

## Summary: 2019 Act

The Zambian Local Government Act of 2019 is a crucial piece of legislation that governs local governance and administration in Zambia. The Act establishes the framework for the functioning, organization, and responsibilities of local government structures across the country.

The Act aims to decentralize governance and empower local authorities to effectively manage local affairs, promote public participation, and ensure accountability and transparency in decision-making processes. It recognizes the importance of local communities in determining their own development priorities and encourages their active involvement in local governance.

Key provisions of the Local Government Act include the establishment of local authorities such as district councils, municipal councils, and city councils, which are responsible for the administration of their respective areas. The Act outlines the composition, appointment, and functions of these local authorities, including their decision-making powers, financial management, and service delivery responsibilities.

The Act emphasizes the importance of citizen participation in local governance processes. It promotes public engagement through mechanisms such as community consultations, public hearings, and the establishment of ward committees to ensure that the needs and aspirations of local communities are adequately represented and addressed.

Financial management and accountability are significant aspects of the Act. It outlines the budgeting processes for local authorities, their revenue collection mechanisms, and financial reporting requirements to ensure transparency and effective utilization of resources. The Act also establishes mechanisms for audit and oversight of local government finances.

Additionally, the Act addresses matters related to land administration, urban planning, and infrastructure development within local authorities' jurisdictions. It provides guidelines for land use planning, the issuance of land titles, and the regulation of building and development activities.

The Local Government Act of 2019 reinforces the principles of good governance, participatory democracy, and efficient service delivery at the local level in Zambia. By devolving powers and responsibilities to local authorities, the Act aims to enhance local development, improve public services, and foster a sense of ownership and accountability among citizens.

Overall, the Act plays a crucial role in strengthening local governance, promoting citizen participation, and fostering sustainable development in Zambia. It provides the legal framework for effective local government administration and contributes to the overall advancement of the country's democratic governance system.