<u>NATIONAL ASSEMBLY</u> MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 53RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2006-2008) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON FRIDAY, 13TH JUNE, 2008

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (70)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Hari N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (41)

(i) <u>People's Progressive Party/Civic (40)</u>

(ii) <u>The United Force (1)</u>

The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P., (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice), Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications (Absent – performing the functions of Office of President)

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

The Hon. Shaik K.Z Baksh, M.P., Minister of Education

The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Foreign Trade and International Co-operation (Absent)

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne) Minister of Health

The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, M.P., (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo), Minister of Foreign Affairs

*The Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance

The Hon. Harry Narine Nawbatt, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

The Hon. Robert M. Persaud, M.P., (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne), Minister of Agriculture

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*Non-elected Minister

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni), Minister of Public Service

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

*The Hon. Doodnauth Singh, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (Absent)

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. B. H. Robeson Benn, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

**The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Minister of Labour (Absent - on leave)

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P., (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice) Minister of Human Services and Social Security (Absent – on leave)

The Hon. Dr. Desrey Fox, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Education

The Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.D., M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health

The Hon. Jennifer I. Webster, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Finance

The Hon. Manniram Prashad, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

*The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P.

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Chief Whip

Ms Bibi S. Shadick, M.P., (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Mr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P.

Mr. Albert A. Atkinson, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)

*Non-Elected Minister **Elected Member from the United Force Ir. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara) (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P., (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent - on leave)

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Mohamed F. Khan, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)

***Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mr. Parmanand P. Persaud, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and Water

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Norman A. Whittaker, M.P., (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Members of the Opposition (28)

(i) <u>Members of People's National Congress Reform-One Guyana (22)</u>

Mr. Robert Corbin, M.P., Leader of the Opposition (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Winston Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent - on Leave)

Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent - on leave)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

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Mr. Anthony Vieira, M.P. (Absent)

5. (iii) Guyana Action Party/Rise Organize and Rebuild (1)

Mr. Everall N. Franklin, M.P. (Absent)

OFFICERS (2)

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

Ms. Hermina Gilgeours, Assistant Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2:32 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER Posting of Profiles of Members of the National Assembly on the Parliamentary Website

The Speaker stated that he had circulated the profiles of the Members of the National Assembly for vetting by the Members before being posted on the Parliamentary Website by the Clerk of the National Assembly. The Speaker requested that the profiles be submitted to the Clerk within a week's time.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS

- (1) By the <u>Minister of Finance</u>:
 - (i) The Ministers, Members of the National Assembly and Special Offices (Emoluments) (No. 2) Order 2008 - No. 32 of 2008

(Circulated)

 (ii) Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) (No. 2) Order 2008 - No. 33 of 2008.

(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Education:

The Upper Corentyne Industrial Training Centre (Board of Governors) Order 2007 – Order No. 13 of 2007.

(Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- (3) By <u>Ms Gail Teixeira</u> M.P., (Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments):
 - Fourth Report of the Committee on Appointments in relation to the Appointment of Members of the Rights of the Child Commission.

(Circulated)

 (ii) Fifth Report of the Committee on Appointments in relation to the Appointment of Members of the Women and Gender Equality Commission.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTION

ITEM1 - IMPACT OF GLOBAL FOOD PRICE INCREASES

At the request of the Minister of Agriculture the following motion was deferred:

WHEREAS globally there is an increase in food prices caused mainly by four factors, namely; increase in the price of fossil fuels, effects of Climate Change, increase in production of bio-fuels, and growing demand for food in large emerging economies;

AND WHEREAS that the increase of food prices, amounting to over 80% over the past year and a half, is having a devastating effect on the supply and affordability of food for populations in both developing and developed nations;

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Ir. Basil Williams, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Amna Ally, M.P.

Mr. Dave Danny, M.P., (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Aubrey C. Norton, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)
Mr. Ernest Barnabas Elliot, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)
Mrs. Judith David-Blair, M.P., (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
Mr. Mervyn Williams, M.P., (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)
Ms Africo Selman, M.P.
Dr. John Austin, M.P., (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)
Ms Jennifer Wade, M.P., (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Ms. Vanessa Kissoon, M.P., (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice) (Absent)

Mr. Desmond Fernandes, M.P., (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)

Mr. James K. Mc Allister, M.P. (Absent)

(ii) <u>Alliance for Change (5)</u>

Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Ms Latchmin Budhan Punalall, M.P., (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

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iii) Guyana Action Party/Rise Organize and Rebuild (1)

Mr. Everall N. Franklin, M.P. (Absent)

OFFICERS (2)

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

Ms Hermina Gilgeours, Assistant Clerk of the National Assembly

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COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.32 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Circulation of Members of Parliament Profile for Parliamentary Website

The Speaker informed Members that their profiles were circulated for them to make any necessary corrections and requested that they submit them to the Clerk within one week.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS

- (1) By the Minister of Finance:
 - (i) The Ministers, Members of the National Assembly and Special Offices (Emoluments) (No. 2) Order 2008 – No. 32 of 2008.

