REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

CONSOLIDATION OF THE FRENCH AND ENGLISH TEXTS OF THE LAWS OF VANUATU ACT [CAP 295]

Approval of the English Text of the Vanuatu National Sports Authority Consolidation Edition 2025
Order No. 74 of 2025

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by subsection 9(1) of the Consolidation of the French and English Texts of the Laws of Vanuatu Act [CAP 295], I, the Honourable JOB SAM ANDY, Minister of Youth, Justice and Community Services, make the following Order:

1 Approval of the English Text of the Vanuatu National Sports Authority Consolidation Edition 2025

The English Text of the Vanuatu National Sports Authority Consolidation Edition 2025 is approved.

2 Appointed day

The appointed day for the coming into operation of the Vanuatu National Sports Authority Consolidation Edition 2025 is the day on which this Order is made.

3 Commencement

This Order commences on the day on which it is made.

Made at Port Vila this 25th **day of** April**, 2025.**

Honourable JOB SAM ANDY
Minister of Youth, Justice and Community Services

Commencement: 27 June 2014

VANUATU NATIONAL SPORTS AUTHORITY ACT NO. 14 OF 2014

Act 14 of 2014
Act 8 of 2024

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VANUATU NATIONAL SPORTS AUTHORITY ACT NO. 14 OF 2014

An Act to provide for the establishment, operation and regulation of the Vanuatu National Sports Authority and for related matters.

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Interpretation

In this Act, unless a contrary intention appears:

"Authority" means the Vanuatu National Sports Authority established under section 3;

"Chief Executive Officer" means the Chief Executive Officer appointed under subsection 11(1);

"Council" means the Council of Ministers established under Article 40(1) of the Constitution;

"Director General" means the Director General of the Ministry of Youth and Sports Development;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for Youth and Sports Development;

"National Federation" means National Sports Federations, duly recognized by their respective International Federations (IFs) as recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC);

"sports" means all forms of physical activity that contribute to physical fitness, mental wellbeing and social interaction such as play, recreation, organized or competitive sports and indigenous sports and games.

2. Objectives of the Authority

The objectives of the Authority are:

(a) to institute a clear and manageable framework to guide and enhance the delivery of sports programmes in Vanuatu through a coordinated and partnership approach at all levels of participation; and

(b) to provide coordination, direction and support the development of sports in Vanuatu; and

(c) to establish higher standards of excellence in all sports; and

(d) to improve participation in structured physical activity at all levels of participation; and

(e) to support and encourage excellence in the performance of athletes and coaches by developing sports science and encouraging research in high performance of athletes.

PART 2 – VANUATU NATIONAL SPORTS AUTHORITY

3. Establishment of the Authority

(1) The Vanuatu National Sports Authority is established.

(2) The Authority is:

(a) a body corporate with perpetual succession; and

(b) to have a common seal; and

(c) capable of suing and being sued.

4. Composition of the Authority

The Authority consists of the following persons who are to be appointed by the Minister:

(a) the Director General; and

(b) a representative appointed by the Minister; and

(ba) the Director General of the Ministry of Education; and

(bb) the Director General of the Ministry of Health; and

(bc) the Director General of the Ministry of Internal Affairs; and

(bd) the Director General of the Ministry of Justice and Community Services; and

(be) the Director of the Department of Finance; and

(c) the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Vanuatu Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee (VASANOC); and

(d) a Lawyer, nominated by the Vanuatu Law Society.

5. Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Authority

(1) The Director General is the Chairperson of the Authority.

(2) The members of the Authority are to elect from amongst themselves a Deputy Chairperson.

(3) The Deputy Chairperson is to hold office for a period of 3 years and may be re-elected.

6. Functions of the Authority

The Authority has the following functions:

(a) to promote the development of sports in Vanuatu; and

(b) to provide for facilities for sports and recreation; and

(c) to promote the use of sporting facilities in the urban and rural areas of Vanuatu; and

(ca) to regulate sports, sports persons, sport facilities and sport activities in Vanuatu; and

(cb) to determine criteria's for the certification of sport facilities; and

(cc) to register all persons qualified to be a coach, to be a sport official and to provide first aid assistance in Vanuatu; and

(cd) to establish criteria for the certification of National Sports Federations in Vanuatu; and

(d) to maintain Government owned sports facilities; and

(e) to investigate developments in sports and disseminate knowledge and information about such developments; and

(f) to promote athletes to professional levels in their respective National Federations; and

(g) to be responsible for the promotion and advancement of National Federations; and

(h) to advise the Minister on all matters relating to the development of sports; and

(i) to co-ordinate and promote activities for the development of sports; and

(j) to initiate, encourage and facilitate researches and development in sports; and

