

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT

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WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT

**An Act to repeal the Weights and Measures Act 1962 and re-enact that Act with additional provisions to facilitate the change-over to the metric system.**

[1974 No. 32.]

[1st June, 1975]

[Commencement.]

PART I

*Units and standards of measurement*

**1. Units of measurement**

(1) The metre shall be the unit of measurement of length and the kilogramme shall be the unit of measurement of mass by reference to which any measurement involving a measurement of length or mass shall be made in Nigeria.

(2) The First Schedule to this Act shall have effect for defining for the purposes of measurements falling to be made in Nigeria the units of measurement in that Schedule; and for the purposes of any measurement of weight falling to be so made, the weight of any thing may be expressed, by reference to the units of measurement set out in Part V of that Schedule, in the same terms as its mass.

[First Schedule.]

## **2. Primary standards**

(1) The Minister shall by an order cause to be provided, maintained or replaced standards of the metre and kilogramme which shall be the primary standards by reference to which, in Nigeria, all other standards of those units and of any other unit of measurement derived wholly or partly from any of those units shall be maintained.

(2) The Minister shall within two years of the commencement of this Act and thereafter at intervals of not more than ten years or as may appear to him expedient, cause the value of each of the primary standards to be verified against the corresponding standards of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in France.

(3) Until other provision is made by an order under subsection (1) of this section, the Nigeria primary standards shall be-

- (i) in the case of the metre, the bar described in Part I of the Second Schedule to this Act; and
- (ii) in the case of the kilogramme, the cylinder described in Part II of the said Second Schedule.

(4) The Sixth Schedule to this Act shall, until revoked pursuant to section 52 (2), have effect for defining for the purpose of measurements the units of measurement in that Schedule.

[Sixth Schedule.]

## **3. Nigerian trade standards**

(1) The Minister shall maintain secondary and tertiary standards in accordance with the provisions of this section which shall be known collectively as "the Nigerian trade standards".

(2) The secondary standards shall consist of standards of all the measures set out in Parts I and IV and all the weights set out in Part V of the Third Schedule to this Act (other than capacity measures of more than ten litres); and any such standard shall be constructed and, while it remains in use, from time to time at intervals not exceeding five years, have its value redetermined, by reference to such one or more of the Nigerian primary standards as may appear to the Minister to be appropriate.

[Third Schedule.]

(3) The tertiary standards shall consist of such of the measures or weights set out in the said Parts I, IV and V as may from time to time appear to the Minister to be necessary or expedient; and any such standards shall be constructed and, while it remains in use, from time to time at intervals not exceeding two years, have its value redetermined, by reference to such one or more of the secondary standards as may appear to the Minister to be appropriate.

(4) The Nigerian trade standard shall be provided or replaced at the direction of the Minister from time to time as may appear to him necessary or expedient, and they shall be in such form and of such material, and be kept under such control in the Federal Ministry of Commerce as the Minister may direct; and a secondary standard of any linear or capacity measure may as the Minister thinks fit-

- (a) be provided either as a separate standard or by means of divisions marked on a standard of a larger measure; and

- (b) either be marked in whole or in part with sub-divisions representing any smaller unit of measurement or multiples or fractions of such a unit or have no such marking.

(5) Any metric standard of any measure or weight provided under any enactment repealed by this Act and in use as a secondary standard in the Federal Ministry of Commerce immediately before the date of the commencement of this section, shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act, to be a secondary standard provided under this section.

#### **4. Working standards**

(1) The Minister shall provide for use by inspectors under this Act and cause to be maintained or from time to time replaced such standards (in this Act referred to as "working standards") of such of the measures and weights set out in the Third Schedule to this Act, together with such testing equipment and stamping equipment as he may from time to time approve or require as being proper and sufficient for the efficient discharge by inspectors of their functions under this Act.

[Third Schedule.]

(2) Working standards and testing and stamping equipment provided under this section shall be of such material and form approved by the superintendent and, except so far as may be necessary for the purposes of their use elsewhere, they shall be kept under such control as the superintendent may from time to time direct or approve; and a working standard of a linear or capacity measure shall as the superintendent may from time to time direct-

- (a) be provided either as a separate standard or by means of divisions marked on a standard of a larger measure; and
- (b) either be marked in whole or in part with sub-divisions representing any smaller unit of measurement or multiples or fractions of such a unit or have no such markings.

(3) The Minister shall by regulations make provision-

- (a) for working standards to be from time to time tested by comparison with, and if necessary adjusted to, within such limits of error as may be specified in the regulations by reference to other working standards more recently tested, or as the case may require, Nigerian trade standards;
- (b) with respect to the testing, adjustment and limits of error of testing equipment provided under this section,  
and no article shall be used by an inspector as a working standard or as testing equipment unless the relevant requirements of those regulations are for the time being satisfied with respect thereto.

(4) Any metric working standard or testing or stamping equipment lawfully in use by inspectors immediately before the commencement of this section, shall be deemed, for the purposes of this Act, to have been provided under this section.

## **5. Testing of other standards and equipment**

The superintendent may if he thinks fit, on the application of any authority or person and on payment of such fees as may be prescribed, accept for testing as to accuracy or for report or both-

- (a) any article used or proposed to be used as a standard of a unit of measurement;
- (b) any weighing or measuring equipment.

## **6. Units of measurement, weights and measures lawful for use for trade**

(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, no person shall-

- (a) use for trade any unit of measurement of length, area, volume, capacity, mass or weight which is not included in the First Schedule to this Act;  
[First Schedule.]
- (b) use for trade, or have in his possession for use for trade, any linear, square, cubic or capacity measure which is not included in the Third Schedule to this Act or any weight which is not so included.

(2) No person shall use the carat (metric) for trade except for the purposes of transactions in precious stones or pearls, gold, silver or other precious metals or in articles made from gold or silver including gold or silver thread, lace or fringe.

(3) Save as may be prescribed-

- (a) a linear measure specified in Part I of the Third Schedule to this Act may be marked in whole or in part with divisions and sub-divisions representing any shorter length or lengths;
- (b) no capacity measure specified in Part IV of the said Third Schedule shall be used for trade by means of any division or sub-division marked thereon as a capacity measure of any lesser quantity.

(4) Any person who contravenes any of the foregoing provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence, and any measure or weight used, or in the possession of any person for use, in contravention of any of those provisions shall be liable to be forfeited.

(5) The Minister may from time to time by order amend the First or Third Schedule to this Act-

- (a) by adding to or removing from any of Parts I to V of the said First Schedule any unit of measurement of length, or area, of volume or capacity, or of mass or weight, as the case may be;
- (b) by adding to or removing from any of Parts J to IV of the said Third Schedule any linear, square, cubic or capacity measure, as the case may be, or by adding to or removing from Part V of the said Third Schedule any weight.

(6) Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to the prescribing of or to the dispensing of a prescription for, drugs but the Federal Minister charged with responsibility for health and the Minister acting jointly may by order, which shall have effect notwithstanding anything in any other written law-

- (a) prescribe what may be treated for the purposes of dealings with drugs as the equivalent of, or of any multiple or fraction of, any unit of measurement which

is, or at the date of commencement of this section was, included in the First Schedule to this Act in terms of any other such unit;

[First Schedule.]

- (b) require that any person carrying out any such dealing with drugs as is specified in the order under this subsection, for the purposes of which the quantity of the drugs is expressed in terms of any such unit as aforesaid, shall carry out that dealing in terms of such equivalent quantity prescribed under paragraph (a) of this subsection as is so specified.

(7) Nothing in this section shall prevent the use, during the transitional period, of imperial units on a container containing goods-

- (a) where such imperial unit is placed side by side with its equivalent in metric; and
- (b) where the said unit is included in the Sixth Schedule to this Act.

[Sixth Schedule.]

(8) In all matters relating to aviation and mineral oil, the provisions of this section shall be subject to any generally accepted international convention and usage for the time being.

## **7. Weighing or measuring equipment for use for trade**

(1) The provisions of this section shall apply to the use for trade of weighing or measuring equipment of such classes or descriptions as may be prescribed, and regulations by virtue of this subsection may be made with respect to equipment, whatever the nature of the measurement made thereby (including measurement in terms of number), and whether or not the equipment is constructed to give an indication of the measurement made or other information determined by reference to that measurement.

(2) No person shall use any article for trade as equipment to which this section applies, or have any article in his possession for such use, unless that article, or equipment to which this section applies in which that article is incorporated, or to the operation of which the use of that article is incidental, has been passed by an inspector as fit for such use and, except as otherwise expressly provided by or under this Act, bears a stamp indicating that it has been so passed which remains undefaced otherwise than by reason of fair wear and tear. If any person contravenes this subsection he shall be guilty of an offence, and any article in respect of which the offence was committed shall be liable to be forfeited.

(3) Any person requiring any equipment to which this section applies to be passed as fit for use for trade, shall submit the equipment to an inspector in such manner as the superintendent may direct and, subject to the provisions of this Act and of any regulations made under section 47 thereof and to the payment by that person of the prescribed fee, the inspector shall-

- (a) test the equipment by means of such working and other standards and testing equipment as he considers appropriate or, subject to any conditions which may be prescribed, by means of other equipment which has already been tested and which the inspector considers suitable for the purpose; and

- (b) if the equipment submitted falls within the prescribed limits of error, give to the person submitting it a certificate of verification to the effect that it is passed as aforesaid; and
- (c) except as otherwise expressly provided by or under this Act, cause it to be stamped with the prescribed stamp, and each inspector shall keep a record of every such test carried out by him.

(4) The requirements of subsections (2) and (3) of this section with respect to stamping and marking shall not apply to any weight or measure which is too small to be stamped or marked in accordance with those requirements.

(5) In the case of any weighing or measuring instrument which is required to be tested and passed after it has been installed in the place where it is to be used for trade, if after the instrument has been so passed it is removed and re-installed whether in the same or some other place, it shall not be lawful to use it after such re-installation, until it has been retested and passed by an inspector. Any person who, in contravention of this subsection, uses that instrument or causes or permits any other person to use it, shall be guilty of an offence and the instrument shall be liable to be forfeited.

(6) If an inspector is of opinion that a weighing or measuring instrument has a novel feature or is intended for use for trade for a particular purpose for which it is not suitable, he may refuse to pass or stamp it until the matter has been referred to the superintendent whose decision thereon shall be final.

(7) A weighing or measuring instrument constructed to read imperial units shall not be lawful for use during the transitional period unless it is adapted to weigh or measure in metric units; or the product of such machine is given in metric terms. For this purpose, a conversion factor necessary for the clear understanding of the quantity weighed or measured shall be prominently displayed in a permanent form on the instrument. If any person contravenes this subsection, he shall be guilty of an offence.

## **8. Regulations relating to weighing or measuring for trade**

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, the Minister may make regulations with respect to
  - (a) the materials and principle of construction of weighing or measuring equipment for use for trade;
  - (b) the requirements for the inspection, verification and stamping or marking of weight, measure, weighing or measuring instruments;
  - (c) the circumstances and the manner in which and the condition under which stamps may be obliterated or defaced, and any certificate of verification cancelled;
  - (d) the purposes for which particular types of weighing or measuring equipment may be used for trade;
  - (e) the abbreviation of or symbols for units of measurement which may be used for trade;
  - (f) the limits of error to be allowed on verification and to be tolerated on inspection either generally or as respects any trade; and

(g) the manner of erection or use of weighing or measuring equipment used for trade.

(2) If any difference arises between an inspector and any other person as to the interpretation of any regulations made under this section, that difference may with the consent of that other person and shall at the request of that other person be referred to the superintendent whose decision shall be final.

(3) Where in the circumstances of any particular case it appears to be impracticable or unnecessary that any requirement of any regulations made under this section should be complied with, the superintendent may, if he thinks fit, dispense with the observance of that requirement subject to compliance with such condition, if any, as he thinks fit to impose; and if any person knowingly contravenes any condition imposed with respect to any equipment by virtue of this subsection, he shall be guilty of an offence and the equipment shall be liable to be forfeited.

#### **9. Keepers of public equipment to hold certificate**

(1) No person shall attend to any weighing or measuring by means of weighing or measuring equipment available for use by the public being a weighing or measuring demanded by a member of the public and for which a charge is made, other than a weighing or measuring of a person, unless he holds a certificate from the superintendent that he has sufficient knowledge and skill for the proper performance of his duties.

(2) The superintendent may on application, grant a certificate to any person whom he considers has acquired sufficient knowledge and skill to carry out the functions of this section.

(3) Any person refused a certificate by the superintendent under this section may appeal against the refusal to the Minister whose decision thereon shall be final.

(4) Any person who contravenes, or who causes or permits any other person to contravene subsection (1) of this section, shall be guilty of an offence.

#### **10. Offences in connection with public equipments**

(1) This section shall apply where any article, vehicle, wagon or animal has been delivered for weighing or measuring by means of weighing or measuring equipment which is available and for use by the public and is provided for the purpose of weighing and measuring articles, vehicle, wagon or animal.

(2) If any person appointed to attend to weighing or measuring by means of the equipment in question-

- (a) without reasonable cause fails to carry out the weighing or measuring on demand; or
- (b) carries out the weighing or measuring unfairly; or
- (c) fails to deliver to the person demanding the weighing or measuring or to his agent a statement in writing of the weight or other measurement found; or
- (d) fails to make a record of the weighing or measuring including all relevant particulars, and in the case of the weighing of a vehicle or wagon and of any load thereon, as will identify the vehicle or wagon and that load,

he shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) If, in connection with any such equipment as aforesaid-

- (a) any person appointed to attend to weighing or measuring by means of the equipment delivers a false statement of any weight or other measurement found or makes a false record of any weighing or measuring; or
- (b) any person commits any fraud in connection with any, or any purported, weighing or measuring by means of that equipment,

he shall be guilty of an offence.

(4) There shall be retained for a period of not less than two years records of any weighing or measuring officially made on weighing or measuring equipment available for use by the public, and an inspector may require the production of such records for inspection at any time during the said period; and accordingly-

- (a) if a person attending any weighing or measuring equipment under this section fails to retain or produce any such record, he shall be guilty of an offence;
- (b) if any person wilfully destroys or defaces any such record before the expiration of two years from the date it was made, that person shall be guilty of an offence.

## PART II

### *Administration*

#### **11. Appointment of superintendent and other officers**

(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3) of this section, there shall be appointed a fit person to be superintendent of weights and measures who shall be charged with administration of this Act, and such number of other fit persons as deputy superintendents and inspectors as may from time to time be required to assist the superintendent under this Act, and to be subject to his direction and control.

(2) The Minister, after consultation with the Governor of a State, may create inspectorial districts and assign thereto such number of duly appointed inspectors as may be required.

(3) Where immediately before the commencement of this section-

- (a) any person is the holder of an office designated in subsection (1) of this section, that person shall on the commencement of this section continue in office and be deemed for the purposes only of this Act to have been appointed to his office under this section;
- (b) inspectorial districts are in existence in a State, they shall, on the commencement of this section, continue in existence and be deemed to have been created under this section.

(4) Where in the special circumstances of a particular case, the Minister is satisfied that any power delegated to any local councilor local authority under the Act repealed by this Act, is not being properly exercised or has been abused, the Minister may by order revoke that power.

## **12. Provision of weighing and measuring instruments for use by inspectors**

(1) The Minister shall from time to time provide such weighing instruments and measuring instruments for use by inspectors as he may consider necessary for the purposes of their duties under this Act.

(2) Weighing instruments and measuring instruments for use by inspectors shall be verified at such time and in such manner as the superintendent may in writing from time to time direct.

## **13. Repair or adjustment of weights, etc.**

(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, no inspector shall repair, alter or adjust any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument.

(2) If the superintendent is satisfied that it is in the public interest that an inspector should be allowed to adjust weights, measures, weighing instruments and measuring instruments within the inspectorial district to which he is assigned, the superintendent may authorise the inspector to act as an adjuster accordingly; and it shall be an offence for an inspector so authorised to adjust any weight, measures, weighing instrument or measuring instrument without payment of the prescribed fee.

## **14. Examination of weights, etc.**

(1) The superintendent may from time to time require any inspector to attend with his working standards and other equipment (if any) at such time and place as the superintendent may direct. An inspector shall attend where so required and examine and, if necessary, verify any weight or measure brought to him or otherwise made available for inspection by him in the locality. If the inspector is satisfied that any weight or measure when produced to or inspected by him is accurate, or is otherwise within the requirements as prescribed, he shall verify the same by means of a stamp, and shall issue to the person entitled a certificate of verification in the form set out in the Fourth Schedule to this Act or to the like effect; and the certificate of verification shall, unless extended under this section, remain in force for a period of twelve months.

[Fourth Schedule.]

(2) Where any weight or measure by reason of its shape or size may not conveniently be brought to the inspector he may, if requested to do so, attend at the premises where the weight or measure is, and there examine and verify the weight or measure. If for any reason it is not possible for the inspector to attend such premises, and the owner or user of any weight or measure in such premises produces to the inspector a current certificate of verification under this section, the inspector may by endorsement on that certificate, extend its operation for not more than one further period not exceeding twelve months.

(3) The neglect or refusal by an inspector to deliver a certificate of verification under this section shall be an offence against this Act and the inspector shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of ₦10.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "**weight or measure**" includes any weighing instrument or measuring instrument; and for the avoidance of doubt a certificate of verification issued under any enactment repealed by this Act shall in respect of any period unexpired on the commencement of this section continue in force for the unexpired period, as if it had been issued under this section.

