

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 62ND SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2020-2023) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 10.00 A.M.
ON THURSDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY, 2023,
IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,
LILIENDAAL, GREATER GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (71)

Speaker (1)

*Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (38)

Peoples Progressive Party Civic (38)

Prime Minister (1)

Hon. Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark A. Phillips, M.S.S., M.P., Prime Minister

Vice-President (1)

Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Vice-President (Absent on – Leave)

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (1)

Hon. Mohabir A. Nandlall, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Senior Ministers (17)

Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni), Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and Government Chief Whip

Hon. Hugh H. Todd, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Virtual-Participation)

*Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance

Hon. Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., Minister of Public Works

***Non-Elected Member**

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2.

Hon. Dr. Frank C. S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Health

Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara),
Minister of Education

*Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne), Minister of
Agriculture

Hon. Pauline R.A. Campbell-Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs (Virtual –
Participation)

Hon. Joseph L.F. Hamilton, M.P., Minister of Labour

Hon. Vickram O. Bharrat, M.P., Minister of Natural Resources

*Hon. Oneidge Walrond, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

Hon. Nigel D. Dharamlall, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam), Minister of Local
Government and Regional Development (Virtual-Participation)

Hon. Collin D. Croal, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini), Minister of Housing and Water

Hon. Vindhya V. H. Persaud, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of
Human Services and Social Security

Hon. Charles S. Ramson, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Hon. Sonia S. Parag, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

Junior Ministers (4)

Hon. Susan M. Rodrigues, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister within the
Ministry of Housing and Water

Hon. Deodat Indar, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Public Works

Hon. Anand Persaud, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Local Government and Regional
Development

Hon. Warren K.E. McCoy, M.P., Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister

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***Non-Elected Member**

3.

Other Members (14)

Hon. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Hon. Alister S. Charlie, M.P. (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

Hon. Dr. Vishwa D.B. Mahadeo, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Hon. Sanjeev J. Datadin, M.P.

Hon. Seepaul Narine, M.P.

Hon. Yvonne Pearson-Fredericks, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.

Hon. Faizal M. Jaffarally, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Hon. Dr. Tandika S. Smith, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Hon. Lee G.H. Williams, M.P.

*Hon. Sarah Browne, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
(Absent – on leave)

*Hon. Vikash Ramkissoon, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture
(Absent- on leave)

Hon. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION (32)

(i) A Partnership For National Unity + Alliance For Change (APNU/AFC) (31)

Hon. Aubrey Norton M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Hon. Roysdale A. Forde, S.C., M.P. (Absent)

Hon. Shurwayne F.K. Holder, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Hon. Catherine A. Hughes, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Hon. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

Hon. Sherod A. Duncan, M.P.

Hon. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

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***Non-Elected Member**

4.

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
Hon. Christopher A. Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip
Hon. Vinceroy H. Jordan, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)
Hon. Amanza O.R. Walton-Desir, M.P.
Hon. Coretta A. McDonald, A.A., M.P. (Virtual – Participation)
Hon. Deonarine Ramsaroop, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)
Hon. Vincent P. Henry, M.P.
Hon. Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P.
Hon. Tabitha J. Sarabo-Halley, M.P.
Hon. Natasha Singh-Lewis, M.P.
Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.
Hon. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P.
Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P. (Virtual-Participation)
Hon. Ronald Cox, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)
Hon. Jermaine A. Figueira, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)
Hon. Ganesh A. Mahipaul, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
Hon. Haimraj B. Rajkumar, M.P. (Absent)
Hon. Nima N. Flue-Bess, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)
Hon. Dineshwar N. Jaiprashad, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)
Hon. Maureen A. Philadelphia, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)
Hon. Beverley Alert, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)
Hon. Richard E. Sinclair, M.P. (Region No. 8 –Potaro/Siparuni)
Hon. Devin L. Sears, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

A New and United Guyana, Liberty and Justice Party and The New Movement (ANUG, LJP & TNM) (1)

Hon. Lenox R. O’Dell Shuman, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Officers (2)

Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

Ms. Hermina Gilgeours, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 10.15 a.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk led in Prayers.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

By the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance:

- (i) Value-Added Tax (Amendment of Schedule II) Order 2023 – No. 10 of 2023.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Facility Agreement dated December 30,2022 between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Bank of China Ltd., for an amount equivalent to Euros 160,852,464.00, to partially finance the New Demerara River Bridge (NDRB) Project.

