

**The Rangelands and Forages**  
**Resources Development (Rationalization) Act, 2015**

In accordance with the provisions of the Interim National Constitution of the Republic of the Sudan 2005, be it hereby, approved by the National Assembly and signed by the President of the Republic, the following Act :-

**Chapter I**

**Preliminary Provisions**

**Title and commencement**

1. This Act may be cited as the, "Rangelands and Forages Resources Development (Rationalization) Act, 2015", and shall come into force as of the date of signature.

**Application**

- 2.(1) The Provisions of this Act, shall be applied to all Rangelands specified by maps prepared by the Competent administration and approved by the Survey Public Corporation.
- (2) The Minister may, in consultation with the competent bodies, modify such maps whenever there is need thereto.
- (3) The Rangelands set out in sub-section (1), shall be limited to the naturally vegetated lands suitable for grazing, and being used therefor and recognized between the pastoralists.

## Interpretation

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

"Agricultural residues"; mean agricultural crops and agricultural industrialization residues, and it includes the straw, hays, feed cakes, bran, bagasse and molasses;

"Competent administration", means the Rangelands and Forages General Directorate of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries;

"Fire line", means the barrier of land where the grasses are removed to protect the Rangelands from fire;

"Forage", means the natural herbaceous, the crops and agricultural industry residues, and the green and manufactured forages;

"General hema", means Rangelands allocated for the improvement, studies or investment purposes;

"Grazing line", means the line that separate the agricultural land and Rangelands areas, such as may be determined by the competent bodies, in

	coordination with the state concerned;
"Livestock";	mean camels, cattle, sheep, goats and other farm animals;
"Mashira";	means corridors where animals drink at the running permanent and seasonal water resources;
"Minister",	means the Minister of the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands;
"Ministry",	means the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands.
"Natural rangelands",	mean natural meadows, grasslands, browse shrubs and forage trees;
"Open rangelands",	means Rangelands outside the domain of General or Special hema being used for communal grazing;
"Ranches",	mean specified land allocated for animal production in the Rangelands and approved in accordance with section 14;
"Rangelands",	mean the lands suitable for growth of pasture vegetation and being used therefor and recognized between the pastoralists, in accordance with the approved maps;

- "Rangelands conservation", means conservation of Rangelands from natural hazards, or human and animal acts;
- " Route", means the route demarcated for the movement of the livestock from one Rangelands to another or to water sources and markets and includes maraheel;
- "Seeded Rangelands", means General or Special hema lands improved by scattering seeds and other cultural treatments;
- "Special hema", means allocated Rangelands for specific purposes;
- "Water source", means any seasonal or permanent river, wadi, hafeer, water depression, reservoir, water yard, spring or well;

## **Chapter II**

### **Rangelands and its administration**

#### **Rangelands**

- 4.(1) Rangelands consists of :-
- (a) general Hema;
  - (b) open Rangelands;
  - (c) special Hema;
  - (d) seeded Rangelands.

- (2) The regulations shall determine the characteristics related to types of Rangelands set out in sub-section (1).

### **Establishment of General hema in Rangelands**

- 5.(1) The General hema shall be established, in the Rangelands by a decision of the Minister, upon a recommendation of the Competent administration, by declaring a limited area of the Open Rangelands as a General hema, with the aim to protect the Rangelands and raise efficiency of its use.
- (2) Types of General hema, in the Open Rangelands, shall be as determined by the regulations.

### **Establishment of Special hema in the Rangelands**

6. (1) The Special hema shall be established, in the Open Rangelands by a decision of the Minister, upon a recommendation of the Competent administration, in coordination with the state concerned, upon a request of the citizens.
- (2) The application for the establishment of the Hema mentioned in sub-section (1), shall be submitted to the Competent administration, supported by the documents proving the exercising of grazing rights and the area is free of dispute.
- (3) The Minister shall issue the decision provided for in sub-section (1), after ascertaining of the location of the Hema inside the Rangelands.

## **Management of Rangelands**

7. The Rangelands shall be managed, in coordination with the authorities of the state concerned, by:-
- (a) the citizens as for the Special hema;
  - (b) the licensee as for the Ranches;
  - (c) the Competent administration as for the General hema and Open rangelands.