## **15. Additional functions by inspectors**

Without prejudice to the owners and duties of inspectors under any other provision of this Act, an inspector may, at the request of any person and subject to the payment by that person of such fee, if any, as may be prescribed, carry out and submit to that person a report on-

- (a) a weighing or other measurement of any goods submitted for that purpose by that person at such place as the superintendent may direct or approve;
- (b) a test of the accuracy of any weighing or measuring equipment so submitted.

## **16. General powers of inspection and sealing of premises**

(1) Subject to the production of his credentials, if requested, an inspector may within the area for which he was appointed-

[1978 No. 37.]

- (a) at all reasonable times-
  - (i) inspect and test any weighing or measuring equipment which is used for trade or which he has any reasonable cause to believe may be so used, or which is in the possession of any person or upon any premises for such use;
  - (ii) inspect any goods to which any of the provisions of this Act or any subsidiary instrument made thereunder for the time being applies for which he has reasonable cause to believe to be such goods;
  - (iii) enter any premises at which he has reasonable cause to believe there is any such equipment or goods as aforesaid, not being premises used only as a private dwelling-house; and
- (b) at any time seize and detain-
  - (i) any article which he has reasonable cause to believe is liable to forfeiture under this Act;
  - (ii) any document displayed with any goods as evidence of price or quantity of the goods and which the inspector believes may be required in the course of proceedings under or pursuant to this Act.

(2) If an inspector finds any equipment, goods or articles as are mentioned in subsection (1) of this section on any premises and has reasonable grounds to believe that any offence under this Act has been, is being or is likely to be committed on such premises, he may seal the premises in question.

(3) Where an inspector enters or intends to seal any premises pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this section, he may take with him such other persons and equipment as may appear to him necessary; and on leaving any such premises which at the time of entry were unoccupied or from which the occupier during such entry was temporarily absent, he shall leave them as effectively secured against trespassers as he found them.

(4) If any inspector or other person who enters any work-place by virtue of this section discloses to any person any information obtained by him in the work-place with regard to any manufacturing process or trade secret he shall, unless the disclosure was made in the performance of his duty, be guilty of an offence.

(5) In the exercise of his powers under this section, an inspector or other person concerned shall exercise them so that as far as is practicable he will not impede or obstruct work in progress.

(6) Where an inspector acts under subsection (2) of this section-

- (a) he shall report his action to the Director-General forthwith;
- (b) any person aggrieved by the action may appeal to the Director-General who may confirm or cancel the action; and
- (c) the total period of the sealing of such premises shall not, without a court order in that respect, exceed 28 days.

(7) Notwithstanding subsection (6) of this section, upon receipt of a report under that section in respect of any premises which have been sealed up, the Director-General may direct that any goods found therein which in his opinion is of a perishable nature shall-

- (a) where no offence under this Act has been committed in respect of the goods in question, be released to the owner of the goods;
- (b) where an offence under this Act is alleged to have been committed with respect to the goods in question, be disposed of by sale or in such other manner as he may determine:

Provided that where goods are disposed of by sale, the proceeds of such sale shall be payable to the owner of such goods.

(8) Any person who knowingly and without reasonable excuse breaks a seal affixed pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction shall be liable to a fine of ₦2,000 or imprisonment for six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(9) Nothing in this section shall authorise an inspector to stop any vehicle on a highway.

## **17. Obstruction of inspectors**

(I) Any person who-

- (a) wilfully obstructs any inspector acting in the execution of his duty under this Act; or
- (b) wilfully fails to comply with any requirement properly made of him by an inspector entering under section 16 of this Act; or
- (c) without reasonable cause fails to give to any inspector acting as aforesaid any other assistance or information which the inspector may reasonably require of him for the purposes of the performance by the inspector of his functions under this Act or any order or regulation made thereunder, shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) If any person, in giving to an inspector any such information as is mentioned in the foregoing subsection, gives any information which he knows to be false, he shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a person to answer any question or give any information if to do so might incriminate him.

## **18. Offence by inspectors and others**

(1) Any inspector who-

- (a) stamps any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument without verifying it, as prescribed by this Act; or
- (b) unless authorised under this Act is paid for the making, adjusting or selling of any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument; or
- (c) commits any breach of duty imposed on him under this Act or otherwise misconducts himself in the execution of his office,

shall be guilty of an offence and, in addition to any other penalty imposed on conviction thereof, his appointment as an inspector may be terminated.

(2) Any person who without proper authority, acts or purports to act as an inspector whether for the purposes of subsection (1) of the section or not, shall be guilty of an offence.

## **19. Fraud in use of weights, etc.**

Where any fraud is wilfully committed in the use of any weight, measure, weighing or measuring instrument for trade, the person committing such fraud, and every person party to such fraud, shall be guilty of an offence and such weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument shall be liable to forfeiture.

## **20. Refusal to produce weights, etc., an offence**

Any person who refuses when requested by an inspector to produce to the inspector any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument in his possession or custody or obstructs, or hinders any inspector in any examination under this Act of any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument, shall be guilty of an offence.

## **21. Importation, etc., of unjust weights and measures**

(1) Any person who imports, makes or sells or causes to be imported, made or sold any unjust weight, measure, weighing instrument, measuring instrument or goods, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction in respect of a first offence to a fine of not less than ₦ 100 and, in respect of a second or any subsequent offence, to a fine of not less than ₦ 200 or more than ₦ 300 or to imprisonment for a term of twelve months.

[1978 No. 37.]

(2) Any person who imports, makes or sells or causes to be imported, made or sold any weight, measure, weighing measuring instrument or goods or equipment which is not in metric units or specifications shall be guilty of an offence.

**22. Forgery, etc., of stamp or mark**

(1) Any person who forges or counterfeits or causes to be forged or counterfeited or knowingly assists in forging or counterfeiting, any stamp or mark used for stamping or marking any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument under this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine of not less than ₦ 100 or more than ₦ 200 or to imprisonment for a term of six months.

(2) Any person who wilfully destroys a seal, mark or stamp on or in a weighing or measuring instrument as evidence of passing as fit for use for trade or of rejection for such use, shall be guilty of an offence and such weighing or measuring instrument shall be liable to forfeiture.

**23. Sale of weights, etc., with forged stamp**

Any person who knowingly sells, uses or disposes of any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument with any forged or counterfeited stamp or mark thereon resembling or intended to resemble any stamp or mark used under this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and such weighing or measuring instrument shall be liable to forfeiture.

**24. Alteration of stamped or marked weight, etc.**

Any person who, with intent to defraud-

- (a) alters any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument stamped or marked in accordance with this Act; or
- (b) uses in any sale, contract, or other dealing any such altered weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument, shall be guilty of an offence.

**25. Delivery on sale by false weight, etc.**

Any person who sells any article by weight, measure, or number and delivers or causes to be delivered to the purchaser a less weight, measure, or number, as the case may be, than is purported to be sold or than corresponds with the price charged, shall be guilty of an offence.

**26. Misrepresentation**

Any person who, in connection with the sale or the exposing or offering for sale of anything, makes any misrepresentation howsoever or does or omits any act, matter or thing calculated or likely to mislead the seller or purchaser or prospective seller or purchaser as the case may be, as to its weight or measure, or if sold or offered for sale by number, as to the number sold or offered for sale, shall be guilty of an offence.

**27. Sale of bread not by net weight an offence**

(1) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, every person shall be guilty of an offence who-

- (a) sells, offers, or exposes for sale any bread otherwise than by net weight; or

(b) sells or has in his possession for sale or delivery under a contract of sale any loaf of bread unless its net weight is 225 grammes or a multiple thereof.

(2) Every person selling or having in his possession for the purpose of sale or carrying to a purchaser for sale any bread, shall if so required by an inspector, permit the inspector to weigh the bread. Any person who contravenes this subsection shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) Nothing in this section shall apply-

- (a) to rolls or pieces of bread not exceeding 225 grammes in weight; or
- (b) to loaves supplied under contract where the contract provides for weighing of the bread on delivery.

(4) In this section-

**"bread"** means bread in any form other than bread-crumbs and includes the following, and any part of any of the following, that is to say, fancy loaves and milk loaves; and

**"loaf"** includes a roll and a bap and any pre-packed sliced loaf of bread shall be deemed to be a whole loaf of bread and the pre-packing of sliced bread in any quantity by net weight shall be deemed to be the making for sale of whole loaf, of bread of that net weight.

## **28. Sale of pre-packed goods**

(1) A person shall not sell or have in his possession for sale any pre-packed article, whether or not contained in the Eighth Schedule to this Act, unless the wrapper or container bears thereon, or on a label securely attached thereto, a true statement in plain characters of the minimum net weight or measure of the article contained therein.

[Eighth Schedule.]

(2) A person shall not sell or have in his possession for sale any pre-packed goods of any of the kinds set forth in the Eighth Schedule to this Act unless the goods are made up for sale in the standard quantities specified in column 2 or 3 of that Schedule (according as the goods are packed in rigid containers of glass, plastic, metal or not).

(3) The indication of weight or measure required in this section to be marked on any pre-packed article for sale shall be conspicuously and legibly marked in the manner hereunder prescribed, that is to say-

- (a) it shall be printed, stamped or written in plain block characters; and
- (b) it shall be situated in a prominent position on the outside of the outermost wrapper or container or on a label securely attached thereto:

Provided that where the outermost wrapper or container is of a transparent nature, the whole indication of weight or measure may be marked on the next inner wrapper or container provided the said indication of weight or measure is as plainly and easily legible as if on the outer wrapper or container.

(4) An indication of weight or measure shall be-

- (a) complete in itself, that is to say, the words or group of characters composing the marking shall be associated together so as to be read as a whole, and it

shall not be modified by any words or figures as "about", "average", "not more than" or any such similar word or expression; and

- (b) marked on a plain background and in distinct contrast thereto, that is to say, the characters shall be dark on a light background or *vice versa*.

(5) A statement as to the weight or measure of pre-packed goods shall be deemed to be a statement as to the net weight or measure thereof unless otherwise specified.

(6) Denominations of weights or measures shall be either spelt in full or if abbreviated shall be expressed by one or other of the prescribed abbreviations.

(7) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence.

(8) The Minister may by order from time to time amend, vary, add to or replace the Eighth Schedule. Any order made under this section shall be subject to the approval of the President.

(9) Before making any order under this section, the Minister shall consult with and consider any representations with respect to the subject-matter of the order made to him by such organisations as appear to him to be representative of interest substantially affected by the order

## **29. Sale of certain meat and fish not by net weight an offence**

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act as to the use of any indigenous weight or measure, any person who sells any butchers' meat or fresh fish otherwise than by net weight shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) Nothing in this section shall apply to the sale or offer for sale of fresh fish on any beach, riverside or any other waterside or to the sale or offer for sale anywhere of shellfish.

## **30. Use of false or unjust weights, etc.**

Subject to the provisions of this section, any person who for the purposes of any sale, contract or other dealing uses or has in his possession for use-

- (a) any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument which is false or unjust; or
- (b) any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument not stamped or marked as required by this Act, or in respect of which no certificate of verification is in force,

shall be guilty of an offence.

## **31. Refusal to weigh or measure goods delivered**

Any person who sells goods by weight or measure for himself or on behalf of any other person in any warehouse, market, store or other public place and when required by the person to whom the goods are delivered refuses to weigh or measure the goods in the presence of the person to whom they are delivered, shall be guilty of an offence.

## PART III

### *Miscellaneous and general*

#### **32. A voidance of sale**

- (1) Where there is a sale by weight or measure and the weighing or measurement is to be done by any weight or measure prohibited by this Act, the sale shall be void.
- (2) In this section, "sale" includes any contract or other transaction whatsoever.

#### **33. Offences by bodies corporate**

(1) Where an offence under this Act committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, any such director or other person mentioned in this subsection as the case may be, as well as the body corporate shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence, and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the expression "director" in relation to any body corporate established by or under any enactment for the purpose of carrying on under national ownership any industry or part of an industry or undertaking, being a body corporate whose affairs are managed by the member thereof, means a member of that body corporate.

#### **34. Loss by evaporation, etc., as a defence in special cases**

In any proceedings under this Act in respect of an alleged deficiency in the weight of any article delivered to a purchaser, it shall be a good defence in any prosecution if the defendant proves to the satisfaction of the court that the alleged deficiency was due to unavoidable evaporation or drainage, and that he took all reasonable care to avoid such deficiency.

#### **35. Offence by person other than defendant**

(1) Any person prosecuted for an offence under this Act, on giving to the prosecution three clear days' notice of his requirement and with the leave of the court, shall be entitled to have brought before the court in the proceedings any other person to whose act or default the defendant alleges responsibility for the commission of the offence. If on proof of commission of the offence, the original defendant proves that its commission was due to the act or default of the other person brought before the court and that the original defendant took all reasonable care to avoid the commission of the offence by him or by any person under his control, he shall be acquitted and discharged; and the court, if it thinks fit, may enter a conviction against the other person brought before the court.

(2) Where it appears to any authority by or on whose behalf proceedings may be instituted that an offence under this Act has been committed and that authority is reasonably satisfied that the offence was due to any act or default of some other person, the authority may cause proceedings to be taken against that other person alone; and in any such proceedings that other person may be charged with and may be convicted of that offence, notwithstanding the failure to prosecute the first mentioned person.

### **36. Exemption for sale in containers**

Unless otherwise prescribed by regulations under this Act, nothing in this Act shall-

- (a) be construed to prohibit the sale, or subject any person to a penalty under this Act for the sale of an article not being pre-packed in a container of any description where such container is not represented as containing any amount of metric measure; or
- (b) subject any person to a penalty under this Act for the possession of any such container where the court or an inspector, as the case may be, is satisfied that the container was not intended for use as a measure.

### **37. Saving for civil remedies**

The fact that any act or omission is an offence under this Act for which a person may be prosecuted shall not affect any civil remedy to which a person aggrieved by the offence may be entitled.

### **38. Transactions to be in accordance with Act**

(1) Unless otherwise prescribed by this Act, every transaction of what nature so ever in any State involving the use of any weight or measure not in accordance with this Act shall be void, and any person who uses any such weight or measure shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

(2) All tolls and duties charged or collected according to weight or measure shall be charged and collected according to one of the weights or measure under this Act or to some part or multiple thereof.

### **39. Power to forfeit and dispose of certain weights, etc.**

Any weight, measure, weighing instrument, measuring instrument or goods which is the subject matter of any proceeding leading to conviction for an offence under this Act may, unless otherwise prescribed by this Act, be forfeited and may be broken up or otherwise disposed of as the court may direct.

[1978 No. 37.]

### **40. Use of weights, etc., in relation to wages**

The provisions of this Act and of any other enactment for the time being in force in Nigeria relating to weights, measures, weighing instruments or measuring instruments used for the purposes of any sale, contract or dealing shall extend to any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument used in any factory or workshop for the purpose of checking or ascertaining the wages of any person employed therein in like manner as if they were used for the purpose of any sale, contract or dealing under this Act.

### **41. Use of marked or stamped weights, etc.**

No weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument marked or stamped by an inspector under this Act shall, during the currency of any certificate of verification given in respect thereof, be objected to unless the superintendent is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the certificate of verification was issued under a mistake of

fact, or that the weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument when checked with the appropriate standard is incorrect.

**42. Presumption of possession of weights, etc.**

Where any weight, measure, weighing instrument measuring instrument or goods is found in the possession of any person upon premises of any description used for trade, that person shall be deemed to be in possession of the weight, measure, weighing instrument, measuring instrument or goods for use for trade until the contrary is proved.

[1978 No. 37.]

**43. Power to make test purchases**

In pursuance of the duties imposed on him by or in pursuance of this Act, any inspector shall have power to make such purchases of goods as may appear expedient for the purpose of determining whether or not the provisions of this Act are being complied with.

**44. Onus of proof of knowledge, etc., in any offence**

Unless otherwise prescribed for an offence under this Act, it shall not be necessary on any prosecution to prove knowledge or intent; but where the prosecution is in respect of an offence of doing anything knowingly or with a specified intent, the onus of disproving that he did such thing knowingly or with such intent shall be on the defendant.

**45. Reference of certain cases to superintendent**

Where there is a dispute between an inspector and any person as to the method of testing or verifying any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument, the matter in dispute shall at the request of either party to the dispute be determined by the superintendent, whose decision thereon shall be final.

**46. Limitation of actions**

Actions and other proceedings by an inspector for things done or omitted under this Act shall be commenced within four months after the matter complained of was done or omitted and not later; and notice in writing of any such action or other proceeding with full particulars of the cause thereof, shall be given to the defendant seven days at least before the commencement of such action or proceedings.

PART IV

*Supplementary*

**47. Regulations**

(1) The Minister may make regulations generally for the purposes of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the general power conferred by subsection (1) of this section, it is hereby declared that regulations may be made for-

- (a) prescribing the fees to be paid on the stamping, marking, verifying, repairing or adjusting of any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument by an inspector;

- (b) prescribing the tests to be applied for the purpose of ascertaining the accuracy and efficiency of weights, measures, weighing instruments and measuring instruments;
- (c) standardising any indigenous weights or measures and providing for the inspection, testing and verification of such weights and measures, and prohibiting the use of any such weight or measure which is false or unjust;
- (d) prescribing any district or other area in which any weight or measure other than metric weight or measure may continue to be used;
- (e) prescribing the manner in which any container required to be marked under any provision of this Act, with information as to the quantity of the goods made up therein, is to be so marked;
- (f) prescribing articles not elsewhere included in this Act which are not to be sold otherwise than by weight, measure or number.

