

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

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**THE HIV AND AIDS (PREVENTION AND CONTROL)
ACT, 2008**

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

*Section**Title*

PART I

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

1. Short title.
2. Application.
3. Interpretation.

PART II

GENERAL DUTIES

4. General duties.
5. The Ministry to promote safety measures and precautions.
6. Roles of sectors.

PART III

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMES ON HIV AND AIDS

7. Public education and programmes on HIV and AIDS.
8. Dissemination of HIV and AIDS information.
9. HIV and AIDS education in works place.
10. Training of health practitioners.
11. Donation of tissue, organ, blood or blood products.
12. Surgical, dental and similar procedures.

PART IV

TESTING AND COUNSELING

13. HIV testing.
14. Counseling.
15. Prohibition of compulsory HIV testing.
16. Test results.

PART V
CONFIDENTIALITY

17. Medical confidentiality.
18. Exceptions to confidentiality.

PART VI
HEALTH AND SUPPORT SERVICES

19. Basic health services to persons living with HIV and AIDS.
20. Programmes on survival, life skills and palliative services.
21. Prevention of transmission.
22. Prevention and control of STIs.
23. Condoms.
24. Access to health care facility.
25. Prevention of transmission from mother to child.
26. Post exposure prophylaxis.
27. Misleading information or statement.

PART VII
STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION

28. Prohibition of discriminatory laws, policies and practices.
29. Restriction of health practitioners to stigmatize or discriminate.
30. Prohibition of other forms of discrimination.
31. Prohibition of stigma and discrimination.
32. Offences relating to stigma and discrimination.

PART VIII
RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV AND AIDS

33. Rights and obligations of persons living with HIV and AIDS, orphans etc.
34. Access to education and basic health services.
35. Prohibition of misuse of aid by NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, Organisations, public institutions, Private Sector etc.

PART IX
ESTABLISHMENT OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE

36. National HIV and AIDS Research Fellowship Committee.
37. Functions of the Committee.
38. Ethics clearance.

- 39. Research by International teams.
- 40. Research monitoring.
- 41. Vaccine trials and research on persons.
- 42. Dissemination of research findings.

PART X

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- 43. Monitoring.
- 44. Reporting by health care facility.
- 45. Diagnoses and reporting.

PART XI

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

- 46. Offence relating to breach of confidentiality.
- 47. Offences relating to spreading HIV.
- 48. Offences relating to breach of safe practices leading to spreading HIV.
- 49. Penalty for offence relating to obstruction.
- 50. General penalty.

PART XII

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 51. Complaints.
- 52. Regulations.
- 53. Prohibition of compulsion.
- 54. Amendments of Schedule.

SCHEDULE



²
No. ~~28~~ OF 2008

I ASSENT,

JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE,
President

04th April, 2008

An Act to provide for prevention, treatment, care, support and control of HIV and AIDS, for promotion of public health in relation to HIV and AIDS; to provide for appropriate treatment, care and support using available resources to people living with or at risk of HIV and AIDS and to provide for related matters.

ENACTED by Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania.

PART I

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

1. This Act may be cited as the HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2007 and shall come into force on a date the Minister may, by Notice published in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Short
title

2. This Act shall apply to Mainland Tanzania.

Applica-
tion

3. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires -

Interpre-
tation

“AIDS” means Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome, which is a condition characterised by a combination of signs and symptoms, caused by HIV which attacks and weakens the body’s immune system, making the afflicted individual susceptible to other life-threatening infections;

