

BELIZE

NATIONAL METROLOGY ACT CHAPTER 294

REVISED EDITION 2020

SHOWING THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 2020

This is a revised edition of the Substantive Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020.



BELIZE

NATIONAL METROLOGY ACT CHAPTER 294

REVISED EDITION 2020

SHOWING THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 2020

This is a revised edition of the Substantive Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020.

CHAPTER 294

NATIONAL METROLOGY

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

PART I

Preliminary

- 1. Short title.
- 2. Interpretation.

PART II

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

- 3. Application of international system of units in Belize.
- 4. Legality of British Imperial units.
- 5. Legality of National Reference Standard units.
- 6. Verification and declaration of National Reference Standards.
- 7. Copies of verification calibration and cancellation of secondary standards.
- 8. Periodic verification of working and damaged standards.
- 9. Judicial notice of standards.

PART III

Use of Authorised Units of Measurements, Weights and Measuring Equipment

- 10. Custodian of standards.
- 11. Use of authorised units for all purposes.
- 12. Use of authorised units for collection of fees and duties.
- 13. Packing of goods to be in authorised units.
- 14. Exemption of export goods.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

- 15. Use of authorised units in weighting and measuring equipment.
- 16. Use of authorised denomination of weights and measures.
- 17. Prohibition of unmarked measuring instruments.
- 18. Prohibition of sale of measuring instruments not stamped by Inspectors.
- 19. Prohibition of use of measuring instruments not stamped by Inspectors.
- 20. Seller to weigh or measure articles if requested.

PART IV

Verification, Inspection and Stamping of Weighing and Measuring Equipment

- 21. Verification of weighing and measuring equipment.
- 22. Periodical examination of weights, measure and instruments.
- 23. Stamping of mark of verification.
- 24. Legal weights and measures in Belize.
- 25. Pattern approval of weights and measuring equipment.

PART V

Quantities, Pre-packed Products and dealing in Measuring Equipment

- 26. Sale to be by net weight or measure.
- 27. Pre-packaged goods.
- Prohibition of sale, manufacture, repairs of any weight and measure without licence.

PART VI

Powers and Functions of the National Metrological Service

29. Duties of Bureau of Standards.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

- 30. Use of unstamped standards etc., by Inspectors.
- 31. Non-profit duties of Inspectors.
- 32. Disposal of fees.
- 33. Inspector's Register.
- 34. Inspector to give security.
- 35. Powers of inspection of Directors and officers.

PART VII

Offences and Penalties

- 36. Use of unmarked weights and measures.
- 37. Sale of unstamped weights and measures.
- 38. Use or possession of unstamped weights.
- 39. Forgery, tempering, etc., of Inspector's stamp on weights and measures instruments.
- 40. Use or possession of incorrect weights and measures.
- 41. False declaration, statements, etc.
- 42. Deceptive packaging.
- 43. Use of false weights or measures.
- 44. Importation or packaging of pre-packaged goods.
- 45. Selling of unmarked pre-packaged goods.
- 46. Repair or manufacture of weights instruments.
- 47. Refusal to produce weight, etc., for inspection.
- 48. Breach by Inspector.
- 49. General penalty.
- 50. Forfeiture of weights, etc.
- 51. Evidence of possession.
- 52. Fiat for prosecution.
- 53. Liability of principal for his servant or agent's offence.
- 54. Offences by body corporate.

PART VIII

Miscellaneous

- 55. Police assistance.
- 56. Regulations.
- 57. Amendment of schedules.
- 58. Settlement of dispute.
- 59. *Prima facie* evidence of certificate of Director of Chief Inspector.
- 60. Repeal.

Schedules:

Schedule 1— Classes of Units.

Schedule 2— International System Units.

Schedule 3— Authorized Units for Use in Trade.

Schedule 4— Weights and Measures Lawful for Use in Trade.

SCHEDULE 5 — MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE ERROR IN RELATION TO PACKAGED COMMODITIES.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

CHAPTER 294

NATIONAL METROLOGY

23 of 2003. S.I. 131 of 2009. [7th December, 2009]

PART I

Preliminary

- **1.**-(1) This Act may be cited as the National Metrology Act.
- Short title.
- (2) This Act shall come into force on a day to be appointed by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*.
- 2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,

Interpretation.

- "accuracy" means the degree of conformity with such one or more working, secondary, or national reference or international standards as the context demands;
- "authorized denomination" means the denomination of a weight or measures specified in the Schedule 4;
- "authorized units of measurement" means the units of measurement specified in the Schedule 3;
- "Bureau" means the Belize Bureau of Standards established by the Standards Act, Cap. 294;
- "container" includes anything in or by which an article is cased, enclosed, contained or packed;
- "Director" means the Director of Standards appointed under section 4 of Standards Act, Cap. 294 and includes a Weights and Measures Inspector;

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

"equipment" means a weight, measure, or a weighing or measuring instrument or sub-assembly of a weighing or measuring instrument;

"importer" means the person by whom or on whose behalf the package, container, or weighing or measuring equipment is entered for customs purposes on importation;

"initial verification" means the verification of a new or repaired weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument prior to being placed in service;

is or to be, used as a standard for determining the accuracy of a secondary standard;

"packer" means, in relation to a pre-package, the person who placed the goods in the container included in the pre-package;

"pattern approval" means the approval by the Director of a specific model of a weighing or measuring instrument for its intended use, after one or more instruments have been tested in accordance with the prescribed requirements;

"pre-package" means a container containing goods together with the container in a case where,

- (a) the goods are placed for sale in the container otherwise than in the presence of a person purchasing the goods; and
- (b) none of the goods can be removed from the container without opening it;

"prescribed" means prescribed by Regulations made by the Minister under this Act:

"prescribed mark of verification" means a mark prescribed by Regulations made by the Minister under this Act;

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

"Specified Standards laboratory" means the national standards laboratory of any country or an international standards laboratory specified by the Minister for the purposes of this Act by Order published in the *Gazette*;

"trade" means any contract, bargain, sale or dealing referred to in section 10 of this Act and includes the packing in Belize of any article in a container for purposes of sale;

"weight" means a body of determinate mass for use within a weighing instrument;

"weighing instrument" means an instrument for the measurement of mass or weight;

"Working Standard" means an object, being a copy of, or equivalent to, a Secondary Standard, which,

- (a) has been calibrate and certified to the satisfaction of the Bureau by reference to one or more Secondary Standards; and
- (b) is, or is to be, used as a standard for the purpose of determining the accuracy of measuring instruments other than National Reference or Secondary Standards.

PART II

Legal and Standard Units of Measurement

3.-(1) The International System of Units as set out and defined in the First Schedule, including the base, supplementary, the symbol applicable thereto, shall be the legal units of measurement of Belize.

Application of international system of units in Belize.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

- (2) For the purposes of this Act, the multiples and submultiples of the unit of measurements referred to in subsection (1) of this section, are and shall be determined by the application of the prefixes set out and defined in the Second Schedule.
- (3) The abbreviation "SI" shall be officially and judicially noticed and recognised in Belize as a legal reference to the International System of Units.

Legality of British Imperial units.

