

CHAPTER 228A

METRICATION

Act No. 16 of 1977

AN ACT TO INTRODUCE THE UNITS OF THE METRIC SYSTEM IN FIJI,
TO ENABLE NECESSARY MODIFICATION OF LEGISLATION TO BE
EFFECTED AND FOR MATTERS INCIDENTAL THERETO

[1st March, 1978.]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Metrication Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
“International System of Units” means the system of units recommended by the General Conferences of Weights and Measures from time to time convened by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures, and the abbreviation “SI” shall be recognised as the legal reference to such system of units.

Metric Units

- 3.—(1) On and after the commencement of this Act, the units of the metric system shall have legal force and validity in Fiji.
(2) The units of the metric system shall consist of—
 - (a) the base units of SI set out in the First Schedule including their multiples and sub-multiples;
 - (b) the supplementary and derived units of SI set out in the Second Schedule; and
 - (c) the additional units set out in the Third Schedule.

Power to adapt, etc.

4. The Minister responsible for the administration of a particular Act may, in respect of that Act, by order provide for the adaptation, alteration, conversion or modification of any of the provisions thereof as may be to him appropriate for the purpose of replacing references to units other than metric units contained therein by references to units of the metric system which are either equivalent thereto or such approximations thereto as appear to the appropriate Minister desirable to ensure that the written law as adapted, altered, converted or modified is expressed in convenient terms.

Conversion of imperial standard units to metric units

5. The values expressed in terms of any units of the imperial standard relating to measures of extension whether lineal, superficial or solid, or weight or capacity may be converted into values expressed in terms of the units of the metric system in accordance with the Fourth Schedule.

Saving

6. No act or thing done prior to the making of an order in terms of section 4 shall be challenged only on the ground that the act or thing done was in a unit other than a unit of the metric system.

FIRST SCHEDULE
(SI BASE UNITS)

Quantity	Name	Symbol
length	metre	m
mass	kilogram	kg
time	second	s
intensity of electric current	ampere	A
thermodynamic temperature	kelvin	K
luminous intensity	candela	cd
amount of substance	mole	mol

SECOND SCHEDULE
(SI SUPPLEMENTARY UNITS)

Quantity	Name	Symbol
plane angle	radian	rad
solid angle	steradian	sr

(SI DERIVED UNITS)

Quantity	Name	Symbol
area	square metre	m ²
volume	cubic metre	m ³
frequency	hertz	Hz
density (mass density)	kilogram per cubic metre	kg/m ³
velocity	metre per second	m/s
angular velocity	radian per second	rad/s
acceleration	metre per second squared	m/s ²
angular acceleration	radian per second squared	rad/s ²
force	newton	N
pressure (stress)	pascal	Pa
dynamic viscosity	pascal second	Pa.s
kinematic viscosity	square metre per second	m ² /s
work, energy, quantity of heat	joule	J
power	watt	W

Quantity	Name	Symbol
quantity of electricity	coulomb	C
electric potential, potential difference, electromotive force }	volt	V
electric field strength	volt per metre	V/m
electric resistance	ohm	Ω
electric capacitance	farad	F
conductance	siemens	S
magnetic flux	weber	Wb
inductance	henry	H
magnetic flux density	tesla	T
magnetic field strength	ampere per metre	A/m
luminous flux	lumen	lm
luminance	candela per square metre ...	cd/m ²
illuminance	lux	lx
wave number	1 per metre	m ⁻¹
heat capacity, entropy	joule per kelvin	J/K
specific heat capacity	joule per kilogram kelvin ...	J/kg.K
thermal conductivity	watt per metre kelvin	W/m.K
radiant intensity	watt per steradian	W/sr
activity (of a radio-active source)	1 per second	s ⁻¹
torque, moment of force	newton metre	N.m
surface tension	newton per metre	N/m
specific energy	joule per kilogram	J/kg
energy density	joule per cubic metre	J/m ³
current density	ampere per square metre ...	A/m ²
molar energy	joule per mole	J/mol
moment of inertia	kilogram square metre	kg.m ²
momentum	kilogram metre per second	kg.m/s

THIRD SCHEDULE
(ADDITIONAL UNITS)

Quantity	Name	Symbol	
time	minute	min	= 60 s
	hour	h	= 60 min
	day	d	= 24 h
angle	degree	°	= $\frac{\pi}{180}$ rad
	minute	'	= $\frac{1}{60}$ °
	second	"	= $\frac{1}{60}$ '
volume	litre	l	= dm ³
mass	tonne	t	= 1,000 kg
temperature, temperature interval }	degree Celsius	°C	(0 °C=273.15K)

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Symbol</i>	
distance	nautical mile	n mile	= 1,852 m
speed	knot	kn	= 1 nautical mile per hour
area	are	a	= 100 m ²
	hectare	ha	= 10,000 m ²
pressure	bar	b	= 10 ⁵ Pa
	standard atmosphere }	atm	= 101.325 kPa

FOURTH SCHEDULE

Conversion of Imperial Standard Units to Equivalent Metric Units:

<i>Imperial Standard Units</i>	<i>Metric Units</i>
1 yard	= 0.914,4 metre exactly
1 pound	= 0.453,592,37 kilogram exactly
1 gallon	= 4.546,09 litres approximately
	= 4.546,09 cubic decimetres approximately

Controlled by Ministry of Commerce and Industry

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METRICATION

Orders made by the Minister under section 33 of the Weights and Measures Act
(Chapter 56: 1967 Edition)

Units of the metric system only shall be used—

<i>Orders</i>		<i>With effect from</i>
11th April, 1978	for the sale of cloth by the length throughout Fiji.	1st October, 1978
27th July, 1978	for the sale and purchase of meat and meat products in pre-packaged form throughout Fiji	1st November, 1978
1st November, 1978	except for those goods for which an earlier date has been specified—	
	(a) for the sale of all pre-packed goods in—	
	(i) Central Division;	1st March, 1979
	(ii) Western Division;	1st May, 1979
	(iii) Northern and Eastern Divisions.	1st July, 1979
	(b) for the sale of all other goods sold by weight throughout Fiji.	1st August, 1979.

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