

LAWS OF GUYANA

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT

CHAPTER 90:15

Act

15 of 1981

Amended by

O. 21/1998

O. 23/1998

Current Authorised Pages

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**Note
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Repeal**

This Act repealed the Weights and Measures Act, Cap. 90:14.

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CHAPTER 90:15

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT

15 of 1981

An Act to provide for the implementation of the International System of Units (SI); and for purposes connected therewith.

[1ST OCTOBER 1998]

PART I PRELIMINARY

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Weights and Measures Act.

Interpretation.

2. (1) In this Act—

“appointed day “ in relation to any area, undertaking or class of undertaking means the date appointed by the Minister for the purposes of this Act by order made under section 3(3) in relation to that area, undertaking or class of undertaking;

“carat” has the meaning assigned to it in Part V of the Sixth Schedule;

“Chief Inspector” means the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures appointed under section 10;

“container” means any form of packaging of goods for sale as a single item, whether by way of wholly or partly enclosing the goods or by attaching the goods to, or winding the goods around, some other article, and includes a wrapper or confining band;

“General Conference” means the General Conference of Weights and Measures from time to time convened by the International Bureau;

“Inspector” means an Inspector of Weights and Measures appointed under section 10;

“International Bureau” means the International Bureau of Weights and Measures;

“International System of Units” means the system of units referred to in section 3 and adopted by the General Conference;

“measuring instrument” includes an instrument for the measurement of length, superficial area, capacity or volume or for measurement by counting and such instruments as are also constructed to calculate and indicate the price in money;

“metric system” means the base, supplementary, derived and special (or permitted) units, of the International System of Units;

“National Standards” or “National Standards of Weight and Measure” means the standard for use in weight and measure authorised by the Minister under section 5;

“net weight” means the weight of an article excluding the

weight of its container;

“purchaser” includes any person acting on behalf of the purchaser;

“secondary standards” means the copies of the National Standards prepared, verified and authenticated in accordance with section 7;

“stamping” includes casting, engraving, etching, branding, or otherwise marking, in such a manner as to be, as far as practicable, indelible;

“trade” means dealing in goods, wares or merchandise sold by weight or measure, or unit or performing the service of weighing or measuring, or performing a service for which payment is determined by weight or measurement;

“weighing instrument” includes scales with weights belonging thereto, scale beams, balances, steelyards, weighing machines and other instruments for weighing including such instruments as are also constructed to calculate and indicate the price in money;

“working standards” means standards which, standardised by comparison with secondary standards, are kept for the purpose of verifying ordinary measuring instruments, weighing instruments, weights or measures.

(2) The abbreviation SI shall be recognised as a legal reference to the International System of Units.

PART II STANDARDS OF WEIGHT AND MEASURE

Standards.
c. 90:14

3. (1) The standards of weight and measure as established by section 3 of the Weights and Measures Act and all multiples and parts thereof in force in Guyana

immediately before the commencement of this Act shall, subject to subsection (4), continue to be used in Guyana.

(2) From and after the date of the commencement of this Act, the International System of Units shall have legal force and validity in Guyana.

(3) The Minister may, by order, appoint a date from and after which the standards of weight and measure mentioned in subsection (1) shall cease to have legal force and validity in Guyana and the Minister may appoint different dates for different areas, undertakings or class of undertakings specified in the order.

(4) From and after the appointed day, the standards of weight and measure in subsection (1) shall cease to have legal force and validity and the International System of Units and certain units outside the International System of Units specified in subsection (6) only shall continue to have legal force and validity in Guyana in relation to the area, undertaking or class of undertaking specified in the order made under subsection (3).

(5) The International System of Units shall consist of—

(a) base units; the physical quantities they represent, their names, symbols and definitions are set out in the First Schedule;

First Schedule.

(b) supplementary units; the physical quantities they represent, their names, symbols and definitions are set out in the Second Schedule;

Second
Schedule.

(c) derived units; being units derived only from the base or supplementary units

- Third
Schedule.
- or both by the process of multiplication or division or both without the introduction of any coefficients, unity excepted. The physical quantities they represent, the names and symbols of the more commonly used of such units are set out in the Third Schedule.
- Fourth
Schedule.
- (6) The certain units outside the International System of Units referred to in subsection (4), are special (or permitted) units and units used with the International System of Units in specialised scientific fields. The physical quantities they represent, their names, symbols and definitions are set out in the Fourth Schedule. These units may be used in conjunction with the base, supplementary and derived units and their multiples and sub-multiples.
- Fifth Schedule.
- (7) The SI prefixes for multiples and sub-multiples which may be used with the units of measurement set out in the First, Second Third and Fourth Schedules and the symbols therefor are as set out and defined in the Fifth Schedule.
- Sixth
Schedule.
- (8) The Sixth Schedule shall have effect for the purpose of defining the units of measurement set out in that Schedule; and for the purposes of any measurement of weight, that weight may be expressed by reference to the units of measurement set out in Part V of that Schedule in the same terms as its mass.
- Seventh
Schedule.
- (9) The Seventh Schedule shall have effect for the purpose of specifying the weights and measures that shall be used for purposes of trade in Guyana.
- Eighth
Schedule.
- (10) The Eighth Schedule shall have effect for the purpose of showing the relationship between the International System of Units and the standards of weight and measure referred to in subsection (1).

