who shall be appointed by the President.

(2) A person shall qualify to be appointed as Managing Editor if such person has:

(a) at least a first degree in mass communication, journalism or equivalent field from an institution recognized by the Government;

(b) a working experience of not less than seven years in media; and

(c) high level of integrity.

Functions of the Managing Editor.

14.-(1) The Managing Editor shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Corporation.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Managing Editor shall:

(a) be accountable for all income, expenditure and properties of the Corporation;

(b) ensure staff of the Corporation perform their responsibilities in ethical and responsible manner;

(c) supervise disciplinary matters for staff of the Corporation; and

(d) perform any other duty as the Board may direct.



Departments, units and divisions.

15.-(1) The Corporation shall establish departments, units and divisions in such numbers and manners as it may deem necessary for the fulfilment of functions of the Corporation.

(2) Heads of the departments and units shall be appointed by the Board upon the recommendation of the Managing Editor.

(3) Heads of the divisions shall be appointed by the Managing Editor based on their merit.

(4) Head of departments, units and divisions shall be accountable to the Managing Editor.

Staff of the Corporation.

16. There shall be staff of the Corporation to be employed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Service Act, No. 2 of 2011.

PART FOUR
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION NEWSPAPERS

Corporate Newspapers.

17.-(1) There shall be Corporate Newspapers which shall be registered in accordance with the law.

(2) Corporate Newspapers under subsection (1) of this section shall include:

(a) The Zanzibar Leo Newspaper;

(b) The Zanzibar Mail Newspaper;

(c) The Zaspoti Newspaper; and

(d) any such other newspaper which the Corporation may establish.

(3) The Managing Editor may, subject to approval of the Board, establish or alter the layout or appearance of the newspapers in response to the needs of the market.

Business and Editorial Policy of the Corporation.

18.-(1) The Corporation shall have business policy and guidelines that prescribe printing services, selling of newspapers, office equipment and stationary, advertisements or any other business of the Corporation.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Corporation shall develop its own editorial policy to regulate contents which shall adhere to the journalistic code of ethics, principles and standards.

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, the Corporation shall not publish or refuse to publish any content on ground of coercion or undue influence of any person.

Sale and distribution of news papers.

19.-(1) The Corporation shall establish mechanism of selling and distribution of newspapers to cover a wide range of customers within and outside Tanzania.

(2) The Corporation may, in addition to distribution mechanism of newspaper under subsection (1) of this section, establish online newspapers distribution.

Trade in stationery, office equipment and printing services.

20. The Corporation shall, subject to the provision of section 6 of this Act, engage in trade in stationery, office equipment and printing services.

Printing press.

21. The Corporation may own and operate its own printing press for the printing of newspapers and other related activities.

PART FIVE
FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Funds and resources of the Corporation.

22. Funds and resources of the Corporation shall consist of:

(a) such sums as may be approved by the House of Representatives;

(b) grants, gifts, support, donations or loans as the Corporation may receive from any person or institution;

(c) fees and charges for services rendered by the Corporation; and

(d) any such other money that may be legally acquired by the Corporation.

Budget of the Corporation.

23.-(1) The Managing Editor shall, in respect of the end of each financial year, submit to the Board, for discussion and approval, estimates of revenue and expenditure of the Corporation for the following financial year in accordance with the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, No. 12 of 2016.

(2) The Board shall, after discussing and approving the estimates of the revenue and expenditure of the Corporation, submit them to the Minister.

Accounts and Audit.

24.-(1) The Corporation shall, keep and maintain correctly the books of accounts which include all financial records and transactions for each financial year.

(2) The Managing Editor shall, in each financial year, prepare or order to be prepared:

(a) a statement of income and expenditures for the relevant financial year;

(b) report of the assets and liabilities of the Corporation until the last day of the financial year to be submitted and audited by the Controller and Auditor General of Government Accounts or any other auditor appointed by the Controller and Auditor General of the Government; and

(c) any other financial statements as provided by law.

