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**CHAPTER 238****THE LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT***Commencement:* 17 June, 2022

**An Act to provide for the regulation of the relationship of landlords and tenants; to provide for the letting of premises; to provide for the responsibilities of landlords and tenants in relation to the letting of premises and for related matters.**

**PART I—PRELIMINARY****1. Application of Act**

(1) This Act applies to the letting of residential and business premises.

(2) The Minister may, by statutory instrument, with the approval of Parliament, exempt particular premises from the operation of the Act.

(3) Without limiting the general effect of subsection (2), this Act does not apply to the following arrangements—

- (a) residence at an institution, whether public or private, where the residence is merely incidental to detention or to the provision of medical, religious, educational, recreational or similar services;
- (b) residence in a hotel, motel, or other transient lodging; or
- (c) occupancy of premises under a tenancy created or arising under the terms of a contract of employment or any premises entered into in relation to such a contract.

**2. Interpretation**

- (1) In this Act unless the context otherwise requires—  
“annoyance” in relation to a tenancy, means the unwarranted, unreasonable, offensive or unlawful interference in the use or enjoyment of rented premises;  
“assignment” means the transfer of the rights or interest in the tenancy from one person to another;

- “business” includes trade, profession or employment and includes any activity carried on by a body of persons; whether corporate or unincorporate;
- “business premises” in relation to a tenancy, means premises occupied by the tenant for the purposes of a business carried on by the tenant;
- “court” means a court of competent jurisdiction and includes local council courts;
- “currency point” has the value assigned to it in Schedule 1 to this Act;
- “landlord” means a person who lets premises under a tenancy and includes the duly authorised agent of the landlord or a person who is in lawful possession of the premises and has the right to let them;
- “lease” includes a sublease;
- “Minister” means the Minister responsible for housing;
- “premises” means business or residential premises to which this Act applies;
- “rent” in relation to a tenancy, means the amount paid to a landlord by a tenant to occupy premises and use facilities and services;
- “rented premises” in relation to a tenancy to which this Act applies, means business or residential premises let under the tenancy;
- “residential premises” means—
- premises which are used solely as a home, residence, sleeping place by a tenant and includes housing estates, tenements, apartment buildings, mobile homes;
  - mixed-use premises which are used simultaneously for both residential purposes and to carry out a home-based business;
- “services” in relation to a tenancy, means the use of water, light or power, conservancy, sewerage facilities, sweepers, watchmen, telephone or other amenities or facilities available to the tenant except—
- the supplying of means, and the right of access to any place or accommodation accorded to the tenant by reason of the tenant’s occupation of the premises comprised in the tenancy;
  - capital expenditure on maintenance;
- “tenancy” means a relationship created by a lease, agreement or assignment and includes a sub-tenancy but does not include a relationship between a mortgagor and mortgagee;

“tenancy agreement” means an agreement, in writing or otherwise, express or implied, under which a tenancy is created; “tenant” means the person to whom premises are let under a tenancy; “utilities” includes water, light or power, conservancy, sewerage facilities, sweepers, watchmen, telephone or other amenities or facilities available to the tenant.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in any other written law requiring the registration of tenancies, evidence of a tenancy may, for any of the purposes of this Act, be given in court, whether the tenancy is registered or not.

## PART II—TENANCY AGREEMENTS

### 3. Making of tenancy agreements

- (1) A tenancy agreement may be—
  - (a) made in writing;
  - (b) by word of mouth;
  - (c) partly in writing and partly by word of mouth;
  - (d) in the form of a data message; or
  - (e) implied from the conduct of the parties,

provided that where the parties execute a tenancy agreement, the landlord-tenant relationship between the parties shall be governed by the terms of the tenancy.

(2) A tenancy agreement in writing shall be in the form prescribed in Schedule 2 to this Act, except that the parties may make any modification to the prescribed form.

(3) Where a tenancy agreement is not in writing, the landlord shall keep a record—

- (a) of the particulars of the parties to the tenancy;
- (b) of the premises comprised in the tenancy;
- (c) in the case of a non-citizen, of the details of the immigration status of the non-citizen; and
- (d) of the details of the rent payable and the manner of payment.

(4) The landlord shall give the tenant a copy of the record kept under subsection (3) within fourteen days of the tenant taking vacant possession of the premises.

