

CYPRUS

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

CHAPTER 104 OF THE LAWS

1959 EDITION

PRINTED BY

C. F. ROWORTH LIMITED, 54, GRAFTON WAY, LONDON, W.1.

[Appointed by the Government of Cyprus the Government Printers of this Edition of Laws within the meaning of the Evidence (Colonial Statutes) Act, 1907.]

1959

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CHAPTER 104.
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

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TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

1949
Cap. 182.

[20th May, 1890.]

1. This Law may be cited as the Weights and Measures Law. Short title.

2. In this Law—

Interpre-
tation.

“ local authority ” means the Commissioner in every district, but not within the Municipal boundaries of any Municipal Council established within the district, and the Municipal Council or Municipal Commission, as the case may be, within the limits of any town having or entitled to have a Municipal Council;

“ stamping ” includes casting, engraving, etching, branding, or otherwise marking in such a manner as to be, so far as practicable, indelible, and the expression “ stamp ” and other expressions relating thereto shall be construed accordingly.

3. The same weights and measures shall be used throughout Cyprus.

Uniformity
of weights
and
measures.

4. A length equal to two-thirds of a yard according to the British Imperial standard yard shall be one Cyprus pic.

Cyprus pic.

5. One pic and a half shall be one yard. One half of the pic shall be one foot, and one-twelfth of a foot shall be one inch.

Measures
derived from
the pic.

The chain shall contain thirty-three such pics and the mile two thousand six hundred and forty such pics.

6. A weight equal to two pounds and four-fifths of a pound according to the British Imperial standard pound shall be one oke.

Cyprus oke.

7. One four-hundredth part of an oke shall be one dram.

Weights
derived from
the oke.

The Cyprus litre as a measure of weight shall consist of one Cyprus oke and four-fifths of a Cyprus oke.

The cantar shall consist of forty-four Cyprus okes, and the Aleppo cantar of one hundred and eighty such okes, and the ton of eight hundred such okes.

Cyprus
measures of
capacity.

8. The unit or standard measure of capacity from which all other measures of capacity as well for liquids as for dry goods shall be derived, shall be the kilé, which shall be a measure equal to eight British Imperial gallons.

One-eighth of a kilé shall be a gallon; one thirty-second part of a kilé shall be a quart, and one sixty-fourth part of a kilé shall be a pint.

Nine quarts shall be a kouza, and a load shall consist of sixteen kouzas.

The Cyprus litre as a measure of capacity shall consist of two quarts and four-fifths of a quart.

Measures of
capacity
when used to
be stricken
or filled up.

9. In using a Cyprus measure of capacity it shall either be filled above the upper edge and stricken with a round stick or roller, straight and of the same diameter from end to end or if from the size and shape of the article sold the measure cannot be conveniently stricken it shall be filled in all parts as nearly to the level of the brim as the size and shape of the article will admit.

Statement of
weights and
measures.
First
Schedule.
Equivalents.
Second
Schedule.

10. The First Schedule to this Law contains a tabular statement of the Cyprus weights and measures as settled by this Law.

The Second Schedule sets forth the equivalent of Cyprus weights and measures, and of the weights and measures therein expressed in the terms of the metric system, and may be lawfully used for computing and expressing in weights and measures, weights and measures of the metric system.

Trade
contracts,
etc., to be in
terms of
weights and
measures
defined by
this Law.

11. Every contract, bargain, sale or dealing made or had in Cyprus for any work, goods, wares or merchandise or other thing which has been or is to be done, delivered, carried or agreed for by weight or measure shall be deemed to be made and had according to the weights and measures ascertained by this Law or to some multiple or part thereof; and if not so made or had shall be void; and all tolls and duties charged or collected according to weight or measure, shall be charged and collected according to one of the weights or measures ascertained by this Law, or to some multiple or part thereof.

Such contract, bargain, sale, dealing or collection of tolls and duties as in this section mentioned is in this Law referred to under the term "trade."

