

GOVERNMENT NOTICE No. 391 published on 3/08/2018

**SOCIAL SECURITY (REGULATORY AUTHORITY) ACT
(CAP. 135)**

GUIDELINES

(Made under section 5(1)(c))

THE SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES (INTEROPERABILITY) GUIDELINES, 2018

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PART I
PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Citation | 1. These Guidelines may be cited as Social Security Schemes (Interoperability) Guidelines, 2018. |
| Application | 2. These Guidelines shall apply to all Schemes in Tanzania Mainland. |
| Interpretation | 3. In these Guidelines, unless the context requires otherwise- |
| Cap. 135 | “Act” means the Social Security (Regulatory Authority) Act;
“Authority” means the Social Security Regulatory Authority established under section 4 of the Act;
“Board” means the Board of Trustees established under the respective scheme’s laws;
“ICT” means Information and Communication Technologies;
“integrated social security systems” means the bringing together |

of different social security system components including social assistance, social insurance, social services, employment services and health care insurance, at a data services or reporting level;

“interoperability” means the ability to transfer and render useful data and other information across ICT systems, applications or components;

“semantic interoperability” means the ability of transfer data across ICT systems with unambiguous, shared meaning; and

“scheme” means the social security scheme and includes mandatory and supplementary schemes.

Objectives of Guidelines

4.-(1) The general objective of these Guidelines is to guide the Board in ensuring that mechanisms are put in place to guarantee a coherent medium for communication in order to create a flow of information within and outside the scheme.

(2) Without prejudice to subparagraph (1), the Guidelines shall specifically aim at-

(a) providing a general framework to ensure interconnectivity of the systems used in social security schemes and other relevant institutions and to lay a basis for accurate and timely electronic reporting from the schemes to the Authority;

(b) safeguarding and protecting the interest of the members of the Schemes by ensuring that any data related to the member is accessible electronically to authorized external entities if and when required; and

(c) ensuring that the schemes are able to make full use of shared electronic services that are relevant to the efficient running of the scheme.

PART II

PROVISIONS FOR INTEROPERABILITY

Compliance with Government standards

5. The Schemes shall comply with standards issued by Government of Tanzania including standards adopted by-

(a) the Tanzania e-Government Agency,

(b) the Ministry responsible of Information and Communication Technology; and

(c) international standards with regards to technical interoperability.

- Documentation **6.** The Schemes shall establish a formal documented approach to the implementation of integrated social security.
- Technical standards **7.** The Schemes shall define technical standards covering interoperability technologies in order to foster the consistency and compatibility of ICT systems.
- Formulation of strategies for electronic exchange **8.** The Schemes shall formulate strategies to encourage secure electronic exchange of information and reports with their stakeholders including employers and employees who contribute to the schemes and other entities which are authorized to access the scheme data.
- Semantic interoperability **9.** The Schemes shall establish a strategy to develop information resources that implement semantic interoperability which mainly consist of metadata systems.
- Shared data services **10.** A scheme shall develop shared data services to help in the implementation of integrated social security systems.
- Re-use of relevant services **11.** A scheme shall endeavour to re-use relevant services offered by central institutions of the Government of Tanzania that promote interoperability of social security systems and accurate reporting across the sector.

PART III
GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sanctions **12.** (1) Any Scheme which contravenes the provisions of these Guidelines commits an act of unsafe and unsound conduct as provided under the Act, and such act shall be punishable in the manner provided in the Act.
- (2) Notwithstanding the penalty imposed under sub paragraph (1) and powers conferred under the Act, the Authority shall-
- (a) direct the scheme to comply with these Guidelines;
 - (b) propose disqualification of the Board of Trustees of Schemes and Management of the Schemes to the respective appointing authority;
 - (c) take any other necessary measures it considers appropriate for the better implementation of these Guidelines.

Social Security Schemes (Interoperability)

G.N. No. 391 (contd.)

Dis-application of
Guidelines and
savings

14.-(1) The Social Security Schemes (Interoperability) Guidelines, 2017 issued prior to the coming into effect of these Guidelines are hereby disappplied.

(2) Notwithstanding sub paragraph (1), anything done, action, claim or directive made pursuant to the Social Security Schemes (Interoperability) Guidelines, 2017 shall continue to have effect as if were made, issued or prepared under these Guidelines.

Dodoma
....., 2018

IRENE C. ISAKA
Director General