(11) The Minister may, by order, amend any Schedule referred to in this section.

(12) Every reference in any other law, instrument or document enacted or executed before the appointed day to a weight or measure expressed in terms of a standard of weight or measure in force in Guyana immediately before the commencement of this Act shall, after the appointed day, be read and construed as a reference to the equivalent weight or measure expressed in terms of the corresponding standard of weight or measure having legal force in Guyana after the appointed day.

Use of weight.

4. Where the quantity of anything weighed or measured or to be up or weighed or measured is expressed in any manner not authorised by this Act, in reference to any such thing, the quantity so expressed shall be deemed to be uncertain.

National
Standard of
Weight and
Measure.

5. (1) The Minister shall authorise the use of such standards of weight and measure as he considers necessary.

(2) Every standard referred to in subsection (1), every secondary standard referred to in section 7 or every working standard referred to in section 8—

- (a) shall be of a denomination equivalent to—
 - (i) a weight or measure authorised by this Act: or
 - (ii) a multiple, aliquot part or sub-multiple of such a weight or measure;
- (b) shall be verified by such competent institution as the Minister directs;

and

- (c) shall be made of such material, in such manner and placed and kept in such a receptacle as affords it, as far as practicable, protection against mechanical and atmospheric agencies and any likely source of error.

(3) A standard of linear or capacity measurement may, as the Minister considers fit—

- (a) be provided either as a separate standard or by means of divisions marked on a standard of larger measure; and
- (b) be either marked in whole or in part with sub-divisions representing any smaller unit of measurement, or multiples or sub-multiples of such a unit, or have no such marking.

(4) Where a standard of weight or measure is about to be brought into use in Guyana the Minister shall, by notice published in the *Gazette*, declare that such standard of weight or measure is about to be brought into use in Guyana and specify therein the date on which that standard of weight or measure shall become operative, and upon publication of the notice, such standard shall become a National Standard of Weight or Measure and shall, for all purposes, be conclusively deemed to be true and accurate.

Custody of
National
Standards.

6. The National Standards of Weight and Measure shall be kept at such place, under such custody and under such conditions as the Minister may direct.

Secondary
standards.

7. (1) The Minister shall—

- (a) cause to be prepared such copies of the National Standards as he considers fit;
- (b) provide for the verification of any copies so prepared;
- (c) cause the verified copies to be authenticated as secondary standards in the prescribed manner; and
- (d) cause such secondary standards to be kept at such place and under such custody as he may direct.

(2) Every secondary standard shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to be true and accurate.

(3) Every secondary standard shall from time to time be compared by the custodian thereof with the corresponding National Standard, and shall if necessary, be corrected and adjusted.

(4) The custodian of the National Standards may at any time cancel any secondary standard and direct that it be no longer used.

Working standards.

8. Working standards shall be used for the verification or re-verification of weights, measures, measuring instrument or weighing instruments.

Periodic verification of National Standards.

9. (1) The Minister shall at least once in every five years cause every National Standard to be verified as provided in section 5(2)(b) and, if necessary, to be replaced.

(2) Where a National Standard is to be sent out of Guyana for verification, the Minister shall cause a corresponding secondary standard to be deposited with the

custodian of the National Standard and to be verified by comparison with the National Standard and authenticated in such manner as he considers proper, and that secondary standard shall be deemed to be the National Standard during such time as the National Standard is out of Guyana.

PART III
CHIEF INSPECTOR AND INSPECTORS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Appointment of Chief Inspector and Inspectors.

10. (1) There shall be a Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, and such other Inspectors of Weights and Measures as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act and such Inspectors may be assigned to a particular area or particular areas of Guyana.

Ninth Schedule.

(2) The Minister shall furnish the Chief Inspector and every Inspector with a certificate of his appointment as set out in the Ninth Schedule.

Ninth Schedule.

(3) The Minister, may by Order, amend the Ninth Schedule.

(4) No maker, repairer or adjuster of weights, measures, measuring instruments or weighing instruments shall be appointed to any office mentioned in subsection (1).

(5) The Chief Inspector shall exercise general supervision and control over every Inspector, and every Inspector shall—

- (a) make such returns and furnish such information to the Chief Inspector as the Chief Inspector shall require; and
- (b) give effect to the directions of the Chief Inspector.

