

CHAPTER 250.

BRITISH GUIANA RICE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION.

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CHAPTER 250.

BRITISH GUIANA RICE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

7 of 1946.
38 of 1952.

An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of the British Guiana Rice Producers Association and for purposes connected therewith.

[14TH SEPTEMBER, 1946]

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the British Guiana Rice Producers Association Ordinance.

Interpretation.

2. In this Ordinance unless the context otherwise requires—
 “ Association ” means the British Guiana Rice Producers Association established under this Ordinance;
 “ Committee ” means a Committee established under this Ordinance for the management of the affairs of a District Association;
 “ the Council ” means the Council established under this Ordinance for the management of the affairs of the Association;
 “ district ” means one of the districts into which the Colony is sub-divided for the purposes of this Ordinance;
 “ District Association ” means an Association of rice producers constituted in a district for the purposes of this Ordinance;
 “ industry ” means the rice industry of the Colony;
 “ rice producer ” has the meaning assigned to it in section

2 of the Rice Marketing Ordinance, as amended from time to time; Cap. 249.

“ the regulations ” means regulations made under section 8 of this Ordinance.

3. It shall be lawful for the Governor, by proclamation published in the Gazette, to declare that the rice producers of the Colony for the time being shall collectively be a body corporate by the name of the British Guiana Rice Producers Association, and upon that proclamation the said rice producers by the said name shall become a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to acquire, hold and dispose of movable and immovable property, to sue and be sued in all courts of law or equity and to take all manner of proceedings before all magistrates.

Establishment of the Association.

4. The functions of the Association shall be the performance of any of the following services—

Functions of the Association.

(a) the protection, promotion and advancement of the interests of rice producers generally;

(b) the proposal of any measures including co-operative schemes of all kinds conducive to the maintenance or extension of production in the industry;

(c) representing rice producers on the British Guiana Rice Marketing Board through and by means of members of the Council appointed by the Governor to be members of the said Board in manner provided by section 4 of the Rice Marketing Ordinance.

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(d) making representations to the Governor concerning any matter affecting production in the industry, the operations of the Rice Marketing Board and the interests of rice producers generally; and

(e) inquiring into and reporting on any questions relating to the industry which may be referred to it by the Governor or by any body lawfully concerned with any phase of the industry, and advising on any matter connected therewith.

5. (1) The management of the affairs of the Association shall be vested in a Council.

Management of affairs of Association vested in a Council.

(2) The members of the Council shall be twenty-four rice producers elected as hereinafter provided, of whom not less than nine shall be rice farmers, not less than five shall be manufacturers and not less than four shall be landlords.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, the members of the Council shall be elected by, and at a meeting of, electors appointed for the purpose by the Committees of the District Associations in accordance with the provisions of the regulations.

(4) From the members so elected, the Council shall at its first meeting elect as officers thereof a President and two Vice-Presidents and shall forthwith report to the Governor the names of the members and of the officers of the Council.

(5) The Council so constituted shall remain in office for two years from the date of its election and shall in like manner be reconstituted every two years.

(6) The Council shall have power to fill any vacancy therein in respect of a member or an officer of the Council occasioned by death, resignation or any other cause.

(7) The Council shall meet at least once in every three months.

(8) The seat of a member of the Council shall become vacant if—

(a) he fails to attend three consecutive quarterly meetings of the Council; or

(b) he becomes insolvent; or

(c) he suffers any term of imprisonment for any offence whatever.

(9) The Council may appoint some fit and proper person to be General Secretary of the Association and may pay him out of the funds of the Association such remuneration as it considers adequate.

(10) The General Secretary shall not be dismissed by the Council without the approval of the Governor.

6. (1) The Council shall, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, subdivide the Colony into districts for the purposes of this Ordinance, and the rice producers in each of the districts so created shall constitute a District Association and be the members thereof.

(2) The Council may, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, at any time and from time to time alter the boundaries of any district or make a new sub-division of the Colony into districts and the rice producers in each of the districts so created shall constitute a District Association and be the members thereof.

