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Nutrition Council Act, 1945

Act 11 of 1945

Legislation as at 1 December 1998

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Nutrition Council Act, 1945

Act 11 of 1945

Commenced on 18 May 1945

[This is the version of this document at 1 December 1998.]

An Act to establish a Council of Nutrition and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Nutrition Council Act, 1945.

2. Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“**council**” means the council established by [section 3](#);

“**magistrate’s court**” means a court established under the Magistrate’s Courts Act, [No. 66 of 1938](#);

“**Minister**” means the Minister for Health.

3. Establishment of Nutrition Council

- (1) There is hereby established a council to be known as the Swaziland Nutrition Council which shall consist of—
 - (a) the chief agricultural officer;
 - (b) the chief medical officer;
 - (c) the chief education officer;
 - (d) a Regional Secretary;
 - (e) such other public officer or officers as the Minister may from time to time designate; and
 - (f) such other persons having special knowledge of matters relating directly or indirectly to nutrition or public welfare as the Minister may from time to time appoint.
- (2) The Minister may at any time terminate the membership of any member of the council holding office under subsection (1)(e) or (f).

4. Chairman and secretary of the council

- (1) The chief agricultural officer shall be the chairman of the council and if he is unable to act, the chief medical officer shall act as chairman.
- (2) If both the chief agricultural officer and the chief medical officer are absent from any meeting, the members who are present may elect one of themselves to act as chairman at that meeting.
- (3) Any person acting as chairman shall, when so acting, have all the powers and discharge all the duties of the chairman.
- (4) The secretary to the council shall be elected by the council from the members thereof.

5. Committees

- (1) The council may at any time constitute a committee to investigate and report to it upon any matter referred to such committee by the council.
- (2) At least one member of the council shall be a member of any such committee.
- (3) The council shall designate one of the members of such committee (who shall be a member of the council) as chairman thereof, and another member to act whenever such chairman is unable to act.
- (4) The member so designated to act shall, when so acting, have all the powers and discharge all the duties of the chairman.

6. Meetings of council and committees

- (1) All meetings of the council or of a committee shall be held at such times and places as the chairman of the council or of such committee, as the case may be, may determine.
- (2) Four members shall form a quorum at any meeting of the council.
- (3) The quorum at any meeting of a committee shall be such number of members thereof as the council may at the time of its constitution determine.

7. Function of the council

The function of the council shall be to investigate and report to the Minister upon all matters relating directly or indirectly to the prevention of malnutrition in and the improvement of the diet of the inhabitants of Swaziland, which in its opinion should be investigated or which the Minister may refer to it for investigation.

8. Powers of enquiry

- (1) The council may summon any person who in its opinion may be able to give material information concerning the subject of any investigation which is being carried out by it, to appear before it at a time and place specified in the summons.
- (2) A summons issued in exercise of the powers conferred by subsection (1) shall be signed by the chairman of the council and shall be served in the same manner as it would be served if it were a subpoena issued by a magistrate's court.
- (3) Any person who having been duly summoned under subsection (1), fails without sufficient cause to attend at the time and place specified in the summons, or to remain in attendance until excused by the council from further attendance, or to answer fully and satisfactorily to the best of his knowledge and belief all questions lawfully put to him, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred emalangeni or to imprisonment not exceeding six months.
- (4) For the purposes of this section "council" includes any committee constituted under [section 5](#).

9. Power to make regulations

The Minister may make regulations relating to the processing, sale and distribution of foodstuffs in the interest of the health of the inhabitants of Swaziland or any particular section thereof, and generally for carrying out the purposes of this Act.