(6) The Chief Inspector may exercise any power or

perform, any duty conferred or imposed on an Inspector by or under this Act.

Verification of weights and measures by Inspector.

11. (1) The Chief Inspector shall deliver to each Inspector such working standards as he considers necessary.

(2) The Chief Inspector shall by notice published in the *Gazette* specify such date, time and place where an Inspector shall attend for the purpose of examining weights, measures, weighing instruments or measuring instruments used or proposed to be used for purposes of trade.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), an Inspector may at any time examine any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument that a person uses or proposes to use for purposes of trade within the area assigned to him and for that purpose may at all reasonable times enter any premises where any such weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument is reasonably believed to be kept or found.

(4) The Chief Inspector shall provide for the use of every Inspector good and sufficient stamps for stamping or sealing weights, measures, measuring instruments or weighing instruments and the stamps so provided shall be taken to be the stamps of the area for which the Inspector is assigned.

(5) Where, under this section, an Inspector examines any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument, he shall verify such weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument by comparison with the working standard in his possession, and subject to subsection (6), if he finds it to be in order, stamp or seal it in the prescribed manner.

(6) An Inspector shall stamp or seal only —

- (a) those denominations of weights or measures that he determines to be suitable for use in trade;
- (b) those denominations of weights or measures of which he has working standards; and
- (c) those weighing instruments or measuring instruments that he determines to be fit for use for purposes of trade.

(7) The fees for the examination, comparison, stamping or sealing of any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument shall be according to the scale set out in the Tenth Schedule.

Tenth
Schedule.

(8) The Minister may, by Order, amend the Tenth Schedule.

Certification of
weight etc.

12. Where an Inspector stamps or seals any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument under this Act, he shall deliver to the person having custody of that weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument, a certificate in such form as may be prescribed to the effect that it is fit for use and such certificate shall be valid for one year commencing from the date on which it is delivered.

Power to enter
premises and
to seize weight
and measure.

13. (1) Subject to subsection (2), an Inspector may at any reasonable time, enter any shop, store, warehouse, stall, yard or other place within the area assigned to him wherein any goods are—

- (a) bought, sold, kept or exposed for sale;
or
- (b) weighed or measured for conveyance

or carriage, and

require the production of and examine any weight, measure, measuring instrument or weighing instrument therein.

(2) An Inspector shall, before entering any of the premises mentioned in subsection (1), produce to the occupier or the person in charge of such premises his certificate of appointment furnished to him under section 10(2).

(3) An Inspector may seize and detain any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument examined by him under subsection (1) or section 11 that he has reason to believe to be false or unjust or is liable to forfeiture under section 27.

(4) An Inspector shall at the time of the seizure and detention of the article under subsection (3) give written notice to the person from whom the article was taken of the grounds upon which the article was seized or detained.

(5) An Inspector shall, within three days of seizing and detaining an article under subsection (3), either make a complaint before the magistrate for the area in which such seizure or detention takes place or return the article so seized and detained, to the person from whom it was taken.

Prohibition
against
adjustment.

14. No Inspector shall repair, alter or adjust any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument examined by him.

PART IV GENERAL

Duty to have
weight and
measure

15. Any person who has in his possession for use for purposes of trade any weight or measure shall —

marked with their proper denomination.

- (a) in respect of every such weight, have the denomination of such weight marked on the top or side thereof in legible figures or letters in English language except where the small size of the weight renders such marking impracticable; and
- (b) in respect of every such measure, whether of length or capacity, have the denomination thereof marked on the outside of such measure in legible figures and letters in English language.

Sale of goods by weight or measurement.

16. (1) A person shall not sell any goods by weight or measurement except by net weight or measurement.

(2) Any person who, before the appointed day, sells any goods by weight or measurement expressed in metric units shall inform the purchaser, in such manner as may be prescribed, of the correct equivalent of the weight or measurement in the units used before the commencement of this Act.

Weight made of lead or pewter not to be stamped or used.

17. To prevent frauds by the use of a weight made of soft materials, no weight made of lead or pewter, or of any mixture thereof, shall be stamped or used:

Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the use of lead or pewter, or of any mixture thereof, in the manufacture of weights, if they are wholly and substantially cased with brass, copper, or iron, and legibly stamped or marked "cased", or shall prevent the insertion of any plug of lead or pewter into weights *bona fide* necessary for the purpose of adjusting them and affixing thereon the stamp mentioned in this Act.

Sale of
prepackaged
goods by
weight or
measurement.

18. (1) Subject to the regulations, a person shall not sell any pre-packaged goods by weight or measurement unless the net weight or the capacity measurement of those goods is marked on the container in the prescribed manner.

