DEVELOPMENT AND CLASSIFICATION OF FILM ACT, 2016 (ACT 935) ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

National Film Authority

- 1. Establishment of the National Film Authority
- 2. Objects of the Authority
- 3. Functions of the Authority
- 4. Governing body of the Authority
- 5. Tenure of office of members of the Board
- 6. Meetings of the Board
- 7. Disclosure of interest
- 8. Establishment of committees
- 9. Allowances for members of the Board

Registration and Licensing of Premises

- 10. Prohibition to hold film exhibition without licence
- 11. Prohibition to operate film rental library and sales outlet without licence
- 12. Application for licence
- 13. Inspection of premises for the purpose of a licence
- 14. Issuance of licences
- 15. Registration with Copyright Administrator
- 16. Transfer of licence
- 17. Revocation or suspension of licence
- 18. Notice of operating under a licence
- 19. Classification of film
- 20. Pornographic films
- 21. Posters and advertisement of film exhibition
- 22. Exhibition of films
- 23. Attendance at film exhibition
- 24. Distribution and marketing

- 25. Exportation and importation of educational films
- 26. Power of entry
- 27. Offences and penalties
- 28. Forfeiture of equipment

Film Development Fund

- 29. Film Development Fund
- 30. Objects of the Fund
- 31. Eligibility criteria
- 32. Financial Commitment
- 33. Guidelines or criteria for application
- 34. Sources of money for the Fund

Administrative and Financial Provisions

- 35. Appointment of Executive Secretary
- 36. Functions of Executive Secretary
- 37. Appointment of Secretary to the Board
- 38. Appointment of other staff
- 39. Accounts and audit

Miscellaneous Provisions

- 40. Annual report and other reports
- 41. Regulations
- 42. Interpretation
- 43. Repeal and saving

THE NINE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIFTH

ACT

OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA ENTITLED

DEVELOPMENT AND CLASSIFICATION OF FILM

ACT, 2016

AN ACT to provide the legal framework for the production, regulation, nurturing and development of the Ghanaian film industry, and for the distribution, exhibition and marketing of films and for related matters.

DATE OF ASSENT: 16th December, 2016.

PASSED by Parliament and assented to by the President:

National Film Authority

Section 1—Establishment of National Film Authority

- (1) There is established by this Act a body corporate with perpetual succession to be known as the National Film Authority.
- (2) For the performance of its functions, the Authority may acquire and hold movable and immovable property, dispose of property and enter into a contract or any other transaction.
- (3) Where there is hindrance to the acquisition of property, the property may be acquired for the Authority under the State Lands Act, 1962, (Act 125) and the cost shall be borne by the Authority.

Section 2—Objects of the Authority

The objects of the Authority are to

- (a) evolve a dynamic, economically self-sustaining and culturally conscious film industry in the country in the national interest;
- (b) promote the creation of a conducive environment for the local production, distribution, exhibition and marketing of films;
- (c) encourage the use of films to project the identity and image of the Republic and its people within and outside the country;
- (d) promote and facilitate co-production between local and foreign producers;
- (e) regulate foreign participation in the Ghanaian film industry; and
- (f) promote the moral ethical and aesthetic values of Ghanaian society.

Section 3—Functions of the Authority

To achieve the objects the Authority shall

- (a) advise the Minister on matters affecting the film industry;
- (b) facilitate the establishment of a circuit for the distribution and marketing of Ghanaian films throughout the country and internationally;
- (c) promote the use of films for public education on national integration, unity and cohesion and the mobilisation of the people for behavioural and attitudinal change to enhance national development;
- (d) represent the country in its relations with other countries in matters related to the film industry;

