

ACTS

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dated 13th September, 2007

SIGNED this 26th day of July, 2007

ALHAJI AHMAD TEJAN KABBAH,
President.

LS

No. 19



2007

Sierra Leone

The Independent Media Commission (Amendment) Act, 2007. Short title.

Being an Act to amend the Independent Media Commission Act, 2000.

[

] Date of commencement.

ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.

Amendment of section 1 of Act No.12 of 2000.

1. Section 1 of the Independent Media Commission Act 2000 is amended as follows:—

(a) by the insertion of the following definitions:—

“DTH” means Direct to Home;

“DSTV” means Direct Satellite Television;

(b) by the repeal and replacement of the definition of “media institution” by the following definition:—

“media institution” means an institution engaged in the provision of print or electronic media facilities including newspapers, magazines, radio, television, DTH and DSTV satellite broadcasting, public relations, advertising, media production and similar other services;

Insertion of section 1A.

2. The principal Act is amended by the insertion immediately after section 1 of the following new section:—

“Reference to radio and television.

1A. Any reference in this Act—

(a) to a radio or television shall include reference to DTH and DSTV; and

(b) to the application for, granting, renewal, non-transferability, suspension, or cancellation of a radio or television broadcasting licence shall include a reference to the application for, granting, renewal, non-transferability, suspension or cancellation of a DTH or DSTV broadcasting licence”.

3. The principal Act is amended by the repeal and replacement of subsection (1) of section 7 by the following subsection:—

Amendment of section 7 of Act No.12 of 2000.

“Meetings of Commission.

7. (1) The Commission shall ordinarily meet for dispatch of business at such times and places as the Chairman may determine, but shall meet at least once every month”.

4. The principal Act is amended by the repeal and replacement of subsection (3) of section 10 by the following subsection:—

Amendment of section 10 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

“(3) The Executive Secretary shall be a person with wide experience in media or administrative matters and shall be responsible to the Commission for—

(a) the day-to-day administration of the affairs of the Commission;

(b) the supervision and discipline of the staff of the Commission;

(c) the recording and keeping of minutes of the meetings of the Commission; and

(d) the performance of such other functions as the Commission may determine.”

5. The principal Act is amended by the insertion immediately after paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 12 of the following new paragraph:—

Amendment of section 12 of Act No.12 of 2000.

“(e) interest from investments made by the Commission.”

Amendment of section 15 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

6. The principal Act is amended by the repeal and replacement of section 15 by the following section:–

- “Qualification for radio and television broadcasting licence.”
- 15.** A radio and television broadcasting licence shall be granted to–
- (a) a citizen of Sierra Leone;
- (b) a body corporate established by an Act of Parliament or registered under the Companies Act;
- Cap. 249.**
- (c) a partnership registered under the Business Registration Act, 1983; and
- Act No. 13 of 1983.**
- (d) an international radio relay station.”

Amendment of section 23 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

7. The principal Act is amended by the repeal and replacement of section 23 by the following section:–

- “Standards of performance”
- 23.** The Commission may determine such standards of over-all performance or specific standards of performance in relation to the provision of radio, television, DTH, DSTV, public relations or advertising services by a media institution, as in the opinion of the Commission ought to be achieved by that media institution.”

Amendment of section 25 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

8. The principal Act is amended by the repeal and replacement of subsection (2) of section 25 by the following subsection:–

- “(2) An application under subsection (1) shall be made to the Commission and shall state the name of the newspaper or magazine and

the permanent business address of the proprietor of the newspaper or magazine and shall be accompanied with the prescribed non-refundable processing fee.”

9. The principal Act is amended by the substitution for the fine “Le100,000” appearing in section 30 of “Le5,000,000”. Amendment of section 30 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

10. The principal Act is amended by the substitution for the amount “Le1,000” appearing in subsection (2) of section 31 of “Le5,000”. Amendment of section 31 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

11. The principal Act is amended by the substitution for the fine Le50,000 appearing in subsection (2) of section 32 of “Le5,000,000”. Amendment of section 32 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

12. The principal Act is amended by the substitution for the fine Le50,000 appearing in subsection (3) of section 33 of “Le5,000,000”. Amendment of section 33 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

13. The principal Act is amended by the substitution for the fine Le500,000 appearing in subsection (3) of section 36 of “Le5,000,000”. Amendment of section 36 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

14. The principal Act is amended by the substitution for the fine “Le1 million” appearing in section 40 of “Le5,000,000”. Amendment of section 40 of Act No. 12 of 2000.

Passed in Parliament this *13th* day of *June*, in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven.

A. A. KEMOKAI,
Clerk of Parliament.

THIS PRINTED IMPRESSION has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has passed Parliament and found by me to be a true and correct printed copy of the said Bill.

A. A. KEMOKAI,
Clerk of Parliament.