

**Building Control (Accessibility and Gender Compliance in Buildings) Regulations  
2017**

**GN 215/2017**

**Government Gazette of Mauritius No. 102 of 28 October 2017**

**TUE BUILDING CONTROL ACT**

**Regulations made by the Minister, on the advice of the Building  
Control Advisory Council, under section 34 of  
the Building Control Act**

1. These regulations may be cited as the **Building Control (Accessibility and Gender Compliance in Buildings) Regulations 2017**.

2. In these regulations —

“Act” means the Building Control Act;

“designated building” means a building specified in the first column of the First Schedule;

“long hour usage” means a period exceeding 4 hours; “person with disability” includes a person who has a long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder his full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with other persons.

3. These regulations shall apply to every —

(a) new designated building; or

(b) existing building which will undergo extensive alterations, additions, repairs, or reconstruction and a permit will be required before commencing those building works.

4. For the purpose of section 3 of the Act, the owner of a building referred to in regulation 3 shall ensure that —

- (a) the building meets the requirements specified in the First or Second Schedule, as the case may be; and
  
- (b) the International Symbol of Access for person with disability, set out in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Schedules, is permanently and conspicuously displayed at the places specified in that Schedule, so as to indicate that the facilities and structures specified in the Second Schedule are provided for in that building.

**Amended by [\[GN No. 322 of 2022\]](#)**

**5.** These regulations shall come into operation on 1 November 2017.

Made by the Minister, on the advice of the Building Control Advisory Council, on 1 November 2017.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**  
**[Regulations 3 and 4]**

[Regulations 3 and 4]

DESIGNATED BUILDINGS	ACCESSIBILITY				GENDER COMPLIANCE			
	Wheelchair user	Disabled toilet	Separate children toilet	Communication (visual, audible and tactile)	Baby changing room	Breastfeeding room	Rest room	
Airport, light railway transport station, bus terminal, seaports	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bank	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
ATM	✓			✓				
Bus shelter	✓			✓				
Cinema, theatre, stadium or other place of public entertainment with permanent seating arrangements	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Citizen Advice Bureau	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
Conference centre	✓	✓		✓			✓	
Court of Justice	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Daycare centre	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Factory, workshop, or office building	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	





## SECOND SCHEDULE

[Regulation 4]

### PART I - ACCESSIBILITY

#### Sub-Part A — Level Approach

A level approach from the site boundary and vehicular parking areas shall be provided as close as possible to the main entrance of the building and shall satisfy the following requirements —

- (a) a clear width of not less than 1.5 metres and a height of not less than 2.1 metres;
- (b) a gradient of a length of—
  - (i) 2 metres, at a ratio of 1:12;
  - (ii) 5 metres, at a ratio of 1:15;
  - (iii) 10 metres, at a ratio of 1:20;
- (c)
  - (i) the major pathway of the building shall have tactile pathway, paving of different surface, to guide visually impaired people with in the building;
  - (ii) a tactile pathway shall be made up of textured paving slabs manufactured from hard materials like heavy duty polyurethane, stainless steel, concrete, ceramic or other durable substance with a raised pattern of studs or 'dots' to warn blind and vision-impaired pedestrians of potential hazard such as road junction, light rail transit track or other amenity such as pedestrian crossing, ramped access, stairs or to convey direction to them in accordance with diagrams set out in the Fourth Schedule;
  - (iii) the slabs shall be in bright colours, preferably yellow, red or blue, and in accordance with the prevailing British Standards for Tactile Paving Surface Indicators;
- (d) a slip resistant surface such as a coefficient of resistance of not less than RI I for ceramic tiles;

- (e) change in floor texture to indicate change in level for visually impaired people;
- (f) the colour of the surface of the level approach shall contrast visually with that of the landings;
- (g) a raised kerb equal to or not more than 100 millimetres;
- (h) passing places at least 1.8 metres wide and at least 2 metres long are provided within sight of each other (the width of the passing place may be included in the width of the level approach), but in any case spaced at a distance not exceeding 50 metres; and
- (i) the surface of a parking bay designated for persons with disabilities, in particular the area surrounding the bay, shall allow the safe transfer of a passenger or driver to a wheelchair and transfer from the parking bay to the access route to the building without undue effort, barriers to wheelchairs or hazards from tripping;
- (j) the ticket dispensing machines shall be located in such a way as to allow a person in a wheelchair, or a person of short stature, to gain access so close to the machine that he can obtain tickets for display parking; and
- (k) people with mobility impairments be able to alight from a vehicle so close to the principal entrance, or alternative accessible entrance, of the building so that it is convenient for him to enter into the building.

