**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE**

**TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2011-2013)**

**REPORT OF**

**THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE**

**ON THE DEEDS REGISTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012**

**(BILL NO. 11 OF 2012)**

**PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**BY**

**THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE**

**ON**

 **18TH JULY, 2013**

**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE ON THE DEEDS REGISTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 (BILL NO. 11 OF 2012)**

**Publication**

1. AN ACT to amend the Deeds Registry Act. This Bill was published on 10th July, 2012.

**Introduction, First and Second Readings**

1. The Bill was introduced in the National Assembly and read a first time on 12th

July, 2012. It was then debated and read a second time on 2nd August, 2012.

**Committal to Select Committee**

1. Following its second reading, the Bill was committed to a Special Select Committee, by the National Assembly, for consideration.

**Members of the Committee**

1. At a meeting held on the 18th October, 2012, the Committee of Selection nominated

 the following Members to comprise the Special Select Committee to consider the Deeds

 Registry (Amendment) Bill 2012- Bill No. 11 of 2012.

**Members of the People’s Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) (4)**

Hon. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.,

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Hon. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P.,

Minister of Housing and Water

Bibi Safora Shadick, M.P.

Mr. Faizal M. Jaffarally, M.P.

**Members of A Partnership for National Unity (APNU) (4)**

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., Deputy Speaker

Lt. Col. (Ret’d) Joseph Harmon, M.S.M., M.P.

Mr. Winston Felix, D.S.M., M.P.

**Members of the Alliance For Change**

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P.

**First Meeting of the Committee - Election of Chairperson**

1. At its first meeting held on 28th November, 2012, the Committee elected the Hon. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs as Chairperson of the Special Select Committee.

**Other Meetings of the Committee**

1. The Committee met on six other occasions as follows:

Wednesday, 6th February, 2013

Wednesday, 20th February, 2013

Wednesday, 13th March, 2013

Wednesday, 20th March, 2013

Friday, 07th June, 2013

Monday, 15th July, 2013

***See Appendix i for the complete Minutes of the Meetings of the Committee***

**Consultation Process**

1. The Committee, via the Attorney General’s Chambers, invited several legal fraternities (Guyana Association of Women Lawyers, Berbice Bar Association and Guyana Bar Association) to share their views on the Bill. However, only the Guyana Bar Association (GBA) submitted a response.
2. After considering the expansive submission, the Committee was of the view that it would be mutually beneficial to engage the members of the Guyana Bar Association in a discussion on the written submission and subsequently invited representatives of the Guyana Bar Association.
3. The Committee met with Mr. Mohamed S.G.F Khan and Mr. Kashir A. Khan, President and Member of the Guyana Bar Association, respectively, on three occasions and had extensive discussions, along with the Chief Parliamentary Counsel, in an effort to arrive at consensus on acceptance of the amendments proposed by the (GBA). ***See Appendix ii for Submission***

**Consideration of the Bill**

1. The Committee considered the Bill and made amendments as follows:
* Amendment of Section 7 of the Principal Act;
* Insertion of new Section 22A in the Principal Act;
* Insertion of Form 3 in the Third Schedule of the Principal Act; and
* Amendment of the Explanatory Memorandum.

 ***See Appendix iii for Amended Bill***

**Report of the Special Select Committee**

1. At its Meeting held on Monday, 15th July, 2013, the Special Select Committee on the Deeds Registry Amendment Bill 2012 (Bill No. 11 of 2012), agreed that this Report, on its consideration of the Bill, should be presented to the National Assembly.

**Verbatim Record**

1. The Verbatim Records of Proceedings of the Committee would be available at the Parliament Office.

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The Hon. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.,

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs,

Chairperson

*Committee Division*

*Parliament Office*

*Public Buildings*

*Brickdam, Stabroek*

 *Georgetown*

*15th July, 2013*