12. The use of any other weight or measure than those defined by this Law shall be unlawful ; and any person who sells by any denomination of weight or measure other than one of the weights or measures defined by this Law or some multiple or part thereof, or who has in his possession for use for trade any weight or measure or some multiple or part thereof of such other denomination shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one pound for every such sale or possession :

Sales to be by weights defined by this Law with exceptions.
2 of 15/30.

Provided always that drugs when sold by retail may be sold by the description of weight known as apothecaries weight :

Provided also that no contract or dealing shall be invalid or open to objection on the ground that the weights and measures expressed or referred to therein are weights and measures of the metric system, or on the ground that the decimal divisions of weights and measures, whether metric or otherwise, are used in such contract or dealing :

Provided also that nothing in this Law shall prevent the sale or subject a person to a fine under this Law for the sale of an article in any vessel where such vessel is not represented as containing any particular amount of lawful measure, nor subject a person to a fine under this Law for the possession of a vessel where it is shown that such vessel is not intended to be used as a measure.

13. Any person who prints or who makes any return, price list or price current, or any journal or other paper containing a price list or price current in which the denomination of weights and measures quoted or referred to denotes or implies a greater or less weight or measure than is denoted or implied by the same denomination of the weights and measures defined by this Law, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred mils for every copy of every such return, price list, price current, journal or other paper which he publishes.

Penalty on price lists, etc., denoting greater or less weight or measure than the same denomination of legal weight or measure.

14. Every person who uses or has in his possession for use for trade any weight, measure, scale, balance, steel-yard or weighing machine which is false or unjust shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two pounds, or in the case of a second offence five pounds ; and any contract, bargain, sale or dealing made by the same shall be void, and the weight, measure, scale, balance or steel-yard shall be liable to be forfeited,

Penalty on use of unjust weights, measures, etc.
3 of 15/30.

Penalty
on use of
unauthorized
weight or
measure.
4 of 15/30.

15. Every person who uses or has in his possession for use for trade a weight or measure which is not of the denomination of some weight or measure defined by this Law or of some multiple or part thereof shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two pounds, or in the case of a second offence five pounds, and the weight or measure shall be liable to be forfeited.

Penalty for
fraud in the
use of
weights,
measures,
etc.

16. Where any fraud is wilfully committed in the using of any weight, measure, scale, balance, steel-yard or weighing machine, the person committing the fraud and every person party to it shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, or in the case of a second offence ten pounds, and the weight, measure, scale, balance, steel-yard or weighing machine shall be liable to be forfeited.

Penalty on
sale of false
measures,
etc.

17. A person shall not wilfully or knowingly sell or cause to be sold any false or unjust weight, measure, scale, balance, steel-yard or weighing machine.

Every person who acts in contravention of this section shall be liable to a fine not exceeding three pounds, or in the case of a second offence ten pounds.

Marking of
weights and
measures
with
denomina-
tion.

18. Every weight, except where the small size of the weight renders it impracticable, shall have the denomination of it marked on the top or side thereof in legible figures and letters.

Every measure of capacity shall have the denomination thereof stamped on the outside of it in legible figures and letters.

A weight or measure not in conformity with this section shall not be stamped with such stamp of verification under this Law as hereinafter mentioned.

Stamping of
verification
on weights
and
measures.
5 of 15/30.

19. Every measure and weight whatsoever used for trade shall be verified and stamped by an inspector with a stamp of verification under this Law.

Every person who uses or has in his possession for use for trade any measure or weight not stamped as required by this section shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two pounds, or in case of a second offence five pounds.

Forgery,
etc., of
stamps on
measures
and weights.

20. If any person forges or counterfeits any stamp used for stamping under this Law of any measure or weight, he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.