## **Functions and Powers of the Competent administration**

8. The Competent administration shall have the following functions and powers :-
- (a) limit deterioration of the Rangelands;
  - (b) increase the production of the Rangelands;
  - (c) develop the sound management in the grazing areas;
  - (d) planting browse by using water harvesting techniques;
  - (e) improve social and economic situations for the users of Rangelands;
  - (f) protection of Rangelands from overgrazing and organizing the grazing and develop the production potentiality of the grazing resources;
  - (g) preserving the biological diversity and plant genetic resources, and its utilization in the different production systems and the expansion in the establishment of natural and grazing reserves;
  - (h) developing agricultural systems depending on water harvesting techniques in the grazing areas;

- (i) monitoring the environmental changes and combat desertification and develop the forage resources and improve its quality and the introduction of good forages sources;
- (j) enlighten the public, to follow the good conduct toward Rangelands;
- (k) maintenance of the natural Rangelands and concentrate on the production of irrigated Rangelands;
- (l) rationalize and manage water and distribution thereof, according to the need of Livestock;
- (m) co-ordination with the relevant bodies, specially the Forest, Mechanized agriculture and Water resources;
- (n) scatter the seeds to improve the Rangelands and increase the diversity of the vegetation cover;
- (o) establishment of fire lines, and observation to protect the Rangelands from fire and the encroachment of unplanned agriculture;
- (p) promotion for introduction of the rotational grazing means on the intensive and semi-intensive and traditional level to preserve the environment;
- (q) specify the routes, maraheel and nomads routes in coordination with the bodies having connections;
- (r) develop the nomadic sector and concern with the rural woman ;
- (s) impose charges pertaining the utilization of Rangelands in the General hema;
- (t) define the Rangelands seeds and its types permitted in the Sudan, in coordination with the competent bodies.

## **Inspection**

9. The Competent administration may, in coordination with:-
- (a) the state concerned, enter for the purpose of inspection to the areas of special hema and Ranches and issuing the suitable directives to comply with the safeguards and provisions set out, in this Act, and Regulations and orders issued pursuant thereto, as it may seize, the forage being transferred from General hema areas and may issue the appropriate order on the practice of any activity in the Ranches, or General, or Special hema;
  - (b) the bodies having connection, to declare the protection of the plants, or trees due to extinction, inside the Rangelands to rationalize its use and laying down programmes for re-diffusion.

## **Chapter III**

### **Protection of Rangelands and specification of the**

#### **Routes**

#### **Protection of the Rangelands**

10. The Rangelands shall be protected by:-
- (a) the beneficiaries, under the supervision of the Competent administration as for the General hema and Open Rangelands;
  - (b) the licensee, under the supervision of the Competent administration, as for the Ranches;
  - (c) the Competent administration, as for the General Hema.

### **Specification of the Routes**

- 11.(1) The Competent administration, in coordination with the bodies having connection, shall specify the Routes, to facilitate movement of the animal between the grazing sites and water resources.
- (2) The Routes set out in sub-section (1), shall be deemed an Open Rangelands, and the use thereof, shall be prohibited, for other purposes.
- (3) The Competent administration, in coordination with the State concerned, shall lay down programmes to reconstruct and protect the routes and rehabilitate the services thereon;
- (4) The Competent administration, shall inform the Competent authorities, in the case of appearance of disease carrier insects.
- (5) No person, shall block the routes and Mashira by planting thereon, or in any way, which may prevent the access of livestock to the open water resources for public use, or to move from one Rangelands to another, through the specified Routes for such purpose.

### **Chapter IV**

### **The use of Rangelands, prohibited acts and**

### **Ranches**

### **The use of Rangelands**

- 12.(1) Grazing may be in the Rangelands where :-
  - (a) grazing is not prohibited thereon;

- (b) has been developed and grazing is permit by a permission from the Competent administration.
- (2) Grazing may not be in the following Rangelands:-
- (a) the natural Rangelands, specified by the Competent administration during the protection and conservation period;
  - (b) grazing and environmental reserves;
  - (c) the Rangelands :-
    - (i) allocated for conducting studies and scientific researches;
    - (ii) the improved, before reaching maturity and seed setting and not been officially opened for grazing;
    - (iii) where fire occurred therein, until the Competent administration decide its readiness for grazing.