#### **48. Fees**

(1) The fees in the Fifth Schedule to this Act shall be the prescribed fees for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Minister may by order from time to time amend, vary, add to or replace the Fifth Schedule. Any order made under this section shall be subject to the approval of the President.

[Fifth Schedule.]

#### **49. Penalties**

(1) Any person guilty of an offence under any provision of this Act shall, unless otherwise prescribed, be liable on conviction-

[1978 No. 37.]

- (a) in the case of an individual, to a fine of NSOO or imprisonment for one year or to both such fine and imprisonment; and
- (b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine of ₦5, 000.

[1963 No. 20.]

(2) Subject to the exercise by the Attorney-General of the Federation of his powers under any enactment (including the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria), any proceedings under this Act may be instituted by or on behalf of the superintendent or the Inspector-General of Police.

(3) All penalties imposed under this Act shall, when recovered, be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation.

#### **50. Restriction on operation of Act**

(1) Nothing in this Act shall-

- (a) without the approval of the Minister apply to any instrument, measure or meter of any description used or installed or to be used or installed for the purpose of-
  - (i) any dealing with land;

- (ii) the measurement or consumption of electricity, gas or water; or
  - (iii) the hire of any taxi;
- (b) in any case, be construed to permit or allow the use at one and the same time in any sale or computation by length or mass, of both imperial standards and metric standards.

(2) For the purposes of this section, "**dealing with land**" includes the surveyor other measurement of land whether or not in respect of any sale, lease or mortgage thereof.

## **51. Interpretation**

(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

**"capacity measurement"** means measurement in terms of a unit of measurement included in Part IV of the First Schedule to this Act;

[First Schedule.]

**"container"** includes any form of packaging of goods for sale as a single item, whether by way of wholly or partly enclosing the goods or by way of attaching the goods to, or winding the goods round, some other article, and in particular includes a wrapper or confining band;

**"food"** includes drink, chewing gum or special products of a like nature and use, and articles or substances used as ingredients in the preparation of food or drink or of such products, but does not include-

- (a) water, live animals or birds;
- (b) fodder or feeding stuff for animals, birds or fish; or
- (c) articles or substances used only as drugs, or medicine for internal or external use;

**"measuring instrument"** includes any instrument for the measurement of length, capacity, area or volume;

**"Minister"** means the Minister charged with responsibility for trade;

**"occupier"** in relation to any stall, vehicle, ship or aircraft or in relation to the use of any place for any purpose, means the person for the time being in charge of the stall, vehicle, ship or aircraft or, as the case may be, the person for the time being using that place for that purpose;

**"premises"** includes any place and any stall, vehicle, ship or aircraft;

**"prescribed"** means prescribed by this Act or regulations made thereunder;

**"ship"** includes any boat and any other description of vessel used in navigation;

**"stamp"** means a mark for use as evidence of the passing of weighing or measuring equipment as fit for use for trade, whether applied by impressing, casting, engraving,

etching, branding, or otherwise howsoever, and cognate expressions shall be construed accordingly;

"**State**" means any State created under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999;

[Cap. C23.]

"**superintendent**" means the superintendent of weights and measures appointed under this Act;

"**transitional period**" means any period before an order of revocation by the Minister under the provisions of section 52 (2) of this Act;

"**weighing and measuring equipment**" means equipment for measuring in terms of length, area, volume, capacity, weight or number whether or not the equipment is constructed to give an indication of the measurement made or other information determined by reference to that measurement;

"**weighing instrument**" includes scales with the poises applied thereto, scale-beams, balances, spring balances, steelyards, platform machines, weighbridges, counter scales, automatic scales, self-indicating and semi self-indicating scales, person weighing machines and other instruments for weighing, including instruments constructed also to calculate and indicate the price in money.

(2) The expression, "**use for trade**" means use in any State in connection with, or with a view to, a transaction for-

- (a) the transferring or rendering of money or money's worth in consideration of money or money's worth; or
- (b) the making of a payment in respect of any toll or duty, where-
  - (i) the transaction is by reference to quantity in terms of measurement of length, area, volume, capacity or weight or in terms of number, or is a transaction for the purposes of which there is made or implied a statement of the quantity in such terms of goods to which the transaction relates; and
  - (ii) the use is for the purpose of the determination of statement of that quantity,

but, except where the transaction is a retail transaction for the making of a payment in respect of a toll or duty leviable in Nigeria or in respect of carriage within or from Nigeria, does not include any case where the goods in respect of which the determination or statement of quantity is made are goods required for despatch to a destination outside Nigeria.

(3) The expression "**pre-packed**" means made up in advance ready for retail sale in or on a container; and on any premises where articles of any description are so made up, or are kept or stored for sale after being so made up, any article of that description found made up in or on a container shall be deemed to be pre-packed unless the contrary is proved; and it shall not be sufficient proof of the contrary to show that the container has

not been marked in accordance with the requirements of this Act or any instrument made thereunder with respect to the pre-packing of such articles.

(4) Unless the context otherwise requires, any reference in this Act to any person, other than a reference to an inspector, shall be construed as a reference to that person or some other person acting on his behalf in the matter in question.

(5) A statement as to the weight or measure of a pre-packed article shall, unless otherwise specified thereon, be deemed to be a statement of the net weight or measure of such article.

## **52. Exclusive use of metric units**

(1) As from 1 January 1979 it shall be unlawful for any person in Nigeria to have in his possession for the purposes of trade or any other commercial transaction and, in particular, to have in his possession for sale, or to use or cause to be used for selling, any commodity or to import any weights, measures, weighing instruments, measuring instruments or goods which are in imperial units or in any other units other than in exclusively metric units.

[1978 No. 37.]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence under this Act.

## **53. Short title**

This Act may be cited as the Weights and Measures Act.

### **FIRST SCHEDULE**

#### *Definitions of metric units of measurement*

##### **PART I**

###### *Measurement of length*

Kilometre ..... 1,000 metres

Metre ..... shall have the meaning from time to time assigned by order by the Minister being the meaning appearing to the Minister to reproduce in English the international definition of the metre in force at the date of the making of the order.

Decimetre .....  $\frac{1}{10}$  metre

Centimetre .....  $\frac{1}{100}$  metre

Mill i metre .....  $\frac{1}{1000}$  metre

##### **PART II**

###### *Measurement of area*

Hectare ..... 100 acres

## PART II-*continued*

Dekare .....	10 acres
Are .....	100 square metres
Square Metre .....	a superficial area equal to that of a square, each side of which measures one metre.
Square Decimetre .....	$1/10^0$ square metre
Square Centimetre.....	$1/100$ square metre
Square Millimetre .....	$1/100$ square centimetre

## PART III

### *Measurement of volume*

Cubic Metre .....	a volume equal to that of a cube each edge of which measures one metre
Cubic Decimetre .....	$1/1000$ cubic metre
Cubic Centimetre .....	$1/100$ cubic decimetre
Cubic Millimetre .....	$1/1000$ cubic centimetre

## PART IV

### *Measurement of capacity*

Hectolitre .....	100 litres
Litre .....	shall have the meaning from time to time assigned by order by the Minister being the meaning appearing to the Minister to reproduce in English the international definition of the litre in force at the date of the making of the order.
Decilitre .....	$1/10^0$ litre
Centilitre .....	$1/100$ litre
Millilitre.....	$1/1000$ litre

## PART V

### *Measurement of mass or weight*

Metric ton (tonne) .....	1,000 kilograms
Quintal .....	100 kilograms
Kilogramme .....	shall have the meaning from time to time assigned by order by the Minister being the meaning appearing to the Minister to reproduce in English the international definition of the kilogramme in force at the date of the making of the order.
Hectogramme .....	$1/10^0$ kilogramme
Gramme .....	$1/1000$ kilogramme
Carat (metric) .....	$1/5$ gramme

## PART V-continued

Milligramme ..... 1/1000 gramme

## PART VI

### *Measurement of electricity*

**1.** The following units of measurement, that is to say-

- (a) the AMPERE (as the unit of measurement of electrical current);
- (b) the OHM (as the unit of measurement of electrical resistance);
- (c) the VOLT (as the unit of measurement of difference of electrical potential); and
- (d) the WATT (as the unit of measurement of electrical power),

shall have the meanings from time to time respectively assigned by order by the Minister, being the meanings appearing to the Minister to reproduce in English the international definition of the ampere, ohm, volt or watt, as the case may be, in force at the date of the making of the order.

**2.** Kilowatt: 1,000 watts.

Megawatt: one million watts.

## SECOND SCHEDULE

[Section 2 (3).]

### *Existing Nigerian primary standards*

## PART I

### *Description of Nigerian primary standard of the metre*

The Nigerian copy of the Prototype metre, being a bar of nickel steel of "H" -section about 103 centimetres in length and 24 millimetres square in overall section marked "SIP GENEVE No.12202 20°C NI 58%". The upper surface of the web of the "H" is chromed and highly polished and is engraved with a main scale of fine transverse lines 1 centimetre apart, numbered "0" to "100", the spaces between these lines being further divided by shorter transverse lines 1 millimetre apart. This scale is cut by two longitudinal fine lines parallel to the axis of the bar. The length of the Nigerian Primary Standard Metre shall be measured between those two fine transverse lines of the main scale which are marked "0" and "100", the plane of measurement to be co-incidental with the upper surface of the web of the "H" and the line of measurement to be half way between the two fine longitudinal lines and parallel thereto. Measurement shall be made at a temperature of 20° Celsius, the bar being supported on rollers approximately 1 centimetre in diameter at the points indicated by the arrows on one flank of the bar.

## PART II

### *Description of Nigerian primary standard of the kilogramme*

The Nigerian copy of the prototype kilogramme being a solid cylinder of non-magnetic stainless steel of height equal to its diameter being approximately 5.5 centimetres each marked "FNI 1kg."

**THIRD SCHEDULE**  
[Sections 3 (2) and 4 (1).]

*Metric measures and weights lawful for use for trade*

**PART 1**

*Linear measures*

Measures of--

20 metres	1 metre
10 metres	1 decimetre
metres	1 centimetre
metres	

**PART II**

*Square measures*

Measures of, or of any multiple of, 1 square decimeter.

**PART III**

*Cubic measures*

Measures of, or of any multiple of, 1 cubic decimeter.

**PART IV**

*Capacity measures*

Measures of-

any multiple of 10 litres	100 millilitres
10 litres	50 millilitres
5 litres	25 millilitres
$2^{1/2}$ litres	20 millilitres
2 litres	10 millilitres
1 litre	5 millilitres
500 millilitres	2 millilitres
250 millilitres	1 millilitre
200 millilitres	

**PART V**

*Weights*

Weights of-

20 kilogrammes	2 grammes
10 kilogrammes	1 gramme

PART V - *continued*

5 kilogrammes	500 milligrammes
2 kilogrammes	400 milligrammes
1 kilogramme	300 milligrammes
500 grammes	200 milligrammes
200 grammes	100 milligrammes
100 grammes	50 milligrammes
50 grammes	20 milligrammes
20 grammes	10 milligrammes
10 grammes	5 milligrammes
5 grammes	2 milligrammes
4 grammes	1 milligramme
3 grammes	

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FOURTH SCHEDULE  
[Sections 7 (3) (b) and 14 (1).]

*Form of certificate of verification*

I hereby certify that the following weights and measures (or weighing instruments or measuring instruments) namely ..... submitted to me by ..... of ..... were this day stamped by me as having been examined and found correct by me.

This certificate, unless extended by endorsement hereon by an inspector, shall cease to have effect twelve months after the date hereof.

DATED at ..... this ..... day of ..... 20 .....

(Signature) .....

*Inspector of Weights and Measures*

FIFTH SCHEDULE  
[Section 48]

*Table of Fees*  
[S.I. 16 of 1992.]

[21st July, 1992]  
[Commencement.]

**A. Measures of length**

(i) Not exceeding 3 metres, each measure .....	10.00
(ii) Above 3 metres, but not exceeding 25 metres, each measure .....	25.00
(iii) Above 25 metres .....	100.00

**B. Measures of capacity**

(i) Not exceeding 5 litres, each measure .....	10.00
(ii) Above 5 litres for the first 5 litres .....	10.00
For each additional 5 litres .....	5.00
(iii) Storage tanks not exceeding 1,000 hectolitres .....	1,000.00
(iv) Above 1,000 hectolitres, for the first 1,000 hectolitres .....	1,000.00
For each additional 1,000 hectolitres .....	250.00

**C. Weights**

(i) Not exceeding 2 kg, each weight .....	10.00
(ii) Above 2 kg, each weight .....	20.00
(iii) Carat metric and rider weights, each weight .....	20.00

**D. Weighing machines/instruments**

(i) All types except instruments specified in <b>D</b> (ii) and (iii) below-	
(a) Not exceeding 10 kg .....	100.00
(b) Above 10 kg but not exceeding 100 kg .....	15.00
(c) Above 100 kg but not exceeding 250 kg .....	200.00
(d) Above 250 kg but not exceeding 500 kg .....	500.00
(e) Above 500 kg but not exceeding 1 tonne .....	750.00
(j) Above 1 tonne first I tonne .....	750.00
Every additional house .....	250.00
(ii) Automatic weighing machines and totalising machines	
(a) Not exceeding 10 kg .....	100.00
(b) Exceeding 10 kg .....	250.00
(iii) (a) Egg grading machines, each unit .....	100.00
(b) Each egg poise .....	20.00
(iv) Balance of precision and analytical balance, each balance .....	250.00

**E. Measuring instruments used for the measurement of liquid fuel and lubricating oil, liquor and soft drinks**

(i) Piston type each instrument .....	50.00
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**N k**

(ii) Container type (including batteries or can or barrel fillers:-

(a) Each container of capacity not exceeding 20 litres .....	50.00
(b) Each container of capacity above 20 litres .....	100.00

(iii) Flow meter type:-

Each instrument .....	100.00
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(iv) Dispensers other than E (i) - (iii) above .....

50.00

(v) Volumetric fillers .....

75.00

(vi) Calibrated tanks and tank wagons with or without meter:-

(a) Each unit or compartment, of capacity not exceeding 1,500 litres .....500.00

(b) Each calibrated unit or compartment above 1,500 litres .....500.00

First 1,500 litres

For every additional 500 litres .....250.00

(c) Bulk metre, each unit ..... 500.00

**F. Approval of Pattern**

(i) Flow metre pumps:

(a) Each instrument .....5000.00

(b) Each component .....1000.00

(ii) Weighing instruments:

(a) Each instrument not exceeding 250 kg .....1000.00

(b) Each instrument above 250 kg .....5000.00

(iii) Measuring instruments other than F (i)and (ii) above .....2500.00

(iv) Modification of approved pattern .....Half the  
prescribed  
fee for  
each in-  
strument.

(v) Renewal of approved pattern .....Half the  
prescribed  
fee for  
such in-  
strument

(vi) Calibration for other special measure/measuring  
instruments .....Half the  
prescribed  
fee for  
each in-  
strument

**₦ k**

G. (i) Vehicles or measure used for the carriage for sale of sand, gravel, shingle, linker of any description, granite and other chippings and other materials commonly used in building, civil engineering industries as a hardcore or aggregate .....	500.00
(ii) Vending machines .....	250.00
(iii) Taximeters .....	250.00
(iv) Water meters .....	100.00
(v) Electricity meters .....	100.00
(vi) Standards and equipment under section 5 of the Weights and Measures Act (Cap. W3) .....	250.00

**H. Adjusting Fees**

(i) Weights:	
(a) Weights of 5 kg and above, each weight .....	10.00
(b) Weights below 5 kg, each weight .....	5.00
(ii) Measures of capacity:	
(a) Not exceeding one litre, each measure .....	5.50
(b) Above 5 litres .....	10.00
(iii) Weighing instruments:	
(a) Balancing each instrument .....	
(b) Adjustment of sliding poise weights, each poise weight .....	20.50
(c) Adjusting poise weights, each poise weight .....	50.00
(d) Fitting of stamping plug or seal .....	25.00
(iv) Measuring instruments used for the measurement of liquid fuel, lubricating, oil, liquor and other liquids:	20.00
Adjustment of measure delivered, each instrument .....	25.00
Clocking machine .....	500.00
Gaming machine .....	500.00

**SIXTH SCHEDULE**  
[Sections 2 (4) and 52 (1).]

*Definitions of units of measurement of imperial units*

**PART I**

*Measurement of length*

Mile .....	1,760 yards
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## PART I-continued

Furlong .....	220 yards
Chain .....	22 yards
Yard .....	0.9144 metre
Foot .....	1/3 yard
Inch .....	1/36 yard

## PART II

### *Measurement of area*

Square mile .....	640 acres
Acre .....	4,840 square yards
Rood .....	1,210 square yards
Square Yard .....	a superficial area equal to that of a square each side of which measures one yard
Square foot .....	1/9 square yard
Square inch .....	1/144 square foot

## PART III

### *Measurement of volume*

Cubic yard .....	a volume equal to that of a cube, each edge of which measures one yard
Cubic foot .....	1/27 cubic yard
Cubic inch .....	1/1,728 cubic foot

## PART IV

### *Measurement of capacity*

Bushel.....	8 gallons
Peck .....	2 gallons
Gallon .....	the space occupied by 10 pounds weight of distilled water of density 0.998859 gramme per milliliter weighed in air of density 0.001217 gramme per milliliter against weights of density 8.136 grammes per milliliter
Quart .....	1/4 gallon
Pint .....	1/2 quart
Gill .....	1/4 pint
Fluid ounce .....	1/20 pint
Fluid drachm .....	1/8 fluid ounce
Minim .....	1/60 fluid ounce

## PART V

### *Measurement of mass or weight*

Ton .....	2,240 pounds
Hundred weight .....	112 pounds
Central.....	100 pounds
Quarter .....	28 pounds
Stone .....	14 pounds
Pound .....	0.4539237 kilogramme
Ounce .....	1/16 pound
Dram .....	1/16 ounce
Grain .....	1/7000 pound
Ounce troy.....	480 grains
Pennyweight .....	24 grains
Ounce apothecaries .....	480 grains
Drachm .....	1/8 ounce apothecaries
Scruple .....	1/3 drachm

## SEVENTH SCHEDULE

### *Imperial measures and weights lawful for use for trade* [Sections 2 (4) and 52 (I).]

## PART I

### *Linear measures*

Measures of-

100 feet	5 feet
66 feet	4 feet
50 feet	1 yard
33 feet	2 feet
20 feet	1 foot
10 feet	6 inches
8 feet	1 inch
6 feet	

## PART II

### *Square measures*

Measures of, or of any multiple of, 1 square foot

## PART III

### *Cubic measures*

Measures of, or of any multiple of, 1/4 cubic yard

## PART IV

### *Capacity measures*

1. Measures of-

any multiple of 1 gallon

1 gallon .....	I gill
1/2 gallon .....	4 fluid ounces
1 quart .....	1/2 gill
1 pint .....	2/5 gill
1/2 pint .....	1/3 gill
8 fluid ounces .....	1/4 gill
1/3 pint .....	1/5 gill
6 fluid ounces .....	1/6 gill

2. Measures of-

1 bushel

1/2 bushel

1 peck

3. Measures of-

4 fluid drachms .....	30 minims
2 fluid drachms .....	10 minims
I fluid drachm	

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**EIGHTH SCHEDULE**  
 [Sections 2 (4) and 52 (1).]

