

LAW REFORM AGENCY IN SMALL STATES

Experience of Law Reform and the Law Reform Agency in Zanzibar



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ZANZIBAR

Zanzibar comprises of 53 small islands with two large ones being Unguja and Pemba. Politically and administratively, Zanzibar is a semi-autonomous part of the United Republic of Tanzania.



Area

Zanzibar land covers 2,654 km² with 1,666 sq. km² in Unguja and 988 sq. km² in Pemba.

Heritage

Uniquely, Zanzibar holds important endangered world heritage assets – the Stone Town, the endemic Zanzibar red-colobus, the rare Zanzibar leopard, and Zanzibar Servaline Genet.

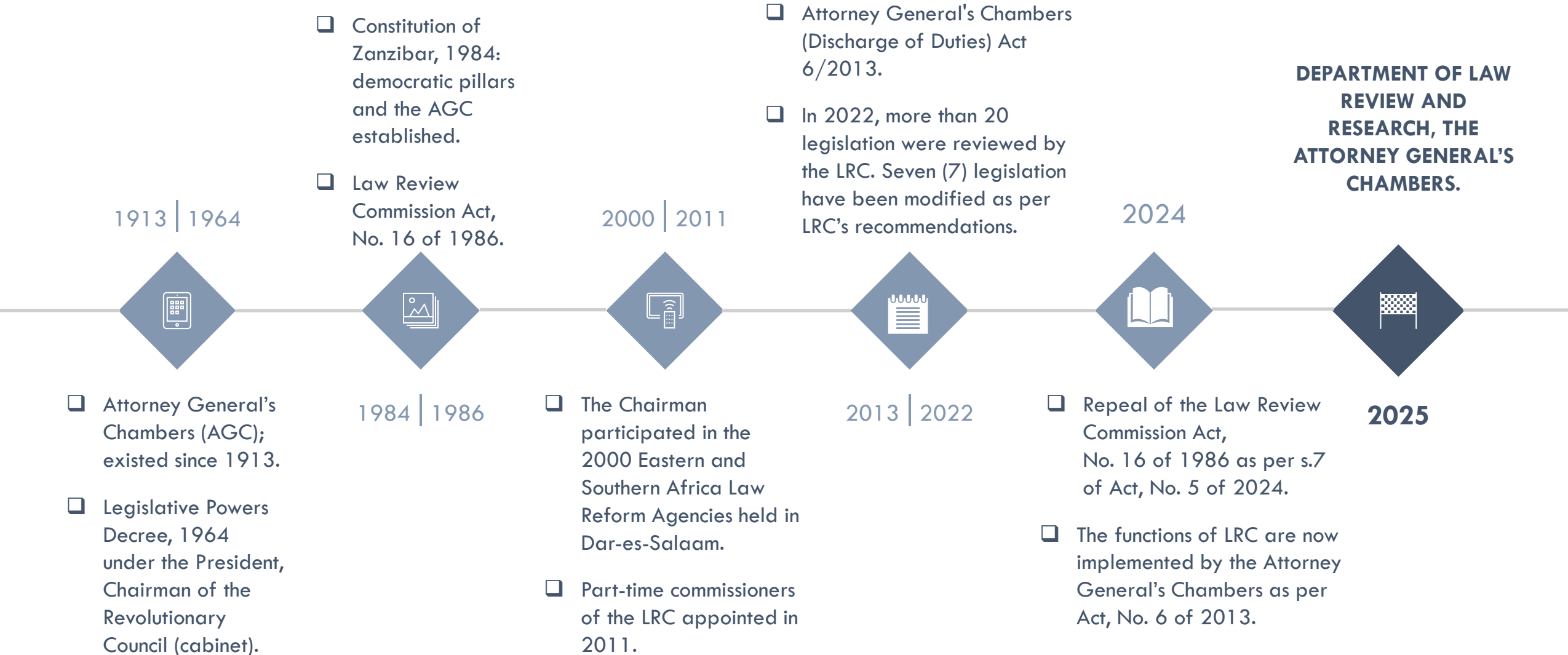
Population

Zanzibar population is about 1,889,773 million people (2022 national census). Population density is 767/km² with 40 percent living in urban and the 60 percent living in rural areas.