- (e) ensure
- (i) the development and administration of a code of ethics for the film industry;
- (ii) the establishment and maintenance of a National Film Archive;
- (iii) the maintenance of optimal technical standards for productions; and
- (iv) compliance with the laws regulating copyright and disbursement of royalties in conjunction with the Copyright Administrator;
- (f) conduct or commission research that is necessary on films and the film industry in the country and the world at large;
- (g) set standards for training and accreditation of practitioners in the film industry;
 - (h) oversee the Film Development Fund;
- (i) act as an arbiter in disputes related to the production, distribution, exhibition and marketing of films;
- (j) promote the distribution, exhibition and marketing abroad of local films;
- (k) establish a committee to pass and classify films before the films are distributed, exhibited or marketed;
- (l) register and license
- (i) premises intended for the exhibition of films; and
- (ii) libraries and shops which sell or rent out films;
- (m) determine the registration and licensing fees to be paid with the approval of Parliament;
- (n) discourage the exhibition of films that expose children and other vulnerable groups to physical or moral hazards;
- (o) ensure that films do not portray any race, nationality, ethnic, religious or vulnerable groups like persons with disability, the aged, women or children in a demeaning manner;
- (p) ensure that films do not offend the sensibilities of any section of the society or arouse ethnic, social or religious misunderstanding or hostility;
- (q) regulate the importation, distribution and marketing of foreign films;
- (r) take steps to safeguard the interests of authors and rights owner[sic] in respect of the downloading and use of their films and related products on the internet; and
- (s) exploit the potential of films as an awareness-building medium to encourage the creation of a common identity for Ghanaians, Africans and people of African descent, throughout the world by
- (i) ensuring that scripts and productions reflect the dignity and pride of African people and promote the positive aspects of their culture,

- (ii) inculcating in citizens and the African, the spirit of heroism in persons who can serve as role models for people in different areas of human endeavour,
- (iii) encouraging the use of local and African languages, customs, music, dance and other national symbols in film production,
- (iv) making training institutions link up with second cycle and tertiary institutions in film education,
 - (v) facilitating the training of film practioners[sic]; and
- (vi) supporting the making of films that take cognisance of our positive cultural practices and traditions.

Section 4—Governing body of the Authority

- (1) The governing body of the Authority is a Board consisting of
- (a) a chairperson, who is a well-qualified film practitioner with notable experience and an expert in the Ghanaian film industry;
- (b) one representative of the Copyright Office nominated by the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice;
- (c) one representative from each of the following nominated by the Minister of the relevant sector,
- (i) Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts,
- (ii) Ministry of Communications, and
- (iii) National Film and Television Institute;
- (d) one representative from each of the following nominated by the organisations
- (i) Ghana Actors' Guild,
- (ii) Film Producers' Association of Ghana,
- (iii) Ghana Academy of Film and Television Arts,
- (iv) Women in Film and Television,
- (v) Collective Management Organisation of Audio Visual Rights Owners,
- (vi) Film Distributors and Marketers, and
- (vii) Film Crew Association of Ghana;
- (e) one representative nominated by the television stations; and
- (f) the Executive Secretary.
- (2) The members of the Board shall be appointed by the President in accordance with article 70 of the Constitution.

(3) The Board shall perform the functions of the Authority.

Section 5—Tenure of office of members of the Board

- (1) A member of the Board shall hold office for a period of not more than three years and is eligible for re-appointment but a member shall not be appointed for more than two terms.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to the Executive Secretary.
- (3) A member of the Board may at any time resign from office in writing addressed to the President through the Minister.
- (4) A member of the Board, other than the Executive Secretary of the Authority, who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board without sufficient cause ceases to be a member of the Board.
- (5) The President may by letter addressed to a member revoke the appointment of that member on the written advice of a majority of members of the Board,
- (6) Where a member of the Board is, for a sufficient reason, unable to act as a member, the Minister shall determine whether the inability would result in the declaration of a vacancy.
- (7) Where there is a vacancy
- (a) under subsection (3) or (4) or section 7 (2),
- (b) as a result of a declaration under subsection (6), or
- (c) by reason of the death of a member,

the Minister shall notify the President of the vacancy and the President shall appoint a person nominated by the representative body, to fill the vacancy.