- **4.**-(1) The British Imperial System of units as defined in Part II of the Third Schedule, are and shall be authorized units of measurement and may also be used concurrently with the International System of Units.
- (2) The Minister may, by Order publish in the *Gazette*, appointed a day from and after which the System of Units referred to in Part II of the Third Schedule shall cease to have legal force and validity in Belize, and the Minister may appoint different days for different undertaking or class of understanding specified in the Order.
- (3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the Minister may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, provide for the continued application in Belie of the American system of weights and measurements until such time as the Minister may appoint different days for different undertaking or class of undertaking on which the said weights and measurements shall cease to have legal effect in Belize.

Legality of National Reference Standards units

- **5.**-(1) For the purposes of this Act, the Minister shall procure and cause to be maintained National Reference Standards and from time to time such standards of other units of measurement as may be considered by him necessary.
- (2) Every standard of any unit of measurement procured under subsection (1) of this section, shall be the equivalent of a unit of measurement defined in the First Schedule of in Part II of the Third Schedule or any multiple or submultiple of any

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

such unit of measurement, and shall be made of such materials and in such manner as to be, as far as practicable, proof against mechanical and atmospheric agencies and other sources of error.

6.-(1) Every standard of any unit of measurement procured under section 6 of this Act, shall be calibrated and certified at a specified standards laboratory before such standard is brought into use in Belize.

Verification and declaration of National Reference Standards.

- (2) The Minister may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, declare that a standard of any unit of measurement which has been procured and verified under this section shall be brought into use in Belize and such standard shall, upon the commencement of such Order, become a National Reference Standard and shall for all purposes be deemed to be true and accurate.
- (3) The Minister shall, at least once after every ten years, cause such National Reference Standards as he deems necessary to be verified at a specified standards laboratory.
- (4) Where any National Reference Standard is sent out of Belize for purposes of Verification, the Minister shall, in its absence, cause a Secondary Standard of that unit of measurement to be verified by comparison with such National Reference Standard and authenticated in such manner as the Minister may direct, and thereafter placed in the custody of the Director, and such Secondary Standard shall, during such time as the National Reference Standard is out of Belize, be deemed to be a National Reference Standard.
- **7.**-(1) The Minister may, for the purposes of this Act, cause such copies as he may consider necessary of any National Reference Standard to be made in such manner and to be of such material, form and specification as he may prescribe or Secondary Standards.

Copies of verification, calibration and cancellation of Secondary Standards.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

- (2) Every Secondary Standard of any unit of measurement shall be kept and preserved in such manner as may be prescribed, at the office and in the custody of the Director, who shall, at least once every five years, cause such Standard to be compared with the National Reference Standard of that unit of measurement, and if necessary, to be corrected, adjusted or calibrated.
- (3) The Minister may, at anytime by Order published in the *Gazette*, cancel any Secondary Standard and any standard so cancelled shall thereupon cease to be, or to used as, a Secondary Standard.
- (4) The Director may from time to time for the purposes of this Act procure such copies as may be necessary of the Secondary Standards of any unit of measurement, and every such copy shall be made in such manner and shall be of such materials, form and specifications as may be prescribed for that purpose.
- (5) The Director shall cause every such copy of a Secondary Standard to be verified, and if found to be correct, to be authenticated, in the prescribed manner, and every copy so authenticated shall be a Working Standard for the purposes of this Act, and shall be deemed until the contrary is proved, to be true and accurate.

Periodic verification of working and damaged standards

- **8.**-(1) Every Working Standard in the custody of the Director, a Weights and Measures Inspector or any other agency to which custody has been assigned, shall be verified at least once every two years by comparison against a Secondary Standard of that unit of measurement.
- (2) In the event of damage of a Working Standard, such standard shall not be used unless it has been compared with a Secondary Standard of that unit of measurement and found to be true and accurate, and authenticated by the Director in the prescribed manner.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

9. Every court of competent jurisdiction shall take judicial notice of every National Reference Standard, Secondary Standard and Working Standard.

Judicial notice of standards

10. The Director shall be the custodian of National Reference Standards Secondary Standards and Working Standards.

Custodian of standards.

PART III

Use of Authorised Units of Measurements, Weights and Measuring Equipment

11. Every contract, bargain, sale or dealing made or had in Belize whereby any work, goods, wares, merchandise, or other thing is or are to be done, sold, hired, delivered, carried, measured, computed, paid for, or agreed to, by a unit of measurement, shall be made and had according to any one of the authorized units of measurement specified in the Third Schedule.

Use of authorized units for all purposes.

12. All fees and duties whatsoever charged or collected in Belize shall be based on the authorized units of measurement specified in the Third Schedule.

Use of authorized units for collection of fees and duties.

13. The packing in Belize of any article or container for the purposes of sale shall be done according to any one of the authorized units of measurement specified in the Third Schedule.

Packing of goods to be in authorized units

14. The provisions of section 12 of this Act, shall not apply to goods which are intended for dispatch to a destination outside Belize.

Exemption of export goods

15. All weighing and measuring equipment for use in trade in Belize shall be in the authorized units of measurement specified in the Third Schedule.

Use of authorised units in weighing and measuring equipment.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Use of authorized denominations of weights and measures.

- **16.**-(1) No weight or measure other than a weight or measure of an authorized denomination specified in Part 1 or Part II of the Fourth Schedule shall be used for purposes of any trade.
- (2) No person shall use for the purposes of any trade, or have in his possession for use in any trade,
 - (a) any weight which purports to be of an authorized denomination, unless the denomination is indelibly marked on the top or side thereof in legible figures and letters;
 - (b) any measure of length or volume which purports to be of a denomination equivalent to an authorized denomination, unless the denomination is marked indelibly on the outside thereof in legible figures and letters;
 - (c) nothing in this section shall be deemed to require the marking of a denomination of any weight, if the small size of such weight renders such marking impracticable.

Prohibition of un-marked measuring instruments, 17. No person shall use for the purposes of any trade, or have in his possession for use in any trade, any weighing or measuring instrument which does not bear a stamp indicating the maximum weight or measure, as the case may be, which may be weighted or measured by means of such instrument.

Prohibition of sale of measuring instruments not stamped by Inspectors. 18. No person shall sell or expose for sale any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which has not been verified and stamped by a Weights and Measures Inspector with the prescribed mark of verification.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

19. No person shall use a weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument which instrument which has not been verified and stamped by a Weights and Measures Inspector with the prescribed mark of verification for purposes of trade.

Prohibition of use measures instruments not stamped by Inspectors

20.-(1) Every person who in any shop, warehouse, store, market or public place sells any goods by weight or measure, whether on his own behalf or on behalf of the owner of such goods, shall on demand make by the person to whom the goods are to be delivered,

Seller to weigh or measure article if required

- (a) if the goods are sold by weight, weight the goods in a weighing instrument in the presence of that person;
- (b) if the goods are sold by volume or capacity, measure the goods in a measure of volume or capacity in the presence of that person; or
- (c) if the a goods are sold by linear measure, measure the goods using a measure of length in the presence of that person.
- (2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section, shall not apply to the sale of pre-packaged goods.

PART IV

Verification, Inspection and Stamping of Weighing and Measuring Equipment

21.-(1) All weighing and measuring equipment for use in trade and for any of the purposes prescribed in subsection (2) of this section, shall be.

Verification of weighing and measuring equipment.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

- (a) subject to pattern approval specified in section 26 of this Act;
- verification (b) subject to initial accordance with requirements prescribed by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*;
- subject to in-service verification in (c)with accordance requirements prescribed by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*;
- subject to verification after repair or (d)modification.
- (2) Weighing and measuring equipment for use by and in the Government shall include the following,
 - (a) specific prescribed weighing measuring equipment for use in the field of public health;
 - prescribed (b) specific weighing measuring instruments for use in the sale of electricity and water;
 - (c) specific prescribed weighing measuring equipment for use in industry, engineering or any other field.

