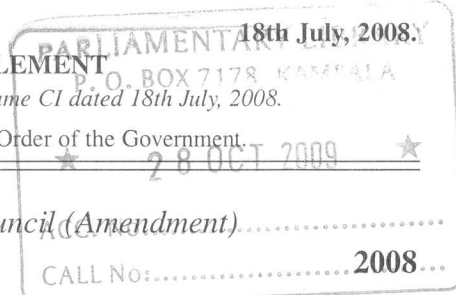


**BILLS  
SUPPLEMENT No. 7**

**BILLS SUPPLEMENT**

to the Uganda Gazette No. 37 Volume CI dated 18th July, 2008.

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*National Women's Council (Amendment).....*  
**Bill No. 16** *Bill* CALL No:.....**2008**...

**THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL,  
2008.**

**MEMORANDUM.**

The object of this Bill is to amend the National Women's Council Act—

- (a) to remove compulsory membership of a woman resident to a village women council;
- (b) to make the decisions of the village women council binding on all women in the village;
- (c) to exclude non citizens from membership of a village women council;
- (d) to provide for the Electoral Commission to compile, maintain, revise and update the voters registers for the village women councils;
- (e) to empower the Electoral Commission to designate a period for registering citizens who would like participate in a women council election;
- (f) to provide for the multi party system of election in the women council elections; and
- (g) to give the Minister power to make regulations regarding the election of members of the council.

SYDA BBUMBA,  
*Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development.*

THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2008.

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ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES.

*Clause*

1. Amendment of Cap. 318.
2. Insertion of new sections 6A and 6B.
3. Insertion of new section 7A.
4. Replacement of section 23.

A Bill for an Act

ENTITLED

**THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL (AMENDMENT)  
ACT, 2008.**

**An Act to amend the National Women's Council Act to provide for membership of the village women's council, to empower the Electoral Commission to designate a period for registering voters and to maintain a voters register for the village women's council.**

BE IT ENACTED by Parliament as follows:

**1. Amendment of Cap. 318.**

The National Women's Council Act, in this Act referred to as the principle Act is amended in section 6—

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

“(1) A village women's council shall consist of women who reside in the village and are willing to be members of the village council.”

(b) by inserting immediately after subsection(1) the following—

“(1a) Without prejudice to subsection (1), a person who is not a citizen of Uganda shall not be a member of a village women's council.

(1b) The decisions of a village women's council shall be binding on all the women in a village.”

**2. Insertion of new sections 6A and 6B.**

The principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 6 the following—

**“6A. Electoral Commission to maintain voters register**

The Electoral Commission shall—

- (a) by statutory instrument designate a period for registering Ugandan citizens who want to participate in women council elections at all levels;
- (b) compile, maintain, revise and update the voters register for women's councils at the village level; and
- (c) by statutory instrument designate a period for updating the voter's register for a woman's council election.

**6B. Electoral Commission to settle election disputes.**

The powers of the Electoral Commission to settle disputes provided in section 15 of the Electoral Commission Act shall, with the necessary modifications, apply to women council elections.”

**3. Insertion of new section 7A.**

The principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 7 the following—

**“7A. Sponsorship of candidates by political organisations or political parties**

Under the multi party political system, nomination of candidates may be made by a political organisation or a political party sponsoring a candidate or by a candidate standing for election as an independent candidate without being sponsored by a political party “

**4. Replacement of section 23.**

The principal Act is amended by substituting for section 23 the following—

**“23. Regulations**

(1) The Minister may, after consultation with the council, by statutory instrument, make regulations for better carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to subsection (1) the Minister shall after consultation with the council, make regulations for the implementation of the provisions of this Act regarding election of members of the council.

(3) Without prejudice to subsection (1), the Minister may, prescribe as penalties for contravention of regulations made under that subsection—

- (a) a fine not exceeding seventy two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding three years or both;
- (b) a daily fine not exceeding five currency points for each day on which the contravention continues; and
- (c) disqualification for a period not exceeding five years from the date of the conviction from holding an office on a women's committee or being a member of any women's council other than a cell or village women's council”.