

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER**

**FOR THE 51<sup>ST</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION**

**(2006 - 2008) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD**

**AT 2.00 P.M.**

**ON THURSDAY, 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2008**

**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

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**SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS FOR SITTING**

**(ii) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**\*10. ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE MADE AGAINST THE JOINT SERVICES OF GUYANA**

Mr. Aubrey Norton, M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS Guyana is a Party to the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

AND WHEREAS the Convention against Torture prohibits the use of torture in any circumstance;

AND WHEREAS there have been allegations of torture made against the Joint Services in Guyana by Messrs. Patrick Sumner, Victor Jones, David Leander, Michael Dunn, Alvin Wilson and Sharth Robertson;

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\*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

AND WHEREAS the Convention makes it mandatory that State Parties to the Convention “*take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent acts of torture*”;

AND WHEREAS Article 12 of the Convention mandates State Parties to “*ensure that any individual who alleges he has been subjected to torture in any territory under its jurisdiction has the right to complain to and to have his case promptly and impartially examined by its competent authorities*”;

AND WHEREAS it is the responsibility of a State Party to the Convention to “*ensure that education and information regarding the prohibition against torture are fully included in the training of law enforcement personnel, civil or military, medical personnel, public officials and other persons who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment*”;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its legal obligations under Article 12 of the Convention and establish an impartial and independent commission to examine and investigate the allegations of torture made against the Joint Services in Guyana;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its legal obligations under Article 13 of the Convention by ensuring that steps “*be taken to ensure that the complainant and witnesses are protected against all ill-treatment or intimidation as a consequence of his complaint or any evidence given*”;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its legal obligations under Article 4(2) of the Convention by enacting the necessary legislation to make torture an offence;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its legal obligations under Article 14 of the Convention by ensuring that persons found to have been tortured are compensated; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its legal obligations under Article 10 of the Convention by ensuring that public officials are made aware that all forms of torture are prohibited.

**(Notice Paper No. 215 (M 59 Opp 17) published on 2008-02-01)**

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

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Brickdam.**

**27<sup>th</sup> March, 2008.**