- (5) A landlord shall not enter into a tenancy agreement—  
(a) with an individual, unless the individual provides his or her national identification card or alien's identification card, or any other identification document; or  
(b) with a legal person, unless that person provides details of registration or other form of incorporation.

(6) For the purposes of this section, “other identification document” includes a driving permit, passport or certified student identification card.

(7) This section shall not affect a tenancy agreement entered into under any other law requiring a tenancy agreement to be made in a specific manner.

#### **4. Tenancy agreement of twenty-five currency points or more to be in writing**

A tenancy agreement of the value of twenty-five currency points or more shall not be enforceable by action unless—

- (a) the agreement is in writing or in form of a data message; or  
(b) the party against whom enforcement is sought admits that the agreement was entered into.

#### **5. Landlord to give tenant copy of tenancy agreement**

A landlord shall, immediately after a tenancy agreement is signed by the landlord and tenant, give a copy of the tenancy agreement to the tenant.

### **PART III—TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN TENANCY**

#### *Fitness for human habitation*

#### **6. Implied term as to fitness for human habitation**

- (1) Where a tenancy is for the letting of residential premises there is implied—  
(a) a condition that the premises are fit for human habitation at the commencement of the tenancy; and

- (b) an undertaking that the exterior of the premises and common areas shall be kept by the landlord, fit for human habitation, during the tenancy.
- (2) Premises are not fit for human habitation under subsection (1) where the premises do not meet the requirements of the Public Health Act or the Building Control Act.
- (3) Without limiting the general effect of subsection (1), in determining whether premises are fit for human habitation, regard shall be given to the condition of the premises in respect of repair, stability, internal arrangements, natural lighting, ventilation, water supply, drainage and sanitary conveniences and facilities for preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water.
- (4) Except in case of an emergency, a landlord may, at reasonable times of the day after giving twenty-four hours' notice in writing or otherwise to the tenant, enter premises for the purpose of viewing their state and condition.

*Repairing obligations***7. Duty to keep premises in repair**

(1) Subject to section 8, there is implied in every tenancy a term that the landlord shall keep the premises maintained in good repair save that the obligation shall extend to the exterior parts of the premises and common areas.

(2) In determining the standard of good repair under subsection (1), regard shall be had to the age, character and prospective life of the premises and the locality in which the premises are situated.

**8. Exception to duty of landlord to repair premises**

(1) The duty of the landlord to maintain the premises in good repair does not apply to repair of damage caused to the premises by the tenant's negligence or failure to take reasonable care.

(2) Where a tenant damages the premises or common areas, the landlord shall serve the tenant with a notice to repair the damage.

(3) The notice under subsection (2) shall be in the form prescribed by the Minister by regulations.

(4) Except in the case of any emergency, where the landlord gives the tenant notice to repair under this section and the tenant does not repair the damage within fourteen days after the notice is given, the landlord may repair the damage at the expense of the tenant.

(5) After the landlord has effected repairs to the premises under subsection (4), the landlord shall serve the tenant with particulars of the cost of the repairs including the relevant supporting documentation to evidence the cost of the repairs.

(6) The tenant shall reimburse the landlord within a period of fourteen days after the notification by the landlord or the costs of the repairs may be deducted from any rent advance received by the landlord.

## **9. Circumstances where tenant may repair premises**

(1) A tenant may carry out repairs to the premises where—  
(a) the nature of the repairs required is urgent; or  
(b) the tenant has taken reasonable steps to arrange for the landlord to carry out repairs and the tenant is unable to get the landlord to carry out the repairs after serving the landlord with fourteen days' notice of the need for and cost of repairs.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), urgent repairs includes—  
(a) repairs relating to burst water services;  
(b) blocked or broken toilet systems;  
(c) serious roof leaks;  
(d) gas leaks;  
(e) dangerous electrical faults;  
(f) flooding or serious flood damage;  
(g) serious storm or fire damage;

- (h) failure or breakdown of any essential service or appliance provided by a landlord or agent for hot water, water, cooking, heating or laundry;
- (i) failure or breakdown of the gas, electricity or water supply;
- (j) an appliance, fitting or fixture that is not working properly and causes a substantial amount of water to be wasted;
- (k) a serious fault in a lift or staircase; or
- (l) any fault or damage in the premises that makes the premises unsafe or insecure.

(3) Where the tenant carries out repairs under subsection (1), the tenant shall immediately, after carrying out the repairs, give the landlord—

- (a) written notice of the repairs carried out;
- (b) particulars of the costs incurred; and
- (c) relevant supporting documentation to evidence the costs of repair.

