



TALKING NOTES

FOR

THE HONORABLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES

**DURING THE MEDIA BRIEF ON LICENSING OF FISHERIES
ACTIVITIES ON THE MAJOR WATER BODIES (LAKES VICTORIA,
KYOGA, EDWARD, GEORGE AND ALBERT).**

AT THE UGANDA MEDIA CENTRE, KAMPALA.

JANUARY 2022.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries is implementing fisheries licensing which is an international fisheries management tool that is key in regulating entry to a fishery. This is done in line with the **Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 14 and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation (FAO) code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries** that bestows upon States the obligation to conduct fisheries licensing as a regulatory process to optimize the exploitation and utilization of the fisheries resources. The purpose of conducting licensing is to promote fisheries resources sustainability through regulation of fishing capacity, entry and exit from the fisheries sector.

This exercise is carried out from **1st January to 31st March** as provided for in **The Fish (Fishing) Rules, 2010** and this follows a calendar year. **This is followed by compliance enforcement starting on 1st April.**

Fisheries licensing is guided by the **Fish Act Cap 197. 2000; and the Fish (Fishing) Rules, 2010.**

The general procedures for fisheries licensing include; **Registration, Application, Vetting, and issuance of fishing license.** For Lake Victoria, **Species Specific Licenses** are issued and those with Arrears will be required to clear the arrears.

All persons already involved in fisheries activities shall be registered. Fresh registration is done once in every two years. Registered persons are not allowed to fish without valid licenses.

Application shall be a one off exercise, Only registered persons can apply to be considered for licensing, The format for application shall be as per the **Fish (Fish) Rules of 2010, schedule 3.**

All applicants shall be vetted for compliance to fisheries rules and regulation before issuance of Licenses. Non-compliant applicants shall be deleted from the register. Any aggrieved applicant may appeal to the Chief Fisheries Officer within a period of 30 days and if not satisfied with the decision of the Chief Fisheries Officer, can apply to the Minister of Fisheries within 30 days. All persons to be licensed shall provide **Tax Identification Numbers**, this is obtained from any nearest Uganda Revenue Authority office (URA) or their agent

Identification documents required include; **National Identification Cards** for Nationals and **passport** for non-Ugandans. Previous year License for those fishers who are renewing their licenses is also a requirement.

For those fishers who fail to pay for their licenses in time, they will be required to pay for arrears. These may be paid in a phased manner each year.

All intending persons shall specify the species of fish for which the license is being applied. Persons intending to deal in more than one species shall require more than one License. The fees for each License shall be as per the **Fish (Fish) Rules 2010 schedule 4.**

LICENSE FEES (Schedule 4 of the Fish (Fishing), Rules, 2010)

LICENSE CATEGORY FEES

- Fee per vessel on Lakes Victoria, Albert and Kyoga, Edward, George and Wamala is 100,000
- Fee per vessel on Nakivale and other minor lakes 50,000
- Fee per vessel on Swamps, rivers and dams 25,000
- License for vessels used or owned by non-citizens 2,000,000
- Trucks carrying fish by tonnage Less than 5 tonnes 250,000
- Trucks carrying fish by tonnage 5-10 tonnes 500,000
- Trucks carrying fish by tonnage over 10 tonnes 750,000
- Containerized vessels by tonnage Less than 5 tonnes 250,000
- Containerized vessels by tonnage Less than 5- 10 tonnes 500,000
- Containerized vessels by tonnage Over 10 tonnes 750,000
- By-products and processed fish (dried/smoked) transporters 500,000
- Artisanal processors/fish mongers 50,000

- Large scale artisanal processing (Fish Maws) 500,000
- Fish processing Control Fee for processing Factories 3,000,000
- Fish net manufacturing factories/importers 1,000,000
- Boat Builders/Local gear makers/repairers 50,000
- Fishing control Permit for citizen 25,000
- Special License Fishing control license for non-citizen 100,000
- Recreational fishing permit 150,000
- Special license 25,000
- Application fees 10,000
- Fish Sanitary Certificate (Per consignment) 20,00

All fisheries licensing fees payment processes shall be done in accordance with the Non Tax Revenue (NTR) collection procedures as directed by Uganda Revenue Authority (URA). The assessment of all intending licensees shall be done on the URA website.

Payments after all assessment shall be made at the nearest commercial banks as guided by URA from time to time. The Successful applicants will then be loaded onto the MAAIF licensing portal and a license will be issued.



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