*Standard metric quantities for pre-packed goods*

<i>Description of goods</i>	<i>Quantity, when packed in rigid primary containers of glass, plastic, or metal</i>	<i>Quantity, when packed in containers other than those specified in the second column</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Bacon and sausages .....	100g., 200g., 300g., 400g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 500g.	100g., 200g., 250g., 300g., 350g., 400g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 500g.
2. Barley .....	—	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg. to 50kg., 80 kg.
3. Beans and peas .....	—	250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg. to 10kg., 90kg.
4. Beer .....	20cl, 50cl, 60cl.	—
5. Biscuits .....	100g., 150g., 200g., 300g., 400g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 500g.	100g., 200g., 300g., 400g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 500g.
6. Bread .....	—	225g. and multiples thereof.
7. Butter .....	100g., 200g., 227g., 300g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.	250g., 500g., 1kg.
8. Cassava and Yam Flour ..	—	500g., 1kg., 2kg., 3kg., 4kg., 5kg., 60kg.
9. Cement .....	50kg.	
10. Coca powder .....	100g., thereafter in steps of 100g. up to 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.
11. Coffee, tea (other than tea in chests), chicory mixture .....	100g., 200g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 250g.	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.
12. Custard Powder .....	100g., 250g., 300g., 500g., thereafter by steps of 250g. up to 2kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg., 30kg.
13. Cream (Edible) .....	100ml., thereafter by steps of 100ml., to 1 litre, 2kg., 4kg., 8kg., 18kg.	100ml., thereafter by steps of 100ml., to 1 litre.
14. Cream (Cosmetics) .....	100g., thereafter in steps of 25g.	—

<i>Description of goods</i>	<i>Quantity, when packed in rigid primary containers of glass, plastic, or metal</i>	<i>Quantity, when packed in containers other than those specified in the second column</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
15. Edible Oil .....	100ml., thereafter by steps of 100ml. to 1 litre, thereafter in steps of 1 litre to 5 litres. 2kg., 4kg., 8kg., 18kg., 40kg.	100ml. thereafter by steps of 100ml. to 1 litre.
16. Flour of oats, rice, beans, soya beans, rye self-raising flour .....	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1g.	100g., 250g., 1kg.
17. Food drinks (e.g. Ovaltine, Bournvita) .....	100g., 225g., 450g., 900g., 2,250g.	—
18. Liquid fuel .....	250ml., 500ml., 1 litre to 20 litres in steps of 1 litre, then by steps of 5 litres to 100 litres, thereafter by steps of 10 litres.	—
19. Liquid fungicides and insecticides .....	250ml., 500ml., 1 litre, thereafter by steps of 1 litre.	250ml., 500 ml., 1 litre, thereafter by steps of 1 litre.
20. Liquid polish .....	100ml., then by steps of 100ml., to 500ml., 1 litre, thereafter by steps of 1 litre.	100ml., then by steps of 100ml., to 500ml., 1 litre, thereafter by steps of 1 litre.
21. Liquid soap, liquid detergent (not exceeding 5 litres) .....	100ml., then by steps of 100ml., to 1 litre, thereafter by steps of 1 litre.	100ml., then by steps of 100ml., to 500ml., 1 litre, thereafter by steps of 1 liter.
22. Livestock Feeds .....	—	50kg.
23. Lubricating oil excluding greases (exceeding 200 ml. not exceeding 20 litres) .....	250ml., 500ml., 1 litre, thereafter by steps of 1 litre to 20 litres.	250ml., 500ml.
24. Maize flour .....	—	1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg., to 10kg., 20kg., 50kg., 90kg.
25. Maize grain .....	—	1kg. thereafter by steps of 1kg., to 10kg., 20kg., 50kg., 90kg.
26. Maize bran .....	—	50kg. thereafter by steps of 5kg.
27. Margarine, mixture of butter and margarine and tomato products	100g. by steps of 25g. to 1kg. thereafter by steps of 250g. up to 5kg.	100g., 250g., 1kg.
28. Milk (not exceeding 5 litres) excluding evaporated or condensed milk .....	200ml., 250ml., 500ml., 1 litre, thereafter by steps of litre, except tinned milk in 100ml., 200ml., 300ml., 400ml., 500ml.	

<i>Description of goods</i>	<i>Quantity, when packed in rigid primary containers of glass, plastic, or metal</i>	<i>Quantity, when packed in containers other than those specified in the second column</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
29. Milk powder including milk food and milk food substitutes for feeding infants .....	200g., 250g., 450g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.
30. Millet .....	—	80kg.
31. Paint and distemper .....	125ml., 250ml., 500ml., 1 litre, 2 litres, 4 litres, 20 litres, 500g., 1kg., 3kg., 6kg., 10kg., 25kg., 50kg.	500g., 1kg.
32. Rice .....	—	250g., 500g., 1kg., 3kg., 4kg., 5kg., 10kg., 20kg., 50kg., 100kg.
33. Rice bran .....	—	50kg., thereafter by steps of 5kg.
34. Rice paddy .....	—	75kg.
35. Salt .....	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., 2kg.	100g., 250g., 500., 1kg., 2kg., 20kg., 25kg., 40kg., 50kg., 100kg.
36. Soaps (including detergent powder and scourer).	—	100g., 150g., 200g., 250g., 300g., 400g., 500g., 800g., 1kg., 1.25kg., 1.5kg., 2kg., 2.25kg.
37. Soft drinks and mineral water .....	10cl., thereafter by steps of 1cl., to 1 litre.	—
38. Shoe polish .....	15ml., 30ml., 40ml., 100ml.	—
39. Solid polish (other than shoe polish) .....	100g., then by steps of 100g., to 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.	—
40. Spices .....	100g., 200g., 300g., 400g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.	100g., 200g., 300g., 400g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.
41. Squashes and fruit juices .....	10cl. thereafter by steps of 1cl. to 1 litre.	—
42. Stout .....	30cl., 60cl.	—
43. Sweets (Sugar confectionery) .....	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg.
44. Sugar .....	—	100g., 250g., 500g., 1kg., thereafter by steps of 1kg., to 10kg., 50kg., 100kg.

<i>Description of goods</i>	<i>Quantity, when packed in primary containers of glass, plastic, or</i>	<i>Quantity, when packed in containers other than those specified in the second column</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
45. Sunflower seed .....	—	40g
46. Toilet paper .....	—	200,300 sheets per roll, 140 to 100 sq. ern per
47. Tomato Products - see item 27		
48. Wheat flour and wheat grain .....	—	250g., 500g., lkg., thereafter by steps of lkg., to 10kg., 20kg., 50kg., 90kg.
49. Yeast .....	100g. 500g., lkg., 2.5kg., 25kg.	—

Note.-packaged goods under 50 grammes shall be prepacked only if the quantity is in whole number of grammes. Packaged products between 50 grammes and 100 grammes shall be lawful only if in quantities which are multiples of 5 grammes.

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT

### SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

#### *List of Subsidiary Legislation*

1. Weights and Measures Regulations.
2. Weights and Measures (Primary Standards) Order.
3. Weights and Measures (Definition of Units) Order.
4. Weights and Measures (Revocation) Order.
5. Weights and Measures (Standardisation of Indigenous Measures) Regulations.

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES REGULATIONS

### ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

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2. Qualification for appointment of inspectors.
3. Register of stamps, etc.
4. Duty of inspector to check stock.
5. Monthly report of fees and inspections.
6. Quarterly examination of standards, etc.
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8. Duty of inspector before stamping, etc.
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23. Examination of weights, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
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## PART III

### *Measures of length*

26. Examination of measures of length, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
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## PART IV

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#### REGULATION

29. Examination of liquid measures of capacity, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
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31. Stamping of liquid measures of capacity.

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32. Examination of dry measures of capacity and conditions for acceptance for verification.
33. Verification of dry measures of capacity.
34. Stamping of dry measures of capacity.

## PART VI

### *Weighing instruments: general*

35. Examination of weighing instruments, and general conditions for acceptance for verification.
36. Verification of weighing instruments.
37. Stamping of weighing instruments.

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### *Beam scales*

38. Application of Part VII.
39. Examination of beam scales, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
40. Verification of beam scales.
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### *Simple counter machines*

42. Application of Part VIII.
43. Definition of "counter machine".
44. Examination of simple counter machines, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
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## PART IX

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47. Application of Part IX.
48. Examination of self-indicating and semi-self-indicating counter machines, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
49. Verification of self-indicating and semi-self-indicating machines.

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50. Stamping of self-indicating and semi-self-indicating machines.

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#### *Spring balances*

51. Application of Part X.
52. Examination of spring balances, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
53. Verification of spring balances.
54. Stamping of spring balances.

### PART XI

#### *Steelyards*

55. Application of Part XI.
56. Examination of steelyards, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
57. Verification of steelyards.
58. Stamping of steelyards.

### PART XII

#### *Dead weight machines*

59. Application of Part XII.
60. Examination of dead weight machines, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
61. Verification of dead weight machines.
62. Stamping of dead weight machines.

### PART XIII

#### *Platform scales*

63. Application of Part XIII.
64. Examination of platform scales, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
65. Verification of platform scales.
66. Stamping of platform scales.

### PART XIV

#### *Crane weighing machines*

67. Application of Part XIV.
68. Definition of crane weighing machines.
69. Examination of crane machines, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
70. Verification of crane machines.
71. Stamping of crane machines.

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#### *Automatic weighing installations*

72. Application of Part XV.
73. Duty of owner of an automatic weighing installation.

## REGULATION

74. Examination of automatic weighing installations.
75. Verification of automatic weighing installations.
76. Stamping of automatic weighing installations.

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### *Liquid fuel and lubricating oil instruments*

77. Application of Part XVI.
78. Examination of liquid fuel, etc., instruments, and conditions for acceptance for verification.
79. Verification of liquid fuel, etc., instruments.
80. Stamping of liquid fuel, etc., instruments.

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81. Forgery.
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## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES REGULATIONS

[L.N. 122 of 1965.]

under section 47

[1st December, 1965]

[Commencement.]

## PART I

### *General provisions*

#### **1. Qualification for appointment of superintendent and deputy superintendent**

No person shall be appointed superintendent of weights and measures or deputy superintendent of weights and measures unless he has passed a qualifying examination set by the Board of Trade in England or an examination deemed to be equivalent thereto.

#### **2. Qualification for appointment of inspectors**

No person shall be appointed inspector of weights and measures unless he has passed the Test and Examination of the Institute of Weights and Measures Administration or an examination deemed to be equivalent thereto.

### **3. Register of stamps, etc.**

A register of all stamps, brands, seals and certificates of verification forms issued to inspectors shall be kept by the superintendent of weights and measures. All such stamps, brands, seals and documents issued to an inspector shall be kept by him under lock and key when not actually being used; and upon his ceasing to hold office an inspector shall surrender the same to the superintendent.

### **4. Duty of inspector to check stock**

An inspector shall at least once in every month check the stock of stamps, brands, seals and documents in his possession and shall report immediately any deficiency or loss to the superintendent of weights and measures.

### **5. Monthly report of fees and inspections**

An inspector shall report to the superintendent every month the fees collected and inspections carried out on such forms as may be from time to time approved by the superintendent of weights and measures.

### **6. Quarterly examination of standards, etc.**

An inspector shall at least once in every three months, make a careful examination of the standards and instruments in his custody and shall report immediately to the superintendent of weights and measures any deficiency or damage.

### **7. Half-yearly tests of working standards**

An inspector shall once every six months, or more often as the superintendent may direct, test or cause to have tested, all working standards under his control. Working standards shall be adjusted to agree with working standards more recently tested, or Nigerian trade standards, as the case may be.

### **8. Duty of inspector before stamping, etc.**

Before stamping any weight, measure or instrument or issuing any certificate of verification in respect thereof an inspector shall-

- (a) examine the same and ascertain that it complies with the appropriate conditions for acceptance for verification under these Regulations;
- (b) verify the same in a manner prescribed by these Regulations and ascertain that it is correct within the limits of error specified.

### **9. Certificate to be delivered upon payment of fees**

An inspector shall not deliver a certificate of verification in respect of any weight, measure or instrument to the owner or user thereof except upon payment of the appropriate fee as specified in the Fifth Schedule to the Weights and Measures Act. Where the owner or user has made a request in writing for the inspector to attend his premises, the person requesting may be required to pay, in addition to statutory fees the reasonable travelling expenses of the inspector and the cost of conveying the standards and equipment consequent upon such attendance.

## **10. Charge of fees on inspector declining to stamp or issue a certificate**

Where an inspector declines to stamp or issue a certificate of verification in respect of any weight, measure or instrument on the grounds that it does not comply with the requirements of these Regulations or is not within the specified limits of error, he shall charge the appropriate fee, except that the fee may be waived in cases where the inspector's decision to refuse to issue a certificate of verification was reached as a result of visual examination only.

## **11. Form of stamp**

For the purpose of stamping any weight, measure or instrument an inspector shall use only a stamp issued to him by the superintendent of weights and measures.

## **12. Obliteration of stamps and cancellation of certificates**

An inspector shall obliterate the stamp and cancel the certificate of verification in respect of any weight, measure or instrument when the weight, measure or instrument is found-

- (a) upon test to have an error outside the limits specified in these Regulations;
- (b) to have been altered or tampered with in such a way that it no longer complies with the requirements of these Regulations;
- (c) to have been repaired or adjusted so that it becomes necessary to ascertain that the indications of the instrument remain correct throughout its range;  
Provided that where, in the opinion of the inspector, the incorrectness or non-compliance is not such as to justify the immediate obliteration of the stamp and cancellation of the certificate of verification, he may leave with the trader a written notice calling upon him to have the weight, measure or instrument corrected within a stated period not exceeding four calendar months; the inspector shall obliterate the stamp and cancel the certificate of verification if the correction has not been made within such period.

## **13. Kind of punch for obliteration**

For the purpose of obliterating the stamp under regulation 12, the inspector shall use a punch of six-pointed star design. No other method of obliteration shall be used nor shall it be lawful for any other person than an inspector acting in pursuance of these Regulations to obliterate a stamp.

## **14. Reference of weights, etc., not covered by regulations to superintendent**

Where a weight, measure or instrument embodies a feature or principle of construction not covered by these Regulations or embodies some feature likely to render it unsuitable for trade use, the inspector shall refer the matter to the superintendent of weights and measures for a decision as to whether or not it is acceptable for verification.

## **15. Non-stamping of certain weights**

No inspector shall stamp or certificate any weight, measure or instrument which is not sufficiently strong to withstand ordinary use in trade.

## **16. Prohibition of stamping, etc., weights and measures of unspecified denomination**

(1) No weight or measure shall be stamped or certificated by an inspector unless it is of one of the denominations specified in the Third Schedule to the Act.

(2) Where the denomination or capacity of a weight, measure or instrument is not marked in full, it shall be marked only by one of the abbreviations set out in Table I to these Regulations.

## **17. Inspector not to stamp or certificate incomplete instrument**

An inspector shall not stamp or certificate any weight, measure or instrument unless it is complete in itself. No weight, measure or instrument shall bear a manufacturer's or maker's mark which might be mistaken for an inspector's stamp.

