

**THE SOCIAL WORKERS' ASSOCIATION
OF ZAMBIA ACT, 2022**

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GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA

ACT

No. 4 of 2022

Date of Assent: **12th April, 2022**

An Act to continue the existence of the Social Workers' Association of Zambia; provide for the registration of social workers and regulate their professional conduct; provide for disciplinary procedures for social workers in the social work profession; and provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

[12th April, 2022

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia.

Enactment

PART I

PRELIMINARY AND PROVISIONS

1. This Act may be cited as the Social Workers' Association of Zambia Act, 2022, and shall come into operation on the date appointed by the Minister by statutory instrument.

Short title and commencement

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

Interpretation

“associate” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Anti-Corruption Act, 2012;

Act No. 3 of 2012

“Association” means the Social Workers' Association of Zambia continued under section 3;

“Association member” means a person registered as a member of the Association in accordance with this Act and the constitution, and “membership” shall be construed accordingly;

“certificate of registration” means the certificate of registration issued under section 14;

“Chairperson” means the person appointed as Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee under section 36;

“code of ethics” means the code of professional conduct adopted and published by the Association for the purposes of this Act;

“constitution” means the constitution of the Association;

“Council” means the Council of the Association constituted under section 8;

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| | <p>“council member” means a person elected as a council member in accordance with section 8;</p> |
| | <p>“Deputy Registrar” means the person appointed as Deputy Registrar under section 10;</p> |
| | <p>“Disciplinary Committee” means the Disciplinary Committee constituted under section 36;</p> |
| | <p>“field of speciality” includes clinical social work, medical and prison social work, mental health and disability social work, therapy and counseling social work, group and family social work, community development social work, social work research and social work administration;</p> |
| Act No. 4 of 2013 | <p>“higher education institution” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Higher Education Act, 2013;</p> |
| Cap. 31 | <p>“Law Association of Zambia” means the Law Association of Zambia established by the Law Association of Zambia Act;</p> |
| Cap. 30 | <p>“legal practitioner” has the meaning assigned to the word “practitioner” in the Legal Practitioners Act;</p> |
| Act No. 6 of 2019 | <p>“legally disqualified” means the absence of legal capacity as provided in section 4 of the Mental Health Act, 2019;</p> |
| Act No. 6 of 2019 | <p>“mental health practitioner” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Mental Health Act, 2019;</p> |
| | <p>“practising certificate” means a certificate issued under section 22;</p> |
| | <p>“President” means the person elected as President of the Association under section 6;</p> |
| | <p>“professional misconduct” means the conduct referred to under section 34;</p> |
| | <p>“register” means the register prepared and maintained in accordance with section 30;</p> |
| | <p>“Registrar” means a person appointed as Registrar under section 10;</p> |
| Act No. 3 of 2012 | <p>“relative” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Anti-Corruption Act, 2012;</p> |

“social work” means the practice that seeks to enhance or restore human well being through social case work, social group work, community development, social administration and social research;

“social worker” means a person who holds a minimum qualification of a diploma in social work from a registered higher education institution;

“Vice-Chairperson” means the person appointed as Vice-Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee under section 36;

“Vice-President” means the person elected as Vice-President of the Association under section 6; and

“Zambia Qualifications Authority” means the Zambia Qualifications Authority established under the Zambia Qualifications Authority Act, 2011.

Act No. 13 of 2011

PART II

THE SOCIAL WORKERS' ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIA

3. (1) The Social Workers' Association of Zambia registered under the Societies Act is continued as if established under this Act.

Establishment of Social Workers' Association of Zambia Cap. 119

(2) The Association is a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal, capable of suing and being sued in its corporate name, and with power, subject to this Act, to do acts and things that a body corporate may, by law, do or perform.

(3) The First Schedule applies to the Association.

4. The functions of the Association are to—

- (a) register social workers and regulate their professional conduct;
- (b) represent, coordinate and develop the social work profession and promote its interests;
- (c) recommend to the Zambia Qualifications Authority and other relevant institutions the development and maintenance of appropriate standards of qualification in the social work profession;
- (d) promote the integrity and enhance the status of the social work profession;
- (e) promote the implementation of international standards relating to the social work profession;

Functions of Association