

**THE ZAMBIA NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE  
ACT, 2020**

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GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA

**ACT**

**No. 19 of 2020**

Date of Assent: 18th December, 2020

**An Act to provide for the coordination of public health security; continue the existence of the Zambia National Public Health Institute and provide for its functions; establish the Public Health Emergency Operations Centre; establish the National Public Health Laboratory; establish the National Public Health Emergency Fund; and provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.**

[18th December, 2020]

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia.

Enactment

PART I

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

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| <b>1.</b> This Act may be cited as the Zambia National Public Health Institute Act, 2020, and shall come into operation on the date appointed by the Minister by statutory instrument. | Short title and commencement |
| <b>2.</b> In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—<br>“authorised officer” includes—  | Interpretation               |
| (a) a person appointed as an authorised officer under section 10;  |                              |
| (b) an officer appointed under the Mines and Minerals Development Act, 2015;   | Act No. 11 of 2015           |
| (c) an inspector of factories appointed under section 6 of the Factories Act;  | Cap. 441                     |
| (d) an officer appointed under the Animal Health Act, 2010;  | Act No. 12 of 2010           |
| (e) an officer appointed under the Environmental Management Act, 2011;   | Act No. 12 of 2011           |

Cap. 295	(f) an inspector appointed under the Public Health Act;
Act No. 7 of 2019	(g) a health inspector appointed under the Food Safety Act, 2019;
Act No. 16 of 2005	(h) a radiation safety officer appointed under the Ionising Radiation Protection Act, 2005;
Act No. 10 of 1999	(i) a person appointed under the Workers Compensation Act, 1999;
Act No. 12 of 2019	(j) an inspector appointed under the Energy Regulation Act, 2019; and
Act No. 2 of 2019	(k) an inspector appointed under the Local Government Act, 2019;
Act No. 2 of 2013	“bio-bank” has the meaning assigned to the words in the National Health Research Act, 2013;
	“Board means the Board of the Zambia National Public Health Institute constituted under section 5;
	“Board Secretary” means a person appointed as a Board Secretary under section 8;
	“Centre” means the Public Health Emergency Operations Centre established under section 12;
	“Director-General” means a person appointed as Director-General under section 8;
Cap. 137	“Examinations Council of Zambia” means the Examinations Council of Zambia established under the Examinations Council of Zambia Act;
	“Fund” means the National Public Health Emergency Fund established under section 15;
	“global health security” means an activity required to minimise the danger and impact of acute public health events that endanger the collective health of populations living across geographical regions and international boundaries;
	“Institute” means the Zambia National Public Health Institute continued under section 3;
	“Laboratory” means the National Public Health Laboratory established under section 14;
Act No. 6 of 2019	“legally disqualified” means the absence of legal capacity as provided in section 4 of the Mental Health Act, 2019;

“one health approach” means an approach to designing and implementing programmes, policies, legislation and research in which multiple sectors communicate and work together to achieve better public health outcomes;

“pathogen” means a bacterium, virus or other micro-organism that may cause disease;

“public health” means the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organised efforts of society;

“public health emergency” means an occurrence or imminent threat of an illness or health condition, caused by bio-terrorism, epidemic or pandemic disease, or a novel and highly fatal infectious chemical or biological toxin agent;

“public health security” means an activity required to minimise the danger and impact of acute public health events that endanger the collective health of population living across geographical regions and international boundaries;

“rapid response team” means a technical team constituted to identify, investigate and control an outbreak before it can spread;

“school certificate” means a certificate awarded by the Examinations Council of Zambia to a candidate who passes subjects, in a grade twelve examination conducted by the Examinations Council of Zambia, that the Examinations Council of Zambia requires for the award of the certificate or its equivalent from an institution recognised by the Zambia Qualifications Authority;

“surveillance” means a systematic ongoing collection, collation and analysis of data for public health purposes and timely dissemination of public health information for assessment and public health response, where necessary; and

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