
BILLS
SUPPLEMENT No. 4

27th March, 2024

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BILLS SUPPLEMENT

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Bill No. 19 *National Planning Authority (Amendment) Bill* **2024**

NATIONAL PLANNING AUTHORITY (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 Planning Authority Act, 2002, Act 15 of 2002, to—

- (a) to give the National Planning Authority additional functions which were performed by the dissolved National Population Council and National Physical Planning Board, thereby, *inter alia*, relieving the Government of the financial drain on its resources and the burden of wasteful administration and expenditure of maintaining three agencies yet one agency may ably perform all the functions;
- (b) facilitate efficient and effective service delivery by clearly delineating the mandates and functions of the National Planning Authority in relation to other agencies and departments, thereby 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 4 clauses. Clause 1 of the Bill deals with the interpretation of the words used in the Act. Clause 2 of the Bill provides for the objectives of the Act. Clause 3 of the Bill provides for the purpose of amending the National Planning Authority Act, 2002, which is to give the National Planning Authority additional functions which were performed by the National Population Council and National Physical Planning Board. Clause 4 of the Bill seeks to expand the mandate of the National Planning Authority.

MATIA KASAIJA (MP)
Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

**THE NATIONAL PLANNING AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2024**

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

1. Interpretation
2. Objectives
3. Purpose of amendment of Act 15 of 2002
4. Amendment of section of 7 Act 15 of 2002

A Bill for an Act

ENTITLED

**NATIONAL PLANNING AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2024**

An Act to give effect to the Government Policy on Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure; to give the National Planning Authority additional functions which were performed by the National Population Council and National Physical Planning Board, 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 Act 15 of 2002

The purpose of amending the National Planning Authority Act, 2002, Act 15 of 2002, is to give the National Planning Authority additional functions which were performed by the National Population Council and National Physical Planning Board, thereby, *inter alia*, relieving the Government of the financial drain on its resources and the burden of wasteful administration and expenditure of maintaining three agencies yet one agency may ably perform all the functions.

4. Amendment of section of 7 of Act 15 of 2002

Section 7 of Act 15 of 2002 is amended by inserting immediately after subsection (2) the following—

“(2a) The Authority shall carry out the following additional functions—

- (a) play an advocacy role for population issues in Uganda;
- (b) promote the integration of population factors in development planning at the national and lower levels in accordance with the agreed framework under the National Development Plan;
- (c) promote, guide and coordinate the implementation of the National Population Policy and program in accordance with the agreed framework under the National Development Plan;
- (d) interpret, review and recommend appropriate changes in the National Population Policy;
- (e) popularize the National Population Policy;

- (f) regularly develop population sector plans;
- (g) analyse, interpret and document demographic trends including fertility, mortality, urbanisation and migration and their implications on socio economic development;
- (h) align the population policy and programs with population related national policies, other national planning frameworks as well as international instruments;
- (i) provide guidelines for preparation and review of population profiles and plans of action at national and lower levels in accordance with the agreed framework under the National Development Plan;
- (j) build capacity at Central and Local Government levels for the implementation of the population programme;
- (k) mobilise resources to support population programmes;
- (l) commission research and policy oriented studies to inform policy and programming;
- (m) publish and disseminate the Annual Population Report, other population publications, reports and newsletters;
- (n) promote collaboration and strategic partnership for population and development within Government agencies, civil society organisations, private sector, cultural and religious institutions at various levels;

- (o) establish strategic partnerships with development partners;
- (p) monitor and evaluate the country population program in accordance with the agreed framework under the National Development Plan; and
- (q) undertake any other relevant activities.”