(Circulated)

(ii) The Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) (No. 2) Order 2008 – No. 33 of 2008.

(Circulated)

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By the Minister of Education:

The Upper Corentyne Industrial Training Centre (Board of Governors) Order 2007 – Order No. 13 of 2007.

(Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- (3) By Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P., (Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments):
 - Fourth Report of the Committee on Appointments in relation to the Appointment of Members of the Rights of the Child Commission.

(Circulated)

 (ii) Fifth Report of the Committee on Appointments in relation to the Appointment of Members of the Women and Gender Equality Commission.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTION

(2)

ITEM 1 - **IMPACT OF GLOBAL FOOD PRICE INCREASES**

At the request of the Minister of Agriculture the following motion was deferred:

WHEREAS globally there is an increase in food prices caused mainly by four factors, namely; increase in the price of fossil fuels, effects of Climate Change, increase in production of bio-fuels, and growing demand for food in large emerging economies;

AND WHEREAS that the increase of food prices, amounting to over 80% over the past year and a half, is having a devastating effect on the supply and affordability of food for populations in both developing and developed nations;

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AND WHEREAS that various multilateral and regional institutions, including the Food and Agriculture Organisation, the World Bank, the World Food Programme and CARICOM, have already called for urgent action and heightened collaboration to tackle this global crisis;

AND WHEREAS Guyana, having recognised this crisis and its impact within the CARICOM region, is working with its sister CARICOM partners to transform Guyana into a major player in the development of Food security in the region;

AND WHEREAS the Government has established an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Food Prices tasked with monitoring this emerging situation on a constant basis and to make recommendations on action that may be needed to be taken to cushion the impact on the Guyanese population, especially the poor and vulnerable,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly takes note of the impact of Global rising food prices on the cost of living in Guyana and supports the interventions taken by the Government to cushion the impact of these global price increases on our population, especially for the vulnerable groups;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly undertakes to follow the implementation of these governmental interventions that include increasing the disposable income of ordinary Guyanese; subsidizing the cost of accessing utility services, implementing the Ministry of Agriculture's GROW MORE campaign and its concomitant budgetary interventions; zero-rating of all essential food items, diesel and agricultural inputs; monitoring exports of some essential agricultural commodities to ensure adequate local supply and monitoring of prices and supply of various food commodities; and assistance to singleheaded households;

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly be provided with the deliberations of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Food Prices on a quarterly basis, set up by Cabinet to review the impact of rising food prices on Guyanese and make recommendations intended to cushion the impact;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly recognizes that the situation requires national action, and sustained efforts and engagement with critical sectors and groups to confront this challenge locally and regionally.

(Notice Paper 237 (M69 Govt 41) published on 2008-04-29)

(iii) <u>COMMITTEE BUSINESS</u>

MOTIONS

ITEM 2 - ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF GUYANA FOR THE YEARS 2002 AND 2003

At the request of Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., on behalf of Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P., (Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee) the following motion was <u>deferred</u>:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on its examination of the Public Accounts of Guyana for the years 2002 and 2003, respectively be adopted and refer the Report to the Government for consideration.

(Notice Paper No. 222 (M 60 Opp 18) published on 2008-02-05)

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ITEM 3 - ESTABLISHMENT OF A RIGHTS OF THE CHILD COMMISSION

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P., (Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments) moved the following motion:

WHEREAS Article 212U of the Constitution provides for the establishment of a Rights of the Child Commission;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with Article 212U(2)(a) of the Constitution, the Rights of the Child Commission shall consist of –

- (a) "not less than five nor more than fifteen members, with expertise in issues affecting children, nominated by entities, by a consensual mechanism determined by the National Assembly, after the entities which shall include the Ministry with responsibility for children's affairs, the Ministry of Education, and organizations representing the interests of youth, are determined by the votes not less than two-thirds of all elected members of the National Assembly; and
- (b) A member who shall be a nominee, without the right to vote, chosen by and from each of the following Commissions: the Human Rights Commission, Ethnic Relations Commission, Women and Gender Equality Commission and Indigenous People's Commission."