(4) The costs of repair incurred by the tenant under this section shall be reasonable costs of repair at the prevailing market rates.

(5) The landlord shall, within fourteen days after receiving the notice, reimburse the tenant the costs of the repair.

(6) Where the landlord does not reimburse the tenant, the tenant shall recover the costs incurred for the repairs from the rent due and payable immediately after the repairs are carried out.

## **10. Landlord responsible for taxes and rates**

(1) There is implied in every tenancy a term that the landlord is responsible for the payment of all taxes and rates imposed by law in respect of the premises.

(2) Where a tenant pays any taxes or rates in respect of the premises, the landlord shall indemnify the tenant for the amount paid by the tenant.

**11. Void terms and conditions in tenancy**

(1) Subject to section 3(1), a term in a tenancy, express or implied, is void where it purports to exclude, restrict or modify, or has the effect of excluding, restricting or modifying any provision of this Act.

(2) A term or condition in a written tenancy or any other agreement made under this Act that requires a party to a written tenancy agreement to bear any fees, costs or charges incurred by the other party in connection with the preparation of the tenancy agreement is void.

**PART IV—LIABILITY FOR UTILITIES CHARGES****12. Utilities charges for which tenant is liable**

(1) A tenant is liable for all charges in respect of the supply or use of electricity, gas, oil and similar services in respect of the occupation of the tenant of rented premises that are separately metered, except the installation costs and charges in respect of the initial connection of the service to the rented premises.

(2) A tenant is liable for—

- (a) the cost of all water supplied to the rented premises during the occupancy of the tenant, if the cost is based solely on the amount of water supplied and the premises are separately metered; or
- (b) that part of the charges based on the amount of water supplied to the premises during the occupation of the tenant if the cost of water supplied is only partly based on the amount of water supplied to the premises and the premises are not separately metered.

(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), a landlord may agree with the tenant to take over liability for any costs or charges for which the tenant is liable under subsection (1) or (2).

(4) An agreement under subsection (3) shall be in writing and signed by the landlord and tenant.

**13. Utilities charges for which landlord is liable**

- (1) A landlord is liable for—
  - (a) the installation costs and charges in respect of the initial connection to rented premises of any electricity, water, gas, sanitation, sewerage or other utility service;
  - (b) all charges in respect of the supply or use of electricity, gas or oil by the tenant at rented premises that are not separately metered;
  - (c) all charges arising from a water supply service to separately metered rented premises that are not based on the amount of water supplied to the premises;
  - (d) all costs and charges related to a water supply service to and water supplied to rented premises that are not separately metered; and
  - (e) all charges related to the supply of sewerage services or the supply or use of the drainage services to or at the rented premises.
- (2) In the case of sewerage disposal charges, the landlord and tenant may agree on the contribution to be made by the tenant.

**PART V—DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF LANDLORDS AND TENANTS****14. Tenant not to use premises for unlawful purpose**

A tenant shall not use the premises or permit the use of the rented premises for any unlawful purpose.

**15. Tenant not to cause nuisance or interference**

- (1) A tenant shall not use the rented premises or permit the use of the rented premises in any manner that causes a nuisance to any occupier of neighbouring premises.
- (2) A tenant shall not—
  - (a) use the rented premises or common areas;
  - (b) permit his or her visitors to use the rented premises or common areas; or
  - (c) otherwise permit the use of the rented premises, in a manner that causes interference with the reasonable peace, comfort or privacy of any occupier of neighbouring premises.

(3) For the purposes of this section “nuisance” includes any activity, condition or situation that interferes with another person’s use or enjoyment of the premises of that person.

## **16. Tenant not to damage premises or common areas**

(1) A tenant shall take care not to damage the rented premises or the common areas.

(2) A tenant who becomes aware of any damage to the rented premises or the common areas shall immediately give notice to the landlord specifying the nature of the damage.

## **17. Tenant to keep rented premises clean**

A tenant shall keep the rented premises in a reasonably clean condition, except where the landlord is responsible under the tenancy agreement for keeping of the premises in that condition.

## **18. Tenant not to install fixtures or make alterations without consent**

(1) A tenant shall not, without the consent of the landlord, install any fixtures on the rented premises or make any alteration, renovation or addition to the rented premises.

