

**THE ZAMBIA MEDICINES AND MEDICAL
SUPPLIES AGENCY (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2024**

MEMORENDUM

The object of this Bill is to amend the Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency Act, 2019 so as to—

- (a) redefine medical supplies;
- (b) provide for emergency procurement, storage and distribution of medicine and medical supplies; and
- (c) provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

M. D. KABESHA,
Attorney General

NAB 14, 2024
16th July, 2024

A BILL

ENTITLED

**An Act to amend the Zambia Medicines and Medical
Supplies Agency Act, 2019.**

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia.

Enactment

1. This Act may be cited as the Zambia Medicines and Medical
Supplies Agency (Amendment) Act, 2024 and shall be read as one
with the Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency Act,
5 2019, in this Act referred to as the principal Act.

Short title

Act No. 9
of 2019

2. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by the—

Amendment
of section 2

(a) deletion of the definition of “medical supplies” and the
substitution therefor of the following:

10 “medical supplies” means consumable products or
materials used in the delivery of health care
services and includes pharmaceuticals, non
pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, vaccines and
therapeutic antisera, laboratory supplies and
reagents, and dental materials;; and

15 (b) insertion of the following definition in the appropriate
place in alphabetical order:

Act No. 19 of 2020	“public health emergency” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Zambia National Public Health Institute Act, 2020;.	
Amendment of section 6	3. Section 6 of the principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new subsection immediately after subsection (5):	5
	(6) The Minister may enter into performance contracts with the Board, for a specified period, which shall be consistent with the provisions of this Act.	
Amendment of section 7	4. Section 7 of the principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new subsection immediately after subsection (2):	10
	(3) The Minister may give the Board general or specific directions relating to the performance of its functions and the Board shall give effect to those directions to the extent that the directions are not inconsistent with this Act.	
Insertion of section 26A	5. The principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section immediately after section 26:	15
Emergency procurement, storage and distribution of medicine and medical supplies	26A (1) Despite section 5(a), the Minister may, where a public health emergency occurs that requires immediate action to safeguard the health of persons in the Republic, procure, store and distribute medicine or medical supplies.	20
	(2) The Minister shall, in exercising the functions under subsection (1), seek the approval of the Cabinet.	
Act No. 8 of 2020	(3) The Public Procurement Act, 2020 shall apply to the procurement of medicine or medical supplies referred to under subsection (1).	25