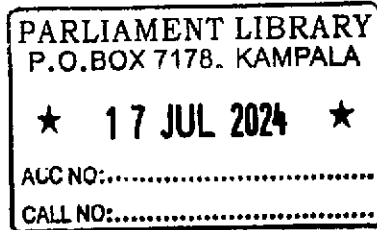




THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL (AMENDMENT)  
ACT, 2024**





THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

I SIGNIFY my assent to the bill.

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★ 17 JUL 2024  
ACC NO:.....  
CALL NO:.....

*Yoweri Museveni*  
.....  
President

Date of assent:..... 15/7/2024 .....

**Act** *National Women's Council* **2024**  
*(Amendment) Act*

THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2024

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

*Section*

1. Commencement
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★ 17 JUL 2024 ★

ACC NO:.....

CALL NO:.....

**THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL (AMENDMENT)  
ACT, 2024**

An Act to amend the National Women's Council Act, Cap. 318 to dissolve the secretariat for the National Women's Council; to establish the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups as the secretariat for the National Women's Council established under the National Women's Council Act, Cap. 318, the National Youth Council established under the National Youth Council Act, Cap. 319, the National Council for Older Persons established under the National Council for Older Persons Act, 2013 and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities established under the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2020, in order to give effect to the Government Policy on Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure; and for related purposes.

Date of assent:

*Date of Commencement:*

BE IT ENACTED by Parliament as follows—

**1. Commencement**

This Act shall come into force on a date appointed by the Minister, by statutory instrument.

**2. Interpretation**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“agency” means a body established by an Act of Parliament and includes an authority;

“commission” means a body established by the Constitution;

“Government” means the Government of Uganda; and

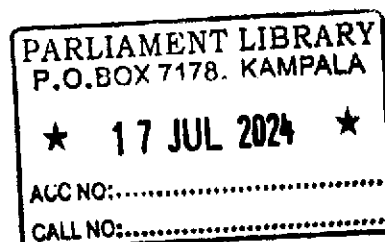
“Ministry” means the Ministry responsible for gender, labour and social development.

**3. Objectives**

(1) The main objective of this Act is to give effect to the Government Policy for Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure adopted by the Cabinet on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2021 and contained in Cabinet Minute No. 43(CT 2021).

(2) Without prejudice to the general effect of subsection (1), the following objectives shall be deemed to fall under the objective specified in that subsection—

- (a) the merging, mainstreaming and rationalisation of agencies, commissions, authorities and public expenditure thereby, *inter alia*, relieving the Government of the financial drain on its resources and the burden of wasteful administration and expenditure;
- (b) the facilitation of efficient and effective service delivery by clearly delineating the mandates and functions of Government agencies and departments and thereby avoiding duplication of mandates and functions;
- (c) the promotion of coordinated administrative arrangements, policies and procedures for—



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- (i) ensuring the efficient and successful management, financial accounting and budgetary discipline of Government agencies and departments;
- (ii) enabling the Government to play its proper role more effectively; and
- (iii) enforcing accountability; and
- (d) the restructuring and reorganisation of agencies and departments of Government by eliminating bloated structures and functional ambiguities in Government agencies and departments.

**4. Purpose of amendment of Cap. 318**

The purpose of amending the National Women's Council Act, Cap. 318 is to dissolve the secretariat for the National Women's Council and to establish the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups as the secretariat for the National Women's Council established under the National Women's Council Act, Cap. 318, the National Youth Council established under the National Youth Council Act, Cap. 319, the National Council for Older Persons established under the National Council for Older Persons Act, 2013 and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities established under the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2020.

**5. Dissolution of secretariat for National Women's Council**

On the commencement of this Act, the secretariat for the National Women's Council shall be dissolved.

**6. Amendment of section 1 of Cap. 318**

The National Women's Council Act, Cap. 318, in this Act referred to as the "principal Act", is amended in section 1, by inserting in the appropriate alphabetical order, the following—

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“National Council for Older Persons” means the Council established under section 5 of the National Council for Older Persons Act, 2013;

“National Council for Persons with Disabilities” means the Council established under section 20 of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2020;

“National Women’s Executive Committee” means the Committee established under section 8 of the National Women’s Council Act, Cap. 318;

“National Youth Executive Committee” means the Committee established under section 9 of the National Youth Council Act, Cap. 319; and

“special interest groups” means, women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities.”

**7. Substitution of section 9 of principal Act**

Section 9 of the principal Act is substituted for the following—

**“9. National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups**

(1) There is established a secretariat to be known as the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups.

(2) The National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups shall be the secretariat for—

- (a) the National Women’s Council;
- (b) the National Youth Council established under the National Youth Council Act, Cap 319;
- (c) the National Council for Older Persons; and
- (d) the National Council for Persons with Disabilities.

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(3) The Minister shall, by statutory instrument, prescribe the functions of the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups.

(4) The National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups shall be composed of a secretary and other staff.

(5) The other staff of the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups may be employed from among the staff of the National Women's Council, National Youth Council, National Council for Older Persons and National Council for Persons with Disabilities serving immediately before the commencement of this Act.

(6) Public officers may be seconded to serve in the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups or may otherwise give assistance to the secretariat."

**8. Amendment of section 10 of principal Act**

Section 10 of the principal Act is amended—

(a) by substituting for subsection (1), the following—

"(1) The Minister shall, in consultation with the National Women's Executive Committee, the National Youth Executive Committee, the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and the National Council for Older Persons, appoint a secretary for the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups."; and

(b) in subsection (5), by substituting for the word "council", the words "the National Women's Council, the National Youth Council, the National Council for Older Persons and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities."



**9. Substitution of section 11 of principal Act**

Section 11 of the principal Act is substituted for the following—

**“11. Functions of secretary**

(1) The secretary shall be the chief executive officer and the accounting officer of the National Women's Council, National Youth Council, National Council for Older Persons and National Council for Persons with Disabilities.

(2) Subject to the general control of the Minister, the secretary shall—

- (a) act as secretary at meetings of the National Women's Council, National Youth Council, National Council for Older Persons and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and record the minutes at the meetings;
- (b) be responsible for the implementation of the policy decisions and the day to day administration of the affairs of the National Women's Council, the National Youth Council, the National Council for Older Persons and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities; and
- (c) be responsible for the control of the other staff of the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups.

(3) Where the office of the secretary is vacant or where the secretary is unable to perform the functions of his or her office by reason of illness, absence or any other reason, the Minister may designate an officer of the

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National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups qualified under section 10 to perform the functions of the secretary until the vacancy in the office is filled or until the secretary is able to resume the performance of his or her functions.”

**10. Repeal of section 12 of principal Act**

Section 12 of the principal Act is repealed.

**11. Repeal of section 13 of principal Act**

Section 13 of the principal Act is repealed.

**12. Savings**

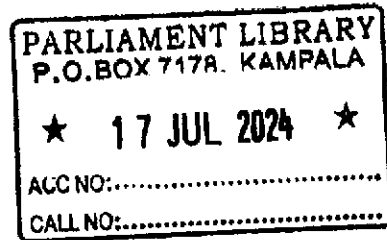
(1) The staff of the council including the secretary serving immediately before the commencement of this Act shall be paid their terminal benefits in accordance with the terms and conditions of their service.

(2) The staff of the council serving immediately before the commencement of this Act may be redeployed to serve in the National Secretariat for Special Interest Groups subject to availability of positions.



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

This printed impression has been carefully compared by me with the bill which was passed by Parliament and found by me to be a true copy of the bill.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "A. S. S.", written over a dotted line.

*Clerk to Parliament*

Date of authentication: ..... 3/5/2024 .....