(2) A tenant who has installed fixtures on or renovated, altered or added to the rented premises, whether or not with the written consent of the landlord, shall before terminating the tenancy—

- (a) restore the premises to the condition they were in immediately before the installation, renovation or addition; fair wear and tear excepted; or
- (b) pay to the landlord an amount equal to the reasonable cost of restoring the premises.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply where the tenancy agreement otherwise provides or where the landlord and tenant otherwise agree.

(4) For the purposes of this section, “fixture” means personal property of the tenant that is attached to the premises or part of the premises so as to be regarded as an irremovable part of the premises.

**19. Landlord to ensure quiet enjoyment**

A landlord shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that the tenant has quiet enjoyment of the premises during the tenancy.

**20. Landlord not to refuse to rent on certain grounds**

A landlord shall not refuse to rent premises to a person on the grounds of sex, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability.

**PART VI—RENT AND SECURITY DEPOSIT***Rent***21. Tenant to pay rent**

(1) A tenant shall pay rent on the date and in the manner agreed upon by the landlord and tenant.

(2) The landlord shall issue a receipt upon payment of rent by the tenant.

(3) The receipt issued in subsection (2) shall be in the form prescribed by regulations made by the Minister.

(4) A landlord letting out a business premise in a city or a municipality shall provide a tenant with the number of the bank account of the landlord into which all rent payments may be deposited.

**22. Determination of rent under tenancy**

(1) The rent payable for any premises under a tenancy shall be determined by mutual agreement of the parties to the tenancy.

(2) Except where the parties otherwise agree in their tenancy agreement, all rent obligations or transactions shall be expressed or settled in Uganda shillings.

**23. Accrual of rent**

For the purposes of this Act, rent under a tenancy accrues from day to day and is recoverable or refundable accordingly.

**24. Limit on rent in advance**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), a landlord shall not require a tenant—
  - (a) in the case of tenancy of more than one month, to pay rent more than three months in advance; or
  - (b) in a case of tenancy of less than one month, to pay rent more than two weeks in advance.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply where the tenant and landlord mutually agree that the tenant pays the rent beyond the period specified.

**25. Receipts for rent**

- (1) A landlord who receives a payment of rent from a tenant shall give a written receipt to the person making the payment—
  - (a) immediately, where the payment is made in person; or
  - (b) where the payment is not made in person and a receipt is requested at the time of making the payment, within five working days of receiving the payment.
- (2) A receipt issued under subsection (1) shall be in the prescribed form and shall include, among others, the amount of and period for which rent is paid.
- (3) A landlord shall keep a record of all receipts of payments of rent by the tenant.

**26. Increase of rent**

- (1) Except where the parties otherwise agree in their tenancy agreement, a landlord shall not increase rent at a rate of more than ten percent annually or such other percentage as may be prescribed by the Minister, by statutory instrument.

(2) A landlord shall give a tenant at least sixty days' notice, in the prescribed form, of a proposed increase in rent.

(3) A landlord under a fixed term tenancy shall not increase the rent before the term ends, unless the agreement provides for a rent increase within the fixed term.

(4) A landlord shall not increase the rent payable under a tenancy at intervals of less than twelve months.

(5) An increase of rent is invalid if it contravenes this section.

## **27. Rent increase to take effect if tenant does not object or negotiate**

Where a tenant who does not object to a rent increase or reach an agreement with the landlord on the increase to be effected and the rent increase is in accordance with this Act, the tenant is taken to have accepted the rent increase.

## **28. Decrease of rent in certain cases**

(1) A landlord shall decrease the rent charged to a tenant where the landlord ceases to provide any service agreed to with respect to the occupancy of the premises by the tenant.

(2) A decrease in rent under subsection (1) shall be proportionate to the decrease of the services.

## **29. Failure to pay rent by tenant and claims for rent arrears**

(1) Where a tenant defaults in paying rent and is in arrears, the landlord may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction to recover the rent owed.

(2) Where the default in subsection (1) continues for a period of more than thirty days, the landlord shall be entitled to re-enter the premises and take possession in the presence of an area local council official and the police.

(3) The right of re-entry of the landlord referred to in subsection (2) shall not prejudice the right of the landlord to recover the rent arrears.

(4) The Judicature (Small Claims Procedure) Rules apply to any application to recover rent arrears under this section but only if the claim does not exceed the amount specified for small claims in the Judicature (Small Claims Procedure) Rules.