Sixth
Schedule.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, no person shall, before the appointed day, supply by way of trade any goods in a container marked with any unit of weight or measurement differing in name or size from the appropriate units specified in the Sixth Schedule unless its correct equivalent in units of weight or measurement so specified is also marked on that container in the prescribed manner and with equal prominence.

(3) For the purposes of this Part and Part V, goods shall be deemed to be pre-packaged if they are made up in advance ready for sale in or on a container; and articles of any description that are so made up for sale and kept stored on premises shall be deemed to be pre-packaged for sale unless the contrary is proved.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3), it shall not be sufficient proof to the contrary to show that the container has not been marked in accordance with the requirements of this Act or the regulations.

Use of carat
(metric).
Sixth Schedule.

19. (1) A person shall not use for purposes of trade after the appointed day any unit of measurement that is not contained in the Sixth Schedule.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), a person shall not, after the appointed day, use the carat unit for purposes of trade except in transactions relating to precious stones or pearls.

(3) The restrictions set out in this section do not apply to any transaction affecting the export of goods to a country where a system of units of measurement other than

those authorised by this Act is used for purposes of trade.

Regulations.

20. The Minister may make regulations respecting —

- (a) the exemption in whole or in part from the provisions of this Act any area, undertaking or class of undertaking specified in the regulations;
- (b) the verification and stamping of weights, measures, weighing instruments or measuring instruments, including the prohibition of stamping in cases where the nature, denomination, material or principle of construction of the weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument appears likely to facilitate the perpetration of fraud;
- (c) the tests to be applied for the purpose of ascertaining the accuracy and efficiency of weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument;
- (d) the limits of error to be allowed on verification and tolerated either generally or with respect to any trade;
- (e) the custody of the set of standards of weight and measure that are to be maintained by Government and the periodical verification and adjustment thereof;
- (f) the manner in which the value expressed in terms of any weight or

measure other than in terms of standard weight and measure may be converted;

- (g) the enabling of Inspectors to carry out their duties under this Act;
- (h) the enforcement of the requirements that relate to weighing instruments and measuring instruments;
- (i) the materials and principles of construction of weighing instruments or measuring instruments for use for purposes of trade;
- (j) the purpose for which particular types of weighing instruments or measuring instruments may be used for purposes of trade;
- (k) the manner of erecting, siting or using weighing instruments or measuring instruments used for purposes of trade;
- (l) the circumstances in which, conditions under which, and manner in which stamps or marks placed on weights, measures, weighing instruments or measuring instruments may be obliterated or defaced;
- (m) the abbreviations of or symbols for units of measurement which may be used for trade;
- (n) the system of licensing for the

control of the importation, repairing, adjusting and recalibrating of weights, measures, weighing instruments and measuring instruments;

- (o) the quantities in which prescribed pre-packaged goods may be sold;
- (p) the prescribing of anything that is by this Act authorised or required to be prescribed; and
- (q) generally, the carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

PART V OFFENCES, PROCEEDINGS AND REPEAL

Failure to weigh or measure when selling goods if so required.

21. (1) A person who sells by weight or measure goods other than pre-packaged goods, whether on his own behalf or on behalf of another person, shall, upon being required by the person to whom the goods are to be delivered and in the presence of that person, weigh or measure such goods, as the case may be.

(2) A person who is required under this section to weigh or measure any goods, other than pre-packaged goods, and fails to do so is guilty of an offence.

Sales by authorised denominations.

22. A person who sells or exposes for sale by any denomination of weight or measure other than the denominations of weight or measure authorised by this Act is guilty of an offence.

Use of non-certified weight, etc.

23. A person who uses for purposes of trade or has in his possession for use for purposes of trade any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument, in respect of which—

- (a) a certificate has not been issued in pursuance of section 12; or
- (b) such a certificate has been issued but has expired,

is guilty of an offence.

Use of false or unjust weight, etc.

24. A person who uses for purposes of trade or has in his possession for use for purposes of trade any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument that is false or unjust, is guilty of an offence.

Fraud in use of weight, etc.

25. Where fraud is knowingly committed in the use of a weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument, the person committing the fraud and every person who is a party to the fraud is guilty of an offence and in addition to any penalty the court imposes, the weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument may be forfeited.

Forgery, etc.

26. A person who—

- (a) forges or counterfeits or causes or procures to be forged or counterfeited a stamp issued pursuant to section 11 or a certificate issued pursuant to section 12;
- (b) utters or assists in uttering any such forged or counterfeited stamp or certificate;
- (c) removes, or causes or procures the removal of, any stamp or mark from any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument,

and places, causes or procures the placing of such stamp or mark on another weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument; or

- (d) uses as a certificate issued to him in respect of any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument a certificate delivered to him in respect of a different weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument,

is guilty of an offence.