(Circulated)

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS-

Dissatisfaction and Displeasure with the behaviour of some Members of Parliament

Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P., made a personal statement re. the dissatisfaction and displeasure with the behaviour of some Members of Parliament in the House during the consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for 2023.

6.

Resignation of Mr. Alanzo Scipio, Assistant Production Technician, Parliament Office

The Speaker informed Members that Mr. Alanzo Scipio, Assistant Production Technician of the Parliament Office resigned from the Parliament Office. The Speaker, on behalf of Members of the Assembly, the staff of the Parliament Office and himself expressed best wishes to Mr. Alanzo Scipio in his future endeavours.

Welcome Students of Camille's Academy

The Speaker extended a warm welcome to the students of Camille's Academy who were present in the gallery that day.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS

MOTIONS

ITEM1 - BUDGET SPEECH 2023 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2023

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2023.

(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance on 2023-01-16)

In Committee of Supply

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

47 – MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Current Expenditure

471 Policy Development and Administration

7.

Capital Expenditure

471 Policy Development and Administration

Current Expenditure

472 Disease Control

Capital Expenditure

472 Disease Control

Current Expenditure

473 Family and Primary Health Care Services

Capital Expenditure

473 Family and Primary Health Care Services

Current Expenditure

474 Regional and Clinical Services

Capital Expenditure

474 Regional and Clinical Services

Current Expenditure

475 Health Sciences Education

Capital Expenditure

475 Health Sciences Education

8.

Current Expenditure

476 Standards and Technical Services

Capital Expenditure

476 Standards and Technical Services

Current Expenditure

477 Disability and Rehabilitation Services

Capital Expenditure

477 Disability and Rehabilitation Services

Current Expenditure

478 Disease Control – Non – Communicable Diseases

Capital Expenditure

478 Disease Control – Non – Communicable Diseases

51 – MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Current Expenditure

511 Policy Development and Administration

Capital Expenditure

511 Policy Development and Administration

Current Expenditure

512 Guyana Police Force

Capital Expenditure

512 Guyana Police Force

9.

Current Expenditure

513 Guyana Prison Service

Capital Expenditure

513 Guyana Prison Service

Current Expenditure

515 Guyana Fire Service

Capital Expenditure

515 Guyana Fire Service

Current Expenditure

516 General Registrar Office

Capital Expenditure

516 General Registrar Office

Current Expenditure

517 Customs Anti -Narcotics Unit

Capital Expenditure

517 Customs Anti -Narcotics Unit

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 1.06 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 2.19 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

In Committee of Supply

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

03 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Current Expenditure

031 Policy and Administration

Capital Expenditure

031 Policy and Administration

Current Expenditure

032 Public Financial Management Policies and Services

Capital Expenditure

032 Public Financial Management Policies and Services

Assembly resumed.

ITEM 2 – CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 4/2022 – CAPITAL ESTIMATES

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance signified the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 4/2022 – Supplementary Estimates (Capital) – Advances made from the Contingency Fund totalling \$3,812,999,559 for the period 2022-11-30 to 2022-12-31.

(Notice Paper No. 233 (M 55 Govt.29) published on 2023-01-16)

(Paper presented on 2023-01-16)

02-023 – OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER – POWER GENERATION

CAPITAL ESTIMATES

2610600 – Gas to Power Project

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly doth agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 4/2022 – Supplementary Estimates (Capital) – Advances made from the Contingency Fund totalling \$3,812,999,559 for the period 2022-11-30 to 2022-12-31.

BILL – FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS

**ITEM 3 - SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (NO.3 FOR 2022) BILL 2023 –
Bill No. 1/2023 published on 2023-01-13**

With the leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Prime Minister, Standing Orders Nos. 13(n) and 54 were suspended to enable the Supplementary Appropriation (No.3 for 2022) Bill No.1/2023 to be introduced at that stage.

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, in accordance with paragraph (2) of Article 171 of the Constitution, signified Cabinet's recommendation for the Supplementary Appropriation (No.3 for 2022) Bill No. 1/2023 for consideration by the National Assembly.