Section 6—Meetings of the Board

- (1) The Board shall meet at least once every three months for the dispatch of business at the times and in the places determined by the chairperson.
- (2) The chairperson shall at the request in writing of not less than one-third of the membership of the Board, convene an extraordinary meeting of the Board at the place and time determined by the chairperson.
- (3) The quorum at a meeting of the Board is nine members of the Board or a greater number determined by the Board in respect of an important matter.
- (4) The chairperson shall preside at meetings of the Board and in the absence of the chairperson, a member of the Board elected by the members present from among their number shall preside.
- (5) Matters before the Board shall be decided by a majority of the members present and voting and in the event of an equality of votes, the person presiding shall have a casting vote.
- (6) The Board may co-opt a person to attend a Board meeting but that person shall not vote on a matter for decision at the meeting.

Section 7—Disclosure of interest

- (1) A member of the Board who has an interest in a matter for consideration
- (a) shall disclose the nature of the interest and the disclosure shall form part of the record of the consideration of the matter; and
- (b) shall not participate in the deliberations of the Board in respect of that matter.
- (2) A member ceases to be a member of the Board, if that member has an interest in a matter before the Board and that member
- (a) fails to disclose that interest, or
- (b) is present at or participates in the deliberations of the matter.

Section 8—Establishment of committees

- (1) The Board may establish committees consisting of members of the Board or non-members with identifiable expertise or both to perform a function.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Board shall have a Film Classification Committee consisting of
- (a) the Minister or a representative of the Minister as chairperson; and
- (b) one representative from each of the following:
- (i) the Information Services Department,
- (ii) the National Commission on Culture,
- (iii) the National Film and Television Institute,
- (iv) the Film Producers Association of Ghana,
- (v) the Ghana Police Service, not below the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Police,
- (vi) the Copyright Office,
- (vii) the Christian Council of Ghana,
- (viii) Federation of Muslim Councils,
- (ix) Traditional Religious Authorities,
- (x) the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, and
- (xi) one representative of the National House of Chiefs
- (4) The Committee may co-opt other individuals for the purpose of pre-viewing films for classification.
- (5) Section 7 applies to members of committees of the Board.

Section 9—Allowances for members of the Board

Members of the Board and members of a committee of the Board shall be paid the allowances approved by the Minister in consultation with the Minister responsible for Finance.

Registration and Licensing of Premises

Section 10—Prohibition to hold film exhibition without licence

A person shall not exhibit or allow to be exhibited on any premises a film to which persons are admitted on the payment of a fee or any other consideration, unless that person has registered with the Authority and has been issued with a licence for the purpose.

Section 11—Prohibition to operate film rental library and sales outlet without licence

A person shall not display for renting or rent out, sell or distribute any film unless that person holds a licence issued by the Authority for that purpose.

Section 12—Application for licence

- (1) A person who intends to obtain a licence shall
- (a) apply in the prescribed form to the Authority,
- (b) submit the application through designated offices of the Authority in the district,
- (c) possess an identification number allocated to the person under the Taxpayers Identification Numbering System Act, 2002 (Act 632), and
- (d) pay the prescribed fee.
- (2) Where the application relates to a licence for a film library, the applicant shall also submit a list of the films intended to be held in the library to the Authority through the Information Services Department.
- (3) The Authority may invite an applicant to provide additional information where the Authority considers it necessary.

Section 13—Inspection of premises for the purpose of a licence

- (1) The Authority shall appoint an inspection team to inspect the premises within twenty-one days after the receipt of an application.
- (2) The inspection team shall comprise representatives of each of the following agencies in the district where the premises are situated:
- (a) the Ghana Police Service;
- (b) the Environmental Protection Agency;
- (c) the Ghana National Fire Service;
- (d) the Electricity Company of Ghana;
- (e) the Ghana Tourism Authority;

- (f) the Town and Country Planning Department; and
- (g) the Metropolitan, Municipal or District Assembly.
- (3) The inspection team shall inspect the premises in respect of which an application for exhibition is made under this Act and shall satisfy itself as to the adequacy on the premises as regards
- (a) ventilation;
- (b) fire protection;
- (c) adequate sanitary facilities;
- (d) entrances and exits; and
- (e) other facilities concerned with health and safety.
- (4) A person who provides service to the public shall ensure that there are facilities and equipment to make the service available and accessible to a person with disability.
- (5) The inspection team shall submit its report including its recommendations in writing to the Authority within fourteen days after it has been appointed.