Selling, etc.,
weight, etc.
with forged or
counterfeited
stamps
of verification
or certificates
of justness.

27. A person who knowingly sells, utters, disposes of, or exposes for sale any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument with any forged or counterfeited stamp or certificate resembling or purporting to resemble any stamp or certificate used for the purposes of this Act is guilty of an offence, and in addition to any punishment the court imposes, the weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument may be forfeited.

Making or
selling unjust
weight, etc.

28. A person who knowingly makes or sells, or knowingly causes to be made or sold, any unjust weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument is guilty of an offence.

Obstructing
Inspectors, etc.
in the
performance of
their duties.

29. A person who—

- (a) assaults, resists, hinders or obstructs an Inspector entering any place or premises mentioned in section 11 or 13;
- (b) hinders or obstructs an Inspector in the performance of his duties under

this Act;

- (c) fails to comply with any request made by an Inspector in the performance of his duties under this Act;
- (d) bribes or attempts to bribe an Inspector, in connection with any matter arising in the exercise or performance of his duties under this Act;
- (e) being an Inspector, accepts or attempts to solicit any bribe in connection with any matter arising in the performance of his duties under this Act;
- (f) uses indecent, abusive or insulting language to an Inspector in the exercise of his duties under this Act;
or
- (g) contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of this Act or the regulations,

is guilty of an offence.

Costs.

30. Costs shall not be imposed on any person prosecuting a complaint under this Act, unless the complaint is dismissed and deemed by the court to be frivolous or vexatious.

Forfeitures.

31. All weights, measures, weighing instruments or measuring instruments forfeited under this Act shall be broken up and the materials thereof may be sold or otherwise disposed of as the Minister may direct and the

proceeds of any sale shall be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

Evidence as to possession.

32. Where any weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument is found—

- (a) in the possession of a person carrying on trade; or
- (b) on the premises used for trade, of any person—
 - (i) whether or not such premises are a building or in the open air, or
 - (ii) whether or not such premises are open or enclosed,

that person shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act, until the contrary is proved, to have such weight, measure, weighing instrument or measuring instrument in his possession for use for purposes of trade.

Inspector stamping without verification.

33. An inspector who stamps any weight or measure without duly verifying it by comparison with the proper working standard in his possession, or stamps any weighing instrument or measuring instrument without having determined its suitability for use in trade, is guilty of an offence.

Prohibition of giving short weight, measure or number.

34. A person who, in selling any article by weight, measure or number, delivers or causes to be delivered to the purchaser a less weight, measure, or number, as the case may be, than is purported to be sold is guilty of an offence.

Defence of mistake, accident, etc.

35. In any proceedings for an offence under this Act or the regulations, it is a defence for the person charged to prove—

- (a) that the commission of the offence was due to a mistake or to an accident or some other cause beyond his control; and
- (b) that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of such an offence by himself or any person under his control.

Penalty.

36. (1) A person who is guilty of an offence under this Act is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for six months.

(2) Save as otherwise provided in section 13 (5), proceedings for an offence under this Act shall not be commenced except by the Chief Inspector or any person authorised in writing by the Chief Inspector.

s. 3(5)
[O. 21/1998]
[O. 23/1998]

FIRST SCHEDULE

BASE UNITS

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Definition
Length	Metre	M	the metre is the length of the path travelled by light in vacuum during a time interval of $1/299\,792\,458$ of a second.
Mass	Kilogram	Kg	to the mass of the kilogram is the unit of mass: it is equal international prototype of the kilogram.
time	Second	S	the second is the duration of $9\,192\,631\,770$ periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the caesium-133 atom.

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Definition
electric current	Ampere	A	the ampere is that constant current, which, if maintained in two straight parallel conductors of infinite length, of negligible circular cross-section, and placed one metre apart in vacuum would produce between these conductors a force equal to 2×10^{-7} newton per metre of length.
Thermo-dynamic temperature	Kelvin	K	the kelvin, unit of thermo-dynamic temperature, is the fraction $1/273.16$ of the thermo-dynamic temperature of the triple point of water.
amount of substance	Mole	Mol	The mole is the amount of substance of a system which contains as many

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Definition
			<p>elementary entities as there are atoms in 0.012 kilogram of carbon 12. When the mole is used the elementary entities must be specified and may be atoms, molecules, ions, electrons, other particles or specified groups of such particles.</p>
luminous intensity	Candela	Cd	<p>the candela is the luminous intensity, in a given direction, of a source that emits monochromatic radiation of frequency 540×10^{12} hertz and that has a radiant intensity in that direction of $(1/683)$ watt per steradian.</p>

s. 3(5)
[O. 21/1998
O. 23/1998]