## **18. Examination of weights, measures and instruments**

An inspector shall first examine weights, measures and instruments in the condition in which they are being used, with a view to seeing they are not unjust. When satisfied, the inspector shall test weights, measures and instruments in a clean condition, and if necessary, he may call on the owner or user to clean them.

## **19. Limitation of the authority of inspector under section 8 of the Act**

(1) Where an inspector is authorised under section 8 of the Act by the superintendent of weights and measures to adjust weights, measures and instruments, such authority shall be confined to-

- (a) the adjustment of simple weights and measures;
- (b) the adjustment of counterpoise weights and sliding poises belonging to compound lever machines;
- (c) the balancing of weighing instruments; and
- (d) the setting or recalibration of the measure adjustment on measuring instruments.

(2) Any authorisation granted by the superintendent under the said section 8 shall be issued to individual inspectors by name and shall not permit adjusting to be undertaken by their assistants.

## **20. Waiver of requirements of Regulations**

Where it appears to an inspector in any special circumstances that it is impracticable or unreasonable for the owner or user of any weight, measure or instrument, to comply literally with any requirement of these Regulations, he shall consult the superintendent with a view to referring the matter to the Director-General, Ministry of Trade, who may if he thinks fit dispense with the observance of such requirements upon such conditions as he thinks fit in the special circumstances referred to him.

## **21. Exemption from Regulations**

These Regulations shall not apply to the following, that is to say-

- (a) in so far as they relate to material, weights, measures and instruments used in the manufacture of explosives; and
- (b) instruments or installations incorporating load cells or other electrical devices for the measurement of weight. Such instruments and installations shall be stamped and certificated by inspectors only on the instructions of the superintendent who shall in each case decide after due consultation with the manufacturers and users of the instrument or installation what tests and allowances shall be applied.

## **22. Power of inspector to stamp and issue certificates contrary to Regulations**

(1) An inspector may at any time during the period of two years immediately following the date of the commencement of these Regulations, stamp, or issue a certificate of verification in respect of, any weight, measure or instrument notwithstanding that such weight, measure or instrument does not comply with the requirements of these Regulations:

Provided that such weight, measure or instrument-

- (a) complies with the requirements of the law in force immediately before the date of the commencement of these Regulations; and
- (b) is not likely to facilitate the perpetration of fraud; and
- (c) is correct within the appropriate limits of error specified in these Regulations.

(2) No certificate issued under paragraph (1) of this regulation shall be valid for more than twelve months from the date it was issued nor shall such certificate be extended under any circumstances by virtue of section 9 of the Act.

## PART II

### ***Weights***

#### **23. Examination of weights, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) All weights accepted for verification shall be made in one piece entirely of some solid metal other than lead except where lead is inserted for the purpose of adjustment. Weights made of soft metals or soft alloys, e.g. tin or solder, shall not be accepted. Avoirdupois weights shall not be made of aluminium or other metals of low density. Weights shall have smooth surfaces and be free from flaws or blowholes.

(2) Every weight shall have its denomination clearly and permanently marked on the upper surface unless the small size of the weight renders marking impracticable.

(3) Iron weights shall be blacked, blackleaded, galvanised or otherwise treated for protection against rust and an inspector shall refuse to accept for verification any iron weight which is in a rusty condition.

(4) Avoirdupois weights shall be either flat circular, bar or bell weights; but 50 lb.; 20 lb., 10 lb., and 5 lb. shall be octagonal bar weights only. Avoirdupois iron weights of flat shape shall not be made larger than 4 lb. No iron weight of less than 4 oz. shall be accepted for verification.

(5) Metric weights of iron shall be hexagonal in shape. No iron metric weight of less than 100 grammes shall be accepted for verification.

(6) Metric weights other than iron metric weights shall be either cylindrical, hexagonal, or, in the case of weights not exceeding 10 grammes, made of flat or sheet metal or wire.

(7) Troy bullion weights, apothecaries' weights, metric carat weights and grain weights of 1 oz. and upwards shall be made of stainless steel, solid brass, gun metal or bronze and shall be cylindrical with either handles or knobs. Those below 1 oz. shall be flat or of wire and shall be made of stainless steel, solid brass, gunmetal, bronze, platinum or aluminium.

(8) All avoirdupois weights (other than those made of stainless steel) of 4 oz. and above and all iron metric weights shall have one adjusting hole only in the underside which shall not extend to the upper surface or side. Lead for adjusting shall be made secure by undercutting or other suitable method. The size and depth of adjusting holes shall be at the discretion of the inspector who shall have due regard to the possibility of the perpetration of fraud.

(9) Adjusting holes in troy weights intended for bullion weighing shall be capped with metal in such manner as is approved by the superintendent.

(10) Metric weights other than iron metric weights, avoirdupois stainless steel weights, troy weights and apothecaries' weights may be accepted for verification without adjusting holes, but if adjusting holes are provided they shall comply with the conditions specified in paragraph (8) of this regulation.

#### **24. Verification of weights**

(1) Every weight submitted for stamping shall be tested by comparison with a valid standard.

(2) The errors permissible on the verification of weights shall be those specified in Tables II to VII to these Regulations.

#### **25. Stamping of weights**

Weights shall be stamped on the lead in the adjusting hole and the size of the stamp used shall be such as to cover the whole of the surface of the lead as far as practicable. Weights not provided with adjusting holes shall be stamped on the under surface. Where the adjusting hole is capped, the stamp shall be impressed where possible in such a manner that part of the impression is on the cap and part on the under surface of the weight.

### **PART III**

#### *Measures of length*

#### **26. Examination of measures of length, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(I) Imperial measures of length of one yard and under and metric measures of length of one metre and under accepted for verification and intended for use in markets and retail shops shall be end measures made of rust-proof steel, brass, hard wood or other

material approved by the superintendent of weights and measures. The measures shall be straight from end to end, free from flaws and cracks and of sufficient strength to resist bending in normal trade use. Wooden measures shall have both ends neatly tipped with brass and the tips shall be riveted. Jointed or folding measures shall be acceptable for verification if in the inspector's opinion the measure is not such as to facilitate fraud and there is no undue looseness in the hinged joints.

(2) All subdivisions of a measure of length shall be clearly incised lines and the major subdivisions shall be of greater length than the minor subdivisions.

(3) Every measure of length shall be clearly denominated and no wooden measure of length of one metre or less shall be denominated or graduated in both metric and imperial units.

## **27. Verification of measures of length**

(1) Every metal measure of length shall be tested by comparison with a valid standard at or near normal temperature. A yard or metre measure intended for use in markets or retail shops may be tested by comparison with a valid working standard steel tape.

(2) Link measures, chain measures and metallic riband or metallic tape measures and all measures of length exceeding in the case of imperial measures one yard and in the case of metric measures one metre shall be tested at the weights and measures headquarters of the Ministry of Trade and Tourism and shall be subject to such tension under test and tested in such manner as the superintendent of weights and measures shall direct.

(3) The errors permissible on the verification of measures of length are as specified in Table VIII to these Regulations.

## **28. Stamping of measures**

(1) Measures of length shall be stamped as near as possible to the beginning of the measure and if practicable at the end of the measure. Yard or metre measures intended for use in markets or retail shops having not more than three subdivisions shall be stamped at or near each subdivision and at each end.

(2) An unsubdivided measure of length shall be engraved or marked "not subdivided".

## PART IV

### *Liquid measures of capacity*

## **29. Examination of liquid measures of capacity, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) A liquid measure of capacity accepted for verification may be made of glass, any metal or alloy of metals, or anyone of the group of materials commonly known as "plastics".

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (e) of paragraph (6) of this regulation, liquid measures may be either conical or cylindrical in form.

(3) The capacity of a liquid measure other than a measure made of transparent material shall be defined by the brim, except where a top lip or rim is fitted to prevent spilling when the capacity shall be clearly and unambiguously defined by the junction of the top lip or rim and the body of the measure. Such a top lip or rim shall not add more than ten per cent to the marked capacity of the measure.

(4) The capacity of a liquid measure made of a transparent material shall be defined either by the brim or by a clearly defined line at least 5 cms, in length distant not less than 1.5 cms, or more than 4 cms. from the brim.

(5) The denomination of a measure shall be clearly marked on the outside of the body of the measure. Where the capacity is defined by the brim, the denomination shall be as near to the brim as practicable. Where the capacity is defined by a line, the denomination shall be plainly marked at the line.

(6) Before accepting a measure for verification an inspector shall ascertain-

- (a) that the measure is sufficiently strong to prevent deformation by hand pressure; and
- (b) that it is sufficiently strong to withstand the wear and tear of ordinary use in the trade for which it is intended; and
- (c) that in the case of plated measures the plating is uniform and shows no sign of peeling; and
- (d) that in the case of measures intended or designed for the measurement of food, no contamination of the contents can take place by reason of the material of which the measure is constructed; and
- (e) that it empties completely when tilted to an angle of 120 degrees from the vertical and has no false bottom; and
- (f) that it is not subdivided unless it is for the measurement of drugs or medicines or intended for laboratory use.

### **30. Verification of liquid measures of capacity**

(1) Liquid measures shall be tested wherever practicable by filling the standard with water and emptying the contents into the measure under test.

(2) Where the capacity is defined by a line, the level of the water shall be taken at the bottom of the meniscus.

(3) Measures for the measurement of drugs or medicines and such measures for laboratory use as are submitted for verification shall be tested only at the weights and measures headquarters, in such manner as the superintendent of weights and measures shall direct.

(4) The errors permissible on the verification of liquid measures of capacity shall be those specified in Table IX to these Regulations.

### **31. Stamping of liquid measures of capacity**

(1) Metal measures shall be stamped wherever practicable by impressing the stamp on molten solder or soft metal which is securely fixed to the measure; on measures having a lip or rim the stamp shall be placed at the bottom of the inside of the lip or rim, and

on other metal measures the stamp shall be on the outside of the measure as near to the denomination as possible.

(2) On measures other than metal measures the stamping shall be in such a manner as the superintendent may direct.

## PART V

### *Dry measures of capacity (other than indigenous measures)*

#### **32. Examination of dry measures of capacity and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) Dry measures of capacity accepted for verification shall be made wholly of metal of sufficient gauge and strength to withstand ordinary wear and tear in use for trade. Measures of one gallon and over, and five Litres and over shall have one strengthening band round the rim. Other strengthening bands may be fitted as required.

(2) All dry measures shall be cylindrical brim measures and no subdivided dry measures shall be permitted. The internal diameter of dry measures shall not differ by more than five per cent from the depth.

(3) The denomination shall be clearly and permanently marked on the outside of the body of the measure.

#### **33. Verification of dry measures of capacity**

The errors permissible on the verification of dry measures of capacity are specified in Table X to these Regulations.

#### **34. Stamping of dry measures of capacity**

Dry measures shall be stamped by impressing the stamp on a pad of molten solder or soft metal which is securely fixed near the brim of the measure.

## PART VI

### *Weighing instruments: general*

#### **35. Examination of weighing instruments, and general conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) Every weighing instrument accepted for verification shall be clearly and permanently marked with its capacity and the name of the manufacturer.

(2) The position of any indicator or sliding poise shall be unambiguous and clearly readable and the graduations shall be sharply defined lines.

(3) Where special instructions are necessary as to the method of use of any weighing instrument, they shall be prominently and permanently marked on the instrument.

(4) Knife-edges and bearings shall be of hard steel, agate or other material approved by the superintendent. Knife-edges shall bear throughout their working length and shall be so secured in their levers as to prevent movement or rotation. Means shall be provided

to retain knife-edges in their bearings and to prevent shackles and bearings becoming misplaced.

(5) No instrument having parts readily removable without mechanical aid shall be accepted for verification unless the instrument cannot be used without such parts.

(6) No accelerating weighing instrument shall be accepted for verification.

(7) No weighing instrument of any type having a wooden platform, scaleboard or framework shall be accepted for verification.

### **36. Verification of weighing instruments**

(1) Every weighing instrument not exceeding 5 cwt. (or in the case of a metric instrument 250 kg.) in capacity shall be tested by the inspector up to its full capacity. In the case of instruments exceeding 5 cwt. (or 250 kg.), the inspector may call upon the owner or user to provide such load as may be reasonably available for test purposes and may use the method of substitution.

(2) Weighing instruments shall be tested for error by ascertaining the weight required to bring the beam or steelyard to a horizontal position. Where the indications are given on a dial or chart the error shall be read directly from the same. The errors permissible at intermediate loads shall be in proportion to the load applied, provided that from zero to half load, half the prescribed limits of error at full load may be allowed at any point.

(3) Where reversible or interchangeable parts are fitted to an instrument, reversal or interchange shall not affect the accuracy of the instrument.

(4) Where relieving gear is fitted to any weighing instrument, the prescribed limits of error shall not be exceeded when the machine is put steadily into and out of gear. An inspector shall ascertain that it is not possible wilfully to alter the indications of the instrument by use or misuse of the relieving gear.

(5) Weighing instruments in which the indications are given on a chart or dial shall not be tested for sensitiveness. Sensitiveness on other weighing instruments shall be tested by loading the instrument with the maximum test load, and with the beam or steelyard in a horizontal position, ascertaining that the addition of the amount shown in the table for sensitiveness causes the beam or steelyard to rise or fall to the limit of its range of movement. In the case of beam scales, the allowances shall cause an appreciable movement of the beam.

### **37. Stamping of weighing instruments**

All weighing instruments except beam scales specifically exempted by regulation 41 shall contain a plug or stud of soft metal made irremovable by undercutting or otherwise.

## PART VII

### *Beam scales*

### **38. Application of Part VII**

This part of these Regulations shall apply to "beam scales," that is to say, any equal-armed weighing instrument, the pans of which are suspended below the beam.

### **39. Examination of beams scales, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) In no case shall the capacity of a hand beam scale accepted for verification be less than 1 lb. (or 1 kg. metric weight) or more than 4 lb. (or 2 kg. metric weight). The types of hand beam scale used by itinerant and street traders shall be specifically approved for the purpose by the superintendent.

(2) Beam scales used by licensed goldsmiths shall be of a type specifically approved for the purpose by the superintendent.

(3) Any attachment for adjusting the balance of beam scales shall be permanently fastened, and, where a balance ball or box is used it shall be so fixed that it cannot readily be tampered with. Balancing nags or screws which can be adjusted by hand shall not be allowed except where the beam scale is enclosed in a glass case.

### **40. Verification of beam scales**

(1) Beam scales shall for the purposes of testing be divided into the following three classes, that is to say-

Class A. Fine balances, bullion and assay balances, having means for relieving all the knife-edges and bearings;

Class B. Chemists', druggists', jewellers' and gold buyers' beam scales and any beam scales for laboratory use which are submitted for stamping;

Class C. Beam scales other than those specified in Class A or B.

(2) In testing and certificating beam scales, an inspector shall apply the tolerances set out in the tables of error appropriate to the class of beam scale under test. The owner or user may in special circumstances, request an inspector to apply the tolerances for a higher class than would normally be applied.

(3) At half-load no appreciable difference in the indications of a beam scale shall result from the movement of the knife-edges or bearings laterally or backwards and forwards.

(4) The instrument shall be correct whether the load is on the middle or near the edge of the pans.

(5) The errors permissible on beam scales are as specified in Tables XI to XIV to these Regulations.

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### **41. Stamping of beam scales**

Beam scales shall be stamped on a lead plug or stud securely inserted in the beam. This shall not apply to Class A beam scales or any beam scales where small size or delicate construction renders it impracticable. In such cases, stamping shall be in such manner as the superintendent may approve.

## PART VIII

### *Simple counter machines*

#### **42. Application of Part VIII**

This Part of these Regulations shall apply to simple counter machines.

#### **43. Definition of "counter machine"**

The expression "**simple counter machine**" means an equal-armed weighing instrument not exceeding 112 lb. or 50 kg. in capacity, the pans of which are above the beam, and designed for use on a counter, bench or table.

#### **44. Examination of simple counter machines, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) The beam shall be rigid and where the beam or body has two sides they shall be connected by two cross bars. Centre forks shall be fixed so that they cannot twist or get out of place.

(2) The only permitted balancing device shall be one balance box to hold loose lead not in excess of one per cent of the marked capacity of the scale. The balance box shall be secured by not less than two screws.

(3) The points of contact of all stays, hooks and loops shall be of hard steel.

(4) Loose interchangeable pans shall not be permitted unless they are identified permanently by a number with the instrument, and interchange of the pans shall not cause any change in the balance.

(5) No sliding weight for taring, balancing or weighing shall be permitted on any simple counter machine except that an inspector may, if requested, accept for verification scales designed for baby weighing having sliding poises, but no counter steelyard shall be accepted.

(6) No instrument of the Beranger type shall be accepted for verification unless it is of a type approved by the superintendent and no type of Beranger balance shall be approved unless the working parts are adequately enclosed in, and protected by, a box or frame.