Periodical examination of weights, measures and instruments

- **22.**-(1) The Director shall fix the time and the place for each district or area which a Weights and Measures Inspector shall examine and verify weights and measures and weighing instruments weighing and measuring instruments.
- (2) Public notice of the time and place fixed under subsection (1) of this section for the examination and

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

verification of weights and measures and weighing and measuring instruments shall be given by the Director by notice in two consecutive issues of the *Gazette*, a newspaper in general circulation in Belize, and on a radio and television network operating within Belize.

- (3) Every Weights and Measures Inspector shall at the time and place fixed under subsection (1) of this section, attend and,
 - (a) examine in the prescribed manner every weight or measure which is produced for that purpose and compare it with a Working Standard of that weight or measure; and
 - (b) examine arid test in the prescribed manner every weighing or measuring instrument which is produced for that purpose.
- (4) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section, shall be deemed to prevent a Weights and Measures Inspector from examining, comparing or testing any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which is produced for examination at any time or place other than the time or place fixed under that subsection.
- (5) No Weights and Measures Inspector shall examine any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument under this section, except upon payment of the prescribed fee.
- 23.-(1) A Weights and Measures Inspector who, upon examination under section 23 of this Act, finds any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument to be correct, and otherwise in all respects to comply with the provisions of this Act and of any Regulations made thereunder, shall stamp such weight, measure or instrument in the prescribed manner with the prescribed mark of verification.

Stamping of mark of verification.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

- (2) No Weight and Measures Inspector shall stamp with a mark of verification any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which is not correct or which does not comply with any provisions of this Act or any applicable Regulations.
- (3) No Weights and Measures Inspector shall stamp any weight or measure with a mark of verification,
 - (a) unless such weight or measure is of an authorized denomination; and
 - (b) unless he has tested it by comparison with a Working Standard of that weight or measure.

Legal weights and measures in Belize. 24. Every weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which has been duly stamped by a Weights and Measures Inspector under this Act with the prescribed mark of verification shall, unless it is found thereafter to be false or incorrect, be a legal weight, measure or instrument, as the case maybe, in any part of Belize.

Pattern approval of weighing and measuring equipment.

- **25.**-(1) All weights, measures and weighing and measuring instruments used for purposes of trade and in the fields specified in section 22 (2) of this Act, shall be subject to pattern approval on the payment of the prescribed fee, by the Director in accordance with the specification and limits of error as may be specified by Regulations made by the Minister under this Act.
- (2) Where on a subsequent examination of any weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument which has been approved earlier by the Director it is found to be defective, the Director shall have the power to cancel such earlier approval and notify any affected person of such cancellation.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

PART V

Quantities, Pre-packed Products and dealing in Measuring Equipment

- **26.**-(1) No person shall sell any goods by weight or measure unless he does so by net weight or measure.
- Sale to be by net weight or measure.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of section 28 (2) of tis Act, any person who, in selling or purporting to sell any goods by weight or other measurement or by number, delivers or causes to be delivered to the buyer a lesser quantity than that purported to be supplied or than that which corresponds with the price charged, shall be guilty of an offence.
- **27.-**(1) The net weight or measure marked on a container of pre-packaged goods shall be subject to the tests and limits prescribed by Order made by the Minister in the *Gazette*.

Pre-packaged goods.

- (2) No person shall sell or expose for sale any goods in a container or pre-package by weight or by measure unless such goods comply with the limits specified in the *Fifth Schedule*.
- (3) Subject to such exemptions as may be prescribed by the Minister by Order in the *Gazette*, no person shall sell any prepackaged goods by weight or measure unless the net weight or the net measure is marked on the container in the prescribed manner in terms of authorized units of measurement specified in the Third Schedule.
- (4) Any person who supplies, sells or exposes for sale, goods in a container or pre-package which is so made, formed or filled as to be misleading as to the nature, weight or capacity of the contents thereof shall be guilty, of an offence.
- (5) It shall be the duty of any person who is an importer, or a packer of pre-packaged goods, to ensure that such prepackage is marked in the prescribed manner with,

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

- (a) a statement of the quantity contained in terms of authorized units of measurement specified in the Third Schedule;
- (b) the name and address of the manufacturer, or the packer or the importer, or a mark which enables the manufacturer or the packer or the importer to be readily ascertained and identified.

Prohibition of sale, manufacture or repair of any weight, measure, without licence.

- **28.**-(1) No person shall sell, manufacture or repair any weight or measure or any weighing or measuring instrument except under the authority of a licence issued by the Director under this section.
- (2) Every person who wishes to obtain a licence under subsection (1) of this section,
 - (a) to repair any weight, measure or weighing instrument shall,
 - (i) demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Director his ability or the ability of persons employed by him to repair the type of weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument which he seeks to repair; and
 - (ii) be in possession of such equipment, tools and other facilities as may be required for the proper execution of such repair;
 - (b) to manufacture any weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument shall,

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

- (i) demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Director, his ability or the ability of persons employed by him to manufacture the type of weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument which he seeks to manufacture;
- (ii) be in possession of such equipment, tools and other facilities as may be required for the manufacture or assembly of such weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument; and
- (iii) submit to the Director for pattern approval such drawings and samples as may be required of such weight, measure or weighing and measuring instrument which he intends to manufacture.
- (3) No licence to sell, manufacture or repair weights, measures, and weighing and measuring instruments shall be issued to any person except upon payment of the prescribed fee.
- (4) Every licence issued by the Director under this section shall be in the prescribed form, and subject to such conditions as may be attached thereto, shall be in force until such date as may be specified in the licence.
- (5) The Director may revoke any licence issued under this section if the holder of the licence is convicted of an offence under this Act.
- (6) Regulations maybe made, prohibiting persons licensed under this section from demanding or accepting, in respect of the repair or adjustment of weights, measures, and weighing

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

and measuring instruments, fees in excess of such maximum fees as may be prescribed by such Regulations.

PART VI

Powers and Functions of the National Metrological Service

Duties of Bureau of Standards.

- **29.**-(1) It shall be the duty of the Bureau of Standards to perform the duties and functions of the National Metrology Service.
- (2) The Director of the Bureau of Standards appointed under section 4 of the Standards Act, Cap. 294, shall be the Director of the National Metrology Service for the purposes of this Act.
- (3) The Minister may, on the advice of the Director, appoint an officer of the Bureau of Standards to be the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures and such other officers to be Weights and Measures Inspectors (herein referred to as "Inspectors")
- (4) The Director may delegate any or all powers conferred on him under this Act to the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures or to an Inspector.

Use of unstamped standards, etc. by Inspectors

- **30.**-(1) No Inspector shall use any Working Standard for the purpose of testing any weight or measure at any time after the expiry of a period of two years from the date on which that standard was last stamped as correct under section 7 of this Act.
- (2) No Inspector shall use for the purposes of this Act a weighing or measuring instrument which is provided for his use unless that instrument has been verified in the prescribed manner.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

31.-(1) No Inspector shall derive any profit from or be employed in the making or selling of weights or measures or weighing or measuring instruments.

