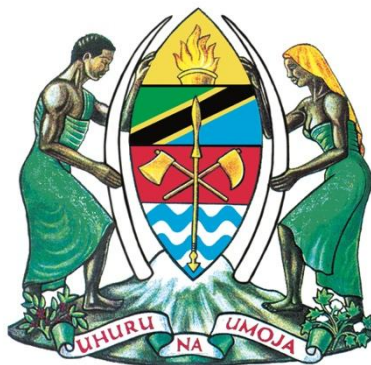




THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

CHAPTER 46

**THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIES (LICENSING AND
REGISTRATION) ACT**

[PRINCIPAL LEGISLATION]

REVISED EDITION 2023 (ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT) 2025

This Annual Supplement of the National Industries (Licensing and Registration) Act, Chapter 46, has been revised up to and including 31st July, 2025 and is printed under the authority of section 5(7) of the Laws Revision Act, Chapter 4.

Dodoma,
28th October, 2025

HAMZA S. JOHARI
Attorney General

REVISED DRAFT

CHAPTER 46

THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIES (LICENSING AND REGISTRATION)
ACT

[PRINCIPAL LEGISLATION]

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CHAPTER 46

THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIES (LICENSING AND REGISTRATION)
ACT

An Act to make provision for the orderly promotion and development of industries, to provide for the registration and licensing of certain Industries and for related matters.

[15th July, 1967]
[GN. No. 239 of 1967]

Acts Nos.
10 of 1967
13 of 1982
13 of 1991
10 of 1992
5 of 1995
4 of 2024
6 of 2024

PART I
PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

Short title
Act No.
13 of 1992
s. 2

1.-(1) This Act may be cited as the National Industries (Licensing and Registration) Act.
(2) This Act shall apply to Mainland Tanzania as well as Tanzania Zanzibar.

Interpretation
Acts Nos.
13 of 1982
s. 3
4 of 2024
s. 10

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-
“Board” means the Industrial Licensing Board established under section 10;
“certificate of registration” means a certificate of registration of an industry issued under section 8;
“chairman” means the Chairman of the Board and includes the Vice-Chairman;
“factory” means any building or place, and any machinery or plant therein or thereon, intended to be used or

- is used for manufacture;
- “industry” means any factory in which an individual, group of persons or entity produces goods;
- “industrial licence” means an industrial licence granted under this Act;
- “licensee” means the person to whom an industrial licence has been granted, and includes the person to whom such licence is transferred in accordance with the provisions of this Act;
- “manufacture” with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, means-
- (a) the production of any article by the process of mechanical or chemical transformation of any inorganic or organic substance, whether such transformation is carried out by power driven machinery or by manual labour;
 - (b) the making, processing, altering, repairing, ornamenting, finishing, cleaning or washing or the breaking up or demolition of an article; or
 - (c) the adapting for sale of any article, and includes the assembly of component parts of manufactured products;
- “member” means a member of the Board and includes the chairman;
- “Minister” means the Minister responsible for industries;
- “Registrar” means the Registrar of industries appointed under section 3 and includes Deputy Registrar and Assistant Registrars of industries;
- “worker” means any person employed in any industry by the owner of such industry whether he performs his duties in relation to the industry at any factory engaged in the industry or outside such factory.
- (2) For the purposes of this Act an industry shall be deemed to have been established when any article or component part of an articles for the manufacture of which the industry is established is produced, whether or not such article or part is used, sold, exposed for sale or otherwise dealt with.

PART II
OFFICERS

Registrar,
Deputy Registrar
and Assistant
Registrars
Acts Nos.
13 of 1982
s. 3A
4 of 2024
s. 11

3.-(1) The Minister may, after consultation with the Minister responsible for industries in the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar by Notice published in the *Gazette*, appoint a Registrar of industries and a Deputy Registrar and as many Assistant Registrars as he may think fit.

