

The State Law and Order Restoration Council
The Veterinary Council Law
(The State Law and Order Restoration Council Law
No. 9/95)

The 11th Waning Day of Thadingyut, 1357 ME
(19th October, 1995)

The State Law and Order Restoration Council hereby enacts the Following Law:-

CHAPTER 1

Title and Definition

1. This Law shall be called the Veterinary Council Law.
2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given hereunder:-
 - (a) **Veterinary Science** means medical science which includes the prevention of disease, treatment, surgery and diagnosis of diseases of animals and inspection of animal products;
 - (b) **Council** means the Veterinary Council formed under this Law;

- (c) **Veterinary Surgeon** means a Veterinary Surgeon registered under this Law;
- (d) **Registration Certificate** means a certificate issued by the Council to a person who has been permitted registration as a Veterinary Surgeon;
- (e) **Permit** means a permit issued by the Council to a person who has obtained permission to practise as a Veterinary Auxiliary.

CHAPTER II

Aims

3. The aims of this Law are as follows:-

- (a) to carry out effectively animal health and development works by the Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Auxiliaries collectively;
- (b) to cause the Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Auxiliaries to abide by and maintain the ethics and discipline relating to them;
- (c) to contribute towards the instruction and modernisation of Veterinary Science;
- (d) to tender advice on the development of livestock breeding and Veterinary works;
- (e) to carry out animal health and development works in co-operation with the relevant Government departments and organizations.

CHAPTER III

Formation of the Council

4. The Minister of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries shall, with the approval of the Government form the Veterinary Council consisting of the following persons:-

- (a) One Veterinary Surgeon assigned Chairman duties by the Minister of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries
- (b) Six Veterinary Surgeons assigned Members duties by the Minister of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries
- (c) Seven persons elected by the Veterinary Surgeons from among themselves
- (d) A Registration Officer appointed and Secretary assigned duties under this Law

5. The Council may assign duties to any member of the Council as Treasurer. If no such assignment has been made, the Secretary of the Council shall act as Treasurer.

6. The Council shall have perpetual succession and a common seal with the power to sue and be sued.

7. (a) The tenure of the Council is 4 years at a time commencing from the date of its formation;
- (b) The tenure of office of the members of the Council shall be the same as the tenure of the Council;

- (c) A member of the Council has the right to act as such only for three consecutive tenures of the Council;
- (d) When a vacancy occurs in the post of any member of the Council, which is an assignment by the Minister of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries, a substitute shall be assigned. If it is an elected post of a member of the Council a substitute shall be elected;
- (e) The tenure of a member of the Council who has been appointed by assignment or by election under sub-section (d) shall only be till the expiry of the current tenure of the Council;
- (f) On the expiry of the tenure, the Council shall discharge its functions and duties until a new Council has been formed.

8. The Council shall carry out measures relating to the election and convening of meetings and financial matters in accordance with the stipulations.

9. If any of the following events occurs, the membership of a member of the Council shall cease:-

- (a) resignation;
- (b) cancellation of registration or revocation of registration subject to a time limit;
- (c) failure to attend 3 consecutive meetings of the Council without permission from the Council;
- (d) leaving for abroad for 6 consecutive months without permission from the Council;
- (e) death.

CHAPTER IV

Duties and Powers of the Council

10. The duties and powers of the Council are as follows:-

- (a) scrutinizing applications for registration as Veterinary Surgeons and issuing Registration Certificates;
- (b) scrutinizing applications for permission to practise as a Veterinary Auxiliary and issuing Permits;
- (c) prescribing the code of ethics to be observed by Veterinary Surgeons;
- (d) taking action against any Veterinary Surgeon who has violated the code of ethics;
- (e) prescribing the discipline to be abided by Veterinary Auxiliaries;
- (f) taking action against any Veterinary Auxiliary who has violated the discipline;
- (g) tendering necessary advice and suggestions to the relevant Ministries in connection with the instruction of Veterinary Science;
- (h) taking measures for the recognition by foreign countries of Veterinary Science degrees and diplomas conferred by the State;

- (i) recognizing Veterinary Science degrees and diplomas conferred by foreign countries; requesting and scrutinizing the required facts to enable assessment of the subjects taught in the relevant Institute, in respect of such recognition;
- (j) communicating and co-ordinating with international organizations, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations relating to Veterinary Science, in order to modernize Veterinary Science;
- (k) tendering necessary advice to the relevant Government departments and organizations for the progress of livestock breeding and veterinary works in accordance with the requirement of the State;
- (l) co-ordinating with the relevant Government departments and organizations for the purchase from abroad of necessary veterinary drugs, instruments and apparatus and books and pamphlets, in carrying out the animal health and development works;
- (m) forming necessary committees and bodies and determining the duties and powers thereof.