Cap.379

Cap.226

- “AIDS Committee” has the meaning ascribed to it under the Tanzania Commission for AIDS Act;
- “ARVs” means Anti Retroviral Drugs;
- “CBO” means a Community Based Organization;
- “Committee” means the National HIV and AIDS Research Fellowship Committee established under section 36;
- “COSTECH” means Commission for Science and Technology established by the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology Act;
- “court” means the High Court and courts subordinate thereto with exception to primary court;
- “FBO” means a Faith Based Organisation;
- “health practitioner” means any person trained to care for patients;
- “HIV negative” means absence of HIV or HIV antibodies upon HIV testing;
- “HIV positive” means presence of HIV infection as documented by the presence of HIV or HIV antibodies in the sample being tested;
- “HIV testing” means any laboratory procedure done on an individual to determine the presence or absence of HIV infection;
- “HIV transmission” means the transfer of HIV from one infected person to an uninfected person, most commonly through sexual intercourse, blood transfusion, sharing of intravenous needles, during pregnancy or breast feeding;
- “HIV and AIDS monitoring and evaluation framework” means documentation and analysis of the number of HIV and AIDS infections and the pattern of its spread;
- “HIV and AIDS prevention and control” means measures aimed at protecting non infected person from contracting HIV and minimizing the impact of the condition of persons living with HIV;
- “Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV)” means the virus which causes AIDS;
- “informed consent” means the voluntary agreement of a person to undergo or be subjected to a procedure based on full information, whether such agreement is written, conveyed verbally or indirectly expressed;
- “learning institutions” includes primary and secondary schools, colleges, universities and other higher learning institutions;
- “local government authority” means the local government authority established under the Local Government (District Authorities) Act and the Local Government (Urban Authorities) Act;

- “Minister” means the Minister responsible for health;
- “Ministry” means the ministry responsible for health;
- “NACP” means National AIDS Control Programme, established within the Ministry; Cap.287 and 288
- “NGO” shall have the meaning ascribed to it under the Non Governmental Organizations Act;
- “NIMR” means the National Institute for Medical Research established by the National Institute for Medical Research Act;
- “positive prevention” means the provision of public health promotion to persons living with HIV and AIDS;
- “Private Health Laboratory Board” has the meaning ascribed to it under the Private Health Laboratories (Regulation) Act;
- “private health laboratory” shall have the meaning as ascribed to it under the Private Health Laboratories (Regulation) Act;
- “private sector” includes informal sector;
- “research incentives” means compensation for time or other resources expended by a human subject participating or taking part in a clinical trial;
- “Secretary” means the secretary to the Committee referred to under section 36;
- “sexual partner” means a person involved in sex;
- “Stigma” is an attitude of condensation or disrespect towards another person because one knows or suspects that person is infected with HIV, or because that person has close relationship with a person known or suspected to be infected with HIV; Cap.56
- “stigmatize” means -
- (a) to vilify, or to incite hatred, ridicule or contempt against a person or group of persons on the grounds of an attribute of the person or of members of the group living with HIV and AIDS, by publication, distribution or dissemination to the public; or Cap.59
 - (b) the making of any communication to the public, including any act or gesture, that is threatening, abusive, insulting, degrading, demeaning, defamatory, disrespectful, embarrassing, critical, provocative or offensive; Cap.136
- “STIs” means Sexually Transmitted Infections;
- “TACAIDS” means the Tanzania Commission for AIDS established under the Tanzania Commission for AIDS Act. Cap.379

PART II

GENERAL DUTIES

- 4.—(1) Every person, institution and organization living, registered or operating in Tanzania shall, be under the general duty to- General duties
- (a) promote public awareness on causes, modes of transmission, consequences, prevention and control of HIV and AIDS;

- (b) reduce:
 - (i) the spread of HIV and AIDS;
 - (ii) prevalence of STIs in the population;
 - (iii) adverse effects of HIV and AIDS;
 - (c) protect rights of the orphans by -
 - (i) providing health care and social services;
 - (ii) prohibiting compulsory HIV testing unless provided for under this Act;
 - (iii) fighting stigma and discrimination;
 - (d) discourage negative traditions and usages which may enhance HIV and AIDS spread in the community;
 - (e) promote all traditions and usages which may reduce the transmission and prevalence of the infection in the community;
 - (f) increase access, care and support to persons living with HIV and AIDS from community or health care facilities.
- (2) The Government, political, religious, traditional leaders and employers in the private sector shall-
- (a) integrate or prioritise on HIV and AIDS in their proceedings and public appearances;
 - (b) advocate against stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV and AIDS.
- (3) Every person, institution, organization, Government, political, religious, traditional leaders and employers in the private sector discharging a duty under subsection (1), and (2) shall be under obligation to consult or liaise with TACAIDS for purpose of ensuring that resources are evenly distributed within Tanzania in order to-
- (a) avoid concentration of such resources in one geographical area; and
 - (b) initiate pre-informed activities intended to prevent and control HIV and AIDS.

The Ministry to promote safety measures and precautions

5. The Ministry shall promote utmost safety and universal precautions in invasive medical or non medical practices and procedures in order to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV and AIDS.