#### **45. Verification of simple counter machines**

(1) The beam shall have fall both ways from the horizontal. The minimum fall **in** each direction from the horizontal shall be-

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Fall</i>
Not exceeding 4 I b. or (2 kg. if metric)	0.5 cm.
Above 4 I b. to 50 lb. (2 kg. to 25 kg. if metric)	1 cm
50 lb. and above (25 kg. if metric)	1.5cm

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(2) Instruments to which this section applies shall not be stamped or certificated unless they satisfy the following tests—

- (a) half the full load shall be applied on each of the following positions—

1			5		
2	W	4	6	G	8
3			8	7	

Weights Pan

W & G:  
1 & 5:  
1 & 7:

Goods Pan

3 & 5:  
3 & 7:  
2 & 6:

2 & 8  
4 & 8  
4 & 6

In applying this test, the inspector shall not allow the weights to overhang the edge of the pan or plate and shall apply the test in a reasonable and practical manner, having regard to the use for which the instrument is designed and the construction thereof and the extreme difference between the indications of the instrument, on this test for variation, shall not exceed the limits of error at full load specified in Table XV to these Regulations;

- (b) at half load no appreciable difference shall result from the movement of the knife-edges or bearings laterally or backwards and forwards;  
(c) at full load, the error and sensitivity allowances shall not exceed the limits specified in Table XV to these Regulations.

#### 46. Stamping of simple counter machines

The stamp in respect of simple counter machines shall be impressed on a conspicuous part of the main beam of the instrument.

### PART IX

#### *Self-indicating and semi-self-indicating counter machines*

#### 47. Application of Part IX

This part of these Regulations shall apply to weighing machines designed for counter use (other than spring balances) of less than 1 cwt. or 50 kg. capacity which have visual indicating devices for automatically showing the weight in whole or in part of the article weighed. Instruments having difference charts and instruments designed to calculate and indicate the price of the article weighed are included.

#### 48. Examination of self-indicating and semi-self-indicating counter machines, and conditions for acceptance for verification

- (1) Except where the instrument is "level proof", all instruments accepted for verification shall be fitted with an adequate spirit-level and levelling feet with locknuts and have instructions as to the use of the instruments clearly marked in English with a warning that the instruments must be kept level.

(2) Charts shall be uniformly graduated into divisions which shall not appear to be less than 1.6 millimetres apart.

(3) Save in the case of instruments used in post offices, the maximum weight corresponding to the interval between consecutive graduation marks shall be in accordance with the following table-

<i>Capacity of Chart or Dial</i>	<i>Weight corresponding to the interval between which consecutive graduations must not exceed</i>
Under 1 lb .....	2 drams
From 1 lb. to 7 lb .....	4 drams
Above 7 lb. to 15 lb .....	8 drams
Above 15 lb. to 30 lb .....	1 oz.
Above 30 lb. to 112 lb .....	2 ozs.
Up to 500 grammes .....	5 grammes
Above 500 grammes to 5 kg .....	10 grammes
Above 5 kg. to 10 kg .....	20 grammes
Above 10 kg. to 20 kg .....	50 grammes
Above 20 kg. to 50 kg .....	100 grammes

(4) Instruments shall be fitted with a damping device which shall cause the indicator to come to rest after not more than five movements.

(5) Taring devices shall not be fitted to instruments for use in retail trade.

(6) The tip of the indicator shall not exceed 1 millimetre in width nor shall it be more than 2.5 millimetres from the chart.

(7) The indicating mechanism shall be adequately closed against tampering and shall be protected from the ingress of dust and moisture.

(8) Instruments which are designed to calculate and indicate the price of the article weighed shall have the weight indicated in accordance with these Regulations.

(9) The only permitted balancing device shall be one balance box to hold loose lead not in excess of one per cent of the marked capacity of the scale. The balance box shall be secured by not less than two screws.

#### **49. Verification of self-indicating and semi-self-indicating machines**

(I) From the extreme positions from which it is possible to read the indication without distortion, the difference in reading shall not exceed the value of the smallest subdivision.

(2) The error permitted at full load shall be the weight corresponding to one of the smallest divisions on the chart in excess or deficiency.

(3) The tests for simple counter machines in regulation 45 shall be applied as far as is practicable and each numbered graduation shall be tested. In addition to the ordinary tests instruments described as "level proof" shall be correct when tilted one inch out of level lengthways or sideways.

(4) In the case of instruments designed to calculate and indicate the price in money the inspector shall, in addition to the tests specified in regulation 45, ascertain that the price is indicated correctly. All numbered graduations on the price charge shall be tested.

## **50. Stamping of self-indicating and semi-self-indicating machines**

(1) Stamping shall be on a lead plug on a conspicuous part of the housing.

(2) An inspector shall be justified in refusing to stamp or certificate an instrument to which this part of these Regulations apply if the instrument is not supported on a level rigid counter or bench.

## PART X

### *Spring balances*

#### **51. Application of Part X**

This part of these Regulations shall apply to spring balances, that is to say, weighing instruments in which the load is carried by one or more springs by themselves or in combination with a system of levers, stays or struts except precision platform weighing machines in which a spring resistant indicating device is incorporated and having not less than four hundred divisions on the dial.

#### **52. Examination of spring balances, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) "Straight-down" spring balances in which all the indications are on a vertical scale shall not be accepted for verification but spring balances in which part of the load is indicated on a vertical slide and part on a circular dial may be accepted.

(2) In spring balances of over 100 lb. capacity (or 50 kg.) the effective diameter of the dial shall be at least 225 millimetres.

(3) The index finger on a spring balance shall not exceed 1 mm. in width and shall not be more than 2.5 mm. from the dial.

(4) The dial of a spring balance shall be graduated into approximately equal parts and the minimum width apart of graduations shall not be less than 1.6 mm.

(5) Save in the case of spring balances used in post offices (charts of which balances shall be of a type approved for the purpose by the superintendent of weights and measures), the weights corresponding to the interval between consecutive graduation marks shall conform to the following table-

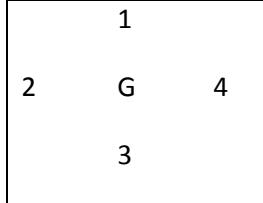
<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Weight corresponding to interval between which consecutive graduations must not exceed</i>
1 lb .....	2 drams
2 lb. to 7 lb .....	4 drams
10 lb. to 15 lb .....	8 drams
20 lb .....	1 oz.
40 lb .....	2 ozs.
100 lb. and over .....	1/200 of the capacity
1 kg. . .	10 grammes
5 kg. . .	20 grammes
10 kg .....	50 grammes
15 kg .....	50 grammes
20 kg. to 30 kg. . .	100 grammes
50 kg. and over .....	1/200 of the capacity

Capacities between one and one hundred pounds and one and fifty kilograms other than those included in the above table shall not be permitted.

### 53. Verification of spring balances

(1) Balancing devices shall be capable of operation only by means of a key or screw-driver and the range of adjustment shall not exceed one per cent of the capacity of the instrument. Where an adjustable indicator is provided, the range of adjustment shall not exceed one per cent of the capacity of the instrument.

(2) When the goods pan is above the spring, half the full load shall be applied in the following positions-



Goods Pan

In applying this test, the inspector shall not allow the weight to overhang the edge of the pan or plate and shall apply the test in a reasonable and practical manner having regard to the use for which the instrument is designed and the construction thereof. The extreme difference between the indications of the instrument shall not exceed the limits of error at full load specified in Table XVI to these Regulations.

(3) Where the instrument has a pan or hook below the spring, the instrument shall indicate correctly within the limits of error wherever the load is placed on the pan or hook.

(4) The inspector may test as many numbered graduations and intermediate graduations as he thinks fit but shall test at least those graduations representing quarter, half, three-quarters and full load. He may test for spring fatigue and make a backward test.

(5) At full load, the error shall not exceed the limits specified in Table XVI to these Regulations.

#### **54. Stamping of spring balances**

Every spring balance submitted for stamping shall be fitted with a lead plug or seal to receive the inspector's stamp and such plug or seal shall effectively seal the dial to the frame of the instrument and shall absolutely prevent any tampering or internal adjustment of the machine without destroying the inspector's stamp.

### **PART XI**

#### *Steelyards*

#### **55. Application of Part XI**

(1) This part of these Regulations shall apply to steelyards.

(2) The expression "steelyard" means a simple unequal, armed weighing instrument intended for use suspended and having the goods hook hanging below the lever.

#### **56. Examination of steelyards, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) The shank of a steelyard accepted for verification shall be rigid and perfectly straight and shall not flex when the instrument is loaded to full capacity.

(2) A zero stop shall be fitted which shall prevent the sliding poise or poises from travelling behind the zero graduation. There shall be a stop or end nut to prevent the poise riding off the steelyard arm and a stop or other device to prevent excessive amplitude of oscillation.

(3) Steelyards graduated in both metric and imperial weight systems shall have the systems marked upon opposite sides of the shank. Each set of notches on the shank shall be cut in one plane and be at right angles to the shank.

(4) No detachable chains or hooks for supporting the goods shall be permitted.

(5) No adjustable balancing devices shall be fitted to a steelyard. Any adjustment of balance shall be made to the extreme end of the shank by altering the weight of the travel limit stop nut, or by adding to or subtracting from the lead in the fixed counter weight.

(6) The following types of steelyard shall not be accepted for verification-

- (a) the reversible steelyards with three hooks;
- (b) any steelyard not having a zero graduation; and
- (c) any steelyard for use on a counter, table or bench.

## **57. Verification of steelyards**

(1) The inspector shall test each numbered graduation and the instrument shall be correct whether the test is made forwards or backwards.

(2) The instrument shall be correct when pumping pressure is applied not more than half way along the shank from the fulcrum.

(3) At full load, error and sensitivity shall be within the limits specified in Table XVII to these Regulations.

## **58. Stamping of steelyards**

Steelyards shall be stamped on a plug or stud of soft metal securely inset in the shoulder of the steelyard.

## PART XII

### *Dead weight machines*

#### **59. Application of Part XII**

(1) This part of these Regulations shall apply to dead weight machines.

(2) "**Dead weight machine**" means a weighing instrument similar in principle of construction to a simple counter machine, but having a capacity of 112 lbs. avoirdupois or 50 kg. metric or over, including low pattern instruments with the connecting stays and hooks above the weighing platform and high pattern instruments with the weighing platform at a convenient height and the stays and hooks below the beam or a combination of high and low patterns.

#### **60. Examination of dead weight machines, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(I) The weighing platforms of dead weight machines accepted for verification shall not exceed in length the length of the beam and in width double the width of the beam. Where folding wings are fitted they shall not increase such dimensions by more than one third in either direction.

(2) The only permitted balancing device shall be one balance box to hold loose lead not in excess of one per cent of the marked capacity of the instrument.

(3) The beam shall have fall both ways from the horizontal. The minimum fall in each direction shall be 1.5 cms.

(4) The bearing surfaces and points of contact of all stays, hooks, loops and adjustable slides shall be of hard steel.

#### **61. Verification of dead weight machines**

(1) Instruments to which this section applies shall not be stamped or certificated unless they satisfy the following test, that is to say-

One quarter the full load shall be applied in each of the following positions—

1			5		
2	G	4	6	W	8
3			7		

Goods Pan

- W & G:  
1 & 5:  
1 & 7:

Weights Pan

- 3 & 5:  
3 & 7:  
2 & 6:

(2) In applying this test, the inspector shall not allow the weight to overhang the edge of the pan or plate and shall apply the test in a reasonable and practical manner having regard to the use for which the instrument is designed and the construction thereof.

(3) The extreme difference between the indications of the instrument, on this test for variation, shall not exceed the limits of error specified in Table XVIII to these Regulations.

(4) The error and sensitivity shall be within the limits specified in Table XVIII to these Regulations.

## 62. Stamping of dead weight machines

Subject to regulation 61, the stamp in respect of dead weight machines shall be impressed on a plug or stud of soft metal conspicuously attached to the main beam of the instrument.

## PART XIII

### *Platform scales*

## 63. Application of Part XIII

This part of these Regulations shall apply to the following instruments having a capacity of 1 cwt. (or 50 kg.) and above, that is to say—

- (i) weighbridges and ordinary platform scales, dormant or portable, having "no loose weight" or "loose weight" steelyard indicators;
- (ii) weighbridges and platform scales (other than spring balances as defined by regulation 51) in which is automatically indicated either wholly or partially by a pointer and chart or drum or other device whether mechanical or electrical. Weighbridges and platform machines having ticket printing or recording devices are included;
- (iii) overhead lever platform scales, carcase weighers and cattle weigh-bridges;
- (iv) personal platform weighing scales including coin freed scales.



#### **64. Examination of platform scales, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) All the instruments specified in paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) of regulation 63 shall have a balancing device capable of operation only with a detachable key. The range of balance shall not exceed one per cent of the maximum capacity of the machine except in the case of weighbridges for cattle weighing when the range may be two per cent.

(2) All travelling poises shall be prevented by a stop from travelling behind the zero graduation.

(3) In instruments having "loose weight" steelyard indicators, proportional weights shall be clearly denominated, e.g., " = 1 cwt", Proportional weights shall be permanently marked with a number identifying them with the instrument. Metric proportional weights shall be hexagonal in shape.

(4) In instruments having "no loose weight" steelyard indicators, the sliding poises shall incorporate a device for sealing against unofficial adjustment. Any lead inserted in sliding poises for adjustment shall be in one piece and no loose pieces of lead or other loose material shall be permitted.

(5) Platform scales and weighbridges with automatic mechanical or electrical indicating devices as defined in paragraph (ii) of regulation 63 shall comply with the following requirements, that is to say-

- (i) the minimum width apart of the graduations as appearing to the user shall be not less than three millimetres;
- (ii) except in the case of semi-self-indicating instruments and instruments embodying weight depositing mechanism, the weight corresponding to the interval between consecutive graduations shall not exceed 1/400th of the capacity;
- (iii) tare bars except on weighing machines for factory use, shall not exceed half the capacity of the dial and the sub-divisions on the bar shall agree with those on the dial;
- (iv) oscillation of the indicator shall be effectively damped so that the indicator comes to rest after not more than five movements;
- (v) every instrument shall have a zero graduation or other means of checking the balance unloaded;
- (vi) indicating mechanisms shall be effectively sealed against the ingress of dust and moisture;
- (vii) indicating heads shall be secured against tampering and unofficial adjustment. Ticket printing mechanisms may be locked by a detachable key but shall not be sealed by an inspector's stamp.

(6) In overhead lever platform scales and carcase weighers the coupling rods between the load unit and the indicating unit shall be adequately protected by guards. Turnbuckles in such coupling rods shall be securely locked.

(7) Divisions on the dials and tickets of personal platform weighing instruments shall be at least 1.6 mm. apart and shall not exceed 1/2 kg. or 1 lb. in value. The inspector shall ascertain as far as possible that personal weighing machines are not used for buying or selling.

## **65. Verification of platform scales**

(1) The inspector shall test loose counterpoises and all major numbered graduations on instruments to which this part of these Regulations applies.

(2) One quarter the maximum load shall be applied in the following positions or as many of them as are considered practicable and necessary-

2		5
3	1	6
4		7

Platform

In applying this test, the inspector shall not allow the weight to overhang the platform and shall apply the test in a reasonable and practical manner, having regard to the use for which the instrument is designed and the construction thereof. The extreme difference between the indications of the instrument shall not exceed the limits of error at full load specified in Tables XIX and XX to these Regulations.

(3) Where folding wings are fitted to extend the platform, the opening of these wings shall not cause variations in the indicators of the instrument.

(4) At full load, the error or sensitivity shall not exceed the limits specified in Tables XIX and XX to these Regulations.

## **66. Stamping of platform scales**

(1) Stamping of a weighing instrument to which this part of these Regulations applies shall be on a plug securely inserted in the steelyard or dial housing.

(2) Personal platform weighing instruments may be stamped and certificated by an inspector but any certificate issued in respect of a personal weighing instrument shall be clearly marked "APPROVED FOR PERSONAL WEIGHING ONLY".

[L.N. 123 of 1965.]

(3) In instruments having "loose weight" steelyard indicators, proportional weights shall be stamped by the inspector on the lead in the adjusting hole.

(4) In instruments having "no loose weight" steelyard indicators, the inspector shall impress his stamp on the adjusting lead and on the sealing device for the sliding poise or poises.

## **PART XIV**

### *Crane weighing machines*

## **67. Application of Part XIV**

This Part of these Regulations shall apply to crane weighing machines.

## **68. Definition of crane weighing machines**

In this part, the expression "**crane weighing machine**" means a weighing instrument designed for use in connection with a crane or other lifting apparatus and having the hook suspended below the weighing mechanism.

## **69. Examination of crane machines, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

- (1) Instruments accepted for verification may be constructed on the spring, lever, hydraulic or other principle approved by the superintendent of weights and measures.
- (2) All working parts shall be suitably protected from the ingress of damp and dust.
- (3) The range of balancing or adjusting arrangements shall not exceed two per cent of the marked capacity of the instrument.
- (4) The indicating mechanism shall work freely and return to its initial starting point after the load is removed.

(5) Crane weighing machines constructed upon the hydraulic principle in the use of which it is necessary to twist the load hook in order to get a correct indication of weight, shall have a prominent notice to that effect permanently affixed to the machine.

## **70. Verification of crane machines**

- (1) Where practicable, each numbered division up to the full weighing capacity shall be tested.
- (2) At full load the error, and in the case of lever machines the sensitivity, shall not exceed the limits specified in Table XXI to these Regulations.

## **71. Stamping of crane machines**

Stamping of weighing instruments to which this Part applies shall be on a plug or stud inset in the steelyard or dial of the instrument.

## PART XV

### *Automatic weighing installations*

## **72. Application of Part XV**

(1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this regulation, this part shall apply to automatic weighing installations, that is to say, installations in which self-acting machinery is introduced to effect one or more of the following processes-

- (a) the rapid weighing of pre-determined loads;
- (b) the registration and summation of pre-determined loads weighed;
- (c) the registration and summation of loads in motion on a conveyor belt or rail track; and
- (d) the registration and summation of loads lifted by a crane.

