
BILLS

SUPPLEMENT No. 4

27th March, 2024

BILLS SUPPLEMENT

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National Curriculum Development Centre

Bill No. 31

(Amendment) Bill

2024

**THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024**

MEMORANDUM

1. Policy and principles of the Bill

The policy behind the Bill is to give effect to the Government Policy for Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure (RAPEX) which was adopted by the Cabinet on 22nd February 2021.

2. Defects in existing law

The Constitution establishes a definite number of Government agencies, including constitutional commissions, authorities, boards, local councils and other statutory bodies. These were established to perform certain specified constitutional functions. Over the years, however, there has been a proliferation of agencies established by Acts of Parliament, Executive Orders and administrative arrangements. Whereas most of the agencies are necessary due to the critical nature of the functions they perform, Government has established that a certain limited number of agencies were established without due consideration to the aspects of institutional harmony, functional duplications, overlaps and affordability. Government has also established that some agencies have served the purpose for which they were established. The mandate of a few other agencies has been overtaken by events. Such agencies need to be rationalised.

More importantly, the proliferation of agencies has created mandate overlaps and jurisdictional ambiguities among the agencies. Additionally, the high cost of administering the agencies has drained the national treasury at the expense of effective service delivery. This has overstretched the capacity of Government to sustain them. Government has also established that the generous salary structures of the agencies has created salary disparities between employees of the agencies and public officers in the traditional civil service leading to demotivation of human resources in the mainstream public service.

3. Remedies proposed in the Bill.

The intention of the Bill is to amend the National Curriculum Development Centre Act, Cap. 135, to—

- (a) to empower the National Curriculum Development Centre to initiate new syllabuses, to revise existing ones, to carry out curriculum reform, research, testing and evaluation and to bring up to-date and improve syllabuses for primary teachers' colleges, thereby, *inter alia*, facilitating efficient and effective service delivery by clearly delineating the mandates of the National Curriculum Development Centre and other government agencies and departments, hence avoiding duplication of mandates and functions;
- (c) promote coordinated administrative arrangements, policies and procedures for—
 - (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.

4. Provisions of the Bill

The Bill has four clauses. Clause 2 of the Bill provides for the objectives of the Bill. Clause 3 provides for the purpose of amending the National Curriculum Development Centre Act, Cap. 135, which is to empower the National Curriculum Development Centre to initiate new syllabuses, to revise existing ones, to carry out curriculum reform, research, testing and evaluation and to bring up to-date and improve syllabuses for primary teachers' colleges. Clause 4 amends Cap.135 to clearly state that the mandate of the National Curriculum Development Centre includes primary teachers' colleges expand the mandate of the National Curriculum Development Centre to include primary teachers' colleges.

JANET K. MUSEVENI

First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports

**THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024**

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

1. Interpretation
2. Objective
3. Purpose of amendment of Cap. 135
4. Amendment of section 3 of Cap. 135

A Bill for an Act

ENTITLED

**THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 2024**

An Act to amend the National Curriculum Development Centre Act, Cap. 135 to empower the National Curriculum Development Centre to initiate new syllabuses, to revise existing ones, to carry out curriculum reform, research, testing and evaluation, and to bring up-to-date and improve syllabuses for primary teachers' colleges in order to give effect to the Government Policy on Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure, and for related purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by Parliament as follows:

1. 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.

2. 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 22nd 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—
 - (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 re-organisation of agencies and departments of Government by eliminating bloated structures and functional ambiguities in Government agencies and departments.

3. Purpose of amendment of Cap. 135

The purpose of amending the National Curriculum Development Centre Act, Cap. 135 is to empower the National Curriculum Development Centre to initiate new syllabuses, to revise existing ones, to carry out curriculum reform, research, testing and evaluation, and to bring up-to-date and improve syllabuses for primary teachers' colleges.

4. Amendment of section 3 of Cap. 135

Section 3 of Cap. 135 is amended in subsection 3(b) by inserting immediately after the words "college courses", the words "including primary teachers' colleges".