AND WHEREAS the Committee on Appointments, having deliberated on the identification of the entities for nomination to the Rights of the Child Commission unanimously agreed and proposes that the Commission be comprised of 15 nominations from the list of entities in the First Schedule in the following categories:

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Service 2 Religion 3 Youth 3 Women 3 -Other 1 -1 Ministry of Education -Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security -1 National Commission on Rights of the Child 1

AND WHEREAS the Committee also unanimously agreed on the consensual mechanism to guide the process for consultation and nomination of Members to the said Rights Commission herein at the Second Schedule,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the proposed representation of the abovementioned categories from the list of entities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the entities to nominate Members of the Rights of the Child Commission, in accordance with Article 212U (2)(a) of the Constitution, as set out in the First Schedule attached;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the consensual mechanism, outlined in the Second Schedule attached.

(Notice Paper 238 (M70 PPP/C Private Member No. 7) published on 2008-05-20)

The following Members spoke to the motion: Mrs. Sheila Holder Mrs. Deborah Backer

Thereafter, Ms Gail Teixeira replied.

The motion was then put and carried on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	FOR
Ms Budhan	Mr. Whittaker
Mrs. Holder	Mrs. Sahoye-Shury
Mr. Fernandes	Mr. Parmanand Persaud
Ms Wade	Mr. Nandlall
Ms Selman	Mr. Nagamootoo
Mr. Mervyn Williams	Mr. Khan
Mrs. David-Blair	Mrs. Edwards
Mr. Elliot	Mr. Atkinson
Mr. Norton	Mr. Ali
Mr. Danny	Ms Shadick
Miss Ally	Mrs. Chandarpal
Mr. Scott	Mr. Nokta
Dr. Norton	Ms Teixeira
Mr. Basil Williams	Mr. Ramotar
Mrs. Backer	Mr. Prashad
Mrs. Riehl	Ms Webster
	Dr. Ramsaran
	Dr. Fox

Mr. Benn

Dr. Anthony

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Mr. Lall Dr. Westford Mr. Robert Persaud Mr. Nawbatt Mrs. Rodrigues-Birkett Dr. Ramsammy Mr. Baksh Mr. Baksh Mr. Rohee Mr. Hinds

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ITEM 4 - ESTABLISHMENT OF A WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY COMMISSION

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P., (Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments) moved the following motion:

WHEREAS, Article 212Q of the Constitution provides for the establishment of a Women and Gender Equality Commission;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with Article 212Q(2)(a) of the Constitution, the Women and Gender Equality Commission shall consist of –

- (a) "not less than five nor more than fifteen Members, with expertise in women's and gender equality issues, nominated by entities, by a consensual mechanism determined by the National Assembly, after the entities which shall include the Women's Advisory Committee of the Trade Union Congress, are determined by the votes of not less than two-thirds of all the elected Members of the National Assembly; and
- (b) the Administrator of the Women's Affairs Bureau, by whatever name that office is designated; and

(c) a Member who shall be a nominee, without the right to vote, chosen by and from each of the following Commissions: the Human Rights Commission, Ethnic Relations Commission, Indigenous People's Commission and Rights of the Child Commission."

AND WHEREAS the Committee on Appointments, having deliberated on the identification of the entities for nomination to the Women and Gender Equality Commission unanimously agreed and proposes that the Commission be comprised of 15 nominations as provided for in (a) from the list of entities in the First Schedule in the following categories:

Women	-	3
Professional Bodies	-	1
Private Sector	-	1
Labour Movement	- 201 8	2
TUC Women's Advisory Council	-	1
Cultural/Ethnic	-	2
Regional Representative from 10 WAC	<u> </u>	3
Women's Progressive Organisation	-	1
National Congress of Women	-	1

(b) Administrator of the Women's Affairs Bureau

AND WHEREAS the Committee also unanimously agreed on the consensual mechanism to guide the process for consultation and nomination of Members to the said Women and Gender Equality Commission herein at the Second Schedule;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the proposed representation of the abovementioned categories from the list of entities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the entities to nominate Members of the Women and Gender Equality Commission, in accordance with Article 212Q(2)(a) of the Constitution, as set out in the First Schedule attached;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the consensual mechanism, outlined in the Second Schedule attached.

(Notice Paper 239 (M71 PPP/C Private Member No. 8) published on 2008-05-29)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mrs. Sheila Holder Ms Amna Ally

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Thereafter Ms Gail Teixeira replied.

