

**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE OF
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION BILL 2009
BILL NO. 22 OF 2009**

Publication

1. The Local Government Commission Bill 2009 - Bill No. 22 of 2009, which was published on 3rd June, 2009, seeks to establish the Local Government Commission, as provided for by Article 78A of the Constitution. The Local Government Commission will supersede the Local Government Service Commission as provided for by the Municipal and District Councils Act, Cap., 28:01.

Introduction and First Reading

2. The Bill was introduced in the National Assembly and read for the first time on 4th June, 2009 at the 91st Sitting of the National Assembly by the Hon. Kellawan Lall, Minister of Local Government and Regional Development, and sent to a Special Select Committee in accordance with Standing Order 54 (1) (c).

Establishment of Special Select Committee

3. At a meeting held on 4th June, 2009, the Committee of Selection established a Special Select Committee to consider the Local Authorities (Elections) (Amendment) Bill - Bill No. 21 of 2009, (first read on 28th May, 2009), the Local Government Commission Bill 2009, Bill No. 22 of 2009 and the Local Government (Amendment Bill) 2009, Bill No. 23 of 2009 (read for the first time on June 4th 2009) and sent to the above mentioned Special Select Committee. The Committee noted that there would be two more Bills that would shortly be tabled and read for the first time at another sitting of the National Assembly which would also be sent to this Special Select Committee.

Other Bills Committed to the Select Committee:

4. At the 92nd Sitting of the National Assembly on June 11th 2009, the Fiscal Transfers Bill 2009 – Bill No. 25 of 2009 and the Municipal and District Councils (Amendment) Bill 2009 – Bill No. 26 of 2009 were read for the first time and sent to the same Special Select Committee.

Members of the Special Select Committee

5. At a meeting held on 4th June, 2009, the Committee of Selection appointed the following Members to comprise the Special Select Committee to consider the Local Authorities (Elections) (Amendment) Bill - Bill No. 21 of 2009 and the four other Local Government Bills referred to in paragraphs No. 3 and No. 4 above.

Members of the People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C (6)

The Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P.
Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.
Minister of Labour

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P.

Ms. Bibi S. Shadick, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, M.P.

Member of the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

Members of the People's National Congress Reform–IGuyana (PNCR 1G)

The PNCR -1G submitted its list of nominees in a letter dated 11th June, 2009 and stamped received by the Parliament Office on 16th June, 2009. Their nominations were as follows:

- (1) Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P.
- (2) Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.
- (3) Ms. Anna Ally, M.P.

In order to expedite the process, the Chairman of the Committee of Selection, by letter, "Round – Robined" the approval of Members on 18th June, 2009 and the nominations were approved.

First Meeting of the Committee – Election of Chairman

6. At the first meeting of the Special Select Committee held on **Tuesday, 9th June, 2009**, the Committee elected the Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development, as its Chairman.

Statutory Meeting

7. Due to the volume of work entailed in concluding the Special Select Committee's examination and review of the (5) Local Government Bills before the commencement of the recess of the National Assembly on 10th August, 2009, the Committee at its second meeting held on **16th June, 2009** agreed to meet once per week on Tuesdays, at 3.00 p.m., for a duration of two to three hours and, where possible longer and on other days.

Procedure

8. The Committee decided to consider, as its first priority, the Local Authorities (Elections) (Amendment) Bill - Bill No. 21 of 2009, in recognition of its importance to the work of the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) in preparing for Local Government Elections in 2009. The Government's representatives were of the view that the four Bills should be considered in the order in which they were laid in the National

Assembly. However, the Opposition argued that the Bills should be considered as a package, particularly the core Bills No. 21, 22 and 25.

Meetings of the Committee

9. The Committee met on a total of nine (9) occasions: 9th, 16th, 18th, 23rd and 30th June, 2009, 7th, 21st, 28th July, 2009 and 4th August 2009.

The Opposition Parties participated in the meetings beginning from 18th June 2009.

Consideration of Bill

10. The Committee considered the Local Government Commission Bill 2009, No. 22 of 2009, clause by clause.

11 (a) The following clauses were amended: - 2, 3 (1), 4 (2), 4(3), 7, 12, 13 (1), 13 , 14 (1), 15 (3), 15 (4), 17, 30.