SECOND SCHEDULE

SUPPLEMENTARY UNITS

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Definition
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Plane angle and solid angle which were previously classified as Supplementary Units are now classified as Derived Units with Special Names.

s. 3(5)
[O. 21/1998
O. 23/1998]

THIRD SCHEDULE

DERIVED UNITS

SI DERIVED UNITS EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF BASE UNITS

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol
Area	square metre	m ²
Volume	cubic metre	m ³
Speed, velocity	metre per second	m/s; m.s ⁻¹
Acceleration	meter per second squared	m/s ² ; m.s ⁻²
Wave Number	1 per metre; reciprocal metre	m ⁻¹
Density, mass density	kilogram per cubic metre	kg/m ³ ; kg.m ⁻³
Current density	ampere per square metre	A/m ² ; A.m ⁻²

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol
Concentration (of amount of substance)	mole per cubic metre	Mol/m ³ ; mol.m ⁻³
Specific volume	cubic metre per kilogram	m ³ /kg; m ³ .kg ⁻¹
Luminance	candela per square metre	cd/m ² ; cd.m ⁻²
Moment of inertia	kilogram square metre	kg.m ²
Kinetic viscosity	metre squared per second	m ² .s ⁻¹
Magnetic moment	ampere square metre	A.m ²

SI DERIVED UNITS WITH SPECIAL NAMES

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Expression in terms of other Units	Expression in terms of SI base Supplement-ary Units
Plane angle	radian	rad	-	rad
Solid angle	steradian	sr	-	Sr
Frequency	hertz	Hz	-	s ⁻¹ or 1/s
Force	newton	N	-	kg.m/s ² ; kg.m.s ⁻²
Pressure, stress	pascal	Pa	N/m ²	kg.m ⁻¹ .s ⁻²
Energy, work, quantity of heat	joule	J	N.m	kg.m ² .s ⁻²
Power	watt	W	J/s	kg.m ² .s ⁻³
Quantity of electric charge	coulomb	C	-	A.s

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Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Expression in terms of other Units	Expression in terms of SI base Supplement-ary Units
Capacitance	farad	F	C/V	$\text{kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^4 \cdot \text{A}^2$
Electric Resistance	ohm	Ω	V/A	$\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-3} \cdot \text{A}^{-2}$
Conductance	siemens	S	A/V	$\text{kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^3 \cdot \text{A}^2$
Magnetic flux	weber	Wb	V.s	$\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-2} \cdot \text{A}^{-1}$
Magnetic flux density	tesla	T	Wb/m ²	$\text{kg} \cdot \text{s}^2 \cdot \text{A}^{-1}$
Inductance	henry	H	Wb/A	$\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-2} \cdot \text{A}^{-2}$
Luminous flux	lumen	lm	-	cd.sr
Illuminance	lux	Lx	lm/m ²	$\text{cd} \cdot \text{sr} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$
Absorbed dose of ionizing radiation	gray	Gy	J/kg	$\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$
Activity (radionuclide)	becquerel	Bq	-	s^{-1}
Celsius temperature	degree Celsius	°C	-	K
Volume	litre	L	-	dm^3

SI DERIVED UNITS EXPRESSED BY MEANS OF SPECIAL NAMES AND BASE UNITS AND SUPPLEMENTARY UNITS

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Expression in terms of Base and Supplementary Units
Angular acceleration	radian per square second	rad.s ⁻²	s ²
Angular speed	radian per second	rad.s ⁻¹	s ⁻¹
Dynamic viscosity	pascal second	Pa.s	kg.m ⁻¹ .s ⁻¹
Moment of force	newton metre	N.m	kg.s ⁻² .m ²
Surface tension	newton per metre	N/m	kg.s ⁻²
Power density, heat flux density, irradiance	watt per square metre	W/m ²	kg.s ⁻³
Heat capacity, entropy	joule per kelvin	J/K	m ² .kg.s ⁻² .K ⁻¹
Specific heat, capacity, specific entropy	joule per kilogram kelvin	J/(kg.K)	m ² .s ⁻² .K ⁻¹
Specific energy	joule per kilogram	J/kg	m ² .s ⁻²
Thermal conductivity	watt per metre kelvin	W/(m.K)	m.kg.s ⁻³ .K ⁻¹
Energy density	joule per cubic metre	J/m ³	m ⁻¹ .kg.s ²
Electric field strength	volt per metre	V/m	kg.m.s ⁻³ .A ⁻¹

