

**NATIONAL MEDIA COMMISSION
NEWSPAPER AND PUBLICATION
REGISTRATION INSTRUMENT
2003**

In exercise of the powers conferred on the National Media Commission by Article 17 (d) of the Constitution, this instrument is made this 31st day of December, 2002.

Registration of newspapers and publications

1. (1) Any newspaper or any publication which is printed in the country shall be registered with the Commission by its proprietor within thirty days of first publication.
- (2) A person or representative of a newspaper or publication printed outside the country who imports the newspaper or publication into the country shall register the newspaper or publication with the Commission within 30 days of the first importation.

Form of Application

2. A person registering a newspaper or publication under regulation 1 shall use Form 1 in the schedule to this Instrument.

Registration

3. (1) The person registering a newspaper or publication shall pay a registration fee of ₦100,000.00 annually.
- (2) The Commission may from time to time revise the registration fee.
- (3) The registration form shall be accompanied with detailed curriculum vitae of the editor, publisher and proprietor of the newspaper.

Certification of registration

4. Upon registration of a newspaper or publication under this Instrument, the Commission shall within thirty days of the registration issue to the person registering, a certificate of registration as specified in Form 2 in the Schedule to this Instrument.

Submission of annual returns

5. (1) The proprietor of a registered newspaper or publication shall submit to the Commission annual returns in accordance with Form III in the Schedule to this Instrument within three months of the end of each calendar year provided that

whenever a change occurs in respect of any information submitted, the proprietor shall inform the Commission accordingly.

- (2) There shall be paid for submission of annual returns and subregulation (1) a fee of €100,000.00 or such fee as the Commission may determine.

Editions to be deposited

6. The proprietor of a registered newspaper or publication shall submit two copies of each edition to the Commission not later than seven days of the publication.

Transitional provisions

7. A person who owns or prints a newspaper or publication shall within thirty days of the coming into force of this Instrument register the newspaper or publication with the Commission in accordance with the provision of the Instrument.

Offence

8. (1) A person who fails to
 - (a) register a newspaper or publication; or
 - (b) submit annual returns

In accordance with this instrument commits an offence and is liable summary conviction to a fine not exceeding 20 penalty units.

- (2) A person who makes a false declaration of Form 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding 20 penalty units.
- (3) A person who after conviction under subregulation (1) continues to commit the offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine of 10 penalty units for each day the offence is continued.
- (4) Where there is failure to pay a fine under sub-regulation (1) or (2) within a period specified by the Court, the fine is recoverable as a civil debt owed to the State.

Interpretation

9. In this instrument, unless the context otherwise requires "Commission" means the National Media Commission, "publication" means publication for mass communication. "proprietor" includes the agent or representative of the proprietor and the editor.

SCHEDULE

FORM 1

(Regulation 2)

1. Name of person registering.....
2. Name of newspaper/publication.....
3. Head Office.....
4. Postal Address.....
5. Telephone, fax numbers, email, web site.....
6. Name of proprietor.....
7. Name of Editor.....
8. Date of first publication.....
9. Frequency of publication.....
10. Annual circulation figures.....
11. Price of Newspaper/publication.....
12. Ownership (specify type of Ownership).....

Declaration

We/I.....declare the above particulars to be true and correct and agree to notify the National Media Commission of any material alteration in the foregoing information as soon as practicable there after.

Date:..... Sign:.....
Proprietor/Editor

FORM II

(Regulation 4)

CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION AS A NEWSPAPER/PUBLICATION

I hereby certify that.....has been duly registered as a newspaper/publication by the Commission under the terms of the National Media Commission Act, 1993 (Act 449).

Given in Accra by the deal of the Commission this.....day of.....

National Media Commission

FORM III

(Regulation (1))

SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL RETURNS

1. Type of Ownership:.....
2. Name of Editor:.....
3. Name of Publisher/Proprietor;.....
4. Tel/Fax/Email:.....
5. Annual Audited Circulation:.....
6. Any Other Relevant Information:.....

Date:.....

Name of Proprietor/Editor:.....

Signature:.....

NUTIFAFA KUKENYEHIA

Chairman, National Media Commission

Date of Gazette notification: 10th January, 2003

Entry into force: 11th June, 2003