11 (b) Corrections were made to the Marginal Notes of Clauses 20 and 22

12. The following clauses were accepted as presented:- 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13 (2) (3) (4), 14 (2) and (3), 15 (1) and (2), 15 (5) and (6), 16,18, 19, 20 (1), (2) and (3), 21, 22 (1) and (2), 23, 24 (1) to (5), 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 (1) (a) and (b) and (2) (3), 31, 32 and 33.

13. There was no consensus on clauses: 4 (1), 9, and amended 12.
14. Details of the amendments made to the Bill are attached in Appendix 1.

Minutes

15. The Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee are at Appendix II.

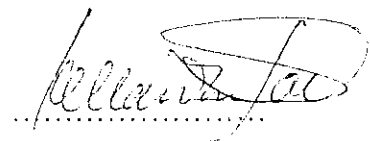
Verbatim Records

16. Verbatim Records of the Proceedings of the Committee have been prepared and are available at the Parliament Office.

Report of the Special Select Committee

17. At its meeting held on 4th August, 2009, the Special Select Committee discussed this report on its consideration of this Bill with the proposed amendments and agreed that it should be presented to the National Assembly.

18. The Report is accordingly hereby submitted.



Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P.,
Minister of Local Government and Regional Development
Chairman

APPENDIX I

**Matrix reflecting changes/amendments to the Local Government
Commission Bill 2009, Bill No. 22 of 2009
from pages 1 – 11 (Clauses 1 -33)
21st July, 2009.**

Clauses of Present Bill	Amendments to Clauses /Remarks
<p>Page 2, No. 18 Express</p>	<p>Page 2, No. 18 Expenses</p>
<p>Page 2, No. 19 Power of Commission</p>	<p>Page 2, No. 19 Power to Delegate</p>
<p>PART 1- Clause 2</p>	<p>PART 1 -Clause 2 Insertion of the following: “Public officer” has the same meaning as in the Constitution” Clause 2 was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clause 3</p>	<p>Clause 3 - re-number as Clause 3 (1) Insertion of a new subsection (2) to be read as follows: <i>In the exercise of its functions, the Commission shall not be subjected to the direction or control of any authority.</i> Clause 3 was accepted as amended.</p>

<p>Clause 4, subsection (1)</p>	<p>No consensus was reached.</p>
<p>Clause 4, subsection (2)</p> <p>All appointments shall be made from among persons of unquestioned integrity and with extensive knowledge, where practicable, in local government matters, administration, finance, Amerindian Affairs industry or law.</p>	<p>Clause 4, subsection (2)</p> <p>All appointments shall be made from among persons of unquestioned integrity and with extensive knowledge, where practicable, in local government matters, administration, finance, Amerindian Affairs, industry or law.</p> <p>Clause 4, subsection (2) was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clause 4, subsection (3)</p>	<p>Insertion of the words:</p> <p><i>"An elected councillor of a local Government organ cannot be a councillor and a member of the Commission at the same time."</i></p> <p>Clause 4, subsection (3) was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clause 5</p>	<p>Clause 5 was accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clauses 6</p>	<p>Clause 6, subsections (1) and (2) was accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 8</p>	<p>Clause 8 was accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 9</p>	<p>No consensus was reached.</p>
<p>Clauses 10</p>	<p>Clause 10, subsections (1) and (2) was accepted as presented.</p>