Section 14—Issuance of licences

- (1) The Authority shall issue a licence to the applicant after conditions for the issuance of a licence in respect of the premises have been complied with.
- (2) Where an application relates to a licence for the exhibition of films and the inspection report recommends approval of the application, the Authority shall issue the licence within seven working days after it has received the inspection report.
- (3) Where the application is for a licence to operate a film library, the licence shall be issued by the Authority within fourteen working days after the application has been received.
- (4) Where verification of the list of films submitted by the applicant is required, the licence shall be issued by the Authority within twenty-eight working days after the application has been submitted.
- (5) A licence is valid for a period of twelve months subject to renewal and may be subject to conditions that the Board may determine.
- (6) The issue and renewal of a licence shall attract fees prescribed by the Authority.
- (7) Where the Board, for any reason, does not approve the grant of a licence, the Authority shall inform the applicant of that decision within thirty working days after receipt of the application.
- (8) Failure by the Authority to inform the applicant of its decision on an application shall be construed to be a grant of a licence to the applicant.
- (9) An applicant dissatisfied with the decision of the Board may petition the Minister for a review of the decision.

(10) Where an applicant is dissatisfied with the decision of the Minister in respect of a petition for a review, the applicant may apply to the High Court for a judicial review of the decision of the Minister.

Section 15—Registration with Copyright Administrator

A person shall not be issued a licence to operate under this Act unless that person registers the content of the property of that person with the Copyright Administrator.

Section 16—Transfer of licence

A licence issued under this Act shall not be transferred without the prior written consent of the Authority.

Section 17—Revocation or suspension of licence

The Authority shall revoke or suspend a licence if satisfied that

- (a) the holder of the licence has contravened or failed to comply with the conditions of the licence;
- (b) the holder of the licence has been convicted of an offence under this Act or under the Copyright Act, 2005 (Act 690); or
- (c) it is in the public interest to do so.

Section 18—Notice of operating under a licence

- (1) The licensed operator of a cinema theatre shall display in a conspicuous place on the premises and in legible and bold writing a notice that it is a licensed facility.
- (2) The notice shall state the hours of operation and the fees chargeable for entry.
- (3) A right owner, licensee or assignee who exhibits a film or operates a cinema theatre shall advertise the film.
- (4) The advertisement of the film shall state the classification of the film with the appropriate warning.
- (5) The licensed operator of a cinema theatre shall display publicity materials in relation to a film in front of the theatre or premises where the film is to be exhibited.

Section 19—Classification of film

- (1) The Film Classification Committee shall preview and classify any feature film, documentary and advert that is intended for exhibition.
- (2) A right owner, licensee or assignee who desires to exhibit a film shall submit the film to the Film Classification Committee for examination and classification at least twenty-one days before the intended exhibition.
- (3) The Film Classification Committee shall within fourteen working days after receipt of a film, preview it and determine whether it is suitable for exhibition.

- (4) Where the Film Classification Committee determines that a film is suitable for exhibition, the Committee shall classify the film as follows:
- (a) U Universal for all categories of persons;
- (b) PG To be watched under Parental Guidance;
- (c) 12 For persons of twelve years and above;
- (d) 15 For persons of fifteen years and above;
- (e) 18 For persons of eighteen years and above; or
- (f) NS Not suitable for Television.
- (5) Where the Film Classification Committee determines in a preview that parts of a film are not suitable for exhibition on television and in movies, it shall recommend that the Board direct the person who submitted the film to excise those parts of the film it considers unsuitable for exhibition and re-submit the film for classification.
- (6) Where the Film Classification Committee determines that a film as a whole is not suitable for exhibition, it may recommend that the Board refuse to pass the film for exhibition and classify it as "NS" meaning "not suitable".
- (7) The Film Classification Committee on the review and classification of a film may recommend that the Board fix to the film or part of the film, an identification mark according to the decision of the Film Classification Committee as provided in subsections (4), (5) and (6) and the Board shall issue a certificate of the classification to the person who submitted the film.
- (8) The Board shall inform the person who submitted the film for preview and classification of a decision through the Film Classification Committee within twenty-one working days after the submission of the film.
- (9) A Free-on-air television station shall not air a film which has not been classified by the Film Classification Committee.