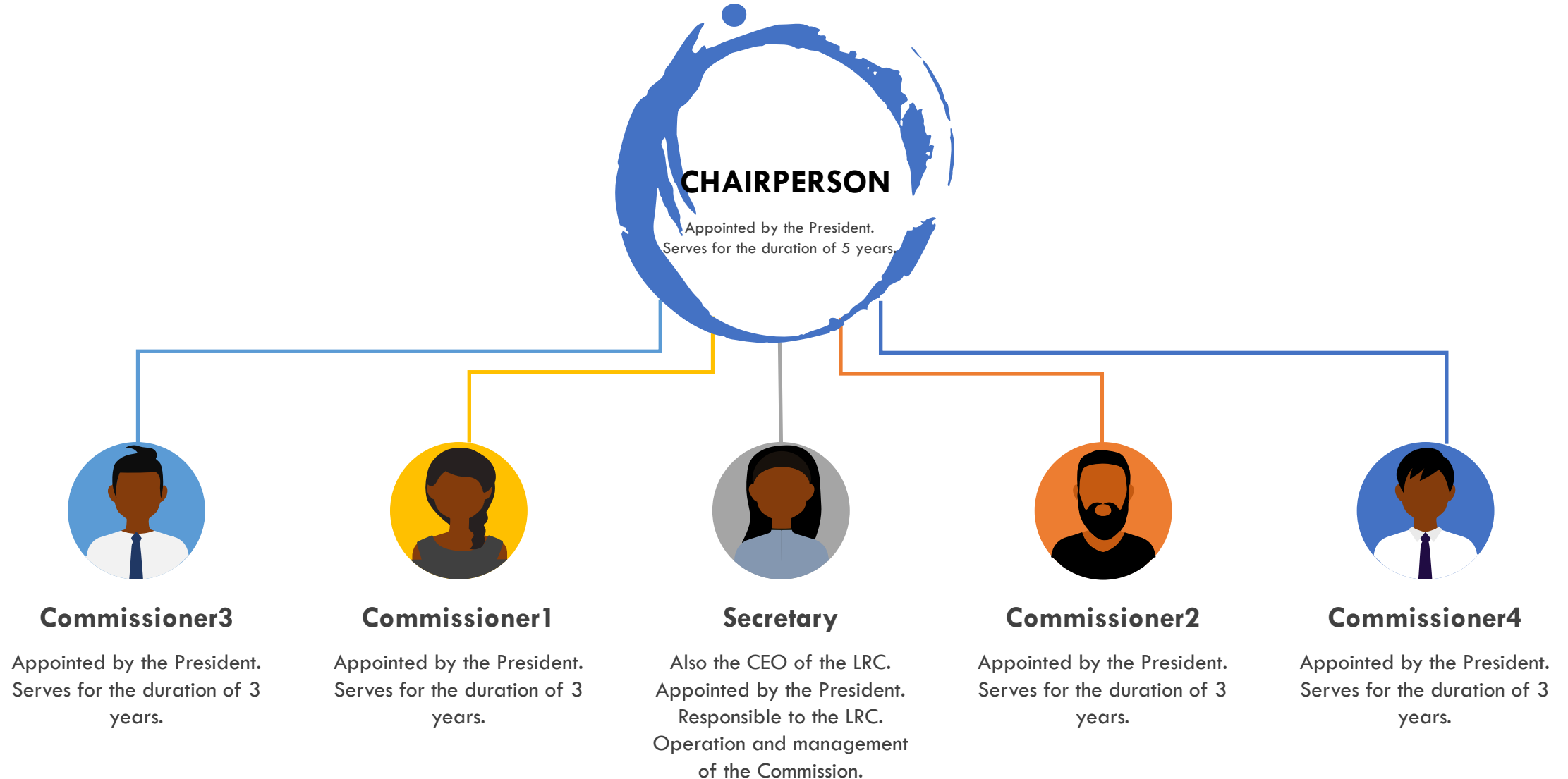
Economy

Economic activities include manufacturing, agricultural produce processing and branding, production of spices (cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, and black paper), raffia, and tourism, fishing, aquaculture and mariculture