Non- profit duties of Inspectors.

- (2) Subject as hereinafter provided, no Inspector shall repair, alter or adjust any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument:
- (3) Where the Director is satisfied that it is desirable that an Inspector should be allowed to adjust weights and measures and weighing and measuring instruments within an area or any district as the case may be, the Director may authorize that Inspector to act in that area or district as adjuster of weights and measures and weighing and measuring instruments.
- (4) No Inspector who is authorized under subsection (2) of this section to act as an adjuster of weights and measures and weighing and measuring instruments shall adjust any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument except upon payment of the prescribed fee.
- **32.** All fees paid under this Act shall be credited to the account of the Bureau of Standards.

Disposal of fees.

33. Every Inspector shall keep a register in the prescribed form and shall enter such particulars as may be prescribed relating to the performance of his duties under this Act and shall at such times as may be prescribed transmit the register to the Director for examination.

Inspector's Register.

34. Every person designated as an Inspector shall Forthwith on his being designated give security in such sum as may be prescribed for the due discharge of the duties of his office, for the due payment of all fees received by him under this Act and for the safety of the Working Standards and stamps and other appliances under his custody and control.

Inspectors to give security

Provided that the Minister may waive the requirement of provision of security as provided in this section.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Powers of inspection of Director and officers.

- 35. The Director or the Chief Weights and Measures Inspector or any Inspector may at any reasonable time enter any factory, shop, store, warehouse, shed, land, vehicle or premises in which any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument is or is suspected to be kept or used for the purpose of any trade, or any article or goods are offered or exposed for sale and may,
 - (a) search for, or require the person for the time being in charge thereof to produce for inspection, all or any weights and measures and weighing and measuring instruments kept therein;
 - (b) inspect any weight or measure which is found therein or produced for examination, and compare it with a Working Standard of that weight or measure;
 - (c) inspect and test any weighing or measuring instrument which is found therein or produced for examination;
 - (d) seize and detain for the purpose of a prosecution for an offence under this Act or any other written law any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which is found upon comparison or test to be incorrect, or which appears to have been, or likely to be, used in contravention of any provision of this Act or such other written law;
 - (e) inspect and weigh or inspect and measure, any article or goods which are therein kept, or offered or

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

exposed for sale, in order to ascertain whether the provisions of this Act are being complied with in respect of such article or goods, and seize and detain any article or goods in respect of which or in relation to which a contravention of any provision of this Act has been or is suspected to have been committed;

- (f) require the production of all books, accounts, or documents relating to goods therein and inspect and copy any of those books, accounts or documents; or
- (g) take such samples of any goods and articles therein as may reasonably be required by him for the proper performance of his duties.

PART VII

Offences and Penalties

36. Any person who uses for any trade or have in his possession for use in any trade, any weight or measure which is unmarked with its denomination shall be guilty of an offence and shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Use of unmarked weights or measures.

37. Any person who sells or exposes for sale any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which has not been stamped by an Inspector with the prescribed mark of verification shall be guilty of an offence and shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding three thousand

Sale of unstamped weights and measures.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Use and possession of unstamped weights

- **38.**-(1) Any person who uses for the purposes of any trade or has in his possession for use in any trade, any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which has not in the period of twelve months preceding such time been stamped by an Inspector with the prescribed verification mark shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.
- (2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of section 22 of this Act, in respect of weighing and measuring equipment for use in the fields specified in subsection (2) of that section is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Forgery, tempering etc., of Inspector's stamp on weights and measures instruments.

39. Any person who,

- (a) forges or counterfeits any stamp or mark provided under this Act for the by Inspectors in stamping weights or measures or weighing or measuring instruments; or
- (b) makes, uses sells, exposes for sale, utters or otherwise disposes of any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument bearing any stamp or mark which he knows to be false, forged or counterfeited; or
- (c) removes any mark which has been stamped by an Inspector on any weight or measure or weighing or

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

measuring instrument and inserts such mark on any other weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument; or

(d) increases or diminishes a weight or measure which has been stamped or certified by an Inspector under this Act, or tampers with a weighing or measuring instrument which has been so stamped, or uses, sells, exposes for sale, utters for sale, keeps in his possession for use in a trade or otherwise disposes of any weight or measure which he knows to be so increased, diminished or false, or any weighing or measuring instrument which he knows to be tampered with;

is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

40. Any person who uses for the purpose of any trade, or has in his possession for use in any trade, any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which is not correct, is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Use or possession of incorrect weights and measures

41. Any person who, in any place or area by any means whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, makes any false, incorrect or untrue declaration or statement knowing the same to be false, incorrect or untrue as the case maybe, in relation to the number, quantity, measure, gauge or weight of any goods or articles in connection with their purchase, sale, weighing or a measurement, or in the computation of any charges for

False, declaration. Statement, etc.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

services rendered on the basis of weight or measure, or who sells, or causes to be sold, or delivers or causes to be delivered, to a purchaser anything by weight or measure short of quantity demanded of or represented by the seller, is guilty of an offence and shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Deceptive packaging. 42. Any person who supplies, sells or exposes for sale any goods in a container or pre-package which is so made, formed or filled as to be misleading as to the nature, weight or capacity of the contents, shall be guilty of an offence and shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Use of false weight or measure.

43. Whosoever uses any false weight or measure of capacity, or uses any weight or any measure of length or capacity representing it to be a different weight or measure from what it is, is guilty of an offence and shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Importing or packing of prepackaged goods.

- 44. Any person who is an importer or a packer of prepackaged goods,
 - (a) who imports or packs pre-packaged goods in contravention of the requirements of section 27(2) of this Act:
 - who fails to mark in authorized units (b) on any pre-packaged goods the number and net weight measure it contains: or

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

(c) who fails to indicate the name and address of the manufacturer or the importer or to mark enabling identification of such name and address:

is guilty of an offence and shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

45. Any person who sells or exposes for sale a pre-package or container of pre-packaged goods of which the number, the net weight or measure is not marked on the pre-package or the container in terms of units specified in the Third Schedule is guilty of an offence and shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Selling of unmarked pre packaged goods.

46. Any person who,

- Repair or manufacture of weights instrument
- (a) except under the authority of a licence issued in that behalf under this Act manufacturers or repairs any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument; or
- (b) being the holder of such licence, commits a breach of any condition lawfully inserted in the licence;

is guilty of an offence and shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

Refusal to produce weight etc., for inspection. 47. Any person who refuses to produce a weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument when required to do so by the Director, the Chief Weights and Measures Inspector or an Inspector lawfully acting in accordance with this Act or who resists or obstructs that person in the lawful exercise of his duties is guilty of an offence and shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Breach by Inspectors.

48. Any Inspector who commits a breach of any provision of Part VI, or of any Regulations relating to the examination, verification or stamping of weights or measures or weighing or measuring instrument is guilty of an offence and shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

General Penalty.

49. Any person who commits a breach of any provision of this Act of any Regulations made thereunder shall, where no penalty is expressly provided for such breach, be guilty of an offence and be liable to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Forfeiture of weights etc.

50. Any court may, on the conviction of any person of an offence under this Act relating to any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument, make an order declaring that such weight or measure or weight or measuring instrument shall be forfeited, and every weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which is so forfeited shall be disposed of in such manner as may be prescribed by Regulations.

Evidence of possession.