Thereafter, on motions by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and passed as printed:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana for the fiscal year ending 31st December, 2022, estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of those sums for the specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

Assembly resumed.

The Senior Minister within the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2023 and had approved the following as printed:

NOW, THEREFORE RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly approves the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2023, of a total sum seven hundred and twenty-one billion, five hundred and twenty-nine million, seven hundred and thirty-four thousand dollars (\$721,529,734,000), excluding sixty billion, three hundred and fifty-one million, two hundred and twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$60,351,229,000), which is chargeable by law, as detailed therein and summarized in Schedule 1, and agree that it is expedient to amend the law and to make further provision in respect of finance;

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the National Assembly approves the recommended lump sum subvention for each Constitutional Agency for the financial year 2023 as stated in Schedule 2, amounting to a total sum of thirteen billion, eight hundred and six million, five hundred and seventy-seven thousand dollars (\$13,806,577,000), which is charged upon the Consolidated Fund by the Constitution and for the sums voted for the Constitutional Agencies to form part of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditures for the financial year 2023

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly approves the sum of \$208,944,156,942, equivalent to US\$1,002,130,249 to be withdrawn from the Natural Resource Fund for the financial year 2023 in accordance with the Natural Resource Fund Act 2021.

ITEM 4 – APPROPRIATION (BILL 2023 – Bill No. 2/2023 published on 2023-01-16

With the leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Prime Minister, Standing Orders Nos. 13(n) and 54 were suspended to enable the Appropriation Bill No. 2/2023 to be introduced at that stage.

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, in accordance with paragraph (2) of Article 171 of the Constitution, signified Cabinet's recommendation for the Appropriation Bill No. 2/2023 for consideration by the National Assembly.

Thereafter, on motions by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and passed as printed:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana for the fiscal year ending 31st December, 2023, estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of those sums for the specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

BILLS – Second Readings

ITEM 5 - INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 2023- No. 3/2023 published on 2023-01-24

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Income Tax Act.

(Read a first time on 2023-01-24)

The Bill was then read a second time.

15.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clauses 1 - 6 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2023 was read a third time and passed as printed.

MOTION

ITEM 6 - CONFIRMATION OF THE CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT OF FIRST SCHEDULE) ORDER 2023 – NO. 9 OF 2023

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with section 8 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, confirms the Customs (Amendment of First Schedule) Order 2023 (No. 9 of 2023) which was made on the 16th day of January, 2023, under section 8 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01 and published in the Official Gazette dated 24th January, 2023.

(Notice Paper No. 234 (M 56 Govt.30) published on 2023-01-25)

The motion was put and carried.

(ii) **COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

ITEM 7 - ADOPTION OF THE SIXTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF ENTITIES AND CONSENSUAL MECHANISM TO NOMINATE MEMBERS OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD COMMISSION

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance (Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments) moved the following motion:

WHEREAS, Article 212 Q of the Constitution has established a Rights of the Child Commission;

AND WHEREAS, in accordance with Article 212 U(2) (a) and (b) of the Constitution, the Rights of the Child Commission shall consist of-

“(a) Not less than five nor more than fifteen members, with expertise in issues affecting children, nominated by entities, by a consensual mechanism determined by the National Assembly, after the entities which shall include the Ministry with responsibility for Children’s affairs, the Ministry of Education, and organizations representing the interest of youth, are determined by the votes not less than two-thirds of all elected members of the National Assembly; and

(b) A member who shall be a nominee, without the right to vote, chosen by and from each of the following commissions: the Human Rights Commission, Ethnic Relations Commission, and Women and Gender Equality Commission and Indigenous People’s Commission:”

17.