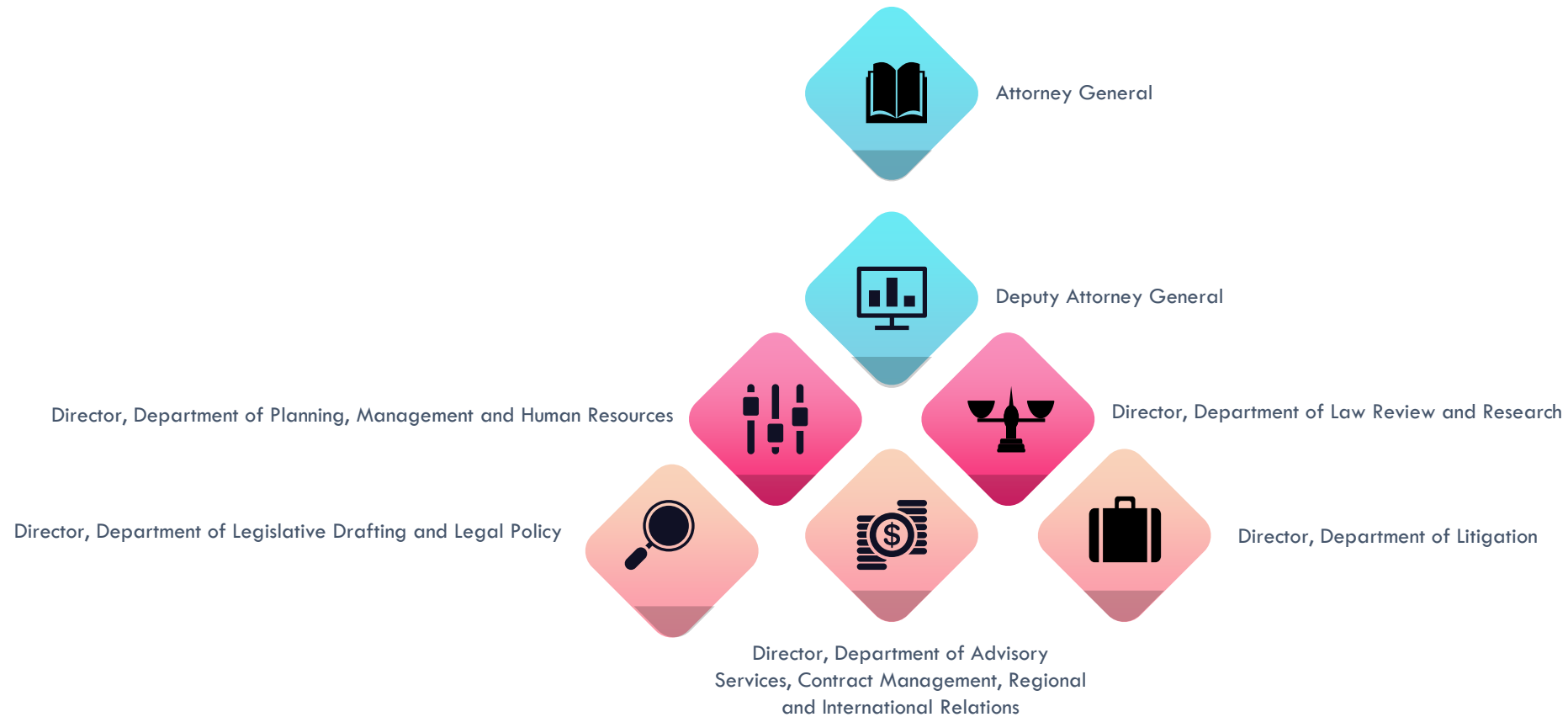
BACKGROUND



REPEALED LRC FRAMEWORK



CURRENT STRUCTURE





REVIEWED LAWS

1. Education Act 6/1982
2. Trades Licensing Act 3/1983
3. Oaths of Allegiance and Letters of Appointment Act 1/1986
4. Workmen's Compensation Act 15/1986
5. Societies Act 6/1995
6. Zanzibar Broadcasting Commission Act 7/1997
7. Plant Protection Act 9/1997
8. Establishment of Office of Controller and Auditor General Act 11/2003
9. Zanzibar Social Security Fund Act 2/2005
10. Spinsters and Single Parent Children Protection Act 4/2005
11. House of Representatives Act 4/2007
12. Office of Chief Government Statistician Act 9/2007
13. Zanzibar Tourism Act 6/2009
14. Drugs and Prevention of Illicit Traffic Drugs Act 9/2009
15. Fisheries Act 7/2010
16. Public Service Act 2/2011
17. Children's Act 6/2011
18. Zanzibar Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act 1/2012
19. Zanzibar Constituency Development Fund Act 4/2012
20. Zanzibar Broadcasting Corporation Act 4/2013
21. Zanzibar Environmental Management Act 3/2015
22. Zanzibar Public Leaders Code of Ethics Act 4/2015
23. Oil and Gas (Upstream) Act 6/2016
24. Public Finance Management Act 12/2016
25. Legal Aid Act 13/2018
26. Zanzibar e-Government Agency Act 12/2019
27. Arbitration Decree Cap.25 (1928)
28. Zanzibar Institute of Accountants, Auditors and Tax Consultants Act 7/2022



RESEARCHED AREAS

1. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
2. Supervision of Pharmacy Personnel
3. Personal Data Protection
4. Land Disputes and Resolution
5. Marriage and Divorce
6. Elections
7. Warehouse Management



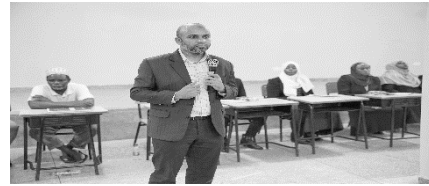
CURRENT REVIEWS AND RESEARCH

1.	Public Service Act 2/2011	Review
2.	Labour Relations Act 1/2005	Review
3.	Land Tenure Act 12/1992	Review
4.	Registered Land Act 10/1990	Review
5.	Town and Country Planning Decree Cap.85 (1955)	Review
6.	Zanzibar Electricity Corporation Act 3/2006	Review
7.	Water Act 4/2006	Review
8.	Anti Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime Act 10/2009	Review
9.	Business Licenses and Permits	Research
10.	Gender Based Violence (GBV)	Research

Public Engagement