Section 20—Pornographic films

The Board shall not approve for exhibition, a film which it considers to be pornographic.

Section 21—Posters and advertisement of film exhibition

- (1) The Film Classification Committee shall recommend a poster intended to be used for the advertisement of a film exhibition to the Board for approval.
- (2) The recommendation for approval to the Board shall be before the poster is displayed.
- (3) A person who intends to display a poster for the purpose of advertising a film exhibition shall submit the poster at the same time that the film to which it relates is submitted to the Film Classification Committee for preview and classification.

- (4) The Board shall within twenty-one days after it has received a poster from the Film Classification Committee, approve or disapprove the poster and inform the person who submitted the poster accordingly.
- (5) A person shall not display a poster unless the poster has been approved by the Board or Film Classification Committee for the purpose of advertising a film exhibition.
- (6) Where a poster has been approved by the Board, a person shall not display that poster unless that poster has clearly and boldly printed or embossed on it the classification mark recommended by the Film Classification Committee for the film to which the poster relates.
- (7) A poster intended for the advertisement of a film exhibition shall only be displayed at places recommended by the District Assembly of the relevant area.
- (8) The Committee shall make the rules for classification known to the public.

Section 22—Exhibition of films

- (1) A person shall not exhibit or cause to be exhibited a film unless the film has been passed and classified by the Board.
- (2) At a film exhibition, the exhibitor shall at the beginning of the film, show the classification symbol box and consumer advice depicting the certificate of classification granted by the Board, before showing the main credit title of the film.
- (3) An exhibitor shall only sell tickets under the supervision of a representative of the Ghana Revenue Authority.

Section 23—Attendance at film exhibitions

- (1) A person shall not attend a film exhibition which that person is not qualified to attend by virtue of the classification of the film under section 19 (4).
- (2) A person who exhibits a film under a licence issued under this Act, shall not permit another person who is disqualified by virtue of classification of film to enter or remain on the premises where the exhibition is taking place.
- (3) Where the exhibitor of a film is of the opinion that a person who wishes to enter or remain on the premises or theatre for the exhibition is disqualified by virtue of the classification, the exhibitor shall refund the entrance fee paid by that person and send that person away from the premises.

Section 24—Distribution and marketing

- (1) A person shall not distribute or market a film unless that person has a licence issued by the Authority.
- (2) The distribution and marketing of films is reserved for citizens of Ghana.
- (3) A company registered in this country to distribute and market films shall have the majority of its shares owned and controlled by citizens of Ghana.

(4) The Board may establish a network to co-ordinate the distribution and marketing of locally produced films.

Section 25—Exportation and importation of educational films

- (1) The Authority may permit a person to import a foreign film or export a. film produced in Ghana on written application to the Authority.
- (2) Despite subsection (1), an individual may also export a locally produced film or import a foreign film into the country whenever an application is approved by the Board.
- (3) In furtherance of subsection (1) or (2), the Authority may certify the film if satisfied with the status of the film and request an applicant to pay the prescribed fee.

Section 26—Power of entry

- (1) An authorised officer of the Authority may enter premises whether licensed or not at any time
- (a) to ascertain whether the provisions of this Act have been or are being complied with, or
- (b) if the officer has reason to believe that an exhibition is being or is about to be held in the premises without a licence.
- (2) An authorised officer shall produce to the occupier of the premises or theatre a personal identification card if so required and cause the arrest of the offender.