6.-(1) Every ministry, department, agency, local government authority, parastatal organization, institution whether public or private, shall design and implement gender and disability responsive HIV and AIDS plans in its respective area and such plans shall be mainstreamed and implemented within the activities of such sector.

Roles of
sectors

(2) Every FBO shall undertake deliberate efforts in prevention, care and control of HIV and AIDS through special plans and programmes in its activities.

(3) Civil societies and private organizations shall, in collaboration with the Government, design and implement plans and programmes aimed at or geared towards prevention, care of patients and control of HIV and AIDS in their respective areas.

(4) Every sector preparing a plan or programme under this section shall, before implementation of such plan or programme, submit them to TACAIDS for coordination and advice.

PART III

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMES ON HIV AND AIDS

7. -(1) It shall be the responsibility of the Ministry to consult the respective local government authority and other relevant stakeholders with a view to formulating education a programmes relating to prohibition of stigma and discrimination against persons living with or taking care of patients living with HIV and AIDS.

Public
education
and pro-
grammes
on HIV
and
AIDS

(2) For purposes of this section the term "stakeholders" includes the youths.

8.-(1) The Ministry, health practitioners, workers in the public and private sectors and NGOs, shall for the purpose of providing HIV and AIDS education to the public, disseminate information regarding HIV and AIDS to the public.

Dissemina-
tion of
HIV and
AIDS
informa-
tion

(2) Dissemination of HIV and AIDS education and information shall form part of the delivery of health care services by health practitioners and workers in the public and private sectors.

(3) Every institution providing HIV and AIDS information whether public or private shall ensure that the information to the public is provided in appropriate format, technology and is accessible to disabled persons.

9. Every employer in consultation with the Ministry shall establish and coordinate a workplace programme on HIV and AIDS for employees under his control and such programme shall include provision of gender

HIV and
AIDS
education
in work
place

responsive HIV and AIDS education, distribution of condoms and support to people living with HIV and AIDS.

Training
of health
practi-
tioners

10. The Ministry shall for the purpose of ensuring prevention and control of HIV and AIDS to the public, develop and conduct programmes to train health practitioners on universal precaution measures on HIV/AIDS and STIs and treatment procedures and such programmes shall, using available resources be adopted by health institutions.

Donation
of
tissues,
organs,
blood or
blood
products

11.-(1) A person may on his own motion, volunteer to donate a tissue, organ, blood or blood products to the recognized laboratory or institution.

(2) No laboratory or institution shall accept a donation of tissue or organ, whether such donation is gratuitous or not, unless a sample from the donor has tested negative for HIV.

(3) No laboratory or institution shall transfuse blood or blood products whether such blood or blood products are donated gratuitously or not, unless a sample from that donation has tested negative for HIV.

(4) Any blood, blood product, tissue or organ which has been tested positive for HIV shall be disposed of immediately and properly.

(5) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section commits an offence and upon conviction shall be liable-

(a) in case of an individual, to a fine of not less than two hundred thousand shillings and not exceeding one million shillings or to imprisonment for a term of not less than six months and not exceeding twelve months; or

(b) in case of a laboratory or an institution, to a fine not less than five million shillings and not exceeding ten million shillings.

Surgical,
dental
and
similar
procedures

12.-(1) Every health practitioner shall during surgical, dental and similar procedures have a duty to ensure that-

(a) parenteral exposure (sharp objects) are handled with care during performance of any procedure;

(b) at all levels of health care, delivery services, and in case of accident, he uses the necessary tools such as gloves, goggles and gowns;

- (c) he handles and disposes of used syringes and other material used in blood testing; and
- (d) he handles and disposes of in an appropriate manner body fluids or wastes of persons known or believed to be infected with HIV.

(2) A person who is the owner, manager or the in charge of health care facility shall have a duty to ensure-

- (a) the provision of post exposure prophylaxis;
- (b) the provision of necessary tools such as gloves, goggles and gowns; ^o
- (c) appropriate handling and disposition of used syringes, materials used in blood testing and body fluids or wastes of persons known or believed to be infected with HIV.

(3) A person who contravenes the provisions of this section commits an offence and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not less than five hundred thousand shillings.

PART IV

TESTING AND COUNSELLING

13.—(1) For the purposes of facilitating HIV testing, every public health care facility and voluntary counselling and HIV testing centre recognized by the NACP shall be an HIV testing center for the purpose of this Act.