AND WHEREAS, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Appointments (COA) examined the list of entities to nominate members to the Rights of the Child Commission in accordance with article 212 U(2)(a) of the Constitution regarding to the number of members on the said Commission;

AND WHEREAS, the Committee having deliberated on identifying the entities to submit nominees for appointment to the Rights of the Child Commission, unanimously agrees and proposes that the Commission be comprised of nominations from the list of entities in the First Schedule in the following categories:

Services	2
Religion	3
Youth	2
Women	2
Statutory Bodies	2
Professional Bodies	1
Ministry of Education	1
Ministry of Health	1
Ministry of Human Services and Social Security	1

AND WHEREAS, the Committee also unanimously agreed on the consensual mechanism to guide the process for consulting and nominating of Members to the said Rights of the Child Commission herein at the Second Schedule;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the proposed representation of the above-mentioned categories from the list of entities;

18.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly adopts the Sixth Report of the Committee on Appointments in relation to the Appointment of Members to the Rights of the Child Commission;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the entities to nominate Members of the Rights of the Child Commission, in accordance with article 212 U(2)(a) of the Constitution, as set out in the First Schedule attached;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the consensual mechanism outlined in the Second Schedule attached.

(Notice Paper No. 216 (M 53 Committees 15) published on 2022-08-09)

FIRST SCHEDULE

Proposed entities to be consulted for the Nomination of Members of the Rights of the Child Commission

SERVICE- 2

Child Link

Community Based Rehabilitation Programme

Friends of the Needy

Generation Next

Guyana Legal Aid Clinic Inc.

Guyana Relief Council

Help and Shelter

Kids First Fund

Phoenix Recovery Project

Radio's Needy Children's Fund

Salvation Army

The Guyana Red Cross Society

Young Women's Christian Association of Guyana (YWCA)

RELIGION - 3

Central Islamic Organisation of Guyana -1

Guyana Council of Churches - 1

Guyana Hindu Dharmic Sabha -1

YOUTH – 2

Central Baptist Youth Fellowship

Church of Christ Youth Group

Dharmic Naujawan (Dharmic Youth)

Empowering Queers Using Artistic Learning (EQUAL)

Full Gospel Youth Fellowship

Guyana Central Arya Samaj -Youth Organisation

Guyana Congregational Young People's Union

Guyana Girl Guides Association

Guyana Scouts Association

Guyana Youth and Student Movement (GYSM)

Guyana Youth Development Association

Indian Action Committee Youth Group

Joshua Generation

Junior Chamber International Guyana (JCI Guyana)

Leo Association of Guyana

Methodist Youth Club

Muslim Youth League of Guyana

20.

Muslim Youth Organisation

National Youth Council

Outreach Ministries International -Youth Arm

Presbytery of Guyana Youth Council

Progressive Youth Organisation

President's Youth Award: Republic of Guyana, MS

Rotaract Clubs of Guyana

The Moravian Church in Guyana, Youth Fellowship

The Youth Ministries Department of the Guyana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

University of Guyana Student Society

Volunteer Youth Corps

Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)

Youth Advocacy Movement (YAM)

Youth Challenge Guyana

Youth For Change - (YFC)

Youth Ministries Department of the Assemblies of God

WOMEN – 2

Assemblies of God Women's Ministry

Association of Women Entrepreneurs

Guyana Association of Women's Artists

Guyana Association of Women's Lawyers

Guyana District Conference Women's Work Committee (Methodist)

Guyana Hindu Dharmic Sabha- Mahila Mandalee

Guyana Women Miners Organisation

Guyanese Women in Development (GUYWID)

National Committee of Sisters Affairs (NACOSA) (CIOG Women's Arm)

National Congress of Women

Lutheran Church Women

21.

Mothers' Union Diocese of Guyana

Outreach Ministries International Women's Group

Red Thread Women's Development Project

Salvation Army Home League

The Women's Ministries Department of the Guyana Conference of Seventh-Day Adventist

Women's Advisory Council (WAC)

Women Across Differences

Women's Chamber of Commerce & Industry Guyana (WCCIG)

Women for Change (AFC Women Arm)

Women's Home & Overseas Missionary Society

Women's Progressive Organisation

Young Women's Christian Association of Guyana (YWCA)

STATUTORY BODIES – 2

National Commission on Disabilities – 1

National Commission on the Family - 1

PROFESSIONAL BODIES -1

Association of Chartered Accountants

Guyana Association of Professional Social Workers (GAPSW)

Guyana Bar Association

Guyana Nurses Association

Guyana Medical Association

Guyana Pharmacists' Association

Medical Technologists Association of Guyana

Ministry of Education – 1

Ministry of Health – 1

Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security – 1

/...22

SECOND SCHEDULE**Consensual Mechanism for the Nomination by Entities of Members of the Rights of the Child Commission**

All the Entities in each Group, immediately on the passage of this motion, shall 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 Rights of the Child 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 person/s who are competent to contribute positively to the work of the Commission and who 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 recognised “*umbrella organization*” in the list of entities for that Group, the Clerk shall write to that organisation and copy his letter to each of the “*constituent entities*” within the Group.

Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., spoke to the motion.

In accordance with Article Article 212 U(2) (a) of the Constitution of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, the motion was **put** and **carried** on the following division:

FOR

Mr. Shuman

Mr. Sears

Mr. Sinclair

Ms. Alert

Ms. Philadelphia

Mr. Jaiprashad

Mrs. Flue-Bess

Mr. Mahipaul

Mr. Figueira

Mr. Cox

Mr. Patterson

Ms. Fernandes

Ms. Ferguson

Mrs. Singh-Lewis

Mrs. Sarabo-Halley

Dr. Cummings

Mr. Henry

Mr. Ramsaroop

Mrs. Walton-Desir

Mr. Jordan

Mrs. Hastings-Williams

Mrs. Lawrence

Mr. Duncan

Mrs. Chandan-Edmond

Mrs. Hughes

Mr. Holder

Mr. Ramjattan

Mr. Norton

Ms. Veerasammy

Mr. Williams

Dr. Smith

Mr. Jaffarally

Dr. Westford

Dr. Ramsaran

Mrs. Pearson-Fredericks

Mr. Narine

Mr. Datadin

Dr. Mahadeo

Mr. Charlie

Mr. Seeraj

Mr. McCoy

Mr. A. Persaud

Mr. Indar

Ms. Rodrigues

Ms. Parag

Mr. Ramson

Dr. V. Persaud

Mr. Croal

Mr. Dharamlall

Mr. Bharrat

Mr. Hamilton

Ms. Sukhai

Mr. Mustapha

Ms. Manickchand

Dr. Anthony

Bishop Edghill

Mr. Todd

Ms. Teixeira

Mr. Nandlall

Mr. Phillips

ITEM 8 - APPROVAL OF PERSONS FOR THE NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE ETHNIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance (Chairperson of the Standing Committee on the Committee on Appointments) moved the following motion:

WHEREAS the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Appointments acting in compliance with Resolution No 36 of 2022, which approved the list of entities to be consulted for nominations to the Ethnic Relations Commission held an open nomination and consultative process with the approved entities between the months of August 29, 2022 and October 20, 2022,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the following persons from the following categories as members of the Ethnic Relations Commission established under the Constitution, and signify to the President that:

Christian Bodies

Rev. Rodwell F. Alphonso Porter

Hindu Bodies

Pandit Krishna Deo Sharma

Islamic Bodies

Mr. Moeenul Hack

26.

Labour Movement Bodies

Mr. Norris Witter

Private Business Sector Bodies

Mr. Charles Ogle

Youth Bodies

Mr. Dwayne Adams

Women Bodies

Ms. Chandrowtie Sarran

Cultural/Ethnic Bodies

Indigenous/Amerindian Bodies

Mr. Ashton Simon

Afro-Guyanese Bodies

Mr. Deon Dick aka Ras Khafra

Indo-Guyanese Bodies

Mr. Neaz Subhan

have been nominated in accordance with Resolution No. 17 of 2003, and Article 212 B (1) (a) of the Constitution to be appointed members of the Ethnic Relations Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly adopts the Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Appointments which addresses matters relating to the nomination and appointment of Members to the Ethnic Relations Commission.

(Notice Paper No. 235 (M 57 Committees 16) published on 2023-01-26)

Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., spoke to the motion.

The motion was **put** and **carried**.

APPRECIATION GREETINGS

The Speaker extended greetings of appreciation to all Members of Parliament, the Clerk of the National Assembly, the Staff of the Parliament Office, the Media, Members of the Guyana Police Force, and all other officers for the smooth and successful completion of the Consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure. The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, Hon. Lenox Shuman, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., Hon. Christopher Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and Government Chief Whip joined the Speaker in extending appreciation to all.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.55 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



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**HON. MANZOOR NADIR, M.P.,
Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

2nd February, 2023.