Section 27—Offences and penalties

A person who

- (a) exhibits a film on unlicensed premises;
- (b) rents out a film contrary to section 11;
- (c) obstructs a person lawfully authorised under section 13, or 26 from entering and inspecting the premises or theatre;
- (d) is a distributor or exhibitor and fails to submit a film to the Board for preview and classification, contrary to section 19;
- (e) fails to display
- (i) a notice on the licensed premises or theatre, and
- (ii) the publicity materials in front of the theatre or premises contrary to section 21;
- (f) exhibits a film during the hours prohibited by the Board;
- (g) admits a person declared by this Act to be ineligible for admission on licensed premises or into a theatre; or
- (h) does any act contrary to this Act,

commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than one thousand penalty units and not more than ten thousand penalty units, or imprisonment for a term of not less than one year and not more than five years or to both and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine of one hundred penalty units for each day that the prohibited act continues.

Section 28—Forfeiture of equipment

- (1) Where a person
- (a) exhibits a film which has not been passed and classified by the Board for exhibition, or
- (b) exhibits a pornographic film

the Board shall seize the film and the equipment used for the exhibition without limiting criminal proceedings that may be instituted against the exhibitor and apply to the High Court for forfeiture to the State of both the film and the equipment.

(2) A seizure of the film and equipment is not a bar to any criminal proceedings that may be instituted against the exhibiter.

Film Development Fund

Section 29—Film Development Fund

- (1) There is established by this Act a Fund to be known as the Film Development Fund.
- (2) The moneys for the Fund may be applied to fund viable enterprises that are mostly in their primary stages of development, but in some limited cases, in advanced stages of development.
- (3) The Fund shall be managed by the Board.

Section 30—Objects of the Fund

- (1) The objects of the Fund are to provide financial support for
- (a) the development and production of
- (i) full-length feature films which are the central focus of the Fund,
- (ii) short and medium-length feature films,
- (iii) public education on attitudinal change and cultural values;
- (b) television productions, television genres including drama, animated serials, sitcoms, soaps and comedy designed to facilitate attitude and behaviour change of the citizenry;
- (c) cinema theatre development in the regional and district capitals;
- (d) the promotion of the release of feature films in terms of publicity materials and on radio and television advertisement; and
- (e) support research and the training of professionals for the industry in both public and private training institutions.

(2) The administrative and any other expenses related to the management of the Fund are charged to the Fund.

Section 31—Eligibility criteria

- (1) A person is not eligible to benefit from the Fund unless that person is
- (a) a cinema theatre developer;
- (b) a film maker, producer, distributor, marketer or television practitioner;
- (c) a television production company; or
- (d) a film production company.
- (2) In addition, a person is not eligible to benefit from the Fund unless that person
- (a) is a member of an identifiable professional group in the industry; and
- (b) registered under the Ghana Revenue Authority Act, 2009 (Act 791).

Section 32—Financial commitment

The Board shall approve up to sixty percent of the total budget estimates submitted by eligible applicants for financial support from the Fund.

Section 33—Guidelines or criteria for application

Guidelines and criteria for application to the Fund shall be provided by the Board.

Section 34—Sources of money for the Fund

The sources of money for the Fund include:

- (a) grants and loans;
- (b) donations;
- (c) periodic contributions to be agreed by the Board from individual film production houses;
- (d) charges on services rendered by the Authority;
- (e) a percentage of rental fees paid by members of the industry for production or exhibition in national facilities;
- (f) moneys approved by Parliament; and
- (g) funds from the organisation of special events and other activities organised by the Authority.

Administrative, and Financial Provisions

Section 35—Appointment of Executive Secretary

(1) The President shall in accordance with article 195 of the Constitution appoint an Executive Secretary for the Authority.

(2) The Executive Secretary shall hold office on the terms and conditions specified in the letter of appointment.

Section 36—Functions of Executive Secretary

- (1) The Executive Secretary
- (a) is responsible for the day to day administration of the Authority and is answerable to the Board in the performance of the functions under this Act; and
- (b) shall perform any other function determined by the Board.
- (2) The Executive Secretary may delegate a function to an officer of the Authority but shall not be relieved of the ultimate responsibility for the performance of the delegated function.