(2) In the event of the Registrar so appointed being from Mainland Tanzania the Deputy Registrar shall be from Tanzania Zanzibar and if the Registrar is from Tanzania Zanzibar the Deputy Registrar shall be from Mainland Tanzania.

Proof of
documents
Act No.
4 of 2024
s. 12

4. A certificate, licence or other document purporting to be signed by the Registrar shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been so signed by him and may be proved by the production of a copy thereof purporting to have been so signed.

PART III
REGISTRATION OF INDUSTRIES

Application
Act No.
13 of 1982
s. 4

5. This Part shall apply to all small scale industries as may be determined by the Minister.

Compulsory
registration

6.-(1) A person shall not, after the commencement of this Act, establish any industry unless he has obtained a certificate of registration in respect of the industry.

(2) A person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) commits an offence.

Existing
industries

7.-(1) Where at the commencement of this Act any person is the owner of any industry he shall, within ninety days of the commencement of this Act, apply for a certificate of registration in respect of the industry.

(2) A person who contravenes the provisions of

subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

Certificate of
registration

8.-(1) An application for a certificate of registration shall be made to the Registrar and shall give such particulars as may be prescribed.

(2) Upon receipt of an application and on being satisfied that all the particulars required to be given therein have been given the Registrar shall issue a certificate of registration in the prescribed form in respect of the industry.

PART IV INDUSTRIAL LICENSING BOARD

Application
Act No.
13 of 1982
s. 5

9. This part shall apply to medium and large scale industries as may be determined by the Minister.

Establishment of
Board
Acts Nos.
13 of 1982
s. 5
4 of 2024
s. 13

10.-(1) There is hereby established a Board to be known as the Industrial Licensing Board which shall have such functions and powers as are conferred upon it by this Act.

(2) The Board shall perform the following functions:

- (a) to supervise the performance of the Registrar;
- (b) to evaluate quarterly reports submitted by the Registrar;
- (c) to issue directives to the Registrar for better carrying out the purpose of this Act;
- (d) to advise the Minister on development of industrial sector; and
- (e) to perform such other functions which are necessary or expedient for the proper discharge of the purpose of this Act.

(3) The Board may from among its members, appoint such number of committees as it deems necessary for purposes which, in the opinion of the Board, would be better administered through committees.

[s. 9A]

Appointment
and composition
of Board
Acts Nos.
13 of 1982
s. 6
4 of 2024
s. 14

11.-(1) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Minister responsible for industries in Tanzania Zanzibar, appoint members of the Board.

(2) The Board shall consist of the following members:

- (a) a Chairman who shall be a person with knowledge and experience in industries matters;
- (b) a Law Officer representing the Attorney General;
- (c) one member from the Ministry responsible for industries in Mainland Tanzania;
- (d) one member from the Ministry responsible for industries in Tanzania Zanzibar;
- (e) one member representing the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture;
- (f) one member representing the Zanzibar National Chamber of Commerce;
- (g) one member representing the association of industries;
- (h) one member representing the authority responsible for small and medium industries in Mainland Tanzania; and
- (i) one member representing the authority responsible for small and medium industries in Tanzania Zanzibar.

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

(4) The tenure and other proceedings of the Board shall be as provided in the Schedule.

(5) The Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, amend the Schedule.

[s. 10]

Repealed

12. [Repealed by Act No. 4 of 2024, s. 15]

[s. 10A]

PART V
OPERATION OF INDUSTRIAL LICENSING

Industrial licence
Acts Nos.
13 of 1982
s. 7
10 of 1992
Sch.
4 of 2024
s.16

13.-(1) A person who intends to establish an industry shall apply to the Registrar for an industrial licence in a manner prescribed in the regulations.

(2) A person who establishes an industry without a licence commits an offence.

[s. 11]

Repealed

14. [Repealed by Act No. 4 of 2024, s. 17]

[s. 13]

Repealed

15. [Repealed by Act No. 4 of 2024, s. 17]

[s. 14]

Repealed

16. [Repealed by Act No. 4 of 2024, s. 17]

[s. 14A]

Industrial licence
Acts Nos.
13 of 1982
s. 11
4 of 2024
s. 18

17. An industrial licence granted by the Registrar shall specify and be subject to such conditions as the Registrar may think fit to impose.