51. For the purposes of this Act, any weight or measure or weighing or measuring instrument which is found in the possession of any person who carries on any trade shall be deemed, until the contrary is proved, to be in the possession of that person for use in trade.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

52. No prosecution shall be instituted against a person for an offence under this Act except by or with the written consent of the Director of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Fiat for prosecutions.

53. Where an offence under this Act is committed by an agent or servant of a manufacturer or trader, such offence shall be deemed to have been committed by that manufacturer or trader unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge.

Liability of principal for servant or agent's offence.

54. Where an offence under this Act is committed by a body of persons, whether corporate or unincorporated, then,

Offences by body corporate.

- (a) if the body of persons is a body corporate, every person who at the time of the commission of the offence was a director, secretary or other officer of that body corporate; or
- (b) if the body of persons is a body other than a body corporate, every person who at the time of the com-mission of the offence was a member of that body; shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence until he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or consent or that he exercised due diligence to prevent the commission of the offence.
- 55. (1) The Director, Deputy Director, an Inspector or other person authorised by the Director may request the assistance of a police officer in uniform in the enforcement of the provisions of this Act.

Police assistance.

(2) A police officer who is requested to give assistance under-subsection (1) of this section, shall give such assistance.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

Regulations.

56.-(1) The Minister may make Regulations for the more effectual working of this Act in respect of the following,

- (a) the exemption in whole or in part from the provisions of this Act of any undertaking or class of undertaking specified in the Regulations;
- (b) the verification and stamping of weights, measures, weighing or measuring instruments, including the prohibition of stamping in cases where the nature denomination, material or principles of construction of the weight, measure, weighing 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 weights, measures, and weighing or measuring instruments;
- (d) the limits of error to be allowed on verification and to be tolerated either generally or in respect to any trade;
- (e) the fees that may be paid for examining, verifying or stamping with a stamp of verification any weight, measure, and weighing or measuring instrument;
- (f) the manner in which the value expressed in terms of any weight or measure other than in terms of standard mass or measures may be converted;

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

- (g) the enabling of Inspectors to carry out their duties under this Act;
- (h) the enforcement of the requirements that relate to weighing or measuring equipment for use for purpose of trade;
- (i) the materials and principles of construction of weighing or measuring equipment which are used for the purpose of trade;
- (j) the purpose for which particular types of weighing or measuring equipment may be used in trade;
- (k) the manner for erecting, sitting or using weighing or measuring equipment for the purposes of trade;
- (l) the quantities in which prescribed pre-packaged goods may be sold;
- (m) the prescribing of anything that is by this Act authorized or required to be prescribed; and
- (n) the carrying out of the provisions of this Act.
- (2) Regulations made by the Minister under this section shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall come into operation on the date of such publication or on such later date as may be specified in the Regulations.
- **57.** The Minister may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, amend the Schedules of this Act by adding or removing any unit of measurement specified therein.

Amendment of Schedules.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

Settlement of disputes.

- **58.**-(1) If any dispute arises between an Inspector and any other person as to the meaning or construction of any regulation or as to the methods to be adopted in testing any weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument, such dispute shall, be brought to the attention of the Director by either party.
- (2) The Director shall consider and investigate the matter and make a decision which decision shall be final and conclusive on question of fact.

Prima facie evidence of certificate of Director or Chief Inspector.

59. A certificate, purporting to be issued by the Director or the Chief Weights and Measures inspector, regarding the condition of any examined weight, measure or weighing or measuring instrument shall, without further proof be admissible in evidence in any court of competent jurisdiction and shall be *prima facie* proof of the facts stated therein.

Repeal.

60. The Weights and Measures Act, Revised Edition 2000 is hereby repealed.

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

SCHEDULE 1

NATIONAL METROLOGY ACT

Classes of Units

[Section 3 and 6]

PART I

BASE UNIT

Physical	Name of	Unit	Definition
Quality	Unit	Symbol	
Length	Metre	m	The unit for the measurement of length equal to 1650163.73 wavelengths in vacuum of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the levels 2p10 and 5d5 of the Krypton-86 atom
mass	Kilogram	Kg	The unit for the measurement of mass of the international prototype of the kilogram established in the year 1889 by the Conference of weights and Measures deposited at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures.
time	Second	S	The unit for the measurement of time, being 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 caeium-133 atom.
Electric current	Ampere	A	The unit for the measurement of electric current, being that constant current, which, if maintained in two straight parallel conductors of infinite length, of

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Physical Quality	Name of Unit	Unit Symbol	Definition
Quanty	Chu	Symbol	negligible circular cross-section and placed one metre apart in vacuum, would produce between these two conductors a force equal to 2 × 10-7 newton per metre of length.
thermo- dynamic temperature	Kelvin	k	The unit for the measurement of thermodynamic temperature, being the fraction 1/273.16 of the thermodynamic temperature of the triple point of water
luminous intensity	Candela	cd	The unit of measurement of luminous intensity, being the luminous intensity, in a given direction of a source which emits monochromatic radiation of frequency 540×10^{12} hertz having a power flux in that direction of $1/683$ watt per steradian.
Amount of substance	mole*	mol	The unit for the measurement of the amount of substance of a system which contains as many elementary entities as there are atoms in 0.012 kilogram of carbon 12.

-

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

^{*} Note: When the mole is used, the elementary entities must be specified and may be atoms, molecules, ions, electrons, the particles or specified groups of such particles.

PART II

SUPPLEMENTARY UNITS

Physical Quantity	Name of Unit	Unit Symbol	Definition
Plane angle	Radian	rad	The unit for the measurement of plane angle, being the angle with its vertex at the centre of a circle and subtended by an arc of the circle that is equal in length to its radius.
solid angle	steradian	Unit Symbol	the unit for the measurement of solid angle, being the angle with its vertex at the centre of a sphere and subtended by an area on the spherical surface equal to that of a square with sides equal in length to the radius.

PART III

SI DERIVED UNITS EXPRESSES IN TERMS OF BASE UNITS

area	Square metre	m ²
volume	cubic metre	m ³
speed, velocity	metre per second	m/s, ms ⁻¹
acceleration	metre per second squared	m/s ² , ms ⁻²
wave number	1 per metre	m ⁻¹
density, mass density	kilogram per cubic metre	Kg/m ³ , kgm ⁻³
Current density magnetic field strength concentration (of amount of substance) specific volume luminance	ampere per square metre ampere per meter mole per cubic metre cubic meter per kilogram candela per square metre	A/m ⁻² , Am ⁻² A/m, Am ⁻¹ mol/m ³ , mol m ³ m ³ /kg, m ³ kg ⁻¹ cd/m ² , cdm ⁻²

PART IV

SI DERIVED UNITS WITH SPECIAL NAMES

Quantity	SI Unit Name	Symbol	Expression in terms of other units	Expression in terms of SI base units
frequency	hertz	Hz	-	s- ¹
force	newton	N	ı	Mkgs ⁻²
pressure, stress	pascal	Pa	N/m ²	m ⁻¹ kgs ⁻²
Energy, work quantity of				
heat	joule	J	Nm	m²kgs-²
power	watt	W	J/s	m ² kgs ⁻³
Quantity of electric charge	coulomb	С	-	SA