**Amended by [\[GN No. 322 of 2022\]](#)**

### **Sub-Part B — Ramped Approach**

Where a ramped approach is necessary, the following shall be catered for —

- (a) a skid resistant surface with a coefficient of resistance of not less than R11 for ceramic tiles;

- (b) a corridor or passageway to which a wheelchair user has access shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 1.2 metres;
- (c) the colour of the surface of the ramped approach shall contrast visually with that of the landings;
- (d) flights with surface widths of not less than 1.5 metres and unobstructed widths of not less than 1.2 metres;
- (e) the corridors to which the wheelchair user will have access shall be made of fire-rated materials;
- (f) top and bottom landings, each of a length of not less than 1.2 metres and, where necessary, intermediate landings, of a length of not less than 1.5 metres, and clear of any door swing onto them;
- (g) a raised kerb of a height of not less than 100 millimetres on any open side of a flight or landing;
- (h) a continuous suitable handrail on each side of flights and landings, where the length of the ramp exceeds 2 metres;
- (i) an alternative means of access, such as a lift, for wheelchair users, where the total rise exceeds 3 metres;
- (j) signposted ramps shall be provided and clearly displayed;
- (k) shall be equipped with intumescent warning signs and emergency lighting system during power failure;
- (l) shall be equipped with audible and visual alarm system and pull stations to give warning in case of fire or any life threatening situation; and
- (m) shall be equipped with public address system to announce for any life threatening situation such as fire or bomb threat.



Amended by [\[GN No. 322 of 2022\]](#)

### **Sub-Part C — Stepped Approach**

Where it is not possible to provide a level or ramped approach, a stepped approach with the following requirements, in line with the Planning Policy Guidelines (PPG) of the Ministry responsible for the subject of housing, shall be complied with —

- (a) flights with unobstructed widths of not less than 1.2 metres;
- (b) a level landing at the top and bottom of each flight;
- (c) top and bottom landings and, where necessary, intermediate landings, with a length of not less than 1.2 metres and clear of any door swing onto them;
- (d) materials and finishes on tread shall be skid resistant specially when wet (for example a coefficient of resistance of not less than R1 for ceramic tiles);
- (e) change in floor texture to indicate change in level for visually impaired people;
- (f) the colour of the surface of the stepped approach shall contrast visually with that of the landings;
- (g) risers are not open;
- (h) a suitable continuous handrail on each side of the flight and landings, where the rise of the stepped approach comprises 2 or more risers;
- (i) the rise of a flight between landings not exceeding 1.8 metres;
- (j) a uniform rise of each step shall not exceed 150 millimetres;
- (k) the tread of each step shall not be less than 280 millimetres;

- (l) the riser and tread of each step shall be consistent throughout the flight with not more than 12 risers for a tread of less than 350 millimetres and not more than 18 risers for a tread of not less than 350 millimetres or more;
- (m) all nosing shall be made apparent by means of a permanently contrasting material of a width of not less than 55 millimetres on the tread and riser; and
- (n) the projection of a step nosing over the tread below shall be avoided but, if necessary, shall not exceed 25 millimetres.

#### **Sub-Part D — Handrails**

Handrails shall be provided to every stepped and ramped access and shall satisfy the following requirements -

- (a) top of a handrail shall be not less than 900 millimetres above the surface of a ramp or the pitch line of a flight of steps and not less than 1,000 millimetres above the surface of a landing;
- (b) the handrail shall extend not less than 300 millimetres beyond the top and bottom of a ramp, or the top and bottom nosing of at a stepped approach, and shall terminate in a closed end which does project into a route of travel;
- (c) the handrail shall be made up of a tubular section of a diameter of not less than 45 millimetres nor more than 50 millimetres with rounded edges and, when fixed to a wall with metal brackets, shall be not less than 60 millimetres nor more than 75 millimetres clear of the wall and not less than 50 millimetres above the fixation point on the wall;
- (d) the handrail shall be continuous across the flights or landings or ramped/stepped access; and
- (e) the handrail shall contrast visually with the background against which it is seen, without being highly reflective.

## **Sub-Part E — Doors**

The main entrance door shall satisfy the following requirements —

- (a) it shall contain a leaf which provides a clear opening width of not less than one metre;
- (b) it shall have an unobstructed space on the side next to the leading edge for not less than 300 millimetres unless the door is opened by a suitable automatic control;
- (c) it shall be provided with a glazed panel giving a zone of visibility from a height of not less than 900 millimetres nor more than 1,500 millimetres from the finished floor level, wherever the opening action of the door may constitute a hazard;
- (d) a level landing shall be provided not less than 1.5 metres x 1.5 metres of any door swings; and
- (e) the threshold level difference shall not be higher than 50 millimetres and a chamfered slope shall be provided to allow ease of movement for wheelchair users.

(2) An internal door shall satisfy the following requirements —

- (a) it shall contain a leaf which provides a clear opening width of not less than 900 millimetres;
- (b) it shall have the space into which the door opens unobstructed on the side next to the leading edge for not less than 300 millimetres, unless the door can be opened by an automatic control, or is located where it may be reasonable to anticipate assistance; and
- (c) the door frames shall contrast visually with the surrounding walls.

(3) Every door across an accessible corridor or passageway shall be provided with a glazed panel, giving a zone of visibility from a height of not less than 900 millimetres nor more than 1,500 millimetres from the finished floor level.

## **Sub-Part F - Lobbies and corridors**

Lobbies and corridors shall satisfy the following requirements —

- (a) an internal lobby shall be of an area which can accommodate, in addition to a wheelchair user, a person assisting a wheelchair user, a person walking in the opposite direction and/or a person pushing a pram;
- (b) a corridor or passageway to which a wheelchair user has access shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 1.2 metres;
- (c) the glazing within the lobby shall be well contrasted with the surrounding wall surfaces and shall be made clearly visible;
- (d) the corridors and passageways shall be wide enough to allow people with buggies, people carrying cases or people on crutches to pass others on the access route. Wheelchair users shall also have access to adjacent rooms and spaces, be able to pass other people and, where necessary, turn through 180 degrees. Corridors narrower than indicated in this guidance, or localised narrowing (for example at archways), may be reasonable in some locations;
- (e) they shall have an unobstructed width, excluding any projections into the space, along their length of not less than 1.2 metres;
- (f) the floor shall be level or predominantly level (with the steep of a gradient of a ratio 1:60), with any section with the steep of a gradient of a ratio 1:20 or steeper designed as an internal ramp;
- (g) the floor surface finishes with patterns that can be mistaken for steps or changes of level shall be avoided;
- (h) the floor finishes shall be skid resistant (for example with a coefficient of resistance of not less than RIO for ceramic tiles); and

- (i) change in floor texture and colour to indicate change in level for visually impaired people.

## **Sub-Part G — Vertical Transportation**

### **1. Passenger lift**

Buildings, where services and facilities are provided on upper floors, specially to persons with disabilities, shall have a passenger lift which shall satisfy the following requirements —

- (a) a clear landing of a width of not less than 1.5 metres and a length of not less than 1.5 metres in front of its entrance;
- (b) at least one door providing a clear opening width of not less than 900 millimetres;
- (c) a car with a width of not less than 2 metres and a depth of not less than 1.4 metres;
- (d) landing and car controls which are not less than 900 millimetres nor more than 1.2 metres above the floor level;
- (e)
  - (i) tactile indication on the landing and adjacent to the lift call button shall be in braille and shall be placed on both sides of the door jambs at an approximate height of not less than 1.50 metres to help a visually impaired person to identify the floor reached and shall be in accordance with the standards set out in the Fifth Schedule;
  - (ii) control buttons shall be in an accessible location and illuminated. The diameter of a button shall be not less than 20 millimetres;
  - (iii) the numerals on the floor selector buttons shall be embossed so as to be easily identifiable by touch;
- (f) an audible and visual system incorporating a bell and a light to alert users about the floor level, door opening and closing;

- (g) a signaling system which gives 5 seconds' notification that the lift is answering a landing call and a dwell time of 5 seconds before the door closes after being fully open;
- (h) signage, placed at an approximate height of not less than 1.80 metres, to indicate location of lift, shall be clearly visible from building entrance;
- (i) where there is a change in level between internal circulation route and lift lobby, a ramp of a ratio of 1:12 minimum shall be provided for ease of access;
- (j) where, due to site constraints, a passenger lift cannot be accommodated for persons with disabilities, a lifting platform shall be provided for vertical height travels;
- (k) instruction notice affixed for guidance of passengers stuck inside the lift in case of power failure; and
- (l) fire notice affixed in front of the vertical transportation.

Amended by [IGN No. 322 of 2022](#)

## 2. Lifting platform

A lifting platform, where provided, shall satisfy the following requirements —

- (a) the vertical travel distance shall —
  - (i) be not more than 2 metres, where there is no liftway enclosure and no floor penetration;
  - (ii) exceed 2 metres, where there is a liftway enclosure;
- (b) the rated speed of the platform shall not exceed 0.15 metre per second;
- (c) lifting platform controls shall be located at a level of not less than 800 millimetres nor more than 1,100 millimetres from the floor of the lifting platform and not less than 400 millimetres from any return wall;

- (d) continuous pressure control shall be provided;
- (e) landing call buttons shall be located between 900 millimetres and 1,100 millimetres from the floor of the landing and at least 500 millimetres from any return wall;
- (f) suitable tactile indication on the landing and adjacent to the lift call button to identify the different level and inside the lift car;
- (g) the minimum clear dimensions of the platform shall be —
  - (i) of a width of not less than 800 millimetres and a depth of not less than 1.25 metres, where the lifting platform is not enclosed and where provision is being made for an unaccompanied wheelchair user;
  - (ii) of a width of not less than 900 millimetres and a depth of not less than 1.4 metres, where the lifting platform is enclosed and provision is being made for an unaccompanied wheelchair user;
  - (iii) of a width of not less than 1,100 millimetres and a depth of not less than 1.4 metres where 2 doors are located at 90 degrees relative to each other and the lifting platform is enclosed or provision is being made for an accompanied wheelchair user;
- (h) doors shall have an effective clear width of not less than 900 millimetres nor more than 1.1 metres wide and a depth of 1.4 metres lifting platform and not less than 800 millimetres in other cases;
- (i) the lifting platform entrance shall be fitted with clear instructions for use;
- (j) the lifting platform entrances shall be accessible from the remainder of the story;
- (k) doors shall be distinguishable visually from the adjoining walls;
- (l) an audible and visual announcement of platform arrival and level reached shall be

provided; and

- (m) areas of glass shall be identifiable by people with impaired vision.

### **Sub-Part H — Sanitary Conveniences**

Sanitary conveniences, including bathrooms, shall be provided and shall satisfy the following requirements -

- (a) location shall be easily accessible and close to the entrance hall and/or waiting area/lobby;
- (b) shall be specially designed as a unisex toilet for use by persons with disabilities;
- (c) shall be of a length and width of at least 2 metres and 1.5 metres, respectively, to achieve necessary wheelchair manoeuvre and allow a helper to assist the person with disabilities;
- (d) shall allow for frontal, lateral, diagonal and backward transfer onto the toilet, and have facilities for hand washing and hand drying within reach from the toilet, prior to transfer back onto the wheelchair;
- (e) shall be equipped with a fire alarm which emits a visual and audible signal to warn the occupants with hearing or visual impairments;
- (f) shall include water closets (WC) pans conform to (British Standards European Norm) BS EN 997:2012 in terms of key dimensions in order to accommodate the use of a variable height toilet seat riser;
- (g) the floor finishes shall be slip resistant with a coefficient of resistance of not less than R11 for ceramic tiles; and
- (h) change in floor texture and colour to indicate change in level for visually impaired people.



### **Sub-Part I — Parking Areas**

1. Car parking designated for person with disability shall be in line with the Planning Policy Guidelines (PPG) of the Ministry responsible for the subject of housing and shall be placed as close as possible to the level approach of the building.
2. A proportion of car parking spaces shall be designated for specific use of persons with disabilities at a ratio of 5 per cent of the overall parking spaces.
3. The parking space reserved for person with disability shall be of a width of not less than 3.6 metres and a length of not less than 6.2 metres and shall be located near the approach access level or entrance of a building.
4. The parking dimensions shall be divided as follows —
  - (a) a corridor space of a width of 1.2 metres shall be demarcated from the parking space of 2.4 metres x 5 metres to allow passengers with disabilities to alight from vehicles;
  - (b) the corridor space shall be placed either on the right or on the left depending on the design of the parking lot; and
  - (c) a corridor space of 1.2 metres shall be placed on the rear side.

### **Sub-Part J — Communication Aids**

1. Loop induction or infrared systems shall be provided in every conference room in accordance with the standards set out in the Sixth Schedule.
2. Visual and audible systems shall be provided to lifts, lobbies and fire alarm systems.
3. Where a building is provided with tactile equipment, the building shall be equipped with keys having raised characters with Braille system and shall include lifts, where appropriate.

4. The assembly area shall be equipped with assistive listening system with audio amplification for persons who are hard of hearing.
5. Where 2-way communication system is provided to gain admittance to building, the system shall be equipped with audible, visual and tactile system.

Amended by [IGN No. 322 of 2022](#)

### **Sub-Part K — Miscellaneous**

Every counter in a bank, including Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs), and every post office shall be at a level suitable for wheelchair users.

## **PART II - GENDER COMPLIANCE**

### **Sub-Part A — Requirement**

1. Disaggregated information in terms of number of men, women and children who shall be using the public building facility on an employee, a resident or a visitor basis shall be provided by the user/client when designing the facility to cater for a gender compliant design.
2. Every public building facility shall have separate toilets, changing rooms, sleeping quarters for the use of men and women, rest rooms and nursing areas for the use of women, as applicable.

### **Sub-Part B — Special Rooms**

1. Every building shall have the following Gender Compliance requirements —
  - (a) breastfeeding facility shall be provided in a building, open to the public, such as in a shop, an assembly building and an entertainment building, and the room for breastfeeding shall be provided separate from the general toilet facilities;

- (b) the room shall be easily accessible, have adequate light and ventilation and be equipped with comfortable chairs;
- (c) space for a large pushchair or pram and a shelf or table for personal belongings shall be provided.

**2.** (1) A changing facility for babies shall be provided in every building.

(2) The facilities referred to in this Part shall be accessible and shall accommodate a pram or buggy and permit use by a person with mobility impairment.

**3.** A rest room equipped with comfortable reclining chairs shall be provided for the use of women, in particular for pregnant women in buildings where women work or visit for long hours.

**4.** (1) Accommodating the facility specified in subparagraph (3) may, within smaller buildings not be reasonably practicable and, in recognition of this, it need not be provided in such buildings.

(2) A breastfeeding room, baby changing facility and rest room shall be provided in —

- (a) a shop or shopping mall with a total shop floor area exceeding 500 metres square;
- (b) an assembly building accommodating not less than 100 people;
- (c) an entertainment building, including a restaurant, fast food outlet with seating or a licensed premises, accommodating not less than 100 people; and
- (d) office building where not less than 10 women are employed (applicable only for rest room).

**5.** Baby changing facilities shall be provided either as a separate unisex facility or as a dedicated space within both male and female sanitary accommodation and not within an accessible toilet, and shall contain —

- (a) 2 changing benches or tables at a height of not less than 800 millimetres nor more than 1,200 millimetres, to cater for people of different heights and people in either a seated or standing position;
- (b) hand washing and drying facilities shall be provided adjacent to the changing tables, together with nappy disposal bins, and a shelf or table for personal belongings;
- (c) a maneuvering space of not less than 1.5 metres by 1.5 metres, clear of any obstruction, including a door swing.

### **Sub-Part C – Guidelines**

<b>Building type</b>	<b>Predicted percentage*</b>
Assembly buildings	50% male, 50% female
Swimming pools	50% male, 50% female
Cafes, restaurants, public houses, nightclubs	50% male, 50% female
Theatres and concert halls	50% male, 50% female
Shopping centres	35% male, 65% female
For not more than 25 men	one toilet cubicle, one urinal + one washbasin
For not more than 25 women	2 toilet cubicles, 2 washbasins, rest room
For not more than 10 women in workplace/ long hours usage	one rest room
For places frequented by not less than 100 persons	one baby changing room and one breastfeeding room

---

**THIRD SCHEDULE**

[Regulation 4]

**INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL OF ACCESS FOR  
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**



1. The size of the symbol shall be determined in accordance with the following table —

<b>Viewing distance (m)</b>	<b>Size of symbol (mm)</b>
Less than 7	60 × 60
Between 7 and 18	110 × 110
More than 18	200 × 200 × to 450 × 450

2. The colour of the symbol shall be white on a blue background.
3. The symbol shall be displayed —
  - (a) outside the building;
  - (b) at main lobbies or main traffic routes in the building to indicate the location of the facilities in the building; and
  - (b) at such areas of the building as are totally accessible to persons with disabilities.

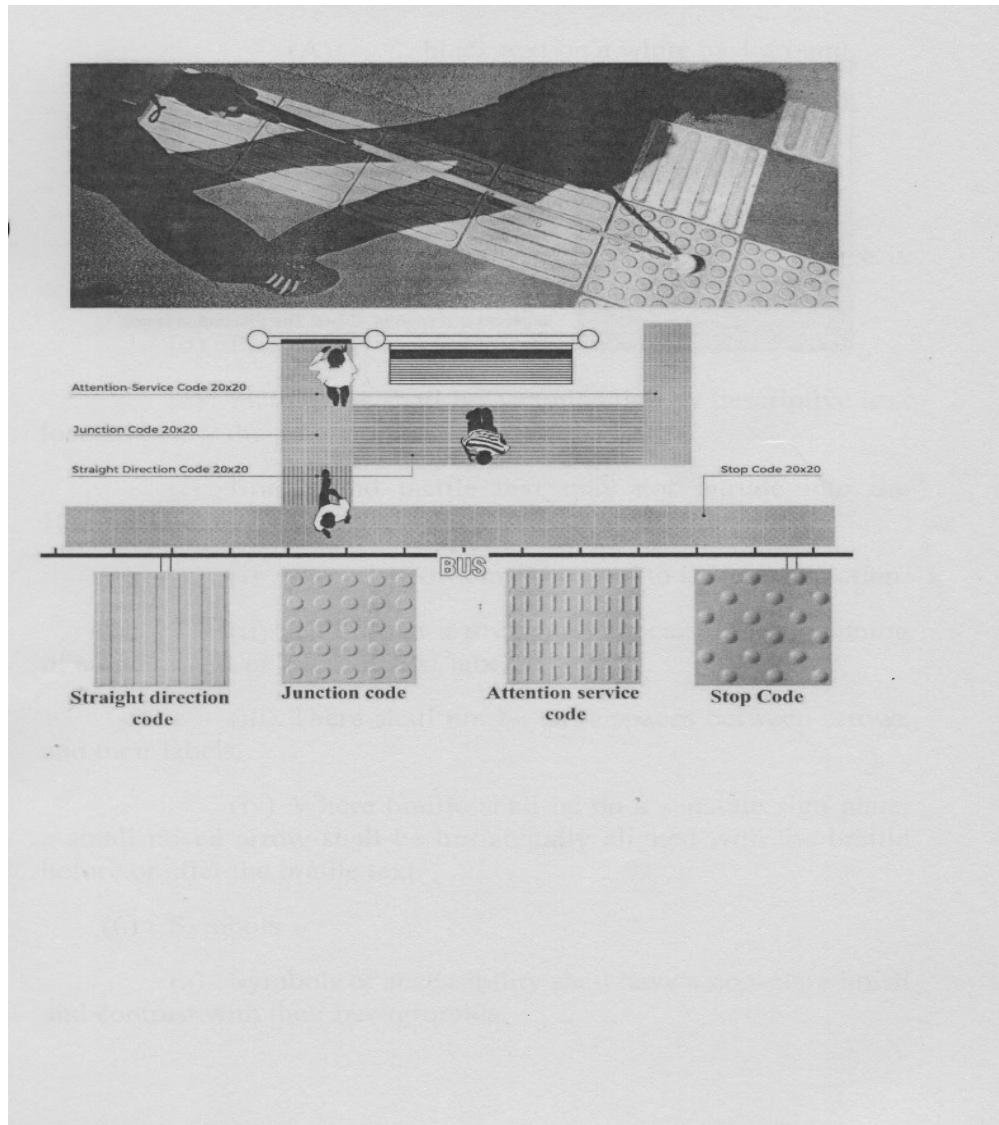
# FOURTH SCHEDULE

[Regulation 4(b)]

## PART 1- ACCESSIBILITY/GENDER SIGNAGE

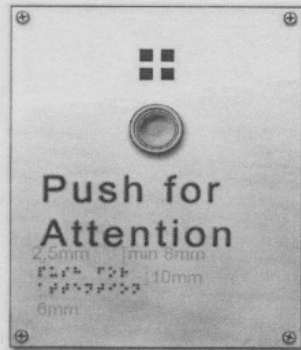


## PART II – TACTILE PATHWAY





## PART III - BRAILLE



### Braille

Empty spaces between braille cells should be preserved, or braille will be unreadable. Shows a sign underneath a button with text first and then braille under the text that reads "Push for attention". There is 2.5mm between the text and the top of the braille. The vertical spacing between one cell and the cell below is 10mm. The spacing between one dot and the corresponding dot in the adjacent cell is 6mm. (Note: The illustration is not drawn to scale)

## **FIFTH SCHEDULE**

[Regulation 4(b)]

### **TACTILE INDICATION PICTOGRAMS AND SIGNAGE**

#### **Tactile Indication - Braille Specifications**

1. (1) Tactile signage or braille signage shall be backed by the following description and specification.

(2) Any person who is blind or visually impaired shall benefit from braille signs that are placed at convenient height and predictable locations.

2. Braille is a system of touch and reading and writing in which the alphabet is represented by the arrangement of 6 dots in a cell as specified in the Fifth Schedule.

3. The signage may also have the following characteristics -

(1) Material - Stainless Steel, Aluminium or Acrylic

(a) All materials used shall be new and free from defects.

(b) The thickness, color and type shall be as specified in the sign type drawings.

(c) The material shall be free from scratches or defects and clean and the edges shall be finished in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

(d) The sheet materials and sampling shapes shall be of such thickness a sign fabricator may recommend to produce straight or evenly curved surfaces, free from waviness, wrinkles or other deformation except as otherwise specified.

(2) Colour

(a) (i) Light characters shall be displayed on dark backgrounds.

(ii) Dark characters shall be displayed on light backgrounds.

(b) The material colour and finish shall be matte or non-glare and shall be approved by the employer.

(3) Fixation, coatings and finishes

(a) All fasteners shall be in stainless steel and finish coated with an appropriate primer and color coat, with corrosion inhibitors guaranteed for 4 years against fading, chipping, cracking, peeling, and discoloration.

(b) All holes and cut edges of pre-finished metals shall be free of burrs, primed and painted to maintain a corrosion-proof finish.

(4) Technical specifications of braille characters

(a) Braille dots -

(i) shall have a domed or rounded shape; and

(ii) shall not be pointed or flat.

(b) Braille dots shall be raised from the surface of the sign plate.

(c) The spherical radius of each dot shall be not less than 0.76 millimetre nor more than 0.90 millimetre.

(d) The base diameter of each dot shall be not less than 1.2 millimetres nor more than 1.6 millimetres.

(e) Each dot shall be of a height of not less than 0.4 millimetre nor more than 0.9 millimetre.

(f) The horizontal and vertical spacing within a cell shall be not less than 2.29 millimetres nor more than 2.54 millimetres.

(g) The spacing between one dot and the corresponding dot in the adjacent cell shall be not less than 6 millimetres nor more than 7.6 millimetres.

(h) The empty space between 2 braille cells or words shall be preserved or braille shall be unreadable.

(i) The vertical spacing (from one cell to the cell below) shall be not less than 10.15 millimetres nor more than 10.5 millimetres.

(j) The standard for braille in Mauritius is United English Braille.

(k) In respect of braille signs of not more than 10 words, uncontracted braille shall be used.

(l) In respect of floor directories, uncontracted braille shall be used.

(m) (i) In respect of signs exceeding 10 words, contracted braille shall be used only if the sign consists of sentences such as emergency evacuation instructions.

(ii) Contracted braille shall be in United English Braille rules.

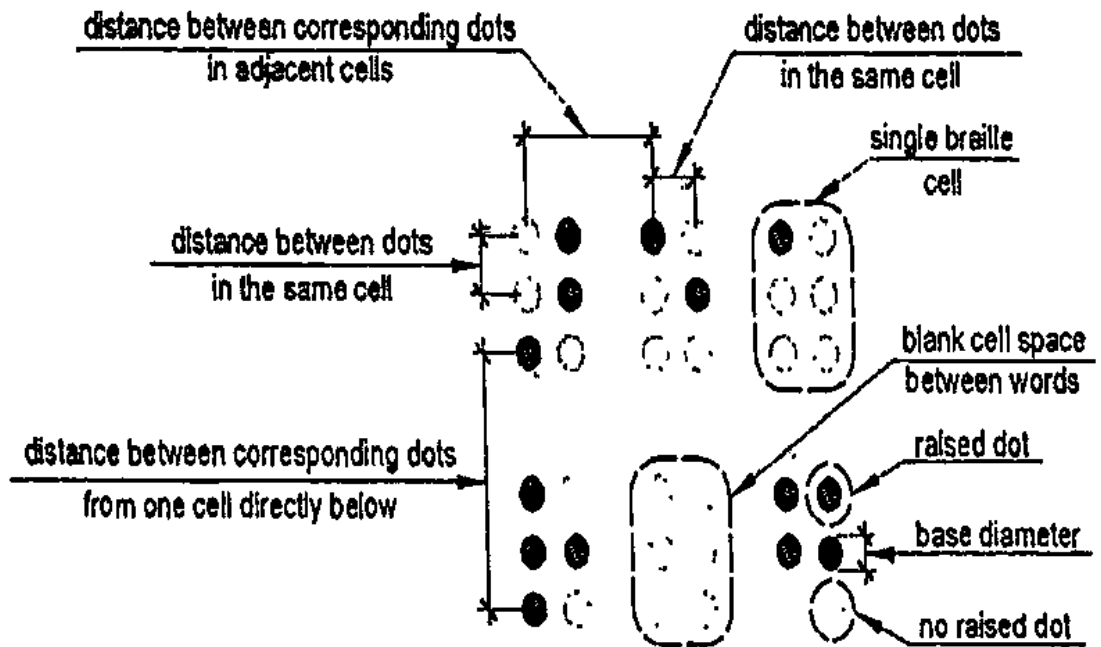
(n) Capital letters shall not be used in braille signs, except for emergency instructions which comprise sentences.

(p) (i) Where the text is multi-lined, print and braille shall appear in separate blocks.

(ii) The print and braille shall not be interlined.

(iii) All the braille shall be at least 10 millimetres below the entire raised print text.

(iv) Where a sign contains a single letter (for example Platform B), a letter sign shall not be used in braille.



(5) Pictograms

(a) Pictograms or symbols shall be located on a field at a height of at least 150 millimetres.

(b) Pictograms and their fields shall have a non-glare finish.

(c) (i) Pictograms shall contrast with their backgrounds.

(ii) A light pictogram shall be displayed on a dark field.

(iii) A dark pictogram shall be displayed on a light field.

(iv) Clear colour combinations shall include –

(A) black text on a white background;

(B) white text on a black background;

(C) yellow text on black; or

(D) black on yellow.

(v) A contrast of at least 30 per cent luminance is recommended.

(d) Pictograms may not be tactile.

(e) Pictograms shall be accompanied by descriptive text located below the pictogram field.

(f) Braille and tactile text may not intrude into the 150 millimetres field.

(g) (i) Raised arrows may be used to indicate direction.

(ii) The raised arrows may appear at the beginning of a line of text or after the text label.

(iii) There shall not be large spaces between arrows and their labels.

(iv) Where braille shall be on a separate sign plate, a small raised arrow shall be horizontally aligned with the braille before or after the braille text.

## (6) Symbols

(a) Symbols of accessibility shall have a non-glare finish and contrast with their backgrounds.

(b) The international symbols shall be used to identify the following -



**International  
Symbol of  
Accessibility**



**Volume-  
Controlled  
Telephone**



**International  
TTY  
Symbol**



**International  
Symbol of Access  
For Hearing Loss**

(7) Print signage - readability by sight such as auditory and impaired

(a) The size, type and layout of lettering on signs shall be clearly legible.

(b) A clear, simple 'sans serif' typeface with uniform stroke width, wide horizontal proportions and distinct letter forms including prominent ascenders and descenders and open counter forms shall be used. Some examples of suitable typefaces are Arial, Gill Sans, Clearview ADA, Agro Sans, Frutiger and Helvetica.

(c) No word shall be in italics, stylised print, underlined.

(d) The first letter of each word shall be in upper case.

(e) (i) The sign background and the symbol shall contrast with the print.

(ii) Clear colour combinations include black text on a white background, white on black, yellow on black or black on yellow.

(f) Information shall not be printed over pictures or pattern.

(g) Characters and their background shall be non-reflective.

(h) (i) For non-tactile print, the size of the text shall be related to the distance at which the information is to be viewed.

(ii) Letters shall be of a height of not less than 15 millimetres.

(iii) Where the text is to be visible from a distance of -

(A) 3 metres, the sign shall be of a height of at least 5 millimetres;

(B) 5 metres, the sign shall be of a height of at least 25 millimetres.

(8) Raised or embossed print: Readability by touch (visually impaired)

(a) Raised letters shall have rounded edges.

(b) Letters shall be raised from the surface of the sign plate by at least one millimetre, and a maximum of 1.5 millimetres.

(c) The height of a letter shall be not less than 15 millimetres nor more than 50 millimetres, that is approximately 48 to 144 pt.

- (d) The spacing between every letter shall be not less than 2 millimetres.
- (e) The spacing between every word shall be not less than 10 millimetres.
- (f) Letter stroke thickness shall be not less than 2 millimetres nor more than 7 millimetres.
- (g) Engraved print letters shall not be used.
- (h) The raised borders and elements shall be at a distance of not less than 10 millimetres from tactile and braille characters.
- (i) The embossed characters shall be integral to the sign.
- (j) The tactile text shall be left justified, except for single words which may be center aligned.

Added by [\[GN No. 322 of 2022\]](#)



## **SIXTH SCHEDULE**

[Regulation 4(b)]

### **GUIDANCE ON PROVISION OF COMMUNICATION AIDS LOOP INDUCTION OR INFRARED SYSTEMS**

1. A loop induction system is a perimeter or grid-type, hidden floor and/or ceiling flat metal tape or electronic system combined with a sound amplifier which connects a sound source (TV microphone etc) to an electric socket system.

2. The technical specifications for provision of assistive listening or amplification devices, eliminating of background noise and clear hearing of sound or speech source at reception/information counters and conference halls shall be based on the following conditions -

(a) pre-requisite for provision and operation of the system -

(i) the concerned venue to have an acrylic signage or "hearing loop installed", post card sized window sticker featuring the 'International Deaf Symbol' informing that the premises such as conference room, shop, school concert hall, and hospital has a hearing loop installed for use by those with hearing impairment;

(ii) persons with hearing impairment to be fitted with "hearing aids" that have a Telecoil or T-coil incorporated;

(iii) regular maintenance of the assistive listening system by trained staff members;

(iv) design and installation of the induction loop system by a trained (specialist) designer and installer;

(b) recommendations and general guidance on the design installation, testing and maintenance of loop systems including best practices such as audio inputs, suitable microphone types, loop antenna specification, cable types and signage in accordance with IEC TR 63079/BS 7594.

(c) performance standards to be specified as compliant with IEC 60118 - 4 which also include details about the expected field strength of induction loop systems so that they produce an optimal signal to noise ratio without distortion, as well as minimum frequency response levels for delivering optimal intelligibility. Measurement techniques, distances and methods are detailed in-depth in the standard.

Added by [\[GN No. 322 of 2022\]](#)