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Expression in terms of Base and Supplementary Units
Electric flux density	coulomb per square metre	C/m ²	m ² .s.A
Permittivity	farad per metre	F/m	kg ⁻¹ .m ⁻³ .s ⁴ .A ²
Permeability	henry per metre	H/m	kg.m.s ⁻² .A ⁻²
Molar energy	joule per mole	J/mol	kg.m ² .s ⁻² .mol ⁻¹
Molar entropy, molar heat capacity	joule per mole kelvin	J/(mol.K)	kg.m ² .s ⁻² .K ⁻¹ .mol ⁻¹
Exposure (X and Y rays)	coulomb per kilogram	C/kg	kg ⁻¹ .s.A
Absorbed dose rate	gray per second	Gy/s	m ² .s ⁻³
Conductivity (electrical)	siemens per metre	S/m	kg ⁻¹ .m ⁻³ .s ³ .A ²
Radiant intensity	watt per steradian	W/sr	m ² .s ⁻³ .kg.sr ⁻¹
Radiance	watt per steradian square metre	W/(sr.m ²)	kg.s ⁻³ .sr ⁻¹

FOURTH SCHEDULE

s. 3(6)
[O. 21/1998
O. 23/1998]

PART I
SPECIAL (OR PERMITTED) UNITS

Physical Quantity	Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Definition
Time	Minute	min	1 min = 60 s
	Hour	h	1 h = 60 min
	Day	d	1 d = 24h
	Week	wk	1 wk = 7 d
	calendar year	yr	1 yr = 365 d (366 d in leap yr)
plane angular measure	Degree	°	1° = $\pi/180$ rad minute '1' = 1°/60 rad
	Second	"	1" = 1'/60 rad
	Revolution	r	1 r = 2π rad
Mass	Tonne	t	1 t = 1000kg =1Mg
Area	Hectare	ha	1 hectare = 10 000 m ²
temperature	Degree Celsius	°C	1°C = 1 K (for temperature intervals)
marine and aerial	nautical mile	M	1 M = 1 852m
navigation	Knot	knot	1 knot = 1 M/h
linear density	Tex	tex	1 tex = 1 g/km

NOTE: Special (or permitted) units are internationally agreed units which are deviations from strict SI. They are permitted either because of their practical importance or because of their use in specialised scientific fields.

PART II
UNITS USED WITH SI IN SPECIALISED SCIENTIFIC
FIELDS

Unit Name	Unit Symbol	Definition
Electronvolt	eV	1 eV = 1.602 177 33 x 10 ⁻¹⁹ J
Unified atomic mass	U	1 u = 1.660 540 2 x 10 ⁻²⁷ kg
astronomical unit	AU	1 AU = 149.597 870 x 10 ⁹ m
Parsec	Pc	1 pc = 30.857 x 10 ¹⁵ m

s. 3(7)
[O. 21/1998
O.23/1998]

FIFTH SCHEDULE

PREFIXES FOR MULTIPLES AND SUB-MULTIPLES OF
SI

Prefix	Symbol	Definition
Yotta	Y	10 ²⁴
Zetta	Z	10 ²¹
Exa	E	10 ¹⁸
Peta	P	10 ¹⁵
tera	T	10 ¹²
giga	G	10 ⁹
mega	M	10 ⁶
kilo	K	10 ³
hector	H	10 ²
deca	Da	10 ¹
deci	D	10 ⁻¹
centi	C	10 ⁻²
milli	M	10 ⁻³
micro	μ	10 ⁻⁶
nano	N	10 ⁻⁹
Pico	P	10 ⁻¹²

Prefix	Symbol	Definition
Femto	F	10^{-15}
Atto	A	10^{-18}
Zepto	Z	10^{-21}
Yocto	Y	10^{-24}

s. 3(8)
[O. 21/1998]
[O. 23/1998]

SIXTH SCHEDULE

DEFINITIONS OF UNITS OF MANAGEMENT

PART I

Measurement of length

kilometre	(km)	=	1 000 m
metre	(m)	=	as defined in First Schedule
decimetre	(dm)	=	0.1 m
centimetre	(cm)	=	0.01 m
millimetre	(mm)	=	0.001 m

PART II

Measurement of Area

hectare	(ha)	=	10 000 m ²
square metre	(m ²)	=	a superficial area equal to that of a square each side of which measures one metre
square decimetre	(dm ²)	=	0.01 m ²
square centimetre	(cm ²)	=	0.01 dm ²
square millimetre	(mm ²)	=	0.01 cm ²

PART III

Measurement of Volume and Capacity

Cubic metre (m ³)=		A volume equal to that of a cube each edge of which measures one
cubic decimetre (dm ³)	=	0.001 m ³
cubic centimetre (cm ³)	=	0.001 dm ³
hectolitre (hL)	=	100 L
litre (L)	=	A capacity equal to that of a cube each edge of which measures 1 decimetre
1 decilitre (dL)	=	0.1 L
centilitre (cL)	=	0.01 L
millilitre (mL)	=	0.001 L