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Quantity	SI Unit Name	Symbol	Expression in terms of other units	Expression in terms of SI base units
Quantity	SI Unit Name	Symbol	Expression in terms of other units	Expression in terms of SI base units
Electric potential, volts, potential difference electromotive force	volt	V	W/A	m ² kgs ⁻³ A ⁻¹
capacitance	farad	F	C/V	m ⁻² kg ⁻¹ s ⁴ A ⁻¹
Electric resistance	ohms	Y	V/A	m²kgs-3A²
conductance	Seimens	S	A/V	$m^{-2}kg^{-1}s^3A^2$
Magnetic flux	weber	Wb	Vs	M²kgs-²A-1
Magnetic flux density	tesla	Т	Wb/m2	Kgs ⁻² A ⁻²
Inductance	Henry	Н	Wb/A	M²kgs-2A-2
Luminous flux	Lumen	lm	-	cdsr
Illuminance	Lux	lx	Lm/m ²	m ⁻² cdsr
Absorbed dose, specified energy imparted, kerma	Gray	Gy	J/kg	m- ² s ⁻²
Absorbed dose index	Degree	°C	-	k
Celsius temperature	Celsius			

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

PART V

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

Quantity	SI Unit Name	Symbol	Expression in terms of SI base Units
dynamic viscosity	pascal second	Pas	m ⁻¹ kgs ⁻¹
moment force	Metre newton	Nm	m ² kgs ⁻²
surface tension	Newton per metre	N/m	kgs ⁻²
Power density, heat flux density, inadiance	Watt per square metre	W/m	kgs ⁻³
Heat capacity, entropsyh	Joule per Kelvin	J/K	m²kgs-²k-1
Specific heat capacity,	Joule per kilogram	J/(kg.K)	m ² s ⁻² K ⁻¹
Specific entropsy	Kelvin		
Specific energy	Joule per kilogram	J/kg	m s ⁻²
Thermal conductivity	Watt per metre Kelvin	W/(mK)	mkgs ⁻³ K ⁻¹
Energy density	Joule per cubic metre	J/m ³	m ⁻¹ kgs ⁻²
Electric field strength	Volt per metre	V/m	Mkgs ⁻³ A ⁻¹
Electric charge density	Coulomb per cubic metre	C/m ³	m ⁻² As
Electric flux density	Coulomb per square metre	C/m ²	m ⁻² As
Permitivity	Farad per metre	F/m	m ⁻³ kg ⁻¹ s ⁴ A ²
Permeability	Henry per metre	H/m	m kgs ⁻² A ⁻²
Molar energy	Joule per mole	J/mol	m ² kgs ⁻² mol ⁻¹
Molar entropy, molar heat capacity	Joule per mole Kelvin	J/(mol.K)	m ² kgs ² k ⁻¹ mol ⁻¹
Exposure (X and Y	Coulomb per	C/kg	Kg ⁻¹ As

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Quantity	SI Unit Name	Symbol	Expression in terms of SI base Units
rays)	kilogram		
Absorbed dose rate	Gray per second	Gy/s	M^2s^{-3}

PART VI

PERMITTED UNITS

Physical Quantity	Name of Unit	Unit Symbol	Definition
time	minute	min	$1 \min = 60s$
	hour	h	1 h = 60min
	day	d	1 d = 24 h
	week	wk	1 wk = 7 d
	calendar year	yr	1 yr = 365 d or
			366 d (leap year)
plane angular	Degree	0	10=n/180 radian
measure	Minute	•	1'=1/60
	second	"	1 "= 1'/60
Volume of	Litre	L	$IL = 1dm^3$
capacity			
mass	tonne	t	1t = 1,000 kg
pressure	bar standard	Bar	1 bar = 100 kpa
	atmosphere	atm	
area	are hectare	a	1 are = 100 m
		ha	1 hectare =
			10,000 m ²
temperature	degree celsius	°C	10C = 1k
			(temperature
			interval)
marine and aerial	nautical mile	nautical mile	1 nautical mile =
			1825m
navigation	knot	knot	1 knot = 1
			nautical mile per
			hour

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

PART VII

UNITS USED WITH SI IN SPECIALIZED SCIENTIFIC FIELDS

Name of Unit	Unit Symbol	Value in SI Units
Electron volt	eV	$1cV = 1.602 \ 19 \times 10 - 19J$
unified atomic mass	u	$1u = 1.660 \ 57 \times 10 - 27$
		kg
astronomical unit	AU	1 AU = 149 597.87 ×
		10 ⁶ m
parsec	рс	$1 \text{ pc} = 30 857 \times 10 \text{m}$
angstrom	A0	$1 \text{ A}^{\circ} = 10\text{-}10\text{m}$
barn	В	$1 b = 10^{28} m^2$
curie	Ci	$1Ci = 3.7 \times 10^{10}s^{-1}$
		¹ (Exactly)
gal	Gal	$1 \text{ Gal} = 4.54609 \text{ dm}^3$
metric carat*	-	1 metric carat = 200mg*
rontgen	R	$1R = 2.58 \times 10^4 \text{Ckg}^{-1}$

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

SCHEDULE 2

NATIONAL METROLOGY ACT

International System Units

[Section 3]

PREFIXES * FOR MULTIPLES AND SUBMULTIPLES OF BASE, SUPPLEMENTARY AND DERVIED UNITDS OF MEASUREMENT

Prefix	Symbol	Definition
exa	Е	10^{18}
peta	P	10^{12}
tera	T	10^{12}
giga	G	10^{9}
mega	M	10^{0}
kilo	k	10^{3}
hector	h	10^{2}
deca	da	10^{1}
deci	d	10-1
centi	c	10-2
Prefix	Symbol	Definition
milli	m	10 ⁻³
micro	h	10-6
nano	n	10-9
pico	p	10^{-12}
femto	f	10^{-15}
atto	a	10 ⁻¹⁸

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

^{*} Note: Not to be confused with the carat to expressed the fineness of gold or other

SCHEDULE 3

NATIONAL METROLOGY AUTHORIZED UNITS FOR USE IN TRADE.

[Sections 2, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 16, 28, and 46]

PART I

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF UNITS AND OTHER METRIC UNITS

1.1 MEASUREMENT OF LENGTH

1.1.1 SI UNITS

Kilometre (km) = 1 000 metres

Meter (m) = as defined in Part 1 of the

Schedule 1

Millimetre (mm) = /1 000 meters

Micrometre (m) = 1/1 000 000 meters

1.1.2 OTHER METRIC UNITS

Nautical mile = 1 852 metres

Centimetre = 1/100 metres

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

1.2 MEASUREMENT OF AREA

1.2.1 SI UNITS

Square metre (m^2) = as defined in Part III of the

First Schedule

Square kilometre (km) = 1 000 000 square metres

Square millimetre $((mn)^2) = 1/1 000 000$ th of square metre

1.2.2 OTHER METRIC UNITS

Hectare (ha) = 10 000 square metres

Are (a) = 100 square metres

Square centimetre= 1/10 000th of a square metre

1.3 MEASUREMENT OF PLANE AND SOLID ANGLE 1.3.1 PLANE ANGLE

Radian (rad) = as defined in Part II of the First Schedule

Degree (0) = /180 radians

Minute (') = $1^{\circ}/60$

Second (") = 1'/60

1.3.2 SOLID ANGLE

Steradian (sr) = as defined in Part III of the First Schedule

1.4 MEASUREMENT OF SPEED

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

1.4.1 SI UNITS

Metre per second (m/s) = as defined in Part III of the First Schedule

1.4.2 OTHER METRIC UNITS

Kilometre per hour = 10/36 metres per second

1.5 MEASUREMENT OF VOLUME OR CAPACITY

1.5.1 SI UNITS

Cubic metre = as defined in Part III of the First

Schedule

1.5.2 OTHER METRIC UNITS

Hectoliter (hL) = 100 litres

Litre (L) = 1/1 000th of a cubic metre

Cubic centimetre($(cm)_3$) = 1/1 000 000 th of a cubic metre

Decilitre (dL) = 1/10 th of a litre

Centiliter (cL) = 1/100 th of a lire

Millilitre (mL) = 1/1 000th of a litre

1.6 MEASUREMENT OF MASS

1.6.1 SI UNITS

Kilogram (kg) = as defined in Part 1 of the First Schedule

Gram (g) = 1/1000 th of kilogram

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Milligram (mg) = 1/1000000 th of a kilogram