Unlike traditional law review, the AGC aims to provide extraordinary value to the stakeholders by investing AGC objectives into modeling proper reliable laws in Zanzibar.

Whether it's by educating the stakeholders with the in house activities or by simply providing a conducive work environment with conference facilities, seminar, formal meetings, the AGC is fully committed to empowering stakeholders in current and emerging statutes.



● Population increase. From 1.2m in 2012 to 1.9m in 2025. This makes it harder to reach the larger public, review and recommend changes with such an increase.

● Limited human resources with a lack of the required local expertise in many sectors to enable specialised and effective law reform.

● Foster trust and confidence among all its stakeholders in its usefulness and the necessity of its existence as an independent and politically neutral agency.

● Time frames are unduly short. Faced with the challenge of convincing government, stakeholders and donors that adequate time frames are necessary to allow for proper research and consultations and that these processes are indispensable in law reform.

● Funding is not sufficient to enable the AGC to effectively discharge its mission with competent and motivated staff operating in a conducive environment.

With a rapidly changing of socio-economic developments and legal frameworks, as well as population increase, it becomes difficult for the law review in Zanzibar to bring it into line in due time and need.

Challenges

THE FUTURE

01
Reviewing laws with the aim of condensing the basics and present the statute in a summarized, simplified, concise and reader friendly version.



03
Public engagement, including legislators and judicial personnel, during and after the law review or research process.



02
Assessing the law review process through regular follow-ups on the implementation of recommendations.



04
Speedy, but reliable and up-to-date, review and research of laws. This process also aims to take into concern law reform standards, sustainable development and regional or international obligations.





AGC
ZANZIBAR

ATTORNEY-
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THANK YOU