Opening a bank account.

25. The Corporation shall open bank account in accordance with the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, No. 12 of 2016.

PART SIX
MISCLLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Advertise ment of the activities of the Government in the newspaper.

26.-(1) All Government institutions shall be required to publish their advertisement regarding the activities of their institutions in the Corporation newspaper.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Government institutions may publish its advertisement in any other newspaper.

(3) The Corporation shall prepare guidelines in relation to advertisements from public institutions.

Corporate Social Responsibility

27. The Corporation shall, subject to any relevant law, develop its Corporate Social Responsibility Strategy in accordance with its business.

Regulations.

28. The Minister may make regulations for the better implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Repeal and saving.

29.-(1) The Establishment of the Corporation of Government Newspapers Act, No. 11 of 2008 is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, anything done or purported to be done under the repealed Act before commencement of this Act, shall be deemed to have been done under the provisions of this Act.

SCHEDULE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
[Made under section 11]

Vice-Chair-person.

1. The Board members shall elect one of them to be a Vice Chairperson of the Board.

Tenure of the members.

2. Save for ex-officio member, the Chairperson and other members of the Board shall hold the office for a term of three years from the date of their appointment and may be eligible for re- appointment for another term only

Meetings of the Board.

3.-(1) The Board shall ordinarily meet once in every three months and may convene for extraordinary meeting at any time when need arises for the discharge of its functions.

(2) The Chairperson shall preside all meetings of the Board, and on his absence, the Vice Chairperson shall preside the meeting of the Board and if the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson are absent, the members present shall elect one among themselves to preside the meeting.

Quorum.

4. More than half of the total number of the members shall constitute quorum at any meeting of the Board.

Decisions of the Board.

5. Decisions of the Board shall be made by consensus, where there is no consensus, the decisions shall be made by majority vote and where there is an equal vote, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.

Procedures of the Board.

6. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Board shall have a power to regulate its own procedures in respect to the meetings and proper conduct of its activities.

Co-opted member.

7. The Board may co-opt any person who is not a member of the Board to attend in any deliberation of the meeting of the Board as an expert but the co-opted member shall have no right to vote.

Committees of the Board.

8. The Board may, for the purpose of facilitating the performance of its functions, establish committees to perform specific functions as may deem necessary.

Minutes of the meetings of the Board.

9. The minutes of the meetings of the Board shall be confirmed by the Board at the next meeting and signed by the Chairperson and secretary.

Delegation of the functions of the Board.

10.-(1) The Board may, if deems fit for the proper discharging of its functions, delegate some of its functions to the committee of the Board.

(2) Where the Board delegates its functions under subsection (1) of this section, it shall give directives in writing as may be necessary to ensure the proper performance of the functions.

Disclosure of the interest.

11.-(1) The member of the Board who has direct or indirect personal interest in a matter being considered or about to be considered by the Board shall, as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to his knowledge, disclose the nature of his interest, at the begining of the meeting of the Board.

(2) A disclosure of interest under subsection (1) of this section, shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and the member making such disclosure shall not:

(a) be present during the deliberation of the Board for the making of the determination; or

(b) influence any other member in the making the determination

Cessation of member ship.

12. The member shall cease to hold office upon the occurrence of the following:

(a) resignation;

(b) if is absent without reasonable excuse for three consecutive meetings of the Board;

(c) if he becomes incapacitated to perform his duties by reasons of physical or mental health;

(d) if he ceases to be a representative of the institution which nominated that member;

(e) if he is terminated by the Minister where he does not meet the expectation of the Authority; or

(f) death.

Allowances of the members of the Board.

13. The Chairperson and other members of the Board shall be entitled to be paid such allowances in accordance with the Public Service Act, No 2. of 2011.

PASSED by the House of Representatives of Zanzibar on 10th September, 2026.

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(HASSAN ALI HAJI)

Clerk of the House of Representatives of Zanzibar.