## **GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA**

No. 16 of 2008

Date of Assent: 24th September, 2008

## An Act to amend the Local Courts Act.

26th September, 2008

## ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia.

Enactment

1. This Act may be cited as the Local Courts (Amendment) Act, 2008, and shall be read as one with the Local Courts Act, in this Act referred to as the principal Act.

Short title Cap. 29

2. Section four of the principal Act is amended in subsections (1) and (3) by the deletion of the word "Minister" and the substitution therefor of the words "Chief Justice".

Amendment of section 4

3. The principal Act is amended by the repeal of section six and the substitution therefor of the following new section:

Repeal and replacement of section 6

6. (1) A local court shall consist of a presiding local court magistrate sitting alone or with such number of local court magistrates as may be prescribed by the Chief Justice in the court warrant:

Constitution of local courts and appointment of local court magistrates

Provided that a single local court magistrate shall constitute the court in the absence of the presiding local court magistrate.

(2) The presiding local court magistrate and other local court magistrates shall be appointed by the Commission for a period of three years and shall be eligible for reappointment.

(3) A person shall not sit as a local court magistrate in the adjudication of any matter in which the person is a party or in which the person has a pecuniary or personal interest:

Provided that if any doubt arises as to whether a local court magistrate is a party to a matter before a local court or has any pecuniary or personal interest in such matter, the local court shall refer the matter to an authorised officer who shall issue such directions as the officer may consider appropriate.