(2) Installations in which the loads are ascertained by reference to volume and in which there is no measurement of weight shall be excluded from the application of this Part of these Regulations.

### **73. Duty of owner of an automatic weighing installations**

The owner or user of an automatic weighing installation for the weighing of pre-determined loads shall keep and maintain in accurate condition an independent weighing instrument suitable for check weighing the output of the installation.

### **74. Examination of automatic weighing installations**

The adjusting mechanism shall be suitably secured or protected so that it cannot be readily tampered with.

### **75. Verification of automatic weighing installations**

(1) The weighing mechanism of an automatic weighing installation shall be tested, where practicable, in accordance with the requirements of these Regulations, but in any case, the accuracy of an automatic weighing installation shall be ascertained by the inspector under practical working conditions.

(2) Where the installation is designed to weigh pre-determined loads, not less than twenty continuous loads shall be checked on an independent accurate weighing instrument.

(3) Where the installation is for the registration and summation of loads, known quantities of the material which the installation is designed to handle shall be used to check the indications and recordings.

(4) The errors permissible on the verification of automatic weighing installations shall be specified in each case by the superintendent who shall have regard to the purposes for which the installation is designed and the materials handled. The superintendent shall also direct the inspector as to the method of testing to be applied.

### **76. Stamping of automatic weighing installations**

(1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this regulation, automatic machines shall be stamped on the beam, shank or dial of the instrument, or where this is impracticable on some conspicuous part of the installation as near as possible to the indicator or recorder.

(2) No type of automatic weighing installation shall be stamped or certificated by an inspector without the approval of the superintendent. The superintendent shall have due regard to regulation 21 of these Regulations when considering automatic weighing installations incorporating load cells or other electrical devices for the measurement of weight.

## PART XVI

### *Liquid fuel and lubricating oil instruments*

#### **77. Application of Part XVI**

This Part of these Regulations shall apply to all measuring instruments used for the measurement of liquid fuel and lubricating oils in individual quantities not exceeding LOO gallons or 500 litres.

#### **78. Examination of liquid fuel, etc., instruments, and conditions for acceptance for verification**

(1) All measuring instruments accepted for verification shall be so disposed that the purchaser can obtain a clear and unobstructed view of all the operations of measurement and delivery.

(2) No measuring instrument shall be accepted for verification unless-

- (a) it is of a type approved by the superintendent of weights and measures;
- (b) it is complete with all parts and attachments concerned in the operations of measurement and delivery;
- (c) the flexible discharge hose does not exceed four metres in length except if it is an instrument for fuelling aircraft or ships, or is an instrument for the measurement of lubricating oil only;
- (d) the nozzle is of a form that cannot trap any portion of the measured liquid.

(3) Markings having reference to the quantity delivered and special instructions necessary as to the method of operation of any measuring instrument shall be prominently and permanently marked on the instrument. Container pumps and piston pumps having a hose which empties itself on delivery shall be marked "HOSE MUST BE DRAINED FOR CORRECT MEASURE".

(4) Measuring instruments of the piston or container type shall be filled with adequate sight glasses, observation windows or other methods approved by the superintendent for showing clearly that the instrument is charging and discharging properly.

(5) All adjustable parts of the mechanism which are liable to affect the accuracy of the delivery must be fitted with a sealing device.

(6) The individual sales indicator of the instrument must be such that it is not possible to advance the indicator by other means than the proper operation of the instrument. If the instrument is filled with dual individual sales indicators, both indicators shall be correctly synchronised.

(7) No measuring instrument used for the measurement of petrol in the presence of a purchaser shall be arranged to deliver measured quantities at more than one outlet.

#### **79. Verification of liquid fuel, etc., instruments**

(1) Every measuring instrument shall be tested under practical working conditions with the liquid fuel or oil that the instrument is intended to deliver.

(2) Before conducting any test for accuracy, the inspector shall wet his measures and allow them to drain for a period equivalent to half a minute per gallon. When testing instruments used for dispensing liquids of high viscosity, the standard should be cleaned after each delivery.

(3) Measuring instruments shall be tested for accuracy at different capacities by transferring liquid directly from the nozzle to the standard. This shall include tests at 5 gallons, 1 gallon and  $\frac{1}{2}$  gallon.

(4) Indications shall be correct within the limits of error specified in Table XXII to these Regulations when tested at various speeds. Instruments shall, where practicable, be tested at speeds from 2 gallons per minute up to the maximum speed at which the instrument will discharge.

(5) If an instrument is fitted with a pre-setting mechanism, the instrument shall be correct with or without the use of such mechanism.

(6) In the case of instruments fitted with any type of cut-off device, the inspector shall test the efficiency of such device.

(7) Instruments designed for mixing oil and petrol shall be correct for quantity when tested with different ratios of oil and petrol.

(8) If the inspector suspects the instrument is leaking, he shall fully prime the instrument, and after a period of one hour ascertain that the deficiency does not exceed 1 fl. oz. when testing the smallest individual quantity measured.

(9) An inspector shall forthwith return any liquid fuel or lubricating oil withdrawn from any tank or container for the purposes of his tests to the tank or container from which it was withdrawn, or any other container nominated by the owner or user of the instrument and if he is requested, he shall furnish to the person in charge of the instrument a signed statement of the quantities so withdrawn and returned.

#### **80. Stamping of liquid fuel, etc., instruments**

(1) When a measuring instrument complies with the requirements of this Part of these Regulations an inspector shall fix his stamp in such a manner as to seal all measure adjusting devices and such other parts of the instrument as may be directed by the superintendent of weights and measures.

(2) In the case of instruments with price computing mechanism, the instruments shall not be stamped or certificated unless the price indications are correct.

#### **PART XVII**

##### *Offences*

#### **81. Forgery**

Any person who replaces or transfers a stamp affixed by an inspector of weights and measures shall be deemed to have committed an offence of forgery under section 16 of the Act.

## **82. Removal of stamps**

Where any weighing or measuring instrument is required to be stamped in more than one place, the removal or destruction of any of the stamps shall render the instrument unstamped contrary to paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 23 of the Act.

## **83. Obstruction of inspector**

Any person who refuses an inspector the use of liquid fuel or lubricating oil necessary for the purpose of testing any measuring instrument, or fails to unlock any tank or container connected with the measuring instrument, shall be guilty of an offence of obstruction contrary to section 11 of the Act.

### *Miscellaneous*

## **84. Interpretation**

In these Regulations unless the context otherwise requires-

"**Act**" means the Weights and Measures Act;

"**capacity**" means in reference to a weighing instrument the maximum load which it is constructed to weigh;

"**correct**" means in reference to a weight, measure or instrument correct within the limits of error specified in the Tables appended to these Regulations;

"**error**" in reference to a weighing instrument includes deficiency in sensitivity;

"**instrument**" means a weighing instrument or a measuring instrument.

## **85. Revocation, short title and extent**

(1) The Weights and Measures Regulations 1922 No. 24 are hereby revoked.

(2) These Regulations may be cited as the Weights and Measures Regulations, and shall apply throughout the Federation.

TABLE I

*Permissible abbreviations of denominations of weights and measures*

<i>Weights</i>	<i>Length</i>
Hundredweight .....	cwt.
Pound .....	lb.
Ounce (avoirdupois) .....	oz.
Ounce (troy) .....	oz. tr.
Ounce (Apothecaries) .....	oz. Apoth.
	Yard .....
	Foot .....
	Inch .....

TABLE I—*continued*

Dram .....	dr.	<i>Capacity</i>
Grain .....	gr.	Gallon .....
Pennyweight .....	dwt.	Quart .....
		Pint .....
		Fluid ounce .....
		Fluid drachm .....
		Minim .....
Kilogramme .....	kilog. or kg.	
		Metre .....
		Decimetre .....
Gramme .....	grm.	Centimetre .....
Decigramme .....	dg.	Millimetre .....
Centigramme .....	cg.	Cubic centimetre .....
Milligramme .....	mg.	Cubic millimetre .....
Metric carat .....	c.m.	<i>Capacity</i>
		Litre .....
		Decilitre .....
		Centilitre .....
		Millilitre .....

TABLE II

*Avoirdupois weights allowances*

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>	
	<i>Iron Weights</i>	<i>Non-Iron Weights</i>
From $\frac{1}{2}$ dr. to 8 dr. ....		0.5 grains
1 oz. and 2 ozs. ....		1 grain
From 4 ozs. to 1 lb. ....	4 grains	2 grains
2 lbs. ....	6 grains	3 grains
From 4 lbs. to 7 lbs. ....	10 grains	5 grains
10 lbs. ....	16 grains	8 grains
14 lbs. and 20 lbs. ....	20 grains	10 grains
28 lbs. ....	30 grains	15 grains

TABLE II—*continued*TABLE IV—*continued*

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>
4, 6 ozs. apoth.	0.3 grains
8, 10 ozs. apoth.	0.5 grains

TABLE V

*Troy bullion weights allowances*

<i>Denomination (ounces troy)</i>	<i>Error in excess only grains</i>
500, 400, 300	5
200, 100	4
50, 40	2
30, 20	1
10	0.7
5	0.5
4, 3	0.4
2	0.3
1	0.2
.5, .4, .3, .2, .1	0.1
.05, .04, .03, .02	0.05
.01	0.02
.005 to .001	0.01

Troy bullion weights will be adjusted to agree with the Nigerian Trade Standards upon special request.

TABLE VI

*Metric weights allowances*

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>	
	<i>Iron Weights</i>	<i>Non-Iron Weights</i>
	<i>Milligrammes</i>	<i>Milligrammes</i>
1 milligramme	—	0.1
2 mg. and 5 mg.	—	0.2
1 centigramme	—	0.5



TABLE VIII

*Measures of length allowances*

## END MEASURES

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>
<i>inch</i>	
Up to 1 foot .....	.02
Over 1 ft. and under 3 ft. .....	.05
3 ft. .....	.1
Over 3 ft. and under 10 ft. .....	.2
10 ft. to under 50 ft. .....	.5
50 ft. to 100 ft. .....	1
<i>Millimetre</i>	
Under 1 metre .....	1
1 metre .....	2
10 metre .....	15
20 metre .....	25

## LINE MEASURES

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>
<i>inch</i>	
Up to 1 foot.....	.005
Over 1 ft. and not exceeding 3 ft. .....	.02
Over 3 ft. and not exceeding 10 ft. .....	.1
10 ft. and over	As for end measures

The superintendent may fix allowances more precise than the above for line measures of high accuracy intended for any special purpose and submitted for verification under the Act. Such measures will be verified only at the Headquarters of the Weights and Measures Section under such conditions as the superintendent shall direct.

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TABLE IX  
*Liquid measures of capacity allowances*

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>	
		<i>minims.</i>
¼ gill.....	7½	
½ gill .....	15	
gill .....	30	
½ pint .....	45	
		<i>fl. dr.</i>
pint .....	1	
quart .....	2	
½ gallon .....	3	
gallon .....	4	
2, 3 gallons .....	5	
4, 5 gallons .....	6	
Above 5 gallons .....	1 fl. dr. per gallon	
		<i>cc.</i>
0.001 litre or millilitre .....	0.025	or
0.002 litre .....	0.05	or
0.005 litre .....	0.125	or
0.01 litre or centilitre .....	0.25	or
0.02 litre .....	0.5	or
0.05 litre .....	1	or
0.1 litre or decilitre .....	1	or
0.2 litre .....	2.5	or
0.5 litre .....	5	or
1 litre .....	7.5	or
2 litres .....	10	or
5 litres .....	15	or
10 litres or dekalitre .....	20	or
20 litres .....	25	or
		<i>litre</i>
0.001 litre or millilitre .....	0.000025	
0.002 litre .....	0.00005	
0.005 litre .....	0.000125	
0.01 litre or centilitre .....	0.00025	
0.02 litre .....	0.0005	
0.05 litre .....	0.001	
0.1 litre or decilitre .....	0.001	
0.2 litre .....	0.0025	
0.5 litre .....	0.005	
1 litre .....	0.0075	
2 litres .....	0.01	
5 litres .....	0.015	
10 litres or dekalitre .....	0.02	
20 litres .....	0.025	

The superintendent may fix allowances more precise than the above for glass graduated measures intended for special purposes (e.g. laboratory work) and submitted for verification under the Act. Such measures shall be verified at the Headquarters of the Weights and Measures Section under such conditions as the superintendent shall direct.

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TABLE XI—*continued*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load</i>
	<i>milligrammes</i>	<i>milligrammes</i>
100 grammes	10	20
500 grammes	15	30
1 kilog	25	50
5 kilog	50	100
10 kilog	100	200
25 kilog	250	500

Allowances on beam scales of capacities not specified above shall be in proportion.

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TABLE XII

*Beam scales Class B allowances*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load</i>
	<i>grains</i>	<i>grains</i>
1 oz.	0.2	0.2
2 oz.	0.4	0.4
8 oz.	1	1
1 lb.	2	2
2 lb.	4	4
4 lb.	8	8
7 lb.	12	12
10 lb.	20	20
14 lb.	1	1
20 lb.	1½	1½
28 lb.	2	2
56 lb.	3	3
1 cwt.	6	6
2 cwt.	8	8
5 cwt.	1 oz.	1 oz.
10 cwt.	2 oz.	2 oz.

TABLE XII—*continued*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load</i>
	<i>drams</i>	<i>drams</i>
100 grammes	30	30
200 grammes	60	60
500 grammes	125	125
1 kilog	250	250
2 kilog	500	500
	<i>grammes</i>	<i>grammes</i>
5 kilog	1	1
10 kilog	2	2
25 kilog	5	5
50 kilog	10	10
100 kilog	15	15
200 kilog	25	25
500 kilog	50	50

Allowances on beam scales of capacities not indicated above shall be in proportion.

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TABLE XIII  
*Beam scale Class C allowances*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load</i>	
	<i>oz.</i>	<i>grains</i>	<i>grains</i>
1		1	1
2		2	2
8		4	4
<i>lb.</i>			
1		8	8
2		16	16
		<i>drams</i>	<i>drams</i>
4		1	1
7		2	2

TABLE XIII—*continued*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load</i>
	<i>drams</i>	<i>drams</i>
10	3	3
14	4	4
20	6	6
28	8	8
56	12	12
<i>cwt.</i>		
1	1½	1½
2	2	2
5	4	4
10	8	8
<i>grammes</i>		
100	100	100
200	250	250
500	500	500
<i>kilog.</i>		
1	1	1
2	2	2
5	4	4
10	8	8
25	20	20
50	40	40
100	60	60
200	100	100
500	200	200

Allowances on beam scales of capacities not specified above shall be in proportion.

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TABLE XV—*continued*

<i>Capacity kilog.</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load</i>
1	5	5
2	7	7
5	10	10
7	15	15
10	20	20
15	25	25
20	35	35
25	40	40
50	50	50

Allowances on counter machines of capacities not specified above shall be in proportion.

TABLE XVI

*Spring balance machine allowances*

<i>Capacity lb.</i>	<i>Error at full load*</i> <i>drams</i>
1	4
2	6
4	8
7	12 oz.
10	14
15	1 oz.
20	1 oz. 8 drams
40	2 oz. 8 drams
100	8 oz.
150	12
200	1 lb.
300	1 lb. 8 oz.
400	2 lb.
500	2 lb. 8 oz.
1,000	5 lb.

TABLE XVI—*continued*

<i>Capacity</i> <i>grammes</i>	<i>Error at full load*</i> <i>grammes</i>
500	5
<i>kilog.</i>	
1	10
2	15
5	20
10	40
15	60
20	80
25	100
50	250
75	375
100	500
125	625
200	1,000
250	1,250
500	2,500

\* The errors permissible at intermediate loads shall be in proportion to the load applied provided that from zero to half load, half the errors prescribed at full load may be allowed at any point (*see* regulation 36 (2)).

TABLE XVII

*Steelyard allowances*

<i>Capacity</i> <i>lb.</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load*</i>	
		<i>oz.</i>	<i>oz.</i>
56		2	2
84		3	3
112		4	4
150		6	6
200		8	8

TABLE XVII—*continued*

<i>Capacity</i> <i>lb.</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load*</i>	
		<i>oz.</i>	<i>oz.</i>
250		10	10
300		12	12
400		1 lb.	1 lb.
500		1 lb. 4 oz.	1 lb. 4 oz.
<i>kilog.</i>		<i>grammes</i>	<i>grammes</i>
25		50	50
50		100	100
90		180	180
100		200	200
125		250	250
150		300	300
200		400	400
250		500	500

Allowances on steelyards of capacities not specified above shall be in proportion.

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\* The errors permissible at intermediate loads shall be in proportion to the load applied provided that from zero to half load, half the errors prescribed at full load may be allowed at any point (*see* regulation 36 (2)).

TABLE XVIII  
*Dead weight machine allowances*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load</i>
1 cwt.	2 oz.	2 oz.
2 cwt.	3 oz.	3 oz.
3 cwt.	4 oz.	4 oz.
4 cwt.	6 oz.	6 oz.
5 cwt.	8 oz.	8 oz.
7 cwt.	12 oz.	12 oz.
10 cwt.	1 lb.	1 lb.
12 cwt.	1 lb. 4 oz.	1 lb. 4 oz.

