

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

"Authorised persons" means any person who is authorised by the Provisions of this Act to perform any act or exercise any power under this Act;

"Court" means the magistrate court of the Gambia

"Hoarding" includes importation, buying, selling or other form of trade whereby the importer, buyer, seller or other person, engaged in the business or trade of such goods keeps the goods from the public for purposes of speculating on a price increase.

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for Trade

"Owner" used with reference to goods means the person or persons, whether singly or jointly for the time being entitled to receive, or who, if the goods were sold, would be entitled to receive, money in respect of such goods, whether on his own account or as agent or trustee for any other person.

"Government" means the government of the Republic of The Gambia.

"Goods" means objects of every kind and description including raw materials, products and equipment and objects in solid, liquid or gaseous form and electricity as well as services incidental to the supply of the goods.

"Person" includes a corporate body or partnership

"Premises" includes houses, buildings, structures and land, whether open or closed, whether built on or not, whether public or private and whether maintained or not maintained under any enactment or as a vehicle

ship, vessels, boat, hulk, barge, aircraft, shop, tent, shed or similar structure that could be used for keeping or storing goods.

3. (1) Any person who hoards or allows another person to hoard goods of which that person is the owner shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than five years and not more than Ten years.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provision of subsection (1) of this section, in addition to the punishment provided under that section, the goods so hoarded by such person shall be forfeited to the government.

4. (1) Any person who in any way assists an owner to hoard goods commits an offence under this Act.

(2) A person shall be deemed to assist an owner to hoard goods if he or she-

(a) knowing that the goods are scarce or is about to be scarce assists the owner to transport, keep or store in any premises such goods in circumstances which will amount to hoarding;

(b) while the goods are not in short supply does anything which causes or is likely to cause the owner to speculate and hoard the goods