<p>Clause 11</p>	<p>Clause 11 was accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 12</p> <p>An act proceeding of the Commission shall not be invalid by reason of a vacancy in the membership or any defect in the appointment of a member, but if at any time and so long as the number of persons acting is less than three, the Commission shall discontinue the exercise of its powers.</p>	<p>Clause 12</p> <p>An act, proceeding or meeting of the Commission shall not be invalid by reason of a vacancy in the membership or any defect in the appointment of a member, but if at any time and so long as the number of members is less than three, the Commission shall discontinue the exercise of its powers.</p> <p>No consensus was reached.</p>
<p>Clause 13, subsection (1)</p> <p>The Commission shall have power to deal with all matters relating to the regulation of all local government organs and in particular shall –</p> <p>(a) monitor and review the performance and implementation of policies of all local government organs, including policies of taxation and protection of the environment;</p> <p>(b) monitor, evaluate and make recommendations on policies, procedures and practices of all local government organs in order to promote effective local governance;</p> <p>(c) investigate any matter under its purview and propose remedial action to the Minister;</p>	<p>Clause 13, subsection (1)</p> <p>The Commission shall have power to deal with all matters relating to the regulation and staffing of local government organs and with dispute resolution within and between local government organs, and in particular shall –</p> <p>Clause 13 subsection (1) was accepted as Amended</p> <p>Clause 13, subsection (1) paragraph (a) was accepted as presented.</p> <p>Clause 13, subsection (1) (b) was accepted as presented.</p> <p>(c) investigate any matter under its purview and propose remedial action to the Minister, whenever and/or wherever necessary;</p> <p>Clause 13, subsection (1) paragraph (c) was accepted as amended.</p>

<p>(d) monitor and review all existing and proposed legislation, policies and measures relating to local government organs and report the need for any amendment to any legislation to the Minister;</p> <p>(e) examine and propose ways of enhancing the capacity of local government organs;</p>	<p>Clause 13, subsection (1) paragraphs (d) and (e) were accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 13, subsections (3) to (6)</p>	<p>Clause 13, subsections (3) to (6)</p> <p>subsections (3) to (6) were renumbered as subsections (2) to (5)</p>
<p>Clause 13, subsections (2), (3) and (4)</p>	<p>Clause 13, new subsections (2), (3) and (4) were accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 13, subsection (6)</p> <p>In the discharge of its functions the Commission shall have regard to the provisions of the Local Democratic Organs Act, the Municipal and District Councils Act, the Local Government Act, the Amerindian Act, and any other provisions bearing on matters of local government.</p>	<p>Clause 13, new subsection (5)</p> <p>In the discharge of its functions the Commission shall have regard to the provisions of the Local Democratic Organs Act, the Municipal and District Councils Act, the Local Government Act, the Amerindian Act 2006, and any other provisions bearing on matters of local government.</p> <p>Clause 13, new subsection (5) was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clause 14, subsection (1)</p> <p>For the purpose of the exercise and discharge of its functions under this Act the Commission shall have power to initiate and conduct investigations into the activities of any local government organ including the power regarding staff referred to in section 13 (3).</p>	<p>Clause 14, subsection (1)</p> <p>For the purpose of the exercise and discharge of its functions under this Act the Commission shall have power to initiate and conduct investigations into the activities of any local government organ including the power regarding staff referred to in section 13 (2).</p>

	Clause 14, subsection (1) was accepted as amended.
Clause 14, subsections (2) and (3)	Clause 14, subsections (2) and (3) were accepted as presented.
Clause 15, subsections (1) and (2)	Clause 15, subsections (1) and (2) were accepted as presented.
<p>Clause 15, subsection (3)</p> <p>In accordance with subsection (5), a quorum shall be the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson or the member presiding at the meeting and one other member.</p>	<p>Clause 15, subsection (3)</p> <p>In accordance with subsection (5), a quorum shall be three members.</p> <p>Clause 15 subsection (3) was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clause 15, subsection (4)</p> <p>Subject to section 12, no meeting shall be invalid only on the ground that there was a vacancy in the membership of the Commission.</p>	<p>Clause 15, subsection (4)</p> <p>Subject to subsection 3 and section 12, no meeting shall be invalid only on the ground that there was a vacancy in the membership of the Commission.</p> <p>Clause 15, subsection (4) was then accepted as amended.</p>
Clause 15, subsections (5) and (6)	Clause 15, subsections (5) and (6) were accepted as presented.
Clause 16	Clause 16 was accepted as presented.