[s. 15]

Conditions for
registered and
licensed
industries
Act No.
6 of 2024
s. 65

17A.-(1) A person whose industry is registered or licensed under this Act or granted certificate under the Tanzania Investment Act and granted with-

(a) exemption or zero rate under the Value Added Tax Act;

(b) duty remission under the East African Community Customs Management Act; or

(c) a stay of application of East African Community Common External Tariff,

(d) shall enter into performance agreement with the Minister responsible for finance.

(2) The Minister responsible for finance may make regulations for the proper implementation of this section.

Transfer of
licence
Act No.
4 of 2024
s. 18

18. An industrial licence shall not be transferable except with the prior approval of the Registrar. [s. 16]

Application for
transfer
Act No.
4 of 2024
s. 18

19. An application for approval of a proposed transfer of an industrial licence shall be made to the Registrar in the prescribed form, and the Registrar may, in his discretion, grant or refuse the application and may if the application is granted, attach conditions to the licence and, where conditions are already attached to the licence which is sought to be transferred, may add further conditions thereto or vary or delete existing conditions. [s. 17]

Variations of
conditions
Act No.
4 of 2024
s. 18

20. The conditions attached to an industrial licence granted under the provisions of this Part may be varied by the Registrar either on his own motion or on an application made to him by the licensee in the prescribed form. [s. 18]

Repealed

21. [Repealed by Act No.4 of 2024, s. 19] [s. 19]

Revocation of
licence
Act No.
4 of 2024
s. 18

22.-(1) Where the Registrar is satisfied that a licensee has-

- (a) failed to comply with any condition attached to his licence; or
- (b) failed or ceased to operate the industry in respect of which the licence was granted to him, the Registrar may, in his discretion, call upon him to show cause why his licence should not be revoked; and for such purpose the Registrar may hold such inquiry as he may think fit.

(2) Where a licensee who has under subsection (1) been called upon to show cause why his licence should not be revoked fails to do so to the satisfaction of the Registrar, the Registrar may revoke the licence from such

date as the Registrar may decide or may make such other order, including variation of the licence or of the conditions attached thereto, as it may think fit.

[s. 20]

Functions of
Registrar
Act No.
4 of 2024
s. 20

23.-(1) The Registrar shall perform the following functions:

- (a) approve and grant industrial licence and certificate of registration;
- (b) approve the transfer of industrial licence or certificate of registration;
- (c) carry out regular inspection in respect of adherence to the provisions of this Act;
- (d) prepare and maintain the register of industries;
- (e) prepare and submit quarterly reports to the Board; and
- (f) carry out any other function as may be directed by the Board.

[s. 21]

Existing
industries
Act No.
13 of 1982
s. 12

24.-(1) Within ninety days of the operative date of this Act, any person operating a manufacturing industry or factory shall apply to the Board for an industrial licence in respect of the industry or factory.

(2) A person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand shillings.

[s. 22]

PART VI APPEALS

Appeals to
Minister
Act No.
4 of 2024
s. 18

25.-(1) A person who being-

- (a) an applicant for the grant of an industrial licence, or for the transfer of or variation of the conditions attached to an industrial licence, is aggrieved by the decision of the Registrar; or
- (b) a holder of an industrial licence, is aggrieved

by the revocation or variation thereof,
may, within the time and in the manner prescribed, appeal
to the Minister.

(2) On any appeal made to the Minister under this
section, the Minister may affirm, reverse or vary the
decision of the Registrar or may make such other order as
may appear to him necessary and just.

[s. 24]

PART VII MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Penalty
Acts Nos.
13 of 1982
s. 14;
13 of 1991
Sch.
5 of 1995
Sch.
4 of 2024
s. 21

26. A person who commits an offence under this
Act, for which no penalty is specifically provided, on
conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one
million shillings.

