

**CAP. 75**  
**MOSQUITOES ACT, 1911**

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**CAP. 75**  
**MOSQUITOES ACT, 1911(1)**

**AN ACT to provide for the destruction of mosquitoes and for related matters.**

**1. Destruction of mosquito larvae**

(1) A sanitary officer, the Medical Officer of Health, or a medical officer specially appointed by the Minister for the purpose, or a person duly deputed in writing by any of them, may enter on any premises between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., and take immediate steps to destroy mosquito larvae found on those premises and render the accumulations of water on the premises temporarily unfit to be breeding places for mosquitoes.

(2) Any of the officers mentioned in subsection (1) may take or order the owner of the premises to take the necessary action to render accumulations of water on the premises permanently unfit to be breeding places for mosquitoes.

(3) An order under subsection (2) shall not be made nor an action taken involving the expenditure of a sum of money exceeding two million cedis except by resolution of the sanitary authority.

**2. Screening of water receptacles**

(1) An owner shall not

- (a) allow the presence on the premises of a receptacle for water containing mosquito larvae, or water to be kept on the premises for a period exceeding three days without the receptacle containing the water being emptied and cleaned to the satisfaction of the sanitary authority, or

- (b) allow on the premises a reasonably preventable condition which may be favourable to the breeding of mosquitoes.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply where the receptacle is properly protected or screened to the satisfaction of the sanitary authority from access to mosquitoes.

### **3. Recovery of cost**

The sanitary authority shall recover from the owner of premises the expense of the measures carried out on those premises under this Act, but if it is satisfied that the owner is not in a position to pay the expenses, the sanitary authority shall pay all or a part of those expenses.

### **4. Method of recovery**

The expenses incurred by the sanitary authority in carrying out, with respect to any premises, this Act is recoverable in a summary manner before a Magistrate.<sup>2(2)</sup>

### **5. Penalty for refusal to carry out an order or for obstruction**

A person who refuses to carry out an order made under this Act or who obstructs an officer empowered to carry out a provision of this Act in an act authorised by this Act, commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred penalty units or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding three months.

### **6. Penalty for breach of the Act**

(1) An owner who contravenes a provision of section 2 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty penalty units or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding one month.

(2) In the case of a continuing offence for a period exceeding one day after due notice has been given, the offence is punishable as if a fresh contravention of the law had taken place during each day of its continuance.

### **7. Amount recovered to be paid to District Assembly**

The amounts of money recovered under this Act in a town to which the Local Government Act, 1993 (Act 462) applies shall be paid to the credit of the District Assembly of that district.

### **8. Regulations**

The Minister may, by legislative instrument, make Regulations for the carrying out of this Act.

### **9. Application of Act to vessels**

(1) The Act applies to vessels in the same manner as it applies to premises.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the word “vessel” may be read in place of the word “premises,” and the expression “person in charge” may be read in the place of the word “occupier,” wherever the word “premises” or “occupier” occurs in this Act other than in section 10.3(3)

### **10. Interpretation**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,

**“District Assembly”** includes a Municipal Assembly or a Metropolitan Assembly;

**“Minister”** means the Minister responsible for Health;

**“occupier”** means, in reference to the particular premises in respect of which the word is used,

- (a) for the purposes of sections 1 and 3, the tenant or person in occupation of the premises, excluding however, a person who is merely a lodger or licensee; and
- (b) for the purposes of sections 2 and 6, a person occupying or residing in the premises, including a tenant, lodger, or licensee;<sup>4(4)</sup>

**“owner”** includes an occupier and in respect of

- (a) premises, the person receiving the rent of the premises in connection with which the word is used, whether personally or as agent or trustee for any other person, or who would receive the rent if the premises were let to a tenant,
- (b) a vessel, the person in actual or constructive possession of the vessel;<sup>5(5)</sup>

**“premises”** includes messuages, buildings, lands, easements, and hereditaments of any tenure, whether open or closed, whether built on or not, whether public or private, and whether maintained or not under a statutory authority;

**“sanitary authority”** includes a Metropolitan Assembly and a Municipal Assembly or a committee of the Council or Assembly and any other local government authority;

**“sanitary officer”** includes the Medical Officer of Health, a medical officer specially appointed by the Minister and a person duly appointed by any of them;

**“vessel”** means a ship, tug, lighter, boat, barge, or canoe.

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## Endnotes

### **1 (Popup - Footnote)**

1. This Act was enacted as the Mosquitoes Ordinance, 1911 (No. 6 of 1911) and was Cap. 62 of the McCarthy Edition of the Laws and [Cap. 75](#) of the McElwaine Edition of the Laws. It came into force on 13th May, 1911.

### **2 (Popup - Footnote)**

2. Amended by section 2 of the Mosquitoes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1935 (No. 30 of 1935).

### **3 (Popup - Footnote)**

3. Added by section 3 of the Mosquitoes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1930 (No. 14 of 1930).

### **4 (Popup - Footnote)**

4. Substituted by section 2 of the Mosquitoes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1923 (No. 7 of 1923).

### **5 (Popup - Footnote)**

5. Substituted by section 2 of the Mosquitoes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1930 (No. 14 of 1930).