<p>Clause 17</p> <p>The Chairperson and other members shall receive such salaries and allowances as may be provided for in the annual budget of the Commission approved by the National Assembly.</p>	<p>Clause 17</p> <p>The Chairperson and members of the Commission shall receive such emoluments as may be provided for in the annual budget of the Commission approved by the National Assembly.</p> <p>Clause 17 was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clauses 18 and 19</p>	<p>Clauses 18 and 19 were accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Marginal Notes -Clause 20</p> <p>Seal of the Commission</p>	<p>Marginal Notes - Clause 20</p> <p>Seal of Commission</p> <p>Marginal Notes- Clause 20 was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clause 20, subsections (1), (2) and (3)</p>	<p>Clause 20, subsections (1), (2) and (3) were accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 21</p>	<p>Clause 21 was accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Marginal Notes -Clauses 22 (1)</p> <p>Officers and Employees of Commission</p>	<p>Marginal Notes -Clause 22 (1)</p> <p>Officers and employees of Commission</p> <p>Marginal Notes- Clause 22 (1) was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clause 22, subsections (1) and (2)</p>	<p>Clause 22, subsections (1) and (2) was accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 23</p>	<p>Clause 23 was accepted as presented.</p>

<p>Clause 24</p>	<p>Clause 24, subsections (1) to (5) was accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clauses 25 to 29</p>	<p>Clauses 25 to 29 were accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 30, subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (b)</p>	<p>Clause 30, subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (b) were accepted as presented.</p>
<p>Clause 30</p>	<p>Clause 30, new subsection (2)</p> <p>Insertion of a new subsection (2) to read:</p> <p><i>Until rules relating to subsection (1) (a) and (b) are made, the Commission shall regulate its own procedure.</i></p> <p>Clause 30, new subsection (2) was accepted as amended.</p>
<p>Clause 30, subsections (2) and (3)</p>	<p>Clause 30, subsections (2) and (3)</p> <p>Re-number subsections (2) and (3) as (3) and (4) respectively.</p>
<p>Clauses 31 to 33</p>	<p>Clauses 31 to 33 were accepted as presented.</p>

APPENDIX II

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006 -2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE
8TH MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE
LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009
BILL NO. 21 OF 2009
HELD AT 3.10 PM ON TUESDAY, 28TH JULY, 2009
IN COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 2 (GROUND FLOOR, WEST OF
MAIN STAIRWAY), PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)

Chairman (PPP/C) (1)

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 4th June, 2009)

(Elected by the Committee on 9th June, 2009)

The Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P.
Minister of Local Government

OTHER MEMBERS

From the People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) (5)

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 4th June, 2009)

The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.
Minister of Labour

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P.

Ms. Bibi S. Shadick, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, M.P.

From the People's National Congress Reform – 1 Guyana (PNCR – 1G) (3)

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 17th June, 2009)

Mr. E Lance Carberry, M.P.

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Ms. Amna Ally, M.P. - (Excused)

From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)
(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 4th June, 2009)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

Officers

Mr. Oscar E. Moore - Clerk of Committees
Ms Tanzadell Bentinck - Assistant Clerk of Committees

Also in attendance

Ms. Jocette Bacchus - Clerk of Committees
Ms Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees
Ms. Koalla Robertson - Assistant Clerk of Committees

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.10 p.m.

ITEM 2: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS

2.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:-

- (i) Notice to attend the 8th Meeting dated 27th July, 2009 to be held on Tuesday 28th July, 2009;
- (ii) Minutes of the 8th Meeting held on Tuesday, 28th July, 2009;
- (iii) Draft Report of the Local Authorities (Elections) (Amendment) Bill 2009- Bill No. 21 of 2009; and
- (iv) Draft Report of the Local Government Commission Bill 2009 – Bill No. 22 of 2009

- 2.2 The following documents were circulated at the meeting:-
- (i) Concluded Matrix on the Local Government Commission Bill 2009- Bill No. 22 of 2009;
 - (ii) Concluded Matrix on the Local Authorities (Election) (Amendment) Bill 2009- Bill No. 21 of 2009; and
 - (iii) Draft Report of the Local Authorities (Elections) (Amendment) Bill 2009- Bill No. 21 of 2009 with new insertions made at the 8th Meeting.

ITEM 3: CORRECTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING HELD ON 21ST JULY, 2009.