(3) The management of the affairs of a District Association shall be vested in a Committee consisting of six members, being—

- (a) a Chairman;
- (b) a Vice-Chairman;
- (c) a Secretary; and
- (d) three other members of the District Association.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, a Committee shall be elected by each District Association at a general meeting of the members thereof held annually, and the members of a committee shall hold office until the election of another committee at the next succeeding annual general meeting of the District Association.

(5) A Committee shall meet at least once in every three months.

(6) The seat of a member of the Committee shall become vacant if—

- (a) he fails to attend three consecutive quarterly meetings of the Council; or
- (b) he becomes insolvent; or
- (c) he suffers any term of imprisonment for any offence whatever.

(7) A Committee shall have power to fill a vacancy which has occurred therein between one annual general meeting and another from death, resignation or any other cause.

7. A Committee may with respect to its own district perform any of the functions of the Association under paragraphs (b) and (d) of section 4 of this Ordinance, but the decision of a Committee on any measure to be proposed under paragraph (b) or any representation to be made under paragraph (d) shall be communicated through and by the Council.

Functions of
Committee.

8. (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations generally for the purpose of giving effect to this Ordinance.

Power to
make
regulations.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by subsection (1) of this section, the Governor in Council may in particular make regulations for the following purposes—

- (a) regulating the registration of members of a District Association;

(b) providing the mode of electing members of the Council or of a Committee;

(c) fixing the quorum and prescribing the times of and the procedure at meetings of the Council, a District Association and a Committee;

(d) prescribing the duties of the officers of the Council and of the officers of a Committee;

(e) prescribing the duties of the General Secretary of the Association;

(f) prescribing the records, books and accounts which shall be kept by the Council or a Committee; and

(g) prescribing the mode of authentication of any document by the Council, a District Association or a Committee and of service of documents on the Council, a District Association or a Committee.

Finance and
accounts.

9. (1) The funds of the Association shall consist of money paid by rice producers to the District Associations of which they are members as registration fees prescribed by the regulations and of such annual grants as may be made to the Association pursuant to the Rice Marketing Ordinance.

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(2) The said registration fees shall be paid to and retained by the Committee of each District Association.

(3) The said annual grant as aforesaid shall be paid to the Council which may allocate and pay to each Committee such proportion thereof as the Council may think fit.

(4) The funds of the Association shall be appropriated to the purposes of this Ordinance, and the Council and every Committee may pay and defray all expenses lawfully incurred by them out of any money granted or allocated to or received by them.

(5) The reasonable travelling expenses and subsistence allowances incurred by members of the Council in attending meetings of the Council, or by electors appointed by a Committee in attending a meeting to elect the Council, shall be paid by the Council or a Committee respectively out of its funds.

(6) The Council shall have power to open and operate a current or savings account with any bank in the Colony and any cheque or other order for the payment of money shall be signed by any officer of the Council and countersigned by the General Secretary.

(7) The Council shall keep such books and accounts as may be necessary to record its receipts and payments and shall, on or before the 31st March in each year, transmit to the Chief Secretary a statement of its transactions to the 31st December in the year last past, which statement shall be audited by an auditor qualified under subsection (8) of section 109 of the Companies Ordinance and published in the Gazette.

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10. (1) The members of the first Council and its officers shall be appointed by the Governor, and they shall remain in office and perform all the functions of the Council until the Council has been elected in manner provided by subsection (3) of section 5 of this Ordinance.

Transitional provisions.

(2) Until the Colony shall be sub-divided into districts as provided by subsection (1) of section 6 of this Ordinance, the Council appointed pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall create such and so many districts as it may think fit, and the rice producers in each such district shall collectively constitute a District Association and be the members thereof.

(3) The Governor may, on the recommendation of the Council appointed pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, appoint the Committee for the management of the affairs of each District Association constituted under subsection (2) of this section and every such Committee shall remain in office and shall perform all the functions of a Committee until a Committee has been elected under section 6 of this Ordinance.