CHAPTER V

Registration as Veterinary Surgeon

11. A citizen desirous of registration as Veterinary Surgeon may apply to the Council for such registration if he possesses any of the following qualifications:-

- (a) a person who has obtained a B.Sc. (Veterinary) degree, B.V.S. degree or a similar degree from any University within the country;
- (b) a person who has obtained a Veterinary Science degree which has been conferred by any foreign University and which is also recognized by the Council.

12. If, after scrutiny the Council finds that the application is in conformity with the stipulations it shall-

- (a) allow registration;
- (b) cause the prescribed registration fees to be paid;
- (c) issue a Registration Certificate after entering the name in the register.

13. (a) On expiry of the tenure of the Registration Certificate a person desirous of extending such tenure may apply to the Council in accordance with the stipulations;

- (b) If, after scrutiny the application for extension of the tenure of registration under sub-section (a) is in conformity with the stipulations, the Council shall extend the tenure.

CHAPTER VI

Duties and Rights of a Veterinary Surgeon

14. The Veterinary Surgeon shall-

- (a) abide by the rules, procedures, orders and directives issued under this Law;
- (b) observe the code of ethics prescribed by the Council.

15. The Veterinary Surgeon has the right to-

- (a) be assigned the duty of or be elected as a member of the Council;
- (b) practise Veterinary Science as a profession;
- (c) tender advice to the Council;
- (d) submit his grievances to the Council.

CHAPTER VII

Taking of Action

- 16. (a) The Council may form an Inquiry Committee consisting of three members and assign duty thereto in order to inquire about the Veterinary Surgeon who is alleged to have violated any provision of section 14. Such Committee shall consist of at least one member of the Council;
- (b) The Inquiry Committee shall submit a report of its findings to the Disciplinary Committee formed with 5 members of the Council for this purpose by the Council.

17. If, after scrutiny of the report submitted to it under section 16 sub-section (b), the Disciplinary Committee finds that the alleged Veterinary Surgeon-

- (a) is not guilty of the allegation it shall pass an order for the closure of the case;
- (b) is guilty of the allegation it may mete out any of the following administrative penalties:-
 - (i) giving a warning;
 - (ii) revoking the Registration Certificate subject to a time limit;
 - (iii) cancelling the Registration Certificate.

18. The Disciplinary Committee may mete out any of the following administrative penalties on a Veterinary Surgeon who has been convicted by a Court of an offence determined by the Council as amounting to misconduct:-

- (a) revoking the Registration Certificate subject to a time limit;
- (b) cancelling the Registration Certificate.

19. (a) A person whose Registration Certificate is revoked subject to a time limit may, at the end of such time, apply to the Council for re-registration;
- (b) If, after scrutiny the application is in conformity with the stipulations the Council shall re-issue the Registration Certificate.

CHAPTER VIII

Veterinary Auxiliary Practice

20. Provisions relating to the application for permit to practise as a Veterinary Auxiliary, the duties and powers of a Veterinary Auxiliary and taking of action against the same shall be as prescribed by the Rules.

CHAPTER IX

Appeal

21. Any person who is dissatisfied with an order or decision made by the Disciplinary Committee under section 17 or section 18 may file an appeal to the Council within 60 days from the date on which such an order or decision was made.

22. The decision of the Council shall be final and conclusive.

CHAPTER X

Prohibitions and Penalties

23. No person shall act as a Veterinary Surgeon without obtaining a Registration Certificate issued by the Council.

24. No person shall practise any branch of Veterinary Science without obtaining a Permit issued by the Council.

25. (a) A Veterinary Science Graduate who violates the provision of section 23 shall, on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 1 year or with fine which may extend to Kyats 10,000 with both;

- (b) Whoever, with the exception of a Veterinary Science Graduate violates the provision of section 23 shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 3 years or with fine which may extend to Kyats 30,000 or with both.

26. Whoever violates the provision of section 24 shall, on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 1 year or with fine which may extend to Kyats 10,000 or with both.

CHAPTER XI

Miscellaneous

27. The Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries shall:-

- (a) for the purpose of this Law appoint a Veterinary Surgeon of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department as a Registration Officer and assign duties to him;
- (b) determine the duties and powers of a Registration Officer.

28. The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department shall:-

- (a) bear the expenditures of the Council;
- (b) undertake to perform the office work of the Council.

29. Offences under this Law are determined as offences cognizable by the People's Police Force.

30. In prosecuting a person who has committed an offence under this Law, prior sanction of the Officer at the State or Divisional level of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department shall be obtained.

31. Treatment of animals by indigenous medicine under traditional practices shall not constitute an offence under this Law.

32. In order to carry out the provisions of this Law:-

- (a) the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries may, with the approval of the Government issue such rules and procedures as may be necessary;
- (b) the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department or the Council may issue such orders and directives as may be necessary.

(Sd) **Than Shwe**

Senior General

Chairman

The State Law and Order Restoration Council