

Uganda

National Flag and Armorial Ensigns Act Chapter 172

Legislation as at 31 December 2023

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National Flag and Armorial Ensigns Act (Chapter 172)
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Uganda

National Flag and Armorial Ensigns Act Chapter 172

Commenced on 9 October 1962

[This is the version of this document at 31 December 2023.]

[Note: This legislation was revised and consolidated as at 31 December 2000 and 31 December 2023 by the Law Reform Commission of Uganda. All subsequent amendments have been researched and applied by Laws.Africa for ULII.]

[Amended by [Law Revision \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Act, 2023 \(Act 17 of 2023\)](#) on 28 July 2023]

An Act to make provision for and in connection with the declaration of the national flag and armorial ensigns of Uganda and the protection against disrespect and misuse.

[Cap. 254 (Revised Edition, 1964); Cap. 254 (Revised Edition, 2000); Act 17/2023]

1. Interpretation

In this Act—

“**armorial ensigns**” means the Armorial Ensigns of Uganda;

“**currency point**” has the value assigned to it in Schedule 1 to this Act;

“**national flag**” means the National Flag of Uganda.

2. Declaration of national flag and armorial ensigns

- (1) The flag of which the design is set out in Part I of Schedule 2 to this Act is declared to be the National Flag of Uganda.
- (2) The heraldic device of which the blazon is set out in Part II of Schedule 2 to this Act is declared to be the Armorial Ensigns of Uganda.

3. Insulting national flag or armorial ensigns

- (1) Any person who does any act or utters any words or publishes any writing with intent to bring into contempt or ridicule the national flag or armorial ensigns or any representation of the national flag or armorial ensigns commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.
- (2) Where a person convicted of an offence under subsection (1) is not a citizen of Uganda, the Minister may make an order directing that the person be deported from and remain out of Uganda, either indefinitely or for a time to be specified in the order.
- (3) An order made under subsection (2) shall be deemed to be an order made under section 54 of [the Uganda Citizenship and Immigration Control Act](#) and may be enforced and otherwise dealt with accordingly.

4. Unauthorised use of the national flag or armorial ensigns

- (1) A person shall not, without the authority of the Minister, use or permit to be used in connection with any business, trade, calling or profession the national flag or the armorial ensigns, or a flag or device so nearly resembling them as to be calculated to deceive, in a manner calculated to lead to the belief that he or she is duly authorised to use the national flag or armorial ensigns, as the case may be, in that connection.

- (2) Any person who contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding twelve currency points or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or both.

5. Regulations

The Minister may make regulations—

- (a) prescribing the occasions upon which, the persons by whom and the manner in which the national flag or the armorial ensigns may be flown or displayed, as the case may be;
- (b) prohibiting, controlling or restricting the use of the national flag or armorial ensigns; and
- (c) regarding the manner in which applications may be made to him or her for his or her authority to use the national flag or armorial ensigns in the connection mentioned in section 4, prescribing a form of licence by which that authority may be given and fixing fees for the applications and licences.

6. Power to amend Schedule 1

The Minister responsible for finance may, by statutory instrument, with the approval of Cabinet, amend Schedule 1 to this Act.

Schedule 1 (Sections 1, 6)

Currency point

A currency point is equivalent to twenty thousand shillings.

Schedule 2 (Section 2)

Design of national flag and blazon of armorial ensigns

Part I – Design of the national flag

Six horizontal stripes of equal width coloured from top to bottom black, yellow, red, black, yellow and red, with a crested crane on a white circle in the centre.

Part II – Blazon of the armorial ensigns

For arms, sable upon the fess point a sun in his splendour and in base a Uganda drum gold the skin and guy-ropes argent, a chief Barry wavy of six azure and argent; behind the shield two Uganda spears of estate crossed in saltire proper; and upon a compartment representing a grassy mound down the centre of which flows a river between in dexter a sprig of coffee and in sinister a sprig of cotton, both leaved and fruited proper, for supporters, on the dexter side a male Uganda kob proper and on the sinister side a crested crane likewise proper; together with this motto, FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY.