

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**



**GOVERNMENT CHEMIST LABORATORY AUTHORITY**



**GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT OF  
BULK SULPHUR**

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**(GCLA)**



**GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT OF**  
**BULK SULPHUR**

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

The history of the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) can be traced back from the year 1895 under German Colonial Administration, when it was established as Government Chemist Laboratory (GCL) mainly for the purpose of conducting research on tropical diseases particularly Malaria and Tuberculosis (TB). After independence, the Laboratory became a department under the Ministry responsible for Health, and in the year 1999 its status was transformed to an Agency under the Executive Agency's Act Cap 245 until the year 2016 when it was established as an Authority under the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority Act No. 8 of 2016.

### **1.2 Regulatory Functions**

The Authority among other functions is the regulator of industrial and consumer chemicals under the Industrial and Consumer Chemicals (Management

and Control) Act No. 3 of 2003 (ICCA 2003) and its Regulations of 2015. The Chief Government Chemist and Registrar of industrial and consumer chemicals as provided under Section 10(2)(g) of the Act is mandated to make guidelines for sound management and effective control of chemicals.

## **2.0 GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT OF BULK SULPHUR**

These guidelines have been prepared to provide guidance on management and control of bulk sulphur as one of the chemical regulated under the Act for protection of human health and the environment. The guidelines provide directives for designation of a port or area for handling of Sulphur, general management, loading and packaging, and conditions for transportation of loaded or repacking of bulk Sulphur.

## **2.1 Requirements for Designation of a Port or Area for Handling of Sulphur**

The Director General of the Tanzania Port Authority shall designate the port or an area where the operations for handling of Sulphur will be undertaken. The designated port or area for handling of bulk Sulphur should meet the following requirements:

- a) A port or area where there are no other operations.
- b) In case, the port or area to be designated has other port operations, Sulphur handling operations must be undertaken:
  - i. Away from other activities/operations.
  - ii. In a closed system by use of special equipment which suck the chemical from the vessel to the closed transport facility directly.
  - iii. The storage is away from the area which has other operations.
- c) Be away from source of ignition and oxidizing agent.



- d) Possess appropriate firefighting equipment/systems.
- e) Have knowledgeable personnel on the adverse effects of the chemical to health and the environment.

## **2.2 General Requirements for Sulphur Handling**

The general requirements for safe handling of Sulphur include:

- a) The operations including storage area should be away from sources of ignition and oxidizing agents.
- b) The whole operations should avoid dust generations or releases.
- c) Possess appropriate firefighting equipment/systems.
- d) Provide appropriate warning signs/posters.
- e) Make sure that there is no release of spill or leakage to the environment.

- f) Immediately attend and inform the Registrar and other relevant authorities of any spillage, leakage or occurrence of other accidents.
- g) Inform GCLA for supervision during loading and offloading operations of Sulphur.

### **2.3 Requirements for Loading and Repackaging of Bulk Sulphur**

A container or packaging material for loading or repackaging of bulk Sulphur shall be suitable for storage of a chemical for which an application for storage has been made and shall:

- a) Not be reactive with the chemical in question.
- b) Be free from the possibility of leakage.
- c) Be capable of protecting the health of persons involved in handling the chemical, the neighbouring community and the environment in general.

- d) Be conducted in the closed system from the vessel to transport facility without release to the environment.
- e) A container or packaging materials for loading or repackaging of bulk chemicals shall be:
  - i. Labeled;
  - ii. Punctured after its lifespan or after use.
  - iii. Disposed of in accordance with recommended and approved methods.

## **2.4 Conditions for Transportation of Loaded or Repacked Sulphur**

A person who has been granted a permit by GCLA to transport loaded or repacked bulk Sulphur shall:

- a) Use appropriate means of transport taking into account the requirements of safe handling of Sulphur in order to avoid spreading or noxious smell releases during transportation.

- b) Ensure that each transport facility is labeled with appropriate symbols, provided with First Aid equipment, firefighting equipment and communication system according to procedures for safe handling of Sulphur.
- c) Ensure that the Sulphur consignment is accompanied by transport permits issued by GCLA and all other necessary transport documents at all times.
- d) Use the shortest routes or route presenting the lowest risk for the public and the environment.
- e) Provide adequate protective and safety gears to personnel involved in handling of Sulphur.
- f) Ensure Sulphur is transported in a covered transport facility or closed container at all times in order to prevent any releases or leakages.
- g) Provide basic training to staff on safe transportation of Sulphur and handling of emergency cases or accidents.
- h) Comply with any other conditions which the Registrar may direct.

It is my sincere expectation that, these guidelines will serve as a catalyst and therefore, attract more business related to handling of bulk transit cargo particularly Sulphur to other countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.



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