### **Prohibited acts inside the Rangelands**

- 13.(1) Disposal of the Rangelands , shall be prohibited in any form of transfer of ownership or restriction thereon, save after the approval of the Minister, upon recommendation of the Competent administration.
- (2) The following acts shall be prohibited inside the Rangelands:-
- (a) cultivation of the Rangelands or refusal to cease cultivating;
  - (b) driving vehicles outside the roads permitted on the Rangelands;
  - (c) destroy Rangelands by any manner;

- (d) setting fire or making any act helps thereto;
- (e) entering the General or Special hema or stay therein, without permission;
- (f) removing the trees inside the Open Rangelands and in the General and Special hema without permission;
- (g) removing the forages and collecting trees' products and use the same inside the General and Special hema without permission;
- (h) utilizing the water resources inside the General and Special hema for purposes other than grazing;
- (i) entrance of any substances harmful to the Rangelands, or throwing or burying garbage;
- (j) removal, or destruction, or change border mark, or a tree, deemed as manifest mark, in the hema for any of the grazing purposes;
- (k) sale or purchase forage inside the General hema;
- (l) planting on the fire lines or making any impediment contradicting with its function in preventing the spread of fires;
- (m) noxious plants may not be allowed to enter in the Rangelands, with its different types, and the competent bodies shall fight its presence.

### **Ranches**

14.(1) There shall be allocated, part of the Rangelands as Ranches, upon request of the concerned, to be submitted to the Competent administration which assume the supervision on the technical sides and reviewing applications according to the following safeguards :-

- (a) financial capacity;
  - (b) the area to be allocated, in coordination with competent bodies;
  - (c) kind of animal and estimation of the carrying capacity;
  - (d) feasibility studies;
  - (e) payment of fees for the Ranch permit;
  - (f) provision of the adequate information to the competent bodies on the work plan of the Ranch, its programmes to protect and develop the forage resources.
- (2) The Competent administration shall have the power of the final permit of Ranches.

## **Chapter V**

### **Seeds, agriculture residues, and rationalization of the use of pesticides**

#### **Granting permission of forage resource seeds**

- 15.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of the National Seeds and Protection of Varieties Act, 2010, or any other substituted law, the Competent administration, shall grant permissions to import, produce and distribute, natural and irrigated forage resources seeds, in coordination with the competent bodies.
- (2) There shall be considered on producing, distributing and importing of forage resource seeds, to follow the regulations issued under the provisions of the National Seeds and Protection of Varieties Act, 2010.

**Confiscation and eradication of  
noxious seeds**

16. (1) Subject to the provisions of the National Seeds and Protection of Varieties Act, 2010, and the Customs Act, 1986, or any other substituted laws, the seeds which the Competent administration thinks, it may harm the Rangelands, shall be confiscated,.
- (2) Where it appears, after examining the seeds confiscated, in accordance with the provision of sub-section (1), it is undesirable, the Competent administration may, eradicate the same, on the expense of the person the seeds were seized in his possession, with binding him to undertake any costs pertaining to eradication or reformation of any harms resulting from using the seeds on the Rangelands.

**Agricultural residues**

- 17.(1) The agricultural residues, shall be deemed forage resources and may not be wasted or burned.
- (2) The Competent administration may dispose the Agricultural residues resulting from agriculture without permission in the Rangelands, save the small holdings, determined by regulation.
- (3) The Agricultural residues which have not been stored shall be deemed as communal Rangelands.

**Rationalizing the use of pesticides**

- 18.(1) There shall be considered the provisions of the Insecticides and Pest Control Products Act, 1994, or any substituted

law, when using insecticides and pest control products, in the different kinds of Rangelands.

- (2) Any person, shall consider the rationalization of pesticides with residual effect in the soil of the Rangelands, General and Special hema, Ranch a places, or near water resources or fallow areas, and shall notify the Competent administration with the spraying sites of insecticides inside the Rangelands.

## **Chapter VI**

### **General Provisions**

#### **Duty of Citizens to report**

19. The Citizens shall immediately, report about any fire outbreak in any Rangelands, to the offices affiliated to the state concerned, or the police or delegates of Pastoralists Union, or People's Committees, or authorities of the locality, with providing the necessary help, to extinguish fire and prevent the spreading of fire to other areas in the Rangelands.

#### **Penalties**

20. Whoever contravenes the provisions of this Act, shall be punished with imprisonment, or with fine, or with both and confiscation, without prejudice to any other punishment set out in any other law.

#### **Power to issue Regulations and orders**

21. The Minister may, issue the necessary regulations and orders to implement the provision of this Act.