Any person who wilfully increases or diminishes any weight or measure duly stamped in accordance with the provisions of this Law, or who knowingly uses, sells, alters, disposes of or exposes for sale any measure or weight with any forged or counterfeit stamp thereon or a weight so increased or diminished, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

All measures or weights with any such forged or counterfeit stamp shall be forfeited.

21. Standard weights and measures of the denomination mentioned in the First Schedule hereto shall be provided by the Government and shall be kept by the Comptroller. By these standards the size and weight of all measures and weights in Cyprus shall be determined.

Standard weights and measures. First Schedule.

22. Copies of such standard weights and measures shall be verified and certified as the Governor shall direct.

Local standard.

One complete set at the least of such copies shall be kept by each local authority in the Colony and shall serve as a local standard for the purpose of the comparison by way of verification or inspection in accordance with this Law of all weights and measures in use within the jurisdiction of such local authority.

23. Once at least in every five years the local authorities shall cause the copies in their custody to be compared with the standard weights and measures in the custody of the Comptroller and to be adjusted or renewed if requisite.

Periodical verification of local standard.

24. A local standard of weight shall not be deemed legal nor be used for the purposes of this Law unless it has been verified or re-verified within five years before the time at which it is used.

Local standards not to be used unless verified.

A local standard of measure shall not be deemed legal nor be used for the purposes of this Law unless it has been verified or re-verified within ten years before the time at which it is used.

A local standard of weight or measure which has become defective in consequence of wear and tear or accident, or has been mended, shall not be legal nor be used for the purposes of this Law until it has been re-verified.

Re-verification of a local standard of weight or measure shall be effected by the comparison thereof with the standard of such weight or measure in the custody of the Comptroller.

Such comparison shall be made by an inspector of weights and measures in the presence of the Comptroller, who shall give a certificate of the result of such comparison to the local authority concerned.

Production
of local
standards.

25. The local standards shall be produced by the person having the custody thereof upon reasonable notice at such reasonable time and place within the jurisdiction of the local authority for which they have been provided as any person by writing under his hand requires, upon payment by the person requiring such production of the reasonable charges for producing them.

Appointment
of inspectors.

26. Every local authority shall from time to time appoint a sufficient number of inspectors of weights and measures for safely keeping the local standards provided for such authority and for the discharge of the other duties of inspection under this Law ; and, where they appoint more than one such inspector, shall allot to each inspector (subject to any arrangement made for a chief inspector or inspectors) a separate district, to be distinguished by some name, number or mark. And the local authorities may suspend or dismiss any inspector appointed by them or appoint additional inspectors as the case may require, and shall assign reasonable remuneration to each inspector for his duties.

A maker or seller of weights or measures or a person employed in the making or selling thereof shall not be an inspector of weights and measures under this Law.

Security to
be given by
inspectors.

27. An inspector of weights and measures shall forthwith on his appointment enter into a recognizance to the Crown to be sued for in any competent Court in the sum of fifty pounds for the due performance of the duties of his office, and for the due payment at the times fixed by the local authority appointing him of all fees received by him under this Law, and for the safety of the local standards and the stamps and appliances for verification committed to his charge, and for their due surrender immediately on his removal or other cessation from office to the person appointed by the local authority to receive them.

Verification
and
stamping.

28. The local authorities shall from time to time fix the times and places within their jurisdiction at which each inspector appointed by them is to attend for the purpose of

the verification of weights and measures, and the inspector shall attend with the local standards in his custody at each time and place fixed, and shall examine every measure or weight which is of the same denomination as one of such standards and is brought to him for the purpose of verification and compare the same with that standard ; and if he find the same correct shall stamp it with a stamp of verification in such manner as best to prevent fraud, and in the case of a weight or measure of sufficient size shall further stamp thereon a name, number or mark distinguishing the district for which he acts.

He shall also enter in a book kept by him minutes of every such verification and give, if required, a certificate under his hand of every such stamping.