HIV
testing

(2) The Private Health Laboratory Board may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, accredit any private laboratory to be an HIV testing center.

(3) Every health practitioner performing or otherwise involved in the performance of an HIV test shall take all measures to ensure that-

- (a) the testing process is carried out promptly and efficiently; and
- (b) the result of the HIV test is communicated in accordance with this Act.

(4) A person shall not undergo HIV testing except in a center provided for under this Part.

(5) For the purposes of this section HIV testing centre includes any centre established in any place for the purposes of HIV testing.

Coun-
selling

14. Any person who is the owner, manager or incharge of a testing center shall ensure that the center is physically accessible by disabled persons and there is a trained and authorized person to provide pre and post HIV test counselling to a person undergoing HIV test, and where feasible, to any other person likely to be affected by the results.

Prohibi-
tion of
compulsory
HIV
testing

15.-(1) Every person residing in Tanzania may on his own motion volunteer to undergo HIV testing.

(2) A child or a person with inability to comprehend the result may undergo HIV testing after a written consent of a parent or recognized guardian.

(3) A person shall not be compelled to undergo HIV testing.

(4) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (3), no consent shall be required on HIV testing-

(a) under an order of the Court;

(b) on the donor of human organs and tissues; and

(c) to sexual offenders.

(5) Every pregnant woman and the man responsible for the pregnancy or spouse and every person attending a health care facility shall be counselled and offered voluntary HIV testing.

(6) All health practitioners, traditional and alternative health practitioners, traditional birth attendants and any other person attending patients shall be encouraged to undergo HIV testing.

(7) Any health practitioner who compels any person to undergo HIV testing or procures HIV testing to another person without the knowledge of that other person commits an offence.

(8) Without prejudice to the preceding subsections, a medical practitioner responsible for the treatment of a person may undertake HIV test in respect of that person without the consent of the person if-

(a) the person is unconscious and unable to give consent; and

(b) the medical practitioner reasonably believes that such a test is clinically necessary or desirable in the interest of that person.

Test
results

16.-(1) The results of an HIV test shall be confidential and shall be released only to the person tested.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the results of an HIV test may be released to-

- (a) in case of a child, his parent or recognized guardian;
- (b) in case of person with inability to comprehend the results, his spouse or his recognized guardian;
- (c) a spouse or a sexual partner of an HIV tested person; or
- (d) the court, if applicable.

PART V

CONFIDENTIALITY

17.-(1) All health practitioners, workers, employers, recruitment agencies, insurance companies, data recorders, sign language interpreters, legal guardians and other custodians of any medical records, files, data or test results shall observe confidentiality in the handling of all medical information and documents, particularly the identity and status of persons living with HIV and AIDS.

Medical
confi-
dentiality

(2) A person who received results under section 16 shall be obliged to observe confidentiality in respect of the HIV result received by him under that section.

18. The medical confidentiality shall not be considered breached in -

- (a) complying with reportorial requirements in conjunction with the monitoring and evaluation programmes;
- (b) informing other health practitioners directly involved or about to be involved in the treatment or care of a person living with HIV and AIDS;
- (c) responding to an order of the Court over legal proceedings where the main issue is HIV status of an individual; or
- (d) giving information to the appointed member of the deceased's family.

Exceptions
to con-
fidentiality

PART VI

HEALTH AND SUPPORT SERVICES

19.-(1) The Government shall, using available resources ensure that, every person living with HIV and AIDS, vulnerable children and orphans are accorded with basic health services.

Basic
health
services
to
persons
living
with HIV
and AIDS

(2) Every CBO, Private Organization and FBO dealing with HIV and AIDS matters shall in consultation with the local government authority in the area of its jurisdiction, provide community based HIV and AIDS prevention, support and care services.

Pro-
grammes
on
survival,
life skills
and
palliative
services

20. The Ministry shall, in collaboration with other ministries prepare programmes and conduct training for persons living with HIV and AIDS on-



- (a) their survival needs;
- (b) life skills; and
- (c) formation of support groups for the purpose of providing palliative services and care.

Prevention
of trans-
mission



21.-(1) Any person who has knowledge of being infected with HIV after being tested shall-

- (a) immediately inform his spouse or sexual partner of the fact; and
- (b) take all reasonable measures and precautions to prevent the transmission of HIV to others.