Section 37—Appointment of Secretary to the Board

- (1) The President shall in accordance with article 195 of the Constitution, appoint a solicitor as Secretary to the Board.
- (2) The Secretary shall
- (a) arrange the business for meetings of the Board and cause minutes of proceedings of the Board to be recorded and kept;
- (b) perform any other functions that the Board may assign; and
- (b) report to the Board through the Executive Secretary in the performance of functions under paragraph (b).

Section 38—Appointment of other staff

- (1) Subject to article 195 of the Constitution, the Board shall appoint other staff that are necessary for the proper and effective performance of the functions of the Authority.
- (2) Other public officers may be transferred or seconded to the Authority or may otherwise give assistance to it.
- (3) The Authority may engage the services of advisers on the recommendations of the Board.

Section 39—Accounts and audit

- (1) The Authority shall keep books of account and proper records in relation to them in the form approved by the Auditor-General.
- (2) The Authority shall within three months after the end of the financial year submit the accounts of the Authority to the Auditor-General for audit.
- (3) The Auditor-General shall not later than three months after the receipt of the accounts, audit the accounts and forward a copy of the audit report to the Minister.
- (4) The financial year of the Authority shall be the same as the financial year of the Government.

Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 40—Annual report and other reports

- (1) The Board shall within one month after the receipt of the audit report submit an annual report to the Minister covering the activities and the operations of the Authority for the year to which the report relates.
- (2) The annual report shall include the report of the Auditor-General.
- (3) The Minister shall, within one month after the receipt of the annual report, submit the report to Parliament with a statement that the Minister considers necessary.
- (4) The Board shall also submit to the Minister any other reports which the Minister may require in writing.

Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 41—Regulations

- (1) The Minister may on the advice of the Board, by legislative instrument, make Regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.
- (2) Without limiting the scope of subsection (1), the Regulations may provide for
- (a) the safety precautions to be observed on licensed premises or a theatre;
- (b) the storage of films, motion pictures and other related audio visual materials; and
- (c) foreigners seeking to shoot films in the country.
- (3) A person who commits an offence under the Regulations is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than five thousand penalty units.

Section 42—Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,

"adult" means a person of eighteen years and above;

"animated film" means a cartoon;

"authorised officer" means a person authorised by the Board in accordance with this Act or Regulations to exercise functions under this Act;

"Authority" means the National Film Authority;

"Board" means the governing body of the Authority;

"cinema theatre" means a building or an outdoor area for showing films;

"feature film" means a film of some length on a specific subject;

"film" includes a recording on any medium from which a motion picture may be produced and audio visual products;

"film exhibition" includes a public display or showing of films and television broadcast;

"filmlet" means a short motion picture;

"film library" means a place where films are kept for hire, sale, archival and preservation purposes;

"Fund" means the Film Development Fund established under section 29;

"Ghanaian Film" means a film which is registered with the National Film Authority, is classified as Ghanaian and which satisfies any three of the following criteria:

- (a) the language used in the film is English or any Ghanaian language;
- (b) the film has a Ghanaian producer;
- (c) the film has a Ghanaian production team;
- (d) the film has a Ghanaian film director
- (e) the film has a predominantly Ghanaian cast;
- (f) the subject matter is Ghanaian; and
- (g) the film has a Ghanaian identity as defined by sight and sound;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts;

"Ministry" means the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts;

"occupier" includes the person managing or receiving rent from the premises concerned;

"premises" includes a theatre, cinema house, video centre, building, land, caravan, tent or other structure to which persons are admitted for a film exhibition; and

"publicity materials" includes an advert, feature article, banner, handout, brochure, poster, billboard, picture commentary, radio broadcast and television programme which show portions of film;

Section 43—Repeal and savings

- (1) The Cinematography Act, 1961 (Act 76) and the Cinematography Amendment Decree, 1975 (NRCD 350) are hereby repealed.
- (2) Despite the repeal under subsection (1), any Regulations made and any licence or certificate issued under the repealed Acts and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act, shall continue in force as if made or issued under the corresponding provisions of this Act until revoked, suspended, cancelled or otherwise dealt with under this Act.

Date of Gazette Notification: 16th December, 2016.