29. A weight or measure duly stamped by an inspector under this Law shall be a legal weight or measure in Cyprus unless found to be false or unjust, and shall not be liable to be restamped because used in a place other than that in which it was originally stamped.

Validity of weights and measures stamped.

30. An inspector under this Law may take in respect of verification and stamping of weights and measures such fees, not exceeding those specified in the Third Schedule hereto, as the authority appointing him may from time to time fix and the Governor may approve, and at such times, not less than once a quarter, as the said authority may direct, account for and pay over, as such authority may direct, all fees taken by him.

Fees for comparison and stamping. Third Schedule.

31. Every inspector under this Law authorized in writing by the local authority may, at all reasonable times, inspect all weights, measures, scales, balances, steel-yards, and weighing machines within his jurisdiction which are used by any person for trade or in the possession of any person for use for trade or on any premises for use for trade, and may compare every such weight and measure with some local standard, and may seize and detain any weight, measure, scale, balance, or steel-yard which is liable to be forfeited in pursuance of this Law ; and may for the purpose of such inspection enter any place, whether a building or in the open air, whether open or enclosed, where he has reasonable cause to believe that there is any weight, measure, scale, balance, steel-yard or weighing machine used for trade which he is authorized by this Law to inspect.

Power to inspect measures, weights, etc. 6 of 15/30.

Any person who neglects or refuses to produce for such inspection all weights, measures, balances, steel-yards, and weighing machines in his possession or on his premises, or refuses to admit the inspector to examine the same or any of them, or obstructs the entry of the inspector under this section, or otherwise obstructs or hinders an inspector acting under this section, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one pound, or, in the case of a second offence, five pounds.

Penalty on
inspector for
misconduct.

32. If an inspector under this Law stamps a weight or measure in contravention of any provision of this Law, or without duly verifying it by comparison with a local standard, or is guilty of a breach of duty imposed on him by this Law, or otherwise misconducts himself in the execution of his office, he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds for each offence.

Power to
local
authority to
make bye-
laws as to
verification.

33. Any local authority may from time to time, subject to the approval of the Governor, make and when made revoke, alter, and add to bye-laws for regulating the comparison with the local standard of such authority, and the verification and stamping of weights and measures in use within their jurisdiction, and generally for regulating the duties under this Law of the inspectors or any of those inspectors.

Expenses
of local
authority.

34. The expense of providing and re-verifying local standards, the salaries of the inspectors, and all other expenses incurred by the local authority under this Law shall be paid, where the local authority is a Municipal Council or Municipal Commission, out of the Municipal fund or rates, and, when the local authority is a Commissioner, out of the Department of the Accountant-General.

Provisions
as to
procedure.

35. All fines actually levied for breaches of this Law committed within the limits of any Municipality shall be payable to such Municipality: Provided always that such portion of any fine under this Law not exceeding one-half, as the Court imposing it may think fit to direct, may, if the Court in its discretion so order, be paid to the informer.

All weights, measures, scales, balances, and steel-yards forfeited under this Law shall be broken up, and the materials thereof may be sold or otherwise disposed of as the local authority may direct, and the proceeds of sale shall be applied in like manner as fines under this Law.

36. A person shall not be liable to any increased penalty for a second offence under this Law unless that offence was committed after a conviction within five years previously for any offence under the same section.

Limitation
as to
conviction
for second
offence.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

(Section 10.)

TABLE OF CYPRUS WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Capacity.	Weight.	Length.
2 pints = 1 quart	400 drams = 1 oke	12 inches = 1 foot
$2\frac{1}{2}$ quarts = 1 Cyprus litre	$1\frac{1}{2}$ okes = 1 Cyprus litre	2 feet = 1 pic
4 quarts = 1 gallon	44 okes = 1 cantar	3 feet
8 gallons = 1 kilé	180 okes = 1 Aleppo cantar	or $1\frac{1}{2}$ pics = 1 yard
Liquid Measure } 9 quarts = 1 kouza	800 okes = 1 ton	33 pics = 1 chain
} 16 kouzas = 1 load		2,640 pics = 1 mile

SECOND SCHEDULE.

