

THE COFFEE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

MEMORANDUM

The object of this Bill is to amend the Coffee Act, so as to—

- (a) revise the composition of the Coffee Board of Zambia;
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 Coffee Act.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia.

Enactment

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

Short title and commencement
Cap.228

5 (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 Board holding office prior to the enactment of this Act, after which the Minister shall appoint the members of the Board in accordance with this Act.

10 2. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new definition in the appropriate place:

Amendment of section 2
Cap.305

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

15 3. The principal Act is amended by the repeal of section 4 and the substitution therefor of the following:

Repeal and replacement of section 4

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

Composition of Board

(a) the Chairperson, who shall be a person with knowledge and experience in matters relating to coffee and agriculture;

(b) a representative each of the ministries responsible for—

- (i) agriculture;
- (ii) commerce; and
- (iii) finance;

(c) a representative of the Attorney-General; 5

(d) a representative from an association representing—

- (i) small scale coffee growers; and
- (ii) large scale coffee growers;

(e) a representative of an institution or organisation concerned with research in coffee growing; 10

(f) a representative of holders of coffee roasting licenses; and

(g) two persons from the private sector with knowledge and experience in matters relevant to this Act.

(2) The ministries, institutions and 15 organisations referred to in subsection (1) shall nominate their representatives for appointment by the Minister.

(3) The members of the Board shall elect the Vice Chairperson from among themselves. 20

(4) A person shall not be appointed as a member of the Board if that person

- (a) is an undischarged bankrupt;
- (b) is legally disqualified from performing the functions of a member; or 25

(c) has been convicted of an offence under a written law and sentenced to imprisonment for a term exceeding six months without an option of a fine.

Repeal and replacement of section 5

4. The principal Act is amended by the repeal of section 5 and 30 the substitution therefor of the following:

Tenure and vacancy of office of member of Board

5. (1) A member of the Board shall, subject to the other provisions of this Act, hold office for a term of four years and may be re-appointed for a further and final term of four years. 35

(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 the further period exceed four months.

5 (3) The office of a member of the Board becomes vacant if that member

(a) dies;

(b) is adjudged bankrupt under any written law;

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

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

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

20 (f) is convicted of an offence under this Act or any other written law and sentenced to imprisonment for a term exceeding six months, without an option of a fine;

(g) ceases to be an employee or a member of the ministry, institution or organisation that the member is representing; or

(h) is removed by the Minister.

25 (4) Where there is a vacancy in the membership of the Board before the expiry of the term of office, the Minister shall appoint another person to replace the member who vacates office but that person shall only hold office for the remainder
30 of the term.