Microgram (hg) = $1/1000\ 000\ 000$ th of a kilogram

1.6.2 OTHER METRIC UNITS

Tonne (t) = 1 000 kilogram

Metric carat = 1/5 th part of a gram

1.7 MEASUREMENT OF DENSITY (MASS DENSITY)

1.7.1 SI UNITS

Kilogram per cubic metre = as defined in Part III of the First Schedule

1.7.2 OTHER METRIC UNITS

Tonne per cubic metre = 1 000 kilograms per cubic metre

1.8 MEASUREMENT OF FORCE

1.8.1 SI UNITS

Megapascal (MPa) = 1000000 pascals

Kilopascal (kPa) = 1000 pascals

Pascal (Pa) = as defined in Part IV of the First Schedule

1.10 MEASUREMENT OF LINER DENSITY OF TEXTILES

1.10.1 OTHER METRIC UNITS

Tex (tex) = the mass in grams of one kilometre of yarn

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

[CAP. 294 National Metrology

 $1 \text{ g/1 km} = 10^6 \text{kg/m}$

48

Millitex (mtex) = 1/1 000 th of a tex

Decitex (dtex) = 1/10 th of a tex

Kilotext (Ktext) = 1 000 tex

1.11 MEASUREMENT OF TIME AND FREQUENCY

1.11.1 TIME

Minutes (min) = 60 s

Hour (h) = 60 mins

Day (d) = 24 h

Week = 7 d

Year = 365 d or 366 d (leap year)

1.11.2 FREQUENCY

Gigahertz (GHz) = 1 000 000 000 hertz

Megahertz (MHZ) = 1000000 hertz

Kilohertz (kHz) = 1000 hertz

Hertz (Hz) = as defined in Part IV of the First

Schedule

1.12MEASUREMENT OF TEMPERATURE

1.12.0 SI UNITS

Kelvin (k) = as defined in Part I of the First Schedule

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

1.12.2 OTHER METRIC UNITS

1.12.1 SI UNITS

Kelvin (k) = as defined in Part I of the First Schedule

1.12.2 OTHER METRIC UNITS

Degree Celsius ($^{\circ}$ C) = one Kelvin (K)

The Celsius temperature scale is defined by the following equation:

- 1. $T T_0$ where:-
 - (i) t temperature in degree Celsius.
 - (ii) T temperature in kelvins
 - (*iii*) $T_0 273.15 \text{ K}$.

1.13 MEASUREMENT OF ENERGY AND POWER

1.13.1 ENERGY, WORK AND QUANTITY OF HEAT

Joule (J) = as defined in Part IV of the First

Schedule –

Kilojoule (kJ) = 1000 joules

Megajoule (MJ) = 1 000 000 joules and all other multiples and sub-multiples as defined in the Second Schedule

Watthour (Wh) = 3.6×10^3 joules

Kilo watthour (kWh) = 1000 watthour

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Electron volt (ev) = The energy acquired by an electron

n passing through a potential

difference of 1 volt in vacuum.

1.13.2 POWER ENERGY FLOW RATE AND HEAT FLOW RATE

Milliwatt (mW) = 1/1 000 of a watt

Watt (W) = as defined in Part IV of the First

Schedule -

Kilowatt (kW) = 1000 watts

Megawatt (MW) = 1 000 000 watts and all other multiples and sub-multiples as defined in the Second Schedule

1.14. SPECIFIC ENERGY

1.14.1 SI UNITS

Kilojoules per kilogram (kJ/Kg) = 1 000 joules per kilogram

Joule per kilogram (J/Kg) = 1 joule per kilogram

1.14.2 OTHER UNITS

Joule per gram (J/g) = 1/1 000 th joules per kilogram

1.15 ELECTRIC CURRENT

1.15.1 SI UNITS

Ampere (A) = as defined in Part I of the First

Schedule

Milliampere (mA) = 1/1 000 th of ampere

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Microampere (A) = 1/1000000 th of ampere

1.16. ELECTRIMOTIVE FORCE AND POTENTIAL DIFFERENCE

1.16.1 SI UNITS

Kilovolt (kV) = 1000 volts

Volt (V) = as defined in Part IV of the First Schedule

Millivolt (mV) = 1/1 000 th of a volt

Microvolt (iV) = 1/1 000 000 th of a volt

1.17 ELECTRIC CAPACITANCE

1.17.1 SI UNITS

Henry (H) = as defined in Part IV of the First

Schedule

Millihenry (mH) = 1/1 000 the of a henry

Microhenry (iH) = 1/1 000 000 th of a henry

1.18 ELECTRIC REISTANCE

1.18.1 SI UNITS

Megaohm (MU) = 1000000 ohms

Kiloohm (KU) = 1 000 ohms

Ohm (U) = as defined in Part IV of the First

Schedule

Milliohm (MU) = 1/1 000 th of an ohm

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

[CAP. 294 National Metrology

Microohm (iU) = 1/1 000 th of an ohm

1.19.1 SI UNITS

Coulomb (C)

= as defined in Part IV of the first

Schedule

52

Milicoulomb (mC) = 1/1 000 th of a coulomb

Microcoulomb (iC) = 1/1 000 000 th of a coulomb

1.19.2 other units

Amperehour (Ah) = 36000 coulombs

1.20 LUMINOUS INTENSITY

1.20.1 SI UNITS

Candela (cd) = as defined in Part I of the First Schedule

1.21 ILLUMINATION

1.21.1 SI UNITS

lux (lu) = as defined in Part IV of the first Schedule

1.22 LUMINOUS FLUX

1.22.1 SI UNITS

Lumen (lm) = as defined in Part IV of the First Schedule

1.23 ACTIVITY

1.23.1 SI UNITS

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Becquerel (Bq)

= as defined in Part IV of the First

Schedule

Millibecquerel (mBq) = 1/1 000 of a Becquerel

1.24 ABSORBED DOSE

1.24.1 SI UNIT

Gray (Gy)

= as defined in Part IV of the First

Schedule

Milligray (mGy) = 1/1 000 of a gray

1.25 EXPOSURE

1.25.1 SI UNITS

Coulomb per kilogram (C/kg) = as defined in Part IV of the First Schedule

PART II

THE BRITISH IMPERIAL SYSTEM OF UNITS

1. MEASUREMENT OF LENGTH

Yard = 0.9144 metre

Mile = 1760 yards

Furlong = 220 yards

Chain = 22 yards

Foot $= 1/3^{rd}$ of a yard

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Inch = $1/26^{th}$ of a yard