*Security deposit*

**30. Security deposit**

(1) A landlord shall require a tenant to pay a security deposit for the purposes of securing the performance by the tenant of the obligations of the tenant under the tenancy.

(2) A landlord shall not require more than one security deposit or require the payment of, or receive, under a security deposit, an amount exceeding the rent payable for one month's occupancy of the premises to which the agreement relates or one-twelfth of the rent for one year's occupancy of the premises to which the agreement relates, whichever is the lesser.

(3) The landlord shall specify to the tenant in writing the terms and conditions under which the security deposit or any part of the security deposit may be withheld by the landlord upon termination of the tenancy.

(4) Without limiting the general effect of subsection (3), a security deposit shall not be withheld on account of normal wear and tear resulting from ordinary use of the premises.

(5) The landlord shall provide the tenant with a written receipt for the security deposit.

(6) Where, during a tenancy, the status of landlord is transferred to another person, the security deposit shall be transferred and the successor landlord shall notify the tenant of the change.

(7) Where, during the tenancy, the premises occupied by the tenant are foreclosed upon and the deposit of the tenant is not transferred to the

successor owner after the foreclosure sale or other transfer of the property from the foreclosed-upon owner to a successor, the foreclosed-upon owner shall promptly refund the full deposit to the tenant immediately after the foreclosure sale or transfer.

## PART VII—ASSIGNMENT OF TENANCY AND SUBLEASING OF PREMISES

### **31. Assignment of tenancy by tenant**

(1) A tenant shall not assign a tenancy without the written consent of the landlord.

(2) A landlord shall not unreasonably withhold consent to the assignment of a tenancy.

### **32. Subletting of premises**

(1) A tenant shall not sublease the whole or any part of the premises without the written consent of the landlord.

(2) A landlord shall not unreasonably withhold consent to the subleasing of the whole or any part of the premises.

### **33. Invalid assignment and subletting of premises**

An assignment of a tenancy or subleasing of the whole or any part of the premises by a tenant without the consent of the landlord is invalid and immediately terminates the tenancy.

## PART VIII—TERMINATION OF TENANCY

### *Termination by landlord or tenant*

### **34. Termination of tenancy to be in accordance with Act**

A tenancy shall not be terminated except in accordance with this Act, or with the tenancy agreement.

**35. Termination by agreement**

(1) A tenancy may be terminated by agreement of the landlord and tenant.

(2) An agreement under subsection (1) shall state the date on which the tenant shall vacate the premises.

**36. Termination by vacation of premises with consent of landlord**

(1) A tenancy terminates where the tenant vacates the rented premises with the consent of the landlord.

(2) The consent given under subsection (1) may be written or oral and once given is irrevocable.

**37. Termination of tenancy for specified time or event**

- (1) Where a tenancy is—
- (a) for a fixed term, the tenancy terminates on the date specified for termination; or
  - (b) stated to terminate on the occurrence of an event, the tenancy terminates on the occurrence of that event.

(2) A tenant whose tenancy terminates under subsection (1) shall immediately vacate the premises.

**38. Termination after notice**

(1) A tenancy terminates where a landlord or tenant gives notice of termination of the tenancy in accordance with this Act, or with terms of the tenancy agreement.

(2) In a residential tenancy, notice of termination of a tenancy required under this Act shall be as follows—

- (a) in the case of a weekly tenancy, seven days' notice;
- (b) in the case of a monthly tenancy, thirty days' notice; and
- (c) in the case of a tenancy from year to year, sixty days' notice.

(3) A landlord and tenant may agree to a period of notice exceeding the period specified in subsection (2).

(4) A term or condition in a tenancy providing for a lesser period of notice than that specified in subsection (2) is void.

(5) The issuance of notice of termination under subsection (1) shall not extinguish the duties and rights of a landlord or tenant under the tenancy agreement in respect of which such notice has been issued.

### **39. Termination by abandonment**

(1) A tenancy is considered terminated by abandonment where the tenant leaves the premises permanently without terminating the tenancy agreement.

(2) Termination by abandonment shall not prejudice the rights of the landlord to recover accrued rent and charges.

(3) Where the landlord has reasonable cause to believe that the tenant has abandoned the premises, the landlord shall give notice of fourteen days to the tenant of the intention to terminate the tenancy.