The motion was then put and carried on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	FOR
Mr. Patterson	Mr. Whittaker
Ms Budhan	Mrs. Sahoye-Shury
Mrs. Holder	Mr. Parmanand Persaud
Mr. Fernandes	Mr. Nandlall
Ms Wade	Mr. Nagamootoo
Dr. Austin	Mr. Khan
Ms Selman	Mrs. Edwards
Mr. Mervyn Williams	Mr. Atkinson
Mrs. David-Blair	Mr. Ali
Mr. Elliot	Ms Shadick
Mr. Norton	

Mr. Danny Miss Ally Mr. Scott Dr. Norton Mr. Basil Williams Mrs. Backer Mrs. Riehl

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Mrs. Chandarpal Mr. Nokta Ms Teixeira Mr. Ramotar Mr. Prashad Ms Webster Dr. Ramsaran Dr. Fox Mr. Benn Dr. Anthony Mr. Lall Dr. Westford Mr. Robert Persaud Mr. Nawbatt Mrs. Rodrigues-Birkett Dr. Ramsammy Mr. Baksh Mr. Rohee Mr. Hinds

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At 3.25 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 26th June, 2008.

STUR an learn an

HON. HARI N. RAMKARRAN, S.C., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,

Public Buildings,

Brickdam.

13th June, 2008.

APPENDIX I

STANDING COMMITTEE TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF COMMISSIONS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 119C OF THE CONSTITUTION (FIRST SCHEDULE)

Proposed entities to be consulted for the Nomination of Members of the Rights of the Child Commission

SERVICE

Community Based Rehabilitation Programme

Friends of the Needy Georgetown Legal Aid Clinic Guyana Girl Guides Association Guyana Lions District Governor Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association Help and Shelter Kids First Foundation Radio Needy Children's Fund Rotary District Governor Salvation Army Scouts Association of Guyana The Guyana Red Cross Society Young Men's Christian Association Young Women Christian Association

RELIGION

Central Islamic Organisation of Guyana Guyana Hindu Dharmic Sabha Guyana Council of Churches

WOMEN

AFC Women's Arm Anglican Mothers' Union Central Islamic Organisation of Guyana (Women's arm) Church Women United Congregational Women's Union Federation of AME Women Guyana Association of Women's Lawyers Guyana Federation of Women Institutes Guyana Hindu Dharmic Sabha- Mahila Mandale Guyana Nurses' Association Guyanese Women in Development (GUYWID) Lutheran Church Women Methodist Women's League National Commission on Women National Congress of Women Police Wives' Association Red Thread Women's Development Project Rural Women's Development Network The United Force Women's Auxillary TUC Women's Advisory Council Women Across Differences Women's Progressive Organisation

OTHER

African Cultural Development Association Amerindian People's Association Guyana Association of Professional Social Workers Guyana Human Rights' Association Guyanese Organisation of Indigenous Peoples Indian Arrival Committee Ministry of Health

YOUTH

AFC Youth Arm Central Baptist Youth Fellowship Church of Christ Youth Group Dharmic Naujawan (Dharmic Youth) Diocesan Youth Centre Full Gospel Youth Fellowship Gandhi Youth Organisation Guyana Congregational Young People's Union Guyana Junior Chamber (Jaycee) Guyana Network of Schools Health Clubs Guyana Youth Challenge Guyana Youth Development Association Guyana Youth and Student Movement Hauraruni Full Gospel Youth Training Centre Hinterland Students Council Methodist Youth Club Moravian Youth Club Muslim Youth Organisation National Youth Commission President's Youth Award: Republic of Guyana Progressive Youth Organisation Rights of the Child Roman Catholic Youth Office Seventh Day Adventist Pathfinders The United Force Youth Arm Trade's Union Youth Movement University of Guyana Student's Society Volunteer Youth Corps Working People's Alliance Youth Organisation Youth Ambassadors First Assembly of God

National Amerindian Development Fund National Commission on Disabilities The Amerindian Association of Guyana The Rastafarian Council

SECOND SCHEDULE

Consensual Mechanism for the Nomination by Entities for Members of the Rights of the Child Commission

All the Entities in each Group, immediately on the passage of this motion, shall be written to by the Clerk of the National Assembly inviting them to meet as a group, to select their nominees and to send a representative/s on an appointed day/date, time to appear before the Parliamentary Standing Committee to Appoint Members of Commissions, at the Parliament Buildings to present the name/s of their nominee/s for Membership on the Rights of the Child Commission.

A deadline shall be set by the Clerk of the National Assembly on the advice of the Standing Committee, by which time it would be formally notified of the names and other requested particulars of the Nominee/s, the process used for the selection of the Nominee/s by the entity, and a statement to the effect that the Nominee/s is/are supported and accepted by that entity.