(2) The person referred to under subsection (1) shall inform his spouse or his sexual partner of the risk of becoming infected if he has sex with such person unless that other person knows that fact.

(3) Any person who abuse his spouse or sexual partner either verbally, physically or by conduct in connection with compliance with the provisions of this Act commits an offence and shall upon conviction be liable to a fine of not less than five hundred thousand shillings and not exceeding one million shillings or to imprisonment for a term of not less than three months and not more than six months or to both.

Prevention
and
control
of STIs

22. The Ministry shall-

- (a) ensure that STIs services are strengthened; and
- (b) create public awareness on STIs as far as it relates to transmission of HIV and AIDS.

Condoms

23.-(1) The Ministry shall quantify requirement of condoms in Tanzania by espousing different stakeholders, mobilizing resources required for procurement of condoms generally with a view to ensuring availability of condoms of standard quality in Tanzania.

(2) No condoms shall be manufactured or imported to Tanzania unless the condoms conform with the standards provided by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards and where possible, the condoms should bear the information relating to the condoms and be in braille print.

(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (2) shall, on conviction be liable in case of -

- (a) an individual, to a fine of not less than ten million shillings and not exceeding thirty million shillings or to imprisonment for a term not less than three years and not exceeding five years or to both; and
- (b) a body corporate, to a fine of not less than fifty million shillings and not exceeding one hundred million shillings.

24.-(1) A person being the owner, manager or incharge of health care facility or medical insurance whether public or private shall facilitate access to health care services to persons living with HIV and AIDS without discrimination on the basis of their status.

Access to health care facility

(2) The Ministry shall, where resources allow, take necessary steps to ensure the availability of ARVs and other health care services and medicines to persons living with HIV and AIDS and those exposed to risk of HIV infection.

25.-(1) The Ministry shall regulate the care and treatment of HIV infected pregnant women, mothers infected with HIV while giving birth and measures to reduce HIV transmission from mother to child.

Prevention of transmission from mother to child

(2) In an endeavor to prevent the mother to child transmission of HIV-

- (a) trained and authorized persons shall provide counselling services to HIV infected pregnant and breast feeding women and to men responsible for the pregnancies or spouses respectively;
- (b) health care facilities shall monitor, provide treatment and apply measures necessary to reduce HIV transmission from mother to child.
- (c) prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV health services should be parent friendly.

26. A health practitioner who is exposed to or infected with HIV in the course of rendering health care services to a person living with HIV/AIDS shall be entitled to-

Post exposure prophylaxis

- (a) post exposure prophylaxis;
- (b) treatment or access to continuum of care in case of HIV diagnosis; and
- (c) compensation for any injury directly resulting from infection with HIV.

27.-(1) All statements or information regarding the cure of HIV and AIDS shall be subjected to scientific verification before they are announced.

Misleading information or statement

(2) Publication of statements or information referred to under subsection (1) shall be attached with both evidence of pre- and post-cure HIV test results.

(3) A person who makes or causes to be made any misleading statement or information regarding curing, preventing or controlling HIV and AIDS contrary to this section commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than one million shillings or to imprisonment for a term of not less than six months or to both.

PART VII

STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION

Prohibition
of discrimi-
natory
laws,
policies
and
practice

28. A person shall not formulate a policy, enact any law or act in a manner that discriminates directly or by its implication persons living with HIV and AIDS, orphans or their families.

Restriction
of health
practi-
tioners to
stigmatize
or discrimi-
nate

29. Any health practitioner who deals with persons living with HIV and AIDS shall provide health services without any kind of stigma or discrimination.

Prohibi-
tion of
other
forms of
discrimination

30. A person shall not -

- (a) deny any person admission, participation into services or expel that other person from any institution;
- (b) deny or restrict any person to travel within or outside Tanzania;
- (c) deny any person employment opportunity;
- (d) deny or restrict any person to live anywhere; or
- (e) deny or restrict the right of any person to residence, on the grounds of the person's actual, perceived or suspected HIV and AIDS status.

Prohibi-
tion of
stigma
and
discrimination

31. A person shall not stigmatize or discriminate in any manner any other person on the grounds of such other person's actual, perceived or suspected HIV and AIDS status.

