

**TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA**

**FIRST SESSION (2012 - 2013)**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 55**

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Co-operative of Guyana prescribes at Article 40(1) that “Every person in Guyana is entitled to the basic right to a happy, creative and productive life, free from hunger, ignorance and want;”

AND WHEREAS several persons have been robbed of their potentially “happy, creative and productive” lives by suffering injury, pain and discomfort; by being killed, or losing personal possessions and property as a result of accidents caused by negligence or as a result of deliberate acts on this country’s waterways or coastal waters;

AND WHEREAS it is apparent that riverine traffic is increasing in volume, composition and complexity; that there is competing use of the waterways between riverine villagers who are obliged to rely on boats, sometimes canoes, corials and balahoos to go about their daily lives and other users including barges and tugs carrying commodities and other vessels involved in trade;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03, “The President may issue a commission appointing one or more Commissioners and authorising such Commissioner or Commissioners to inquire into any matter in which an inquiry would, in the opinion of the President, be for the public welfare;”

2.

RESOVLED,

That the National Assembly declares its concern over the incidence of maritime and riverine incidents, especially those which result in the loss of human life; expresses its sympathy with the victims – and to the families of the victims – of maritime and riverine accidents and asserts the responsibility of the State to protect all of its citizens; and

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the National Assembly calls upon the President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03, to appoint a Commission of Inquiry to inquire into maritime and riverine incidents which have occurred since 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1999, to determine the extent of such incidents and to make recommendations for safe travel and the protection of life on this country's waterways and coastal waters.

*Passed by the National Assembly on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2013.*

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**S.E. ISAACS**  
**Clerk of the National Assembly**