



# DRONES REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (RPAS)

This is a small outline of the **Zambian Law for the use of a RPAS Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems**. For full information, the persons wishing to use an RPAS in Zambia should seek the permission from the **Zambian Civil Aviation Authority**.

**IGNORANCE OF THE ZAMBIAN AIR LAWS CANNOT BE USE AS A DEFENCE.**

## ZAMBIA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

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## APPROVAL & REGISTRATION RPA

### LETTER OF APPROVAL

- (a) No RPA shall be operated within the Republic of Zambia, unless such RPA has been issued with a Remotely Piloted Aircraft System Letter of Approval (RLA) by the Director General.
- (b) An application for the issuance or renewal of an RLA shall be made to the Director General on the appropriate form and accompanied by the appropriate fee. The Director General shall issue an RLA if the applicant complies with the requirements prescribed in regulation 2.2.
- (c) An RLA shall be valid for a period of 12 months.

### REGISTRATION AND MARKING

- (a) No RPA shall be operated, unless such RPA holds a valid certificate of registration issued by the Director General.
- (b) An RPA registered on the **Zambian Civil Aircraft Register** shall be deemed to have **Zambian nationality**.
- (c) An application for a certificate of registration shall be –
  - (1) made on the prescribed form; and
  - (2) Accompanied by the prescribed fee.
- (d) The Director General shall register an RPA, issue a certificate of registration and a registration mark if the applicant complies with the requirements of this regulation. The Director General shall maintain a register of all RPAs registered in terms of this regulation.
- (e) The nationality mark format, size and location designated for use on RPAs shall be as prescribed in Document ZCARs PART 18.
- (f) If the holder of a certificate of registration transfers to another person ownership of the RPA, such holder shall, within 30 days, notify the Director General of such transfer on the appropriate form.

## **PERSONNEL LICENSING**

- (a) No person shall act as pilot of an RPA, except when undergoing a skill test or receiving flight instruction, unless he or she is in possession of a valid Remote Pilot Licence (RPL) in the relevant category.

## **RPAS OPERATOR CERTIFICATE**

- (a) No person shall operate an RPAS in terms of this Part unless such person is the holder of:
  - (1) In the case of commercial, corporate and non-profit operations, a valid ROC including the operations specifications attached thereto; and
  - (2) in the case of commercial operations, an Air Services Permit issued in terms of the Civil Aviation Act No 5 of 2016.

## **INSURANCE**

AN ROC HOLDER SHALL AT ALL TIMES BE ADEQUATELY INSURED FOR THIRD PARTY LIABILITY

## **CONTROLLED AIRSPACE**

- (a) No RPAS may be operated in controlled airspace, except by the holder of an ROC and as approved by the Director General in the operator's Operations Manual.
- (b) The Director General may approve an RPA operation in controlled airspace as contemplated in regulation (1) only in –
  - (1) Visual Meteorological Conditions (VMC) in an Aerodrome Traffic Zone (ATZ) and Control Zone (CTR) below 400ft; and
  - (2) subject to compliance with the conditions prescribed in Document ZCARs PART 18.

## **GENERAL RESTRICTIONS**

- (a) No person shall operate an RPA unless they have in their possession:
  - (1) a valid RPA Pilot Licence;
  - (2) a copy of the ROC and associated Op Spec;
  - (3) the certificate of registration for each RPA in operation;
  - (4) a copy of the RLA; and
  - (5) user manual for the RPA and the remote pilot station.
- (b) No RPA shall:
  - (1) tow another aircraft;
  - (2) perform aerial or aerobatic displays;
  - (3) be flown in formation or swarm;
  - (4) be flown adjacent to or above a nuclear power plant, prison, police station, crime scene, court of law, national key point or strategic installation.
- (c) Except by the holder of an ROC, and as approved by the Director General, no RPA shall be operated –
  - (1) above 400 ft above the surface;
  - (2) within a radius of 10 km from an aerodrome; and
  - (3) within restricted or prohibited airspace.

## **REGISTRATION AND MARKING**

- (a) Identification plate
  - (1) Every Zambian-registered RPA shall have affixed to it an identification plate (engraved, stamped or etched) with its nationality and registration marks.
  - (2) The identification plate shall–
    - (i) be made of fireproof material of suitable physical properties;
    - (ii) be affixed to the RPA in a prominent position; and
    - (iii) include the registration mark issued by the authority which appears on the RPA's certificate of registration.

## **OPERATIONS MANUAL**

Each ROC holder shall submit to the Director General for approval, an Operations Manual (OM), the content of which is commensurate with the size and scope of their intended operations.