Offences
relating
to stigma
and
discrimination

32. Any person who contravenes any provision under this Part commits an offence and on conviction shall be liable to a fine of not less than two million shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

PART VIII

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV AND AIDS

33.-(1) Any person living with HIV and AIDS shall using available resources have -

Rights and obligations of persons living with HIV/AIDS, orphans, etc.

- (a) a right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; and
- (b) a right to treatment of opportunistic infections.

(2) Any person living with HIV and AIDS shall, subject to the provisions of subsection (1), have an obligation to-

- (a) protect others from infection; and
- (b) share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

34.-(1) Every local government authority, shall design, formulate, establish and coordinate mechanisms and strategic plans for ensuring that the most vulnerable children within its respective area are afforded means to access education, basic health care and livelihood services.

Access to education and basic health care services

(2) The Minister may, in consultation with the Minister responsible for local government, make regulations setting out criteria for identifying the most vulnerable children referred to under subsection (1).

(3) For the purpose of this section, the term "most vulnerable children" includes orphans.

35.-(1) Every body corporate, NGO, CBO, FBO public institution or Private Organization and any person, receiving aid or other kind of assistance for the purpose of providing preventive, research, treatment, support or care to persons living with HIV and AIDS, widows, widowers, orphans or the most vulnerable children shall ensure that the aid and assistance received is used for that purpose.

Prohibition of misuse of aid by NGOs, FBOs, CBOs, in public institutions etc.

(2) Any body corporate, NGO, CBO, FBO or Private Organization which misuses any aid shall be liable on conviction-

- (a) in case of an individual, to imprisonment for a term of not less than three years and not exceeding five years or confiscation of property worth the value of the aid or assistance received and refund of the misused funds;
- (b) in case of an NGO, CBO or FBO Private organization a body corporate, to a fine of not less than five million shillings and not exceeding fifty million shillings or confiscation of property worth the value of aid or assistance received and refund of the misused funds.

(3) Any body corporate NGO, CBO, FBO or Private Organization which is convicted pursuant to subsection (1) may be deregistered from the Register of body corporate, NGOs, CBO, FBO or Private Organization, as the case may be.

PART IX

ESTABLISHMENT OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE

National
HIV and
AIDS
Research
Fellow-
ship
Com-
mittee

36.—(1) There shall be established a Committee to be known as the National HIV and AIDS Research Fellowship Committee.

(2) The Committee shall comprise of the following members—

- (a) the Chairman;
- (b) one member from the National AIDS Control Programme;
- (c) one member from TACAIDS;
- (d) one member representing higher learning institutions;
- (e) one member representing the Attorney General;
- (f) one member representing private HIV and AIDS research bodies;
- (g) one member from NIMR;
- (h) one member from COSTECH;
- (i) one member from Muhimbili National Hospital;
- (j) one member representing National Health Research Forum;
- (k) one member representing the Association of Private Health Facilities of Tanzania;
- (l) one member representing organizations of people living with HIV and AIDS; and
- (m) one member from the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance.

(3) All members referred under subsection (2) shall be appointed by the Minister.

(4) The Director for Preventive Services in the Ministry shall be the Secretary to the Committee.

(5) The tenure of office, meetings and other procedural matters of the Committee shall be as set out in the Schedule to this Act.

Functions
of the
Committee

37.—(1) The Committee shall be responsible for:—

- (a) evaluating all proposals submitted for funding within the HIV and AIDS Research Fellowship Programme in respect to scientific quality, appropriateness as to priority area of research and funding level requested;

- (b) establishing the criteria for evaluating and funding the submitted proposals;
- (c) awarding best research proposals fellowships of at least ten million Tanzanian shillings and maximum of fifty million Tanzanian shillings;
- (d) advertising the fellowship programmes on an annual basis; and
- (e) mobilizing resources for the Committee.

(2) The functions, activities and other expenses of the Committee shall be funded by the Ministry.

38.—(1) All proposals seeking funding support from the Committee shall be required to submit evidence of having obtained ethical clearance of their proposals from the National Research Ethics Committee of the NIMR, COSTECH or other research ethics bodies established under any written laws.

Ethics
clearance

(2) All research on HIV and AIDS involving local and multinational researchers shall require approval by the National HIV and AIDS Research Fellowship Committee.