(k) to encourage and support regular competition in all sports at all levels; and

(l) to provide in partnership with National Federations specialised sports programmes; and

(m) to assist with the organisation and funding of community sports development programmes; and

(n) to establish standards for delivery at all levels of sports development; and

(o) to assist the Ministry of Education to develop programmes for physical activities and sports in schools; and

(p) to promote sports opportunities, provision of relevant equipment, programmes and personnel, for the training of people with disabilities; and

(q) to support national sporting organizations and other related organizations in their planning, administration and development; and

(r) to co-operate with national and international sporting organizations in aiming to foster a sporting environment that is free from the unsanctioned use of performance enhancing drugs and doping methods; and

(s) to develop policies and make rules to ensure the safety and protection of all persons involved in any sports.

7. Powers of the Authority

(1) The Authority has the power to do all things that are necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of its functions.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Authority has the power to do all or any of the following:

(a) to acquire, purchase, hold, manage and dispose of real or personal property;

(b) subject to the prior approval of the Minister responsible for finance, to borrow or lend money on such terms and conditions as the Authority thinks fit;

(c) subject to the approval of the Minister, to formulate and implement policies in respect of the furtherance of and assistance to sports generally;

(d) to recommend to the Council that grants be made to any person or organization to undertake studies, assignments, commissions or investigations, or gain further appropriate experience, whether within Vanuatu or overseas, in respect of matters approved by the Authority;

(e) to recommend to the Council that grants be made or subsidies be paid to any person or organization engaged in the execution or promotion of any sporting activity, on such conditions as the Authority recommends;

(f) to collect, examine, disseminate, or publish any information relating to sports, or to any particular form of sports;

(g) to examine and consider any existing or proposed policies or practices, or other matters, relating to sports, and with the approval of the Minister, to make recommendations to any appropriate person, organization or authority;

(h) to carry out or encourage and support other persons or bodies in carrying out, research and studies into matters concerning sports and to disseminate knowledge and advice on such matters;

(i) to advise, co-operate with or assist Government Departments, local authorities, voluntary organizations or other bodies or persons on any matters concerned with sports;

(j) to develop any land or other property and to build and maintain buildings or other structures;

(k) to enter into agreements with any local authority, corporation, society, firm or person for the management and maintenance of any land, buildings or facilities relating to sports;

(l) to charge fees for admission to land or buildings vested in it or under its control, or in respect of any activity promoted, arranged or controlled by it, as the Authority thinks fit;

(m) to establish or act as trustees of any charity, organization or body, the objects of which are in accordance with any of the Authority's objects;

(n) to establish working groups and organising committee for the purposes of promoting and developing sports in Vanuatu and for implementing the objectives, functions and powers of the Authority.

8. Meetings of the Authority

(1) The Authority is to meet at least 8 times a year at a place and time to be determined by the Chairperson and may hold such other meetings as are necessary for the performance of its functions under this Act.

(2) The quorum for a meeting is 5 members of the Authority present at the meeting.

(3) A member present at the meeting has 1 vote and questions arising at a meeting are to be decided by a majority of votes.

(4) If the voting at the meeting is equal, the member chairing the meeting has a casting vote.

(5) The Chairperson is to preside at all meetings of a Authority and if the Chairperson is absent, the Deputy Chairperson is to chair that meeting.

(6) The Secretary after consultation with the Chairperson, is to notify the other members of the Authority of the venue, time and date of the meeting.

(7) Subject to this Act, the Authority may determine and regulate its own procedures.

9. Secretary of the Authority

(1) The Chief Executive Officer is the Secretary of the Authority.

(2) The Secretary has the following functions:

(a) to prepare and circulate agenda and issue papers for meetings of the Authority; and

(b) to take minutes of the meetings of the Authority and circulate the minutes to members of the Authority within 3 weeks after each meeting; and

(c) to organize general meetings of the Authority; and

(d) such other functions as are imposed on the Secretary by this Act or any other Act.

10. Sitting allowances

The members of the Authority including the Chairperson are entitled to a sitting allowance of VT10,000 for each day in which the Authority sits for a meeting.

PART 3 – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, FINANCE OFFICER AND OTHER STAFF

11. Chief Executive Officer of the Authority

(1) The Authority is to appoint a Chief Executive Officer of the Authority.

(2) The Authority is to determine the remuneration and terms and conditions of employment of the Chief Executive Officer.

(3) A person must not be appointed to the position of the Chief Executive Officer unless he or she:

(a) has had at least 5 years experience in managing an office or organisation; and

(b) has applied for this position and has gone through a fair and transparent selection process.

(4) The Authority may determine other criteria required for the position of the Chief Executive Officer.