TABLE XVIII—*continued*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load</i>
15 cwt.	1 lb. 8 oz.	1 lb. 8 oz.
20 cwt.	2 lb.	2 lb.
50 cwt.	5 lb.	5 lb.
<i>kilogrammes</i>	<i>grammes</i>	<i>grammes</i>
50	50	50
100	100	100
150	150	150
200	200	200
250	250	250
500	500	500
1,000	1 kilog.	1 kilog.
2,000	2 kilog.	2 kilog.

Allowances on deadweight machines of capacities not specified above shall be in proportion.

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TABLE XIX

*Platform machine allowances*

<i>Capacity</i> <i>cwt.</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load*</i>
1	2 oz.	2 oz.
2	4 oz.	4 oz.
3	8 oz.	8 oz.
4	12 oz.	12 oz.
5	1 lb.	1 lb.
7	1 lb. 8 oz.	1 lb. 8 oz.
10	2 lb.	2 lb.
12	2 lb. 2 oz.	2 lb. 2 oz.
15	2 lb. 4 oz.	2 lb. 4 oz.
20	2 lb. 8 oz.	2 lb. 8 oz.
30	2 lb. 12 oz.	2 lb. 12 oz.

TABLE XIX—*continued*

<i>Capacity</i> <i>cwt.</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i>	<i>Error at full load*</i>
40	3 lb.	3 lb.
50	3 lb. 4 oz.	3 lb. 4 oz.
<i>Capacity</i> <i>kilog.</i>	<i>Sensitiveness when fully loaded</i> <i>grammes</i>	<i>Error at full load*</i> <i>grammes</i>
50	50	50
100	100	100
125	150	150
150	250	250
200	400	400
250	500	500
500	750	750
1,000	1,000	1,000
1,250	1,125	1,125
1,500	1,250	1,250
1,750	1,375	1,375
2,000	1,500	1,500

Allowances on platform machines of capacities not specified above shall be in proportion.

\* The errors permissible at intermediate loads shall be in proportion to the load applied, provided that from zero to half load, half the errors prescribed at full load may be allowed at any point (*see* regulation 36 (2)).

	<i>Error up to <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> load</i>	<i>Error over <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> load to full load</i>
Self-indicating and semi-self-indicating platform machines as defined in para. (ii) of regulation 63.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ smallest sub-division of chart or dial in excess or deficiency.	one smallest sub-division of charge or dial in excess or deficiency.

TABLE XX

TABLE XXI

*Crane machine allowances*

Capacity	Sensitivity when fully loaded		Error at full load*
	Lever machines	Lever and spring machines	
1 cwt.	4 oz.	4 oz.	
5 cwt.	8 oz.	8 oz.	
10 cwt.	1 lb.	1 lb.	A weight represented by the interval between consecutive graduation marks.
ton	lb.	lb.	
1	3	3	
2	4	4	
5	8	8	
10	10	12	
20	14	20	
25	18	22	
50	21	28	
75	35	42	
100	42	56	
200	84	112	
kilog.	grammes	grammes	
50	100	100	pro-
100	200	200	any
200	300	300	ad
500	500	500	of de-
kilog.			
1,000	1	1	A weight represented kilog. by the interval between consecutive graduation marks.
2,000	2	2	
10,000	3	5	
20,000	6	10	
30,000	8	12	
40,000	9	14	

**CAP. W3**

TABLE XXI—*continued*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Sensitivity when fully loaded</i>		<i>Error at full load*</i>
	<i>Lever machines</i>	<i>Lever and spring machines</i>	<i>Hydraulic machines</i>
50,000	10	16	
60,000	12	18	
100,000	15	25	

Allowances on crane machines of capacities not specified above shall be in proportion.

\* The errors permissible at intermediate loads shall be in proportion to the load applied, provided that from zero to half load, half the errors prescribed at full load may be allowed at any point (see regulation 36 (2)).

TABLE XXII

*Liquid fuel and lubricating oil instrument allowances*

<i>Quantity delivered</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>
Up to 1 pint .....	1 fluid drachm
Above 1 pint to below 1 gallon .....	2 fluid drachm
1 gallon .....	½ fluid ounce
Above 1 gallon .....	½ fluid ounce per gallon
Up to 0.5 litre .....	5 ccs. or 0.005 litre
Above 0.5 litre to below 5 litres .....	10 ccs. or 0.01 litre
5 litres .....	15 ccs. or 0.015 litre
Above 5 litres .....	3 ccs. per litre or 0.003 litre per litre

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (PRIMARY STANDARDS) ORDER**

under section 47

[1st December, 1965]

[Commencement.]

## **1. Short title, extent and commencement**

(1) This Order may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Primary Standards) Order and shall apply throughout the Federation.

[L.N.1200fI965.]

(2) This Order shall come into force on 1 December 1965, and accordingly the existing standards which, but for the fact that this Order comes into force on 1 December 1965, would under the Act become the Nigerian primary imperial standards on that date, shall cease to be standards for Nigeria on that date.

## **2. The Nigerian primary standards**

(1) The Nigerian primary standards of weights and measures are hereby declared to be-

- (a) in the case of the metre, the nickel steel bar described in Part **I** of the Schedule of this Order;
- (b) in the case of the kilogramme, the stainless steel cylinder described in Part **II** of the Schedule of this Order;
- (c) in the case of the pound, the stainless steel mass described in Part **III** of the Schedule of this Order;
- (d) in the case of the yard, the nickel steel bar described in Part IV of the Schedule of this Order.

(2) The said Nigerian primary standards of the metre, kilogramme, pound and yard shall be under the custody of the Director-General of the Ministry of Trade and Tourism.

## **SCHEDULE**

### *The Nigerian primary standards*

#### **PART I**

##### *The Nigerian primary standard of the metre*

A bar of nickel steel of "H"-section about 103 centimetres in length and 24 millimetres square in overall section marked "SIP GENEVE No. 12202 20°C NI 58%." The upper surface of the web of the "H" is chromed and highly polished and is engraved with a main scale of fine transverse lines 1 centimetre apart numbered "0" to "100", the spaces between these lines being further divided by shorter transverse lines 1 millimetre apart. This scale is cut by two longitudinal fine lines parallel to the axis of the bar. The length of the Nigerian Primary Standard Metre shall be measured between those two fine transverse lines of the main scale which are marked "0" and "100", the plane of measurement to be co-incidental with the upper surface or the web of the "H" and the line of measurement to be halfway between the two fine longitudinal lines and parallel thereto. Measurement shall be made at a temperature of 20° Celsius, the bar being supported on rollers approximately 1 centimetre in diameter at the points indicated by the arrows on one flank of the bar.

## PART II

### *The Nigerian primary standard of the kilogramme*

A solid cylinder of non-magnetic stainless steel approximately 5.5 centimetres in diameter and 5.5 centimetres in height marked "FNI 1kg.".

## PART III

### *The Nigerian primary standard of the pound*

A solid mass of non-magnetic stainless steel of cylindrical shape with a knob marked "I lb. FN2" the cylindrical part being approximately 4 centimetres in diameter and 4 centimetres in height.

## PART IV

### *The Nigerian primary standard of the yard*

A bar of nickel steel of "H"-section about 42 inches long and about 1 inch square in overall section marked "Hilger and Watts Ltd. London No. 224/63/244. Standard at 68°F". The upper surface of one of the uprights of the "H" is engraved with a coarse scale of 41 transverse lines about 1 inch apart and numbered consecutively "0" to "40" and the space between each of these transverse lines is divided into 20 equal parts by shorter transverse lines. The upper surface of the web of the "H" is chromed and highly polished and is engraved with a main scale of fine transverse lines corresponding to the coarse scale and this main scale is cut by two longitudinal fine lines parallel to the axis of the bar. The length of the Nigerian Primary Standard Yard shall be measured between those two fine transverse lines of the main scale which correspond respectively to the lines marked "0" and "36" on the coarse scale, the plane of measurement to be coincidental with the upper surface of the web of the "H" and the line of measurement to be half way between the two fine longitudinal lines and parallel thereto. Measurement shall be made at a temperature of 20°Celsius, the bar being supported on rollers approximately 1 centimetre in diameter at the points indicated by the arrows engraved on one of the flanks of the bar.

## **WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (DEFINITION OF UNITS) ORDER**

[*1st December, 1965*]

[Commencement.]

### **1. Short title and extent**

This Order may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Definition of Units) Order 1965 and shall apply throughout the Federation.

### **2. Definition of units**

The metre, litre, kilogramme, ampere, ohm, volt and watt shall for the purposes of measurement falling to be made in Nigeria have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Schedule hereto, being the meanings appearing to the Minister to reproduce in English the international definitions of those units in force at the date of the making of this Order.

## SCHEDULE

### DEFINITION OF UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

#### *Measurement of length*

##### METRE

The metre is the length equal to 1 650 763.73 wavelengths in vacuum of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the level 2p 10 and 5d 5 of the Krypton 86 atom.  
(General conference of Weights and Measures held in Paris in 1960).

#### *Measurement of capacity*

##### LITRE

The litre is the volume occupied by a mass of 1 kilogramme of pure water at its maximum density and under standard atmospheric pressure.  
(General Conference of Weights and Measures held in Paris in 1901).

#### *Measurement of mass*

##### KILOGRAMME

The kilogramme is the unit of mass represented by the mass of the international prototype kilogramme.  
(General Conference of Weights and Measures held in Paris in 1901).

#### *Measurement of electricity*

##### AMPERE

The ampere is the constant current which, if maintained in two straight parallel conductors of infinite length and of negligible circular section and placed 1 metre apart in vacuum will produce between the conductors a force equal to  $2 \times 10^7$  M.K.S. units of force per metre of length.

(General Conference of Weights and Measures held in Paris in 1948).

##### OHM

The ohm is the electrical resistance between two points of a conductor when a constant difference of potential of 1 volt applied between the two points produces in the conductor a current of 1 ampere, the conductor not being the seat of any electromotive force.

(General Conference of Weights and Measures held in Paris in 1948).

##### VOLT

The volt is the difference of electrical potential between two points of conducting wire carrying a constant current of 1 ampere when the power dissipated between these two points is equal to 1 watt.

(General Conference of Weights and Measures held in Paris in 1948).

##### WATT

The watt is the power which gives rise to the production of energy at 1 joule per second.

(General Conference of Weights and Measures held in Paris in 1948).

NOTE.-The reference in relation to each definition to a General Conference of Weights and Measures is a reference to the General Conference of Weights and Measures (convened by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures) at which that definition was recognised.

## **WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (REVOCATION) ORDER**

under section 47

[21st August, 1975]

[Commencement.]

### **1. Revocation of Sixth and Seventh Schedules of L.N. 98 of 1975**

The Sixth and Seventh Schedules to the Weights and Measures Act are hereby revoked in relation to the trades and sectors of the economy specified in the first column of the Schedule hereto, as from the dates respectively specified in the second column of that Schedule.

### **2. Short title**

This Order may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Revocation) Order.

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#### **SCHEDULE**

<i>Trades and Sectors of Economy</i>	<i>Dates of Revocation</i>
1. Posts and Telecommunications .....	1st April, 1976
2. Works and Housing .....	1st April, 1976
3. Power and Fuel .....	1st April, 1976
4. Educational Institutions .....	1 st April, 1976
5. Building Construction .....	1 st April, 1976
6.(a) Consumer Goods (pre-packed) .....	31 st December, 1977
(b) Other Consumer Goods .....	1st April, 1976
7. Produce Marketing .....	1 st April, 1976
8. Transport .....	1st December, 1976
9. Agriculture .....	1 st December, 1977
10. Any other trade sector not mentioned above .....	1 st December, 1977

## **WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (STANDARDISATION OF INDEGENOUS MEASURES) REGULATIONS**

under sections 8 and 47 (2) (c)

[21st July, 1992]

[Commencement.]

## **1. Application**

(1) For the purpose of these Regulations, an indigenous measure shall be a capacity measurement used for the measurement of grains, liquid and other foods except fruits, tubers and vegetables.

(2) The approved indigenous measure lawful for use for trade shall be of those capacities set out in Table 1 to these Regulations.

## **2. Materials and principles of construction**

Indigenous measures shall be made wholly of stainless steel, enamelled, galvanised, or similarly treated mild steel, or high density polyethylene plastic materials of sufficient gauge and strength to withstand ordinary wear and tear in the normal course of trade.

## **3. Shape and depths, etc. of indigenous measures**

Indigenous measures shall be of the shapes and depths prescribed in Tables 2 (a) and 2 (b) respectively to these Regulations and shall not be subdivided.

## **4. Indigenous Measures exceeding 10 litres**

Indigenous measures of 10 litres and above may have one or more straightening bands and may be fitted with handles.

## **5. Construction**

No indigenous measure shall be constructed in such a way that it traps grains, liquid, or any other foods in the process of delivery to the buyer.

## **6. False bottom**

An indigenous measure shall not have a false bottom.

## **7. Trade mark**

A trade mark, if any, on any indigenous measure shall be in such form that it cannot be mistaken for an inspector's stamp.

## **8. Capacity**

The capacity of an indigenous liquid measure made of plastic, shall be defined by a line not less than 2 cm and not more than 4 em from the top rim capacity and the meniscus of the content shall be readily visible to the ordinary eye through the material and the defining line shall not be less than 5 em in length.

## **9. Denomination**

(1) The denomination of each measure shall be clearly, conspicuously, indelibly and permanently marked on the outer side of the body.

(2) The denomination shall be marked in full or in one of the prescribed abbreviations set out in Table 4 to these Regulations.

## **10. Verification**

An inspector shall verify an indigenous measure by comparing it with the appropriate working standard.

## **11. Error**

The error allowance permissible on indigenous measures shall be those set out in Table 3 to these Regulations.

## **12. Stamping**

(1) Every manufacturer or importer of indigenous measure shall submit such measure to an inspector for verification and stamping before sale or distribution.

(2) Any manufacturer or importer who fails to comply with the provisions of subparagraph (1) of this paragraph, shall be guilty of an offence under the Weights and Measures Act.

[Cap. W3.]

## **13. Method of Stamping**

(1) An indigenous measure shall be stamped by engraving, embossing, etching, sand-blasting or by any other method approved by the superintendent.

(2) In the case of an indigenous measure whose capacity is defined by a line, the stamp shall be placed as near as possible to the defined line.

## **14. Failure to comply**

(1) Any person who manufactures, deals in or imports any indigenous measures shall, before commencement of production, importation or otherwise-

- (a) submit such model to the superintendent for an initial approval;
- (b) provide the necessary assistance as may be required by the superintendent for the verification;
- (c) maintain such records and registers as the superintendent may direct, and if required so to do, shall produce such records or register to an inspector of Weights and Measures.

(2) Any manufacturer, dealer, or importer who violates the provisions of these Regulations shall be guilty of an offence under the Weights and Measures Act.

## **15. Citation**

These Regulations may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Standardisation of Indigenous Measures) Regulations and shall apply throughout the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

## **16. Interpretation**

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-

"capacity" means what the measure is constructed to contain when tested;

**"error"** means quantity in excess or deficiency of the inspector's standard;

**"food"** includes drinks, articles and substances used as ingredients in the preparation of food or drink or of such products except tubers, fruits and vegetables;

**"inogenous measures"** means a capacity measure as defined in paragraph 1 of these Regulations;

**"prescribed"** means prescribed by these Regulations;

**"stamp"** means an inspector's stamp, as defined in the Weights and Measures Act.

TABLE 1

*Inogenous measures lawful for use for trade*

(i) 250 cubic centimeter

(ii) 1 litre

(iii) 5 litres

(iv) 10 litres

(v) 20 litres

(vi) multiples of 10 litres

TABLE 2 (a)

*Shapes of inogenous measures approved for use for trade*

(A) MEASURES MADE OF METAL

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Shape</i>
(i) 250 cc.	- Cylindrical shaped
(ii) 1 litre	- Bowl shaped
(iii) 5 litres	- Bowl shaped
(iv) 10 litres	- Cylindrical shaped
(v) 20 litres	- Cylindrical shaped

(B) MEASURES MADE OF POLYTHELENE PLASTIC MATERIALS

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Shape</i>
(i) 250 cc.	- Bottle shaped
(ii) 1 litre	- Bottle shaped
(iii) 5 litres	- Rectangular shaped
(iv) 10 litres	- Rectangular shaped

(B) MEASURES MADE OF POL YETHELENE PLASTIC MATERIALS-*continued*

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Shape</i>
(v) 20 litres	- Rectangular shaped
(vi) multiples of 10 litres	- Rectangular shaped

TABLE 2 (b)

The depth of an indigenous measure of the cylindrical shape if made of metal shall be-

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Depth minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
(i) 250 cc.	8cm.	8.5cm.
(ii) 10 litres	30cm.	31.85cm.
(iii) 20 litres	40cm.	40.75cm.

TABLE 3

*Error allowances permissible on indigenous measures*

(A) Measures intended for use for liquid:

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>
(i) 250 cc	1%
(ii) 10 litres	0.75%
(iii) 5 litres	0.3%
(iv) 10 litres	0.2%
(v) 20 litres	0.125%

(B) Measures intended for use in other foods:

<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Error in excess or deficiency</i>
(i) 250cc	2%
(ii) 1 litres	1.5%
(iii) 5 litres	0.6%
(iv) 10 litres	0.4%
(v) 20 litres	0.25%

TABLE 4

*Abbreviations approved for indigenous measures*

- (i) litre - l
- (ij) Cubic centimetre - cc.