39. For the purpose of research conducted under this Part, every international research team shall include a national counterpart who shall be responsible for that study in Tanzania.

Research
by
International
teams

40.—(1) The Committee shall establish a mechanism for monitoring researches funded by the Committee by requiring a quarterly or six monthly report from persons awarded fellowships.

Research
Monitoring

(2) After a research fellowship project has been completed, the research fellow shall be required to submit the final report of activities and budgeted expenditure to the Committee and copies of all publications originating from the funded project to NACP, TACAIDS and NIMR.

41.—(1) The Ministry, in collaboration with the relevant institutions may institute trials on HIV and AIDS vaccines, medicines and other related bio-products within the country, provided that such trials shall not endanger the health of persons undergoing such trials.

Vaccine
trials and
research
on
persons

(2) A person shall not undertake HIV and AIDS related bio-medical research on another person or on any tissue or blood removed from such person unless-

- (a) there is informed consent of that other person; or

(b) where that other person is a child, there is informed consent of a parent or legal guardian of the child.

(3) For the purpose of subsection (2), a person whose consent is sought to be obtained, shall be adequately informed of the aims, methods, anticipated benefits and potential hazards and discomforts of the research.

(4) The person who is the subject of the research shall be adequately provided with compensation as far as ethical regulations are concerned.

Dissemination of research findings

42.-(1) The public and private institutions shall maintain inventory of all on going and completed research projects on HIV and AIDS and TACAIDS shall compile and disseminate relevant research findings to the public.

(2) For the purpose of facilitating dissemination of research findings under this Part, researchers shall translate or cause to be translated research findings into Kiswahili and English languages for public consumption.

(3) Research findings shall be in appropriate format and technologies accessible to disabled persons.

PART X

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring

43. The Ministry shall establish a comprehensive system of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to determine the magnitude and progression of HIV infections and other matters relating to HIV and AIDS.

Reporting by health care facility

44. Every owner, manager or the incharge of a health care facility shall adopt measures issued by the Ministry to ensure the reporting and confidentiality of any medical records and personal data relating to HIV and AIDS including all information which may be accessed from various data.

Diagnoses and reporting

45.-(1) Every institution, hospital, laboratory, clinic and blood bank in the Regions and Districts shall be required to diagnose and report HIV and AIDS cases to the Ministry.

(2) The information referred to under subsection (1) shall be submitted to TACAIDS for inclusion in the HIV and AIDS Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

PART XI

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Offences relating to breach of confidentiality

46. Any health practitioner or any person referred to under section 16 and 17 who—

(a) breaches medical confidentiality; or

- (b) unlawfully discloses information regarding HIV and AIDS status of any person,

commits an offence, and on conviction shall be liable to a fine of not less than five hundred thousand shillings and not exceeding one million shillings or to imprisonment for a term not less than six months and not exceeding twelve months or to both.

47. Any person who intentionally transmits HIV to another person commits an offence, and on conviction shall be liable to imprisonment to a term of not less than five years and not exceeding ten years.

Offences relating to spreading HIV

48.-(1) Any person who intentionally breaches any provisions relating to safe procedures and practices leading to spreading of HIV, commits an offence and on conviction shall be liable—

Offences relating to breach of safe practices leading to spreading HIV

- (a) in case of an individual, to a fine of not less than two hundred thousand shillings and not exceeding five hundred thousand shillings or to imprisonment to a term of not less than three months and not exceeding six months; or

- (b) in case of a health care facility, to a fine of not less than three million shillings and not exceeding five million shillings.

(2) The health care facility which is convicted pursuant to subsection (1) may be deregistered from the Register of health care facilities.

49.-(1) It shall be an offence for any person to obstruct or prevent any activity related to implementation of provisions of this Act in any manner whatsoever.

Penalty for offence relating to obstruction

(2) Any person convicted of an offence under this section, shall be liable to a fine of not less than one hundred thousand shillings and not exceeding five hundred thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or both.

50. Any person, who commits any offence against the provisions of this Act shall be liable on conviction for every such offence except wherein any other section a specific penalty is provided to a fine of not less than two hundred thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a term of not less than three months or to both such imprisonment and fine.

General penalty

PART XII

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Com-
plaints

51.-(1) Any complaint against contravention of any provision of this Act may be lodged in writing to -

- (a) the Secretary to the village, ward, district or urban AIDS Committees as the case may be;
- (b) the police station;
- (c) the owner, manager or the incharge of a health care facility concerned; or
- (d) the employer.