(5) The appointment of the Chief Executive Officer under subsection (1) must follow a fair and transparent selection process and must be based on merit.

(6) A person is disqualified from being appointed as the Chief Executive Officer if he or she:

(a) is or becomes a member of Parliament, of a Provincial Government Council or a member of a Municipal Council; or

(b) is bankrupt or has made an arrangement in the nature of composition or assignment with his or her creditors; or

(c) has been convicted of an offence and sentenced to a term of imprisonment of 12 months or more, whether or not it is a suspended sentence.

(7) Subject to subsection (8), the Chief Executive Officer is to hold office for a period of 5 years and is eligible for re-appointment for one term only.

(8) A person ceases to hold office as Chief Executive Officer if:

(a) he or she is disqualified for appointment under subsection (6); or

(b) he or she becomes permanently incapable of performing his or her functions under this Act; or

(c) he or she resigns from his or her office by notice in writing addressed to the Authority; or

(d) his or her appointment is terminated by the Authority for a serious breach of the terms and conditions of his or her employment.

12. Functions of the Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer has the following functions:

(a) to be responsible for the proper administration and good management of the Authority and its affairs; and

(b) to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the decisions of the Authority; and

(c) to coordinate the presentation of monitoring reports on the implementation of the decisions of the meetings of the Authority; and

(d) to manage expenditure on behalf of the Authority.

13. Finance officer

(1) The Authority is to appoint a Finance Officer of the Authority.

(2) The Authority is to determine the remuneration and terms and conditions of employment of the Finance Officer.

(3) The Finance Officer has the following functions:

(a) to keep and maintain proper records of the income and expenditure of the funds of the Authority; and

(b) to advice the Authority and the Chief Executive Officer on matters relating to the finances of the Authority; and

(c) to perform other tasks as may be directed by the Chief Executive Officer or the Authority relating to the finances of the Authority.

(4) The appointment of Finance officer under subsection (1) must follow a fair and transparent selection process and must be based on merit.

14. Other Staff of the Authority

(1) The Authority may employ other staff of the Authority as it considers necessary for the proper and efficient performance of the functions of the Authority.

(2) The Authority is to determine the terms and conditions of employment of other staff of the Authority.

(3) The appointment of other staff of the Authority must follow a fair and transparent selection process and must be based on merit.

PART 4 – FINANCIAL, REPEAL AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

15. Funds of the Authority

The funds of the Authority consists of the following:

(a) monies appropriated to the Authority by Parliament; and

(b) grants from aid donors or other international organisations; and

(c) monies received from any other source.

16. Accounts of the Authority

(1) The Authority is to keep proper accounts and other records in respect of its receipts and expenditure and is to prepare an annual statement of accounts in respect of each financial year.

(2) The accounts of the Authority are to be made up to the 31st day of December in each financial year and are to be audited by the Auditor- General or any other accounting firm nominated by the Auditor-General.

(3) Fees payable to the auditor appointed under subsection (2) is to be paid out of the funds of the Authority.

(4) The Authority must provide the Minister with a copy of the audited accounts referred to in subsection (2).

17. Annual reports

The Authority must within 3 months after the end of each financial year furnish a report to the Minister relating on the operations of the Authority for the preceding year.

18. Exemption from taxes, stamp duties, etc.

The Authority is to be exempt from all taxes and stamp duties on its profits, operations, capital, property and all documents or transactions of any description, all business licence fees and all customs and import duties.

18A. Transfer of funds, assets, liabilities and contractual obligations

(1) The funds, assets, liabilities and contractual obligations of the Vanuatu National Sports Council immediately before the commencement of this Act, are transferred upon the commencement of this Act, to the Vanuatu National Sports Authority.

(2) Any act or thing done in the name of the Vanuatu National Sports Council immediately before the commencement of this Act, is taken to have been done in the name of the Vanuatu National Sports Authority.

19. Regulation

The Minister may make Regulations prescribing matters:

(a) required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed; or

(b) necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.

20. Repeal

The Vanuatu National Sports Council Act [CAP 208] is repealed.

Table of Amendments

1	*Amended by Act 8 of 2024*	*8(2)*	*Amended by Act 8 of 2024*
4(b)	*Substituted by Act 8 of 2024*	*9(1)*	*Amended by Act 8 of 2024*
4(ba)-(be)	*Inserted by Act 8 of 2024*	*10*	*Amended by Act 8 of 2024*
6(ca)-(cd)	*Inserted by Act 8 of 2024*	*16(2)*	*Amended by Act 8 of 2024*
7(2)(n)	*Inserted by Act 8 of 2024*	*Whole of the Act*	*Amended by Act 8 of 2024*
8(1)	*Amended by Act 8 of 2024*		*Commission replaced with Authority*