- 3.1 Corrections**
- 3.1.1 Page 2,**
- 3.1.2 Substitution of the name “Fung-a-Fat” for “Fung-a-fatt” under “Also in attendance”.
- 3.2 Page 3, paragraph 3.1.3**
- 3.2.1 Substitution of the word “parties” for the word “party” in line 1.
- 3.3 Page 4**
- 3.3.1 Insertion of “Clauses 23 and 24 was **accepted as presented**”

ITEM 4: MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 Page 3, paragraphs 3.1.2 and 3.3.1**
- 4.1.1 In response to an enquiry as to whether the Government’s position had changed in regards to paragraphs 3.1.2 and 3.3.1, the Government Members emphasized that their position had not changed.
- 4.2 Page 5, paragraph 6.1.2**

4.2.1 Insertion of the words “an elected councillor of a local Government organ cannot be a councillor and a member of the Commission at the same time”, into the matrix of the Local Government Commission Bill at Clause at 4, subsection (3).

4.3 Page 5, paragraph 7.1

4.3.1 Members were in contention as to whether an agreement was made to defer the consideration of the Local Government (Amendment) Bill as mentioned in paragraph 7.1.

4.3.2 Thereafter, the Minutes were deferred for adoption until the verbatim record was available to verify whether there was an agreement on the issue referred to in paragraph 7.1.

ITEM 5: TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009- BILL NO. 21 OF 2009

5.1 The Committee considered the Draft Report page by page.

5.1.1 The following amendments were made:

5.2 Page 2, Paragraph 1 - Publication

(i) Insertion of the words “under a reformed Local Government system.” after the word “year” in the last line.

(ii) Insertion of the words” This Bill” before the word “was” in the last line.

5.3 Page 3, paragraph 5- Members of the Special Select Committee

5.3.1 Substitution of the word “appointed” for the word “nominated” in line 1.

5.4 Page 4:

(i) Deletion of the words “There were no nominations by the PNCR – 1G at that meeting” at the top of the page under the heading “Members of the People’s National Congress Reform – 1 Guyana (PNCR-1G).

- (ii) Deletion of the word “subsequently” after PNCR - 1G” in line 1 of the 3rd paragraph.
- (iii) Insertion of the word “stamped” before the word “received” in line 2.
- (ii) Transposition of the paragraph beginning with PNCR – 1G to the top of the page under the heading “Members of the People’s National Congress Reform – 1 Guyana (PNCR-1G).

5.5 Page 5, paragraph 7- Statutory Meeting

- (i) Deletion of the word “deliberation~~s~~” and
- (ii) Insertion of the words “longer and” in the last line.

5.6 Page 5, paragraph 8 – Procedure

- 5.6.1 After the words “*The other four Bills would be considered in the order in which they were laid in the National Assembly*”, add the words;
“The Government’s representatives were of the view that the four Bills should be considered in the order in which they were laid in the National Assembly. However, the Opposition argued that the Bills should be considered as a package, particularly the core Bills No. 21, 22 and 25”.

5.7 Page 5, paragraph 9 – Meetings of the Committee

- (i) Substitution of “eight (8)” for “seven (7)” in line 1 of paragraph 1.
- (ii) Insertion of “and 28th” in the last line of paragraph 1.
- (iii) Deletion of paragraph 2.
- (iv) Insertion of “The Opposition Parties participated in the meetings beginning from 18th June, 2009.

5.8 Page 6, Paragraphs 11 and 12

- 5.8.1 The Committee’s staff was required to re-examine paragraphs 11 and 12 to ensure they were correct.

5.9 Page 6, paragraph 13

- (i) Substitution of the paragraph to read “There was no consensus to subsections 38A (8) and 38A (9).
- (ii) Insertion of the words “The Opposition held the position that the word “Commission” should be substituted for the word “Minister” in subsections 38A (8) and (9).The Government’s side argued that these clauses should remain unchanged.

5.10 Page 6, Paragraph 14

5.10.1 Substitution of the words “The agreed” for the words “details of the”.

5.11 Page 7

5.11.1 Renumber paragraphs 15, 16, 17 and 18 as paragraphs 17, 18, 15 and 16 respectively.

5.12 Page 7, Paragraph 17

5.12. Substitution of paragraph 17 to read “At its meeting held on 28th July, 2009, the Special Select Committee discussed this report on its consideration of this Bill with the proposed amendments and agreed that it should be presented to the National Assembly”.

5.13. Thereafter, the Government Members proposed that the Report should be prepared by the Secretariat, signed by the Minister and be tabled in the National Assembly at the Sitting on Thursday 30th July, 2009.