(Section 10.)

Metric equivalents.

CAPACITY.

Cyprus Measures.	Decilitres.	Litres.	Decalitres.	Hektolitres.
Dry and Liquid Measures.	Pint	5·67933	·56793	—
	Quart	11·35866	1·13586	—
	Cyprus litre...	—	3·18042	—
	Gallon	—	4·54346	—
Liquid Measures.	Kilé	—	36·34771	3·63477
	Kouza	—	10·22279	1·02228
	Load	—	163·56470	16·35647
				1·63565

WEIGHT.

Cyprus Weight.	Grams.	Dekagrams.	Kilograms.	Milliers.
Dram	3·17515	·31751	·00317	—
Oke	1270·05943	127·00594	1·27006	·00127
Cyprus litre	—	228·61069	2·28611	·00229
Cantar	—	—	55·88261	·055883
Aleppo cantar	—	—	228·61070	·2286107
Ton	—	—	1016·04754	1·01604754

Millier	=	17 cantars 39 okes and	145·7 drams
Quintal	=	1 cantar 34 okes and	294·57 drams
Myriagram	=	... .. 7 okes and	349·457 drams
Kilogram	=	... ..	314·9457 drams
Hektogram	=	... ..	31·4945 drams
Dekagram	=	... ..	3·14945 drams
Gram	=	... ..	·31494 dram
Decigram	=	... ..	·03149 dram
Centigram	=	... ..	·003149 dram
Milligram	=	... ..	·0003149 dram

LENGTH.

Cyprus Measure.	Millimetres.	Decimetres.	Metres.	Kilometres.
Inch	25·39954	—	—	—
Foot	—	3·04794	·30479	—
Pic	—	—	·60959	—
Yard	—	—	·91438	—
Chain	—	—	20·11644	—
Mile	—	—	1609·31493	1·60931

Myriametre	=	6 miles	564 pics, 0 feet and	11·9 inches
" or	=	...	16404 pics, 0 feet and	11·9 inches
Kilometre	=	...	1640 pics, 0 feet and	10·79 inches
Hektometre	=	...	164 pics, 0 feet and	1·079 inches
Dekametre	=	...	16 pics, 0 feet and	9·7079 inches
Metre	=	...	1 pic, 1 foot and	3·3708 inches
Decimetre	=	...	...	3·9371 inches
Centimetre	=	...	...	·3937 inch
Millimetre	=	...	...	·0394 inch

SQUARE PICS.

	Hektare	=	26910·7483		
	Dekare	=	2691·0748		
	Are	=	269·1075		
	Centiare	=	2·6911		
Kilolitre	=	27 kilés,	4 gallons,	0 quarts and	·77 pint
Hekolitre	=	2 kilés,	6 gallons,	0 quarts and	·077 pint
Dekalitre	=	...	2 gallons,	0 quarts and	1·6077 pints
Litre	=	...	...	...	1·76077 pints
Decilitre	=	...	...	...	·176077 pint
Centilitre	=	...	...	...	·0176077 pint

THIRD SCHEDULE.

(Section 30.)

FEEs FOR COMPARING AND STAMPING WEIGHTS.*

Each Cantar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	c.p.
„ Oke or Cyprus litre	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Weight under an oke	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
									0½

FOR COMPARING AND STAMPING ALL WOODEN MEASURES.

Each Kilé and all under	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0½
„ Pic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0½

FOR COMPARING AND STAMPING ALL MEASURES OF CAPACITY
MADE OF METAL OR EARTH.

Each Kouza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Kilé	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1½
„ Gallon or Cyprus litre	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Half gallon and under	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0½

* NOTE.—The conversion shall be made under paragraph (c) of the proviso to section 8 of the Currency Law (Cap. 117).