(4) Where the tenant does not reply to the notice or does not give a satisfactory explanation after the fourteen days' notice referred to in subsection (2), the tenancy terminates.

(5) The Minister may, by regulations, prescribe the procedure for dealing with abandoned tenancies.

(6) For the purposes of subsection (1), a tenant is taken to have permanently abandoned the premises where—

- (a) the tenant has been absent from the premises for at least thirty consecutive days without notifying the landlord and the rent has not been paid; or
- (b) at least fifteen days have passed since the rent was due and the rent remains unpaid and it appears to the landlord that the tenant has vacated the premises without the rent being paid.

**40. Termination upon death of sole tenant**

- (1) Where a tenant who is a single occupant of premises dies, the tenancy terminates at the earliest of the following dates—
- (a) twenty-eight days after the landlord is given written notice of the death of the tenant by the legal personal representative or next of kin of the tenant;
  - (b) twenty-eight days after the landlord has given notice to vacate to the legal personal representative or next of kin of the tenant;
  - (c) a date agreed in writing between the landlord and the legal personal representative or next of kin of the tenant; or
  - (d) the date specified as the termination date of the tenancy by the court on the application of the landlord under subsection (2).
- (2) Where a landlord is unable to give notice to vacate under subsection (1)(b), the landlord may apply to the court for an order to terminate the tenancy.

**41. Tenant or landlord may challenge termination in court**

- (1) A tenant or landlord may challenge a termination of the tenancy agreement in court.
- (2) Where the court finds that a termination challenged under this section was not justified or is not in accordance with this Act, the court may order the reinstatement of the tenancy or award damages or such other remedy as the court considers appropriate.
- (3) A tenant is liable to pay rent while he or she challenges a termination notice.
- (4) A tenant or landlord who is dissatisfied with the decision of the court under subsection (2) may appeal to the appropriate court.

**42. Termination notice not affected by certain factors**

A notice of termination of a tenancy by a landlord is not affected by the landlord's acceptance of arrears of rent or compensation for the use or occupation of the premises after the landlord gives the notice of termination of the tenancy to the tenant.

**43. Refusal by tenant to vacate premises after receipt of notice of termination**

Where a tenant does not vacate the premises on the date specified in the notice of termination or upon breach, the landlord may re-enter the premises and take possession in the presence of the area local council officials and the police.

**PART IX—VACATION AND EVICTION FROM PREMISES****44. Vacation of premises on termination of tenancy**

Where a tenancy is terminated in accordance with this Act, the tenant shall vacate the premises on the date specified in the notice of termination or such other date specified for vacation of the premises.

**45. Unlawful eviction of tenant**

(1) A landlord shall not, except in accordance with this Act, or the terms of the tenancy agreement, evict a tenant from the premises or require, compel or attempt to require or compel the tenant to vacate the premises.

(2) Where a landlord evicts a tenant from the premises or requires, compels or attempts to require or compel the tenant to vacate the premises in contravention of this Act or the terms of the tenancy agreement, the tenant shall be entitled to seek appropriate relief from court, or relief equivalent to three months' rent payable.

(3) Where a court finds a landlord liable under subsection (2), the court shall, in addition to any penalty imposed, order the landlord to compensate the tenant for any damages arising from the unlawful eviction.

**PART X—GENERAL****46. Landlord may charge fees for extra services**

(1) A landlord may charge a service fee for any extra services provided to a tenant including services relating to security, conservancy, sanitation and other amenities.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), “a service fee” means an amount payable by a tenant as part of or in addition to the rent which is payable, directly or indirectly, for services, repairs, maintenance, improvements or insurance or the landlord’s costs of management, and a service fee varies or may vary according to the relevant costs.

(3) The relevant costs referred to in subsection (2) are the costs or estimated costs incurred or to be incurred by or on behalf of the landlord in connection with the matters for which the service fee is payable.

#### **47. Reimbursement of costs by landlord or tenant**

(1) Where a landlord pays for anything for which the tenant is liable under this Act, the tenant shall reimburse the landlord within fourteen days after receiving a written request for reimbursement together with a copy of the receipt or other evidence of the costs incurred by the landlord.

(2) Where a tenant pays for anything for which the landlord is liable under this Act, the landlord shall reimburse the tenant within fourteen days after receiving a written request for reimbursement and a copy of the receipt or other evidence of payment.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply if there is an agreement to the contrary.