5.13.1. The Opposition Members were not in agreement with this proposal.

5.14 The meeting ended at 6.10 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.10 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, 4th August, 2009.

Confirmed this 4th day of August, 2009.


.....
The Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P.
Minister of Local Government
Chairman

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006 - 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE
9TH MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE
LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009
BILL NO.22 OF 2009**

**HELD AT 11.10 A.M ON TUESDAY, 4TH AUGUST, 2009
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM NO.2, (GROUND FLOOR, WEST OF
MAIN STAIRWAY),PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM GEORGETOWN**

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)

Chairman (PPP/C (1))

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 4th June, 2009)

(Elected by the Committee on 9th June, 2009)

The Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P.

Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

OTHER MEMBERS

Members from the People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) (5)

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 4th June, 2009)

The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

Minister of Labour

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P.

Ms. Bibi S. Shadick, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, M.P.

Members from the People's National Congress/Reform – 1 Guyana (PNCR – 1G) (3)

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 17th June, 2009)

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P.,

- (Excused)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. - (Absent)

Ms. Amna Ally, M.P. - (Absent)

Members from the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)
(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 4th June, 2009)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P. - (Absent)

Officers

Ms. Jocette Bacchus - Clerk of Committees
Ms. Dellon Adams - Assistant Clerk of Committees
Ms. Koalla Robertson - Assistant Clerk of Committees

Also in Attendance

Mr. Cecil Dhurjon - Chief Parliamentary Counsel

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 11.10 a.m.

ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS

2.1 The Chairman informed the Committee that Ms. Jocette Bacchus would be sitting in for Mr. Oscar Moore, Clerk of Committees

ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:-

- (i) Notice to attend the 9th Meeting dated 30th July, 2009 to be held on Tuesday, 4th August, 2009;
- (ii) Minutes of the 8th Meeting held on Tuesday, 28th July, 2009; and
- (iii) The Municipal and District Councils (Amendment) Bill 2009- Bill No. 26 of 2009

ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 8th MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 28TH July, 2009.

4.1 Page 6, Paragraph 5.13.1

4.1.1 Substitution of the words “with the tabling of the report by itself” for the words “ with this proposal” in line 1.

4.2 Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by Mr. Neendkumar, M.P. and Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P., respectively.

ITEM 5: MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Page, paragraph 4.2.1 – Clause (4), Subsection (3)

5.1.1 The Committee agreed that this paragraph should be reflected in the matrix and the report

5.2 Page 4, paragraph 4.3.2 – Verbatim Report

5.2.1 The Committee is awaiting the Verbatim Report in order to adopt the Minutes of the 7th Meeting.

ITEM 6: TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION BILL 2009- BILL NO. 22 OF 2009

6.1 The Committee proceeded to consider the Draft Report.

6.1.1 The following amendments were made:

6.2 Page 5, Paragraph 9 -Meetings of Committee

(i) Substitution of “nine (9)” for “seven (7)” in line 1 of the paragraph.

(ii) Insertion of “and 4th” in the last line of the paragraph.

6.3 Page 5, Paragraph 11 - Consideration of the Bill

- (i) Insertion of clauses 4 (3), 7 (1) and 12 in line 1.
- (ii) Deletion of the clauses 13 (1), 20, 22 and 30 ((2) (3) and (4) in lines 1 and 2 of the paragraph.
- (iii) Insertion of paragraph 11 (b) which reads “Corrections were made to the Marginal Notes of Clauses 20 and 22.

6.4 Page 5, Paragraph 12

- 6.4.1 Deletion of clauses 4 (3), 6 (1) and (2), 10 (1) and (2) and 13 (3) in lines 1 and 2 of the paragraph.

6.5 Page 5, Paragraph 13

- 6.5.1 Substitution of the paragraph to read “No consensus was reached” to clauses 4 (1), 9 and amended 12.

- 6.6 Thereafter, the Committee agreed that the Report should be amended accordingly, for transmission to the Clerk of the National Assembly, to be tabled in the National Assembly at the sitting on Thursday, 6th August, 2009.

Adjournment

At 12.00 p.m. the meeting was adjourned *sine die*.

(Unconfirmed)