

Zimbabwe

Art Unions Act

Chapter 25:01

Legislation as at 31 December 2016

FRBR URI: /akn/zw/act/1860/28/eng@2016-12-31

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PDF created on 21 September 2023 at 10:41.

Collection last checked for updates: 31 December 2017.

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Art Unions Act Chapter 25:01

Published in Government Gazette

Commenced on 10 June 1891

[This is the version of this document at 31 December 2016 and includes any amendments published up to 31 December 2017.]

[Note: This version of the Act was revised and consolidated by the Law Development Commission of Zimbabwe]

AN ACT to legalize art unions.

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Art Unions Act [Chapter 25:01].

2. Interpretation

In this Act—

“**art union**” means a voluntary association formed in Zimbabwe for the purpose of encouraging the arts, and for the purchase of paintings, drawings or other works of art, to be afterwards allotted and distributed, by chance or otherwise, among the several members, subscribers or contributors forming part of such association, or for raising sums of money by subscription or contribution, to be allotted or distributed, by chance or otherwise, as prizes amongst the members, subscribers or contributors forming part of such association on the condition that such sums of money so allotted or distributed are expended solely and entirely in the purchase of paintings, drawings or other works of art.

3. Deed constituting art union to be submitted to President for approval, and President’s power to revoke and annul

- (1) The deed of partnership or other instrument constituting any art union and the rules and regulations relative to the proceedings of such art union shall first be submitted to the consideration of and be approved by the President and a copy thereof deposited with the Ministry responsible for culture.
- (2) It shall be expressed in every such deed or instrument that it shall be lawful for the President, whenever it appears to him that any such art union is perverted from the purposes of this Act, to revoke or annul the deed or instrument under which the art union so offending may have been constituted.

4. Art unions formed for the encouragement of the fine arts exempt from the operation of laws against lotteries

All art unions which may be constituted according to section three shall be deemed to be lawful associations, and the members of and subscribers and contributors to such art unions, and all persons acting under their authority or on their behalf, for the lawful purposes of such art unions, shall be free and discharged from all pains and penalties, suits, prosecutions and liabilities to which by law they would be liable but for this Act, as being concerned in illegal lotteries, or unlawful games, by reason of anything which may be done by them, or any of them, in furtherance of the allotment or distribution, by chance or otherwise, of paintings, drawings or other works of art, or of the allotment or distribution of sums of money, as prizes to be expended for their purchase.

5. Act does not apply to art union revoked or annulled

Nothing in section four shall be deemed to apply to any art union whose deed of partnership or other instrument constituting the same has been revoked or annulled in terms of subsection (2) of section three or to any member, subscriber or contributor thereto or to any person acting under his authority or on his behalf.