#### **48. Entry of rented premises by landlord**

(1) A landlord has a right to enter the premises together with any person who is necessary to achieve the purpose of the entry after giving the tenant written notice of at least twenty hours.

(2) A landlord who enters premises in contravention of subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding one hundred currency points.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), in case of an emergency, a landlord may enter the premises without notice.

**49. Landlord and tenant may act through agent**

(1) A landlord or tenant may appoint an agent to effect any transactions that may be required under this Act.

(2) Where a landlord or tenant appoints an agent, the particulars and the scope of the appointment shall be in writing and shall be made available to the tenant or landlord, as the case may be.

(3) For purposes of subsection (1), the transactions that an agent may perform include—

- (a) marketing the premises;
- (b) drawing up tenancy agreements;
- (c) collection of rent;
- (d) arranging repairs and maintenance; or
- (e) managing and maintaining common areas.

**50. Power to amend Schedule 1**

The Minister may, by statutory instrument, with the approval of Parliament, amend Schedule 1 to this Act.

**51. Regulations**

(1) The Minister may, by statutory instrument, make regulations generally for the better carrying into effect of the provisions of this Act.

(2) Without limiting the general effect of subsection (1), regulations made under this section may—

- (a) prescribe codes of practice to be complied with by landlords and tenants;
- (b) prescribe the forms to be used for purposes of this Act;
- (c) regulate the use of agents in landlord tenant relations, including the licensing of agents, and the duties and responsibilities of agents;
- (d) regulate mixed-use premises, including specifying the nature of businesses that may be carried out in premises which are also used for human habitation;

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- (e) prescribe penalties in respect of the contravention of the regulations not exceeding seven thousand two hundred currency points or imprisonment for a term of three years, or both;
  - (f) prescribe penalties for continuing and repeated offences; and
  - (g) prescribe fees for anything done under this Act.
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## SCHEMES

### *Schedule 1*

#### Sections 2, 50 **Currency Point**

A currency point is equivalent to twenty thousand shillings.

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*Schedule 2 Tenancy*

Section 3(2)

**Agreement**

THIS AGREEMENT is made this ..... day of .....

**BETWEEN**(“*Landlord*”)And .....(“*Tenant*”)**Particulars of Parties**

PARTICULARS	LANDLORD ( <i>tick applicable</i> ) INDIVIDUAL/ CORPORATE	TENANT ( <i>tick applicable</i> ) INDIVIDUAL/ CORPORATE
Name		
National ID No./Alien Card No./ Company Registration		
Number P.O. Box, Town		
Telephone		
Email address		
Occupation of tenant		
Current location of tenant		
Immigration status of tenant		
Resident work permit number		

**For renting of premises with the following particulars:**

User	Water	
Size (Rooms)	Sewage	
Area	Electricity	
Toilets	Solid waste collection	
Common spaces	Security services	
<b>Location</b>		
Block No.	Village/Ward	
Plot No.	Parish	
Building No.	Subcounty/ Town	
Premises No.	County/ Division	
Street Name	District/City	

**DURATION, RENT AND SECURITY DEPOSIT**

premises for the duration of ..... (*days/months/years*)  
(*tick applicable*) with effect from ..... to .....

2. Both parties agree on monthly rent of Ug. Shs ..... (*in figures*) (Uganda Shillings ..... only) (*in words*) payable initially for ..... months in advance, and subsequently every ..... months before the expiry of the advance payment; the initial amount of Ug. Shs ..... (*in figures*) (Uganda Shillings ..... only) (*in words*) being rent for the first ..... months.
3. A security deposit of one month shall be paid by the tenant at the beginning of the tenancy to secure the performance by the tenant of the obligations of the tenant under the tenancy.
4. The landlord hereby acknowledges receipt of the payment(s) by signing this agreement and issuing a receipt.

**The landlord and tenant agree as follows:**

**DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE**  
The landlord agrees to let and the tenant agrees to take the above

**PARTIES The landlord agrees with the tenant:**

5. To pay and discharge existing and future rates and taxes statutory and relevant authorities dues and/or any other obligations, charges that are imposed upon the owner of the demised premises.
6. To keep the exterior of the demised premises including main walls and roof of the said out-buildings, drains, pipes, and structure of the demised premises in good and tenantable repair, order and condition.
7. That the tenant paying rent hereby reserved and performing and observing the obligation and conditions herein contained or implied and on its part to be performed and observed shall and may peacefully and quietly possess and enjoy the premises during the term hereby

created without any interruption from or by the landlord or any person rightfully claiming from or under or in trust for the landlord.