2. MEASUREMENT OF AREA

Square mile = 640 acres

Acre = 4840 square yards

Rood = 1210 square yards

Perch or square pole = 121/4 square yards

Square inch foot $= 1/144^{th}$ of a square

3. MEASUREMENT OF VOLUME OR CAPACITY

3.1 VOLUME IN GENERAL

Cubic yard = a volume equal to that of a cube each edge of which measures 1 yard

Cubic foot = 1/27th of a cubic yard

Cubic inch foot = 1/1728 th of a cubic foot

3.2 LIQUID MEASURE

Gallon = the space occupied by 10 pound weight of distilled water of density 0.998859 gram per millilitre weighed in air of density 0.001217 grams per millilitre against weights of density 8.136 grams per millilitre

Quart = \frac{1}{4} gallon
Pint = \frac{1}{2} quart
Gill = \frac{1}{4} pint
Fluid ounce = 1/20 pint

Fluid drachm = 1/8 fluid ounce Minim = 1/60 fluid drachm

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Bushel = 8 gallons Peck = 2 gallons Chaldron = 288 gallons

3.3 MEASUREMENT OF MASS OR WEIGHT

Ton = 2240 pounds Hundred weight= 112 pounds Quarter = 28 pounds Stone = 14 pounds

Pound = $0.453 \, 592 \, 37 \, \text{kilogram}$

Kilogram

Ounce = 1/16 pound Dram = 1/16 ounce Grain = 1/7000 pound Ounce troy = 480 grains

SCHEDULE 4

NATIONAL METROLOGY ACT

Weights and Measures Lawful for Use in Trade

[Sections 2 and 17]

PART I

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF UNITS AND OTHER METRIC UNITS

1.1 LINEAR MEASURES

Measure of - 100 metres

- 50 metres
- 30 metres
- 20 metres
- 10 metres
- 5 metres
- 3 metres
- 2 metres
- 1 metre
- 1 centimetre
- 1 millimetre
- 1 micro metre

1.2 SQUARE MEASURES

Measures of, or any multiple of, square decimetre.

1.3 CUBIC MEASURES

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

Measure of, or any multiple of 1, the cubic decimetre = $0.001m_3$

1.4 CAPACITY MEASURES

Measures of 10 litres or any multiple of 10 litres:

- 5 litres
- 2 ½ litres
- 2 litres
- 1 litre
- 500 millilitres
- 250 millilitres
- 200 millilitres
- 100 millilitres
- 50 millilitres
- 25 millilitres
- 20 millilitres
- 10 millilitres
- 5 millilitres
- 2 millilitres
- 1 millilitres

1.5 WEIGHTS

1.5.1 WEIGHTS OF -

- 50 kilograms
- 20 kilograms
- 10 kilograms
- 5 kilograms
- 2 kilograms
- 1 kilograms
- 500 grams
- 200 grams

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

100 grams

50 grams

20 grams

10 grams

5 grams

2 grams

1 grams

500 milligrams

200 milligrams

100 milligrams

50 milligrams

20 milligrams

10 milligrams

5 milligrams

2 milligrams

1 milligrams

1.5.2 WEIGHTS OF -

500 carats (metric)

200 carats (metric)

100 carats (metric)

50 carats (metric)

20 carats (metric)

10 carats (metric)

5 carats (metric)

2 carats (metric)

1 carat (metric)

0.5 carats (metric)

0.25 carats (metric)

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

- 0.2 carats (metric)
- 0.1 carat (metric)
- 0.05 carats (metric)
- 0.02 carats (metric)
- 0.01 carat (metric)

PART II

THE BRITISH IMPERIAL SYSTEM

2.1 LINEAR MEASURES

Measures of –

100 feet

66 feet

50 feet

33 feet

20 feet

10 feet

8 feet

6 feet

5 feet

4 feet

1 yard $= 1/10^{th}$ of an inch

= 1/16th of an inch 2 feet

1 foot = 1/32 of an inch

6 inches = 1/64 of an inch

1 inch = 1/100th of an inch

= 1/128th of an inch = 1/256th of an inch

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

= 1/1000th of an inch

2.2 SQUARE MEASURES

Measures of, or any multiple of, 1 square foot

2.3 CUBIC MEASURES

Measures of, or any multiple of 1/4th cubic yard.

2.4 CAPACITY MEASURES

Measures of –

1 gallon or any multiple of 1 gallon ½ gallon

1 quart

1 pint

½ pint

8 fluid ounces

6 fluid ounces

4 fluid ounces

1 fluid ounces or sub-multiples of 1 fluid ounce

4 fluid drachms

2 fluid drachms

1 fluid drachm

60 minims

30 minims

10 minims

1 bushel

½ bushel

1 peck

2.5 WEIGHTS

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

2.5.1 WEIGHTS OF -

56 pounds

50 pounds

28 pounds

20 pounds

14 pounds

10 pounds

7 pounds

5 pounds

4 pounds

2 pounds

1 pounds

8 ounces

4 ounces

2 ounces

1 ounce

8 drams

4 drams

2 drams

1 dram

½ dram

100 grains

50 grains

30 grains

20 grains

10 grains

5 grains

3 grains

2 grains

1 grains

0.5 grains

0.3 grains

0.2 grains

0.1 grains

0.05 grains

0.03 grains

0.02 grains

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

0.01 grains

2.5.2 Weights of -

500 ounces troy 400 ounces troy 300 ounces troy 200 ounces troy 100 ounces troy

50 ounces troy 40 ounces troy 30 ounces troy 20 ounces troy 10 ounces troy

5 ounces troy 4 ounces troy 3 ounces troy 2 ounces troy 1 ounces troy

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

SCHEDULE 5

NATIONAL METROLOGY ACT

Maximum Permissible Error in Relation to Packaged Commodities

[Section 28]

- **1.** Maximum permissible error on net quantity declared by weight or volume
 - (a) The maximum permissible error, in excess or in deficiency, in the net quantity by weight or volume of any commodity, is specified in the table below:

TABLE 1

Maximum permissible errors on net quantity declared by weight or by volume-

Maximum permissible error in excess or				
	SI Declared	Maximum		
	quantity	permissible error in		
		excess in deficiency		
		As percentage of		
No.	g or ml	declared quantity	g or	
			ml	
(i)	up to 50	9		
(ii)	50 to 100		45	
(iii)	100 to 200	45		
(iv)	200 to 300		9	
(v)	300 to 500	3		
(vi)	500 to 1 000		15	
(vii)	1 000 to 10 000	1.5		
(viii)	10 000 to 15 000		150	

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020

- (ix) more than $15\ 000$ 1.0
 - (b) The maximum permissible error specified as a percentage shall be rounded off to the nearest one-tenth of a g or ml, for declared quantities less than or equal to 1 000g or ml, and to the next whole g or ml for declared quantities above 1 000g or ml.

Maximum permissible error, in excess or in deficiency, in the net quantity declared in terms of length, area or number of any commodity is specified in Table II below,

TABLE 1I

Maximum permissible errors on net quantity declared by Length, area or number

SI No. declared or in deficiency	Quantity Maximum permissible error in excess or in deficiency
() in units of length	2% of declared quantity up to 10 meters and thereafter 1% of declared quantity
() in units of area	4% of declared quantity up to 10 sq. meters and thereafter 1% declared quantity
() by number	2% of declared quantity

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2020