

TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA
FIRST SESSION (2012 - 2014)
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

RESOLUTION NO. 68

WHEREAS Article 212A of the Constitution provides for the establishment of an Ethnic Relations Commission;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with Article 212 B (1) of the Constitution, the Ethnic Relations Commission shall consist of –

- (a) *“not less than five nor more than fifteen members, nominated by entities, by a consensual mechanism determined by the National Assembly, including entities, representative of religious bodies, the labour movement, the private business sector, youth and women, after the entities are determined by the votes not less than two-thirds of all elected members of the National Assembly;*

- (b) *a member who shall be a nominee, without the right to vote, chosen by and from each of the following commissions to be established under this Constitution, Indigenous Peoples’ Commission, Women and Gender Equality Commission, Commission for the Rights of the Child and Human Rights Commission.”*

AND WHEREAS the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Appointments (COA) examined the list of entities to nominate members to the Ethnic Relations Commission in accordance with article 212 B (1)(a) of the Constitution, and Resolution No. 62 of 2000 with regard to the number of members on the said Commission;

2.

AND WHEREAS the Parliamentary Committee on Appointments recommends that the number of members on the Ethnic Relations Commission be increased to ten (10) and the categories or groups include the representatives of the Christian, Hindu, and Muslim bodies, the labour movement, the private business sector, youth and women and a new category “Cultural/Ethnic” with one nominee each from the three (3) largest ethnic groups: Indo-Guyanese, Afro-Guyanese and Indigenous/Amerindian.

RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly approves the increase in the number of members on the Ethnic Relations Commission from seven (7) to ten (10) as proposed by the Committee on Appointments;

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly approves of the inclusion of a new category “**Cultural/Ethnic**” with the right to have three (3) members, one representative each of the three largest ethnic groups;

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly approves the list of entities on the attached First Schedule in accordance with Article 212 (B)(1)(a);

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly approves that the number of nominees for each group of entities be as follows:-

Groups of Entities	Number of Members
Christian Religion	One Member
Hindu Religion	One Member

3.

Muslim Religion	One Member
Labour Movement	One Member
Private Sector Organisations	One Member
Youth Organisations	One Member
Women Organisations	One Member
Cultural/Ethnic Organisations	
- Indo-Guyanese	One Member
- Afro-Guyanese	One Member
- Indigenous/Amerindian	One Member

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly approves the consensual mechanism for the nomination of the members by the entities as set out in the Second Schedule attached.

Passed by the National Assembly on Monday, 10th February, 2014.

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S.E. ISAACS

Clerk of the National Assembly

AMENDED

SECOND SCHEDULE

Consensual Mechanism for the Nomination by Entities for members of the Ethnic Relations Commission

All the Entities in each Group, immediately on the passage of this motion, should 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 the Commissions, at the Parliament Buildings to present the name/s of their nominee/s for Membership on the Ethnic Relations Commission.

A deadline shall be set by the Clerk of the National Assembly on advice by 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 a person/s who is competent to contribute positively to the work of the Commission and who is/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.