(2) Every complainant shall be required to give all the necessary information in relation to the complaint in question.

(3) The Minister may make regulations prescribing the mode of lodging and handling of complaints under this Act.

Regula-
tions

52. The Minister may make regulations prescribing -

- (a) circumstances under which HIV testing results may be released to another person;
- (b) methods, programmes and coordination of distribution and use of ARVs;
- (c) the manner under which professional counselling shall be undertaken;
- (d) the conduct of HIV tests, informing of the results of HIV tests, reporting of HIV tests results and any other matter necessary or convenient in relation to HIV tests;
- (e) the preparation, maintenance and release of data relating to transmission, status of, and persons living with HIV and AIDS;
- (f) parenteral exposure (sharp instruments), syringes and other material used in blood testing and the manner of disposing them;
- (g) precautions to be taken by health practitioners against HIV transmission during surgical, dental, delivery services and any other similar procedures;
- (h) provision of post exposure prophylaxis at all levels of health care services and necessary tools such as gloves, goggles and gowns to all health practitioners and any other person who cares for persons living with HIV and AIDS;

- (i) the manner of handling and disposing of body fluids and wastes of persons known or believed to have been infected with HIV;
- (j) manner in which vaccines and other trials are to be conducted;
- (k) circumstances under which a person may be regarded to make misleading statement to the public regarding the persons living with HIV and AIDS, orphans and their families;
- (l) matters relating to the involvement of the community in the implementation of the provisions of this Act;
- (m) circumstances under which a person may be regarded to stigmatize and discriminate a person living with HIV and AIDS, orphans and their families; and
- (n) anything which may be provided for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

53. Notwithstanding any provisions of this Act, no religious organization or group shall be compelled in any manner to do or not to do anything which is against the belief of that organization or group so long as such doing or, forbearance to do, does not contravene any provision of any written law.

54. The Minister may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, amend, vary or replace the Schedule to this Act.

SCHEDULE

Made under section 36(5)

PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

1.-(1) The tenure of office for the Chairman and the members of the Committee shall be three years and may be eligible for further one term.

(2) The members shall elect a Vice-Chairman of the Committee from amongst their number.

2.-(1) The Committee shall ordinarily meet at such times and places as it deems necessary for transaction of its business, but shall meet at least once in every three months.

(2) The Chairman, or in his absence the Vice Chairman, may at any time convene an extraordinary meeting of the Committee, upon a written request by the majority of members in office.

(3) The Chairman or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, shall preside at every meeting of the Committee and in the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, the members present shall appoint a member from amongst themselves to preside the meeting.

Absent
members to
be
represented

3. If a member of the Committee who is a member by virtue of his office is unable for any reason to attend any meeting of the Committee, he may nominate another person from his organization to represent him in the meeting.

Quorum

4. The quorum at any meeting of the Committee shall be half of the members in office.

Decision of
the
Committee

5.-(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), matters proposed to be deliberated upon at a meeting of the Committee shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present, and in the event of an equality of votes, the person presiding over the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his deliberative vote.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (1), where the Chairman so directs a decision may be made by the Committee without a meeting by circulation of the relevant papers among the members, and the expression of the views of the members in writing, shall constitute the decision of the Committee, but any member may require that the decision be deferred and the subject matter be considered at a meeting of the Committee.

Minutes of
the
Meetings

6.-(1) The Committee shall cause to be recorded and kept minutes of all business conducted or transacted at the meeting and the minutes of each meeting of the Committee shall be read and confirmed or amended and confirmed at the next meeting of the Committee and signed by the person presiding and the Secretary to the meeting.

(2) Any minutes purporting to be signed by the person presiding and the Secretary at a meeting of the Committee shall, in the absence of proof of error, be deemed to be a correct record of the meeting whose minutes they purport to be.

Validity of
proceedings

7. The validity of any act or proceeding of the Committee shall not be affected by any vacancy among its members or by any defect in the appointment of any of them.

Committee
may
regulate its
proceed-
ings

8. Subject to the provisions of this Schedule, the Committee may regulate its own proceedings.

Passed in the National Assembly on 1st February, 2008.

DAMIAN S. L. FOKA,
Clerk of National Assembly