8. The landlord or the authorised agent of the landlord reserves the right to enter upon the demised premises to inspect the condition of the premises.
9. To give a tenant a copy of the fully signed tenancy agreement.

**The tenant agrees with the landlord as follows:**

10. To pay the rent hereby reserved at all times and in the manner aforesaid.
11. To pay and discharge all future water rates, electricity charges, garbage collection charges, security charge, and any other charges imposed during this tenancy.
12. To utilise the premises hereby rented for the intended purposes only as per the agreement and not to use or permit them to be used for any illegal purposes.
13. To keep the premises including the fixtures therein in a good and clean condition during the tenancy and in such condition to deliver up the same to the landlord at the termination of the tenancy.
14. To maintain the compound, fence and paths in good order and condition and not to drill nails in the walls of the demised premises or cut timber or main trees, bushes or shrubs planted there without the consent of the landlord save in the proper course of care and management of the premises.
15. To permit the landlord or the authorised agents of the landlord at reasonable times to enter upon the premises or any part thereof after twenty-four hours' notice to examine the state and condition of the premises.
16. To make good any damage occasioned to the demised premises by the tenant on any furniture and fittings or other articles, objects or things into or out of the demised premises or to pay to the landlord the cost of repairing or replacing any part of the premises or fittings which are damaged by the tenant or lost through the negligence of the tenant.

17. Not to assign, sublet or part with possession of the premises or any part thereof without the prior written consent of the landlord which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
18. Not to do or permit to be done in or upon the premises or any part thereof any act or thing which may be of nuisance, damage, inconvenience or annoyance to the landlord or the tenants or the occupants of any other adjoining premises.
19. Not to erect in the garden or land surrounding the premises any shed or other buildings without the prior consent of the landlord in writing.
20. Not to alter or damage the demised premises without the express permission of the landlord.
21. To deliver up the premises at the expiry of the tenancy hereby created in such state of repair, condition, order and preservation as shall be in accordance with the obligations on the part of the tenant herein before contained.

#### CONDITIONS OF TENANCY

#### **PROVIDED ALWAYS and it is expressly agreed as follows:**

22. That if the said rent or any part thereof is in arrears at any time after the day on which it is payable (whether formally demanded or not) or if any of the stipulations of the tenant herein are not performed then and in any such case the landlord or the agents of the landlord may at any time thereafter re-enter upon the demised premises or any part thereof in the name of the whole and the same have again, repossess and enjoy as the former estate of the landlord, and this agreement save to any claims the landlord may have hereunder in respect of any such breach by the tenant as aforesaid shall be deemed to have been terminated on such reentry as aforesaid.
23. That the landlord may in his or her absolute discretion review the said rent at the expiry of this tenancy on giving to the tenant not less than ..... weeks/month(s) notice in writing to the tenant of his or her intention to do so PROVIDED THAT no more than one increase will be made in any one year.

24. That any consents or notices which are required by the terms of this Agreement to be given by landlord may validly be given by any person duly authorised by the landlord.
25. The parties to this agreement reserve the right to terminate the said agreement on breach of conditions and shall be entitled to appropriate remedies as may be determined by court.
26. Any notice under this agreement shall be in writing and any notice to the tenant shall be sufficiently served if left addressed to him or her on the premises or affixed to the door thereof; and any notice to the landlord shall be sufficiently served if sent by post to the landlord or delivered to an authorised agent or to the premises of the landlord.

#### TERMINATION OF TENANCY

27. The tenancy may be terminated by the tenant or landlord giving to the other party ..... weeks/month(s) notice in writing of the desire to terminate the tenancy.

#### DISPUTE RESOLUTION

28. Any disputes between the landlord and tenant shall be settled through alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms failure of which the parties may proceed to court.

#### LAW APPLICABLE

29. This agreement shall be governed by the laws of Uganda.

WITNESSES have set their hands on the ..... day of 20 .....

**SIGNED BY:**

LANDLORD

WITNESS

TENANT

WITNESS

**NAME**

**SIGNATURE**

**History:** Act 9/2022

### **Cross References**

Building Control Act, Cap. 136

Judicature (Small Claims Procedure) Rules, S.I. 16–21

Public Health Act, Cap. 310

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