The Nominee/s chosen to represent the Group must be person/s who are competent to contribute positively to the work of the Commission and who are committed to ensuring that it discharges all of its functions. They should have earned public respect and be of unquestionable honesty and integrity.

The process used must be demonstrated to be unbiased and transparent. It is important that the Nominee/s obtain the unquestioned support and acceptance of the Entity nominating them as well as the Entities within the Group.

Where there is a recognized "*umbrella organization*" in the list of entities for that Group, the Clerk shall write to that organization and copy his letter to each of the "*constituent entities*" within the Group.

APPENDIX II

FIRST SCHEDULE

Group and Entities within each Group to Nominate Members of the Women and Gender Equality Commission

Women Bodies

AFC Women's Arm

Anglican Mothers' Union

Central Islamic Organisation of Guyana (Women's arm)

Church Women United

Congregational Women's Union

Federation of AME Women

Guyana Federation of Women Institutes

Guyana Hindu Dharmic Sabha- Mahila Mandale

Guyanese Women in Development (GUYWID)

Lutheran Church Women

Methodist Women's League

National Commission on Women

National Congress of Women

Police Wives' Association

Red Thread Women's Development Project

Rural Women's Development Network

The Salvation Army Women's League

The United Force Women's Auxillary

Women Across Differences

Women's Progressive Organisation

Young Women's Christian Association of Guyana

(a) Regional Women's Affairs Committees

Regions 1 - 10

(b) Administrative Women's Affairs Bureau

Trade Union Congress - Women's Advisory Committee

Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union

Clerical and Commercial Workers' Union

General Workers' Union

Guyana Agricultural Workers' Union

Guyana Labour Union

Guyana Local Government and Officers' Union

Guyana Postal and Telecommunication Workers' Union

Guyana Public Service Union

Guyana Teachers Union

National Mining and General Workers' Union

Printing Industry and Allied Workers' Union

Union of Agricultural & Allied Workers

The Labour Movement

Amalgamated Transport and General Workers Union (AT&GWU) Association of Masters and Mistresses (AMM) Clerical & Commercial Workers Union (CCWU) Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Guyana General Workers Union (GWU) Guyana Agricultural & General Workers' Union (GAWU) Guyana Bauxite and General Workers Union (GBSU) Guyana Labour Union (GLU) Guyana Local Government Officer's Union (GLGOU) Guyana Mining, Metal and General Workers Union (GMMGWU) Guyana Postal and Telecommunications Workers Union (GP&TWU) Guyana Public Service Senior Staff Association (GPSSA) Guyana Public Service Union (GPSU) Guyana Teachers Union (GTU) Guyana Trade Unions Congress (GTUC) National Association of Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial Employees (NAACIE) National Mining and General Workers Union (NM&GWU) National Union of Public Service Employees (NUPSE) Printing Industry Allied Workers Union (PIAWU) Union of Agricultural & Allied Workers (UAAW) University of Guyana Senior Staff Association (UGSSA) University of Guyana Workers Union (UGWU)

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Private Business Sector Bodies

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Association of Non-traditional Exporters Association of Regional Chambers of Commerce Bankers' Association of Guyana Bartica Chamber of Commerce Berbice Chambers of Commerce and Development Association Consultative Association of Guyanese Industry Corentyne Chamber of Commerce Essequibo Chambers of Commerce Georgetown Chambers of Commerce and Industry Guyana Forest Products Association Guyana Gold and Diamond Miners Association Guyana Manufacturers and Services Association Guyana Private Sector Commission Guyana Rice Millers and Exporters Development Association Guyana Rice Producers Association Guyana Trawlers and Seafood Processors Linden Chamber of Commerce New Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce Private Aircraft Owners Association of Guyana Rupununi Chamber of Commerce Shipping Association of Guyana The Tourism and Hospitality Association of Guyana

Professional Group

Guyana Association of Chartered Accountants

Guyana Association of Medical Laboratories Professionals

Guyana Association of Optometrists

Guyana Association of Professional Engineers

Guyana Association of Professional Social Workers

Guyana Association of Women Lawyers

Guyana Association of Women's Artists

Guyana Bar Association

Guyana Dental Association

Guyana Medical Association

Guyana Nurses Association

Guyana Pharmacists' Association

Guyana Press Association

The Berbice Medical Association

Cultural/Ethnic

African Cultural and Development Association Amerindian People's Association Guyanese Organisation of Indigenous Peoples Indian Arrival Committee National Amerindian Development Fund National Toshaos Council The Amerindian Association of Guyana The Rastafarian Council