

Uganda Wildlife Conservation EducationBill No. 48Center Act (Repeal) Bill2024

THE UGANDA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION EDUCATION CENTER ACT (REPEAL) 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.

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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 repeal the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center Act, 2015 to enable the merger between the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center and the Uganda Wildlife Authority in order to give effect to the Government Policy for Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure.

4. **Provisions of the Bill**

The Bill has 6 clauses. Clause 2 of the Bill provides for the objectives of the Bill. The rest of the clauses of the Bill are intended to effect the Repeal of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center Act, 2015 and the dissolution of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center.

> COL. (RTD) TOM R. BUTIME Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities

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ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

- 1. Interpretation
- 2. Objective
- 3. Purpose of repeal of Act 27 of 2015
- 4. Repeal of Act 27 of 2015
- 5. Dissolution of Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre
- 6. Savings

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Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center Act (Repeal) Bill

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A Bill for an Act

ENTITLED

THE UGANDA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION EDUCATION CENTER ACT (REPEAL) ACT, 2024

An Act to repeal the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center Act, 2015 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.

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2. Objective

(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.

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3. Purpose of repeal of Act 27 of 2015

The purpose of repealing the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center Act, 2015, Act 27 of 2015, is to give effect to the merger of the Uganda Wildlife Authority established by the Uganda Wildlife Authority Act, 2019, Act 17 of 2019 and the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center established by the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center Act, 2015 by transferring the functions performed by the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center to the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

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4. Repeal of Act 27 of 2015

The Wildlife Conservation Education Center Act, 2015 is repealed.

5. Dissolution of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre

On the commencement of this Act, the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre established by Act 27 of 2015 shall be dissolved and its functions shall be transferred to the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

6. Savings

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(1) On the commencement of this Act, all the property, assets, rights, obligations, and liabilities of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre shall vest in the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

(2) Any proceedings commenced by or against the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre immediately before the coming into force of this Act may be continued by or against the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

(3) A licence, permit, certificate or authorisation issued by the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre which is in force immediately before the commencement of this Act shall have effect from the commencement of this Act as if granted by the Uganda Wildlife Authority under this Act.

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(4) The terms and conditions including the rights and obligations under a licence, permit, certificate or authorisation in force immediately before the commencement of this Act shall not be less favourable than those that applied immediately before the commencement of this Act.

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(5) The members of the Board and staff of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre serving immediately before the commencement of this Act shall be paid their terminal benefits in accordance with the terms and conditions of their service.

(6) Compensation is not payable to any member of the Board of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre for loss of office resulting from the dissolution of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre by this Act.

(7) The staff of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre serving immediately before the commencement of this Act may be redeployed to serve in the Uganda Wildlife Authority subject to availability of positions.