[s. 25]

Registers

27. The Registrar shall maintain a register of the
industries in respect of which certificates of registration
have been granted under Part III, and a register of
industries in respect of which industrial licences have been
granted, and shall enter in the registers such particulars as
may be prescribed.

[s. 26]

Exemptions

28. The Minister may, by order published in the
Gazette, exempt any industry or any category of industries
from all or any of the provision of this Act.

[s. 27]

Regulations
G.N. No.
246 of 1967;
Acts Nos.
13 of 1982
s. 15
4 of 2024
s. 22

29. The Minister may after consultation with the
Minister responsible for industries in the Revolutionary
Government of Zanzibar, make regulations for the better
carrying out of the provisions and purposes of this Act and
without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing may
make regulations-

- (a) requiring owners of industries to keep records of the number of workers employed, the conditions of service, the level of production and of such other matters as he may think necessary;
- (b) requiring the owners of industries to make returns relating to such matters as he may think necessary;
- (c) prescribing the forms to be used and the particulars to be furnished for any of the purposes of this Act;
- (d) providing for the grant of copies of licences and certificates;
- (e) prescribing fees for applications, licences and registration;
- (f) prescribing conditions for licences and certificates of registration;
- (g) prescribing the manner for appointment of industrial inspectors under this Act;
- (h) prescribing anything which under the provisions of this Act may be prescribed.

[s. 28]

SCHEDULE

(Made under section 11(4))

Act No
4 of 2024
s. 23

TENURE AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

Power to co-opt

1. The Board may co-opt any person to attend its meetings for the purposes of rendering technical advice but such person shall have no right to vote.

Tenure of office

2.-(1) A member of the Board shall hold office for a period of three years from the date of his appointment and may be eligible for re-appointment for one further term.

(2) A member of the Board may resign by giving a one month's

notice in writing to the Minister.

(3) Where a member of the Board ceases to hold an office in respect of which he was appointed, he shall cease to be a member of the Board and the appointing authority shall fill the vacancy accordingly.

Vice-Chairman

3. Members of the Board shall elect one among them to be a Vice-Chairman:

Provided that, where the Chairman hails from one part of the Union, the members of the Board shall elect a Vice-Chairman from among members hailing from the other part of the Union.

Meetings of
Board

4.-(1) The Board shall meet at least four times annually for the transaction of its business.

(2) The Board may hold an extraordinary meeting at any time where necessity requires if requested in writing by half of the members.

(3) The Secretary of the Board shall give to each member adequate notice of the time and place of each meeting.

(4) Where at any meeting of the Board the Chairman is absent, the Vice-Chairman shall preside over such meeting.

(5) In the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman at any meeting of the Board, the members present shall elect one person from amongst their number to be a temporary Chairman who shall preside at such meeting.

(6) All matters considered by the Board shall, in the event of a difference of opinion, be decided by votes of a majority of members present at any meeting, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman or person presiding over the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his deliberative vote.

Quorum for
meetings

5.-(1) The quorum at any meeting of the Board shall be half of the members.

(2) A decision may be made by the Board without a meeting by circulation of relevant papers among all members and the expression in writing of their views, but any member shall be entitled to require that any such decision shall be deferred until the subject matter is considered at a meeting of the Board.

Minutes of
meetings

6.-(1) The Secretary shall record and keep minutes of business conducted or transacted at all meetings and the minutes of each meeting of the Board shall be read and confirmed or amended and confirmed, at the next meeting of the Board.

(2) Minutes of the Board signed by the Chairman or the person presiding over the meeting and the Secretary shall, in the absence of proof of error, be deemed to be a correct record of the meeting to which the minutes relate.

Fees and
allowance

7. Members of the Board shall be paid such remunerations, fees and

allowances as may be determined by the relevant authority.

Procedures of
Board

8. The Board shall regulate its own proceedings.

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