PART IV

Measurement of Mass or Weight

metric ton or tonne (t)		= 1000 kg
kilogram (kg)	=	as defined in First Schedule
gram (g)	=	0.001 kg
carat milligram (mg)	=	200 mg
	=	0.001 g

PART V*Measurement of Electricity*

Ampere	(A)	=	as defined in First Schedule
Ohm	(Ω)	=	as defined in Third Schedule
Volt	(V)	=	as defined in Third Schedule
Watt	(W)	=	as defined in Third Schedule
kilowatt	(kW)	=	1 000 W
megawatt	(MW)	=	1 000 000 W

PART VI*Measurement of Time*

Hour	(h)	=	60 min
minute	(min)	=	60 s
Second	(s)	=	as defined in First Schedule

s 3(9)

[O. 21/1998
O. 23/1998]**SEVENTH SCHEDULE****WEIGHTS AND MEASURES LAWFUL FOR USE IN
TRADE**

1. For Linear Measures, the measures shall be millimetres (mm), centimetres (cm), metres (m), or kilometres (km).
2. For Square Measures, the measures shall be square

centimetres (cm²), square decimetres (dm²), square metres (m²), or the hectare (ha).

3. For Capacity or Volume Measures, the measures shall be millilitres (mL), litres (L) or cubic metres (m³)

4. For Weights or Mass Measures, the measures shall be grams (g), kilograms (kg), or tonnes (t). For transactions relating to precious stones or pearls, the measure shall be the carat.

5. For Electrical Energy, the measure shall be the kilowatt hour (kW.h).

6. For Time Measures, the measures shall be the second (s), minute (min), hour (h), or day (d).

EIGHTH SCHEDULE

s. 3(10)
[O. 21/1998]
[O. 23/1998]

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SI AND THE STANDARD OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES REPEALED

The relationship between the SI and the standards of weights and measures repealed shall be calculated using the following:

1 yard	=	9 144/10,000 metre
1 gallon	=	454 609/100 000 000 cubic metre
1 pound	=	45 359 237/100 000 000 kilogram

s. 10 (2)
[O. 21/1998]
[O. 23/1998]

NINTH SCHEDULE

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT OF *CHIEF INSPECTOR/*INSPECTOR

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by section 10(2) of the Weights and Measures Act I hereby certify that Cde..... has been appointed as *Chief Inspector/*an Inspector for the purposes of this Act.

.....
Signature of *Chief Inspector/*Inspector

.....
Date

.....
Minister

.....
Date

* Delete where inapplicable

s. 11(7)
[O. 21/1998]
[O. 23/1998]

TENTH SCHEDULE

TABLE OF FEES TO BE TAKEN BY INSPECTORS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

1. For examining, comparing and stamping all weights within their respective jurisdiction—

(a)	Each weight from half a hundred-weight to a stone, both included, or 25 kg to 5 kg	\$150
(b)	Each weight under a stone to a pound, or 10 kg to 500 g	\$80
(c)	Each set of weights of a pound and under, or 1 kg or under	\$60
(d)	Each weighing machine and steelyard	\$60

2. For examining, comparing and stamping all wooden measures within their respective jurisdictions—

(a)	Each bushel or 4 L (litres)	\$100
(b)	Each half bushel or 2 L (litres)	\$100
(c)	Each peck, and all under 1 L (litre) or under	\$100
(d)	Each yard or metre	\$100

3. For examining, comparing and stamping all measures of capacity of liquids made of copper or other metal, within their respective jurisdictions—

(a)	Each five-gallon or 25 L (litres)	\$100
(b)	Each four-gallon or 20 L (litres)	\$100
(c)	Each three-gallon or 15 L (litres)	\$100
(d)	Each two-gallon or 10 L (litres)	\$100
(e)	Each gallon or 5 L (litres)	\$100
(f)	Each half gallon or 2 L (litres)	\$100
(g)	Each quart or one litre and under	\$100

4. For examining, comparing and sealing all petrol pumps:

(a)	Each petrol pump	\$1000
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SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

O. 4 of 2001

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (LEGAL FORCE AND
VALIDITY OF IMPERIAL AND METRIC SYSTEM)
ORDER**

made under section 3

Citation.

1. This Order may be cited as the Weights of Measures (Legal Force and Validity of Imperial and Metric System) Order.

Interpretation.

2. In this Order –

“appointed day” means January 1, 2002;

“Imperial System” means the Guyana standards of weights and measures referred to in section 3 (1) of the Act;

“Metric System” has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Act.

Application of Imperial System and Metric System.

3. Subject to clause 4, the Imperial System and Metric System shall continue to have legal force and validity in Guyana.

Application of Metric System only.

4. From and after the appointed day, the Metric System only shall apply in Guyana and the Imperial System shall cease to have legal force and validity.
