

**THE NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026**

MEMORANDUM

The object of this Bill is to amend the National Youth Development Council Act so as to —

- (a) revise the composition of the National Youth Development Council; and
- (b) provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

M. D. KABESHA,
Attorney-General

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Act to amend the National Youth Development Council Act.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia.

Enactment

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the National Youth Development Council (Amendment) Act, 2026, and shall be read as one with the National Youth Development Council Act, in this Act referred to as the principal Act.

Short title and commencement
Cap. 144

(2) This Act shall come into operation on the expiry of the term of office, or removal by the Minister, of the members of the Council holding office prior to the enactment of this Act, after which the Minister shall appoint the members of the Council in accordance with this Act.

2. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new definitions in the appropriate places in alphabetical order:

Amendment of section 2

“legally disqualified” means the absence of legal capacity as provided under section 4 of the Mental Health Act; and

Cap. 305

“Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities” means the Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities established under the Persons with Disabilities Act.

Cap. 65

*National Youth Development Council
(Amendment)*

4 No. of 2026]

Repeal and
replacement
of section 5

3. The principal Act is amended by the repeal of section 5 and the substitution therefor of the following:

Composition
of Council

5. (1) The Council consists of the following part-time members appointed by the Minister:

(a) a representative each from the ministries responsible for — 5

(i) youth; and

(ii) finance;

(b) a representative of the Attorney-General;

(c) a representative of the Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities, who shall be a youth; 10

(d) two representatives from the most representative civil society organisations;

(e) three representatives from the most representative youth organisations; and 15

(f) two representatives from the private sector with knowledge and experience in matters relating to this Act.

(2) The ministries, institutions and organisations referred to in subsection (1) shall nominate their representatives for appointment by the Minister. 20

(3) The Minister shall appoint the Chairperson from among the members of the Council.

(4) The members shall elect the Vice-Chairperson from among themselves. 25

(5) A person shall not be appointed as a member of the Council if that person is —

(a) an undischarged bankrupt;

(b) legally disqualified from performing the functions of a member; or 30

(c) convicted of an offence under this Act or any other law and sentenced to a term of imprisonment exceeding six months without an option of a fine.

4. The principal Act is amended by the repeal of section 6 and the substitution therefor of the following: Repeal and replacement of section 6

5 6. (1) A member of the Council shall, subject to other provisions of this Act, hold office for a term of three years from the date of appointment and may be reappointed for a further and final term of three years. Tenure of office

10 (2) A member shall, on the expiration of the term for which the member is appointed, continue to hold office until another member is appointed, but in no case shall an extension of the period exceed three months.

5. The principal Act is amended by the repeal of section 7 and the substitution therefor of the following: Repeal and replacement of section 7

15 7. (1) The office of a member of the Council becomes vacant if the member Filling of casual vacancy

 (a) dies;

 (b) is adjudged bankrupt under any written law;

20 (c) is absent, without reasonable excuse and without the prior approval of the Council, from three consecutive meetings of the Council, of which the member has had notice;

 (d) resigns, by giving one month's notice in writing, to the Minister;

25 (e) is legally disqualified from performing the functions of a member;

 (f) ceases to be an employee or a member of the ministry, institution or organisation that nominated that member; or

30 (g) is convicted of an offence under this Act or any other written law and sentenced to imprisonment for a term exceeding six months without the option of a fine.

35 (2) The Minister shall, where the office of a member of the Council becomes vacant before the expiry of the term of office, appoint another member in place of that member of the Council but that member shall hold office as a member of the Council only for the unexpired part of the term of the Council.

National Youth Development Council
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Amendment
of section 9

6. Section 9 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of subsection (4) and the substitution therefor of the following:

(4) Seven members shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Council.
