



**POLITICAL PARTIES  
INTEGRITY BILL 2013**

**(NO. 8 OF 2013)**





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A

BILL

Entitled

**AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION, ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF POLITICAL PARTIES, TO PROMOTE INTEGRITY IN THEIR OPERATIONS, FOR RELATED MATTERS, AND TO MAKE CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL PARLIAMENT (ELECTORAL PROVISIONS) ACT (CAP. 87)**

**ENACTED** by the National Parliament of Solomon Islands.

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# POLITICAL PARTIES INTEGRITY BILL 2013

## PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

1. This Act may be cited as the Political Parties Integrity Act 2013, and shall commence on a date appointed by the Minister by notice in the *Gazette*.

Short title and  
commencement

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires -

Interpretation

“coalition agreement” means an agreement or memorandum of understanding of two or more political parties made under Part 6 for purposes of forming a coalition or for mutual cooperation;

“Commission” means the Electoral Commission established by section 57 of the Constitution;

“constitution”, in relation to a political party, means the constitution and rules of the political party made in compliance with the minimum rules set out in Schedule 1;

“donations” include -

- (a) monies, gifts, goods, donor’s services and services paid for by others, not including services consisting of the donor’s own labour;
- (b) discounts given on goods or services;
- (c) monies paid in excess of market value for services provided by a political party;
- (d) credit offered at terms more favourable than normal commercial terms and conditions prevailing at the time; and
- (e) any other property (or its value) donated to a political party;

“election activity licence” means a licence for which application is made under section 48;

“election day” means an election day appointed pursuant to section 24 of the National Parliament (Electoral Provisions) Act (Cap.87);

“election period” means the period commencing on the election day and ending on the day when the result of the election is published under section 57(2) of the National Parliament (Electoral Provisions) Act (Cap.87);

“general election” means a general election conducted under the National Parliament (Electoral Provisions) Act (Cap.87);

“independent candidate” means a candidate who is not nominated by a political party;

“integrity standards” means the guidelines issued by the Commission under section 62;

“newspaper” means a local daily newspaper published and having wide circulation in Solomon Islands;

“non-contesting party” means a person, group or entity that has made a declaration under section 47 that it will not have a candidate contesting an election;

“political party” means a political party registered under this Act;

“Register” means the Register of political parties established by the Registrar under section 12;

“Registrar” means the person holding the Office of the Registrar established by section 10.

Objects of  
the Act

### 3. The objects of this Act are -

- (a) to develop a strong, viable and transparent political party system for the purposes of ensuring the stability of the Government and improving the political and governance relationship between the public and members of Parliament;
- (b) to enhance and facilitate the development and administration of political parties and promote integrity in their operation;

- (c) to ensure that political parties are organised in a transparent and democratic manner;
- (d) to provide a framework for the registration, administration, operation and development of political parties as corporate bodies operating under democratic principles and values;
- (e) to foster understanding and better relationships between the public and political parties; and
- (f) to ensure that political parties play a role in building a united Solomon Islands for lasting peace, stability, tolerance and understanding.

## **PART 2 – FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION AND OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR**

4. (1) The Commission has, in addition to the functions assigned to it by the Constitution and any other written law, the following functions –

Functions and powers of the Commission

- (a) to formulate, monitor and review policies relating to the regulation of political parties;
- (b) to oversee the registration, administration and development of political parties;
- (c) to administer and ensure compliance with this Act; and
- (d) to deliver public education and raise public awareness about this Act and other laws relating to political parties.

(2) In order to carry out its functions under subsection (1), the Commission has the powers and duties given to it by the Constitution, this Act and any other written law, including the power–

- (a) to register political parties or remove them from the Register;

- (b) to investigate and enquire into the affairs of a political party for the purpose of ascertaining any breach of this Act; and
- (c) to issue integrity standards and make regulations under this Act.

(2) The Commission may delegate any of its functions or powers, other than the power to make regulations or integrity standards, to the Registrar.

Secretary to  
the  
Commission

**5.** The Commission may designate a public officer, other than the Registrar, as Secretary to the Commission.

Commission's  
core budget

**6.** (1) The core budget of the Commission shall be appropriated by Parliament annually.

(2) Subject to meeting its obligations under the Public Finance and Audit Act (Cap. 120), the Commission shall control the spending of its approved budget.

Meetings

**7.** (1) For the purpose of carrying out its functions under this Act, the Commission must meet at least once every three months at a meeting to be convened by the Chairman.

(2) The quorum for a meeting convened under this section is a majority of the members of the Commission.

(3) The Commission may regulate its own procedure at meetings.

Independence  
of the  
Commission

**8.** The Commission is not subject to direction or control by any person or authority other than a court.

Allowances

**9.** The members of the Commission are entitled to the allowances prescribed by the Constitutional Offices (Terms of Service) (Constitutional Commissions Standard Rate) Regulations 1994.

Office of the  
Registrar

**10.** (1) There is hereby established the Office of the Registrar of political parties, to be held by the Chief Electoral Officer.

(2) The Public Service Commission may, in consultation with the Commission, appoint an Assistant Registrar and such other public officers as are required for the administration of this Act.

**11. The functions of the Registrar are –**

- (a) to manage the day-to-day operations of the Office of the Registrar, including the supervision of its officers and employees;
- (b) to establish and maintain a Register of political parties;
- (c) to perform any function or power assigned to the Registrar under this Act or any other written law, or delegated to the Registrar by the Commission.

**12. (1) The Registrar must establish and maintain a Register of political parties in a form approved by the Commission.**Register of  
political  
parties

(2) The Registrar must provide up-to-date copies of the Register to each provincial government by 31 March annually and at least three months before any election day for an election in a province.

(3) A person is entitled to inspect the Register and obtain copies of any information in the Register during normal office hours, subject to payment of any fee that the Commission may approve to cover the cost of providing the copies requested.

### **PART 3 – REGISTRATION AND AMALGAMATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

**13. (1)** Without limiting section 33 or the right of a person to stand as an independent candidate, no group of two or more individuals may select, endorse or nominate a person as its candidate for election to Parliament unless the group is registered under this Act as a political party.

Candidate  
representing  
political party  
or group

(2) Any selection, endorsement or nomination that contravenes subsection (1) is invalid.

**14. (1)** A group of at least three hundred citizens who are registered in the list of electors may apply to the Commission for registration under this Act as a political party.

Application  
for  
registration

- (2) The application must –
  - (a) be in the prescribed form;
  - (b) be accompanied by the prescribed fee;
  - (c) be accompanied by the proposed political party's constitution;
  - (d) list the leader or president and chief executive officer of the proposed political party and other officials or persons required to undertake responsibilities under this Act;
  - (e) be accompanied by the proposed political party's manifesto, policies and strategies;
  - (f) be signed by at least three hundred members of the proposed political party, all of whom are registered in the register of voters under the National Parliament (Electoral Provisions) Act (Cap.87);
  - (g) set out the proposed political party's symbol in black and white representation; and
  - (h) include any other prescribed particulars.
- (3) The application must be signed by –
  - (a) the leader or president of the proposed political party; and
  - (b) the chief executive officer.

Application  
to register an  
amalgamated  
political party

**15.** (1) Two or more political parties may amalgamate and apply for registration as one political party.

- (2) The leaders of the amalgamating political parties must –
  - (a) apply to the Commission under section 14 for registration of the proposed amalgamated political party;

- (b) file with the Commission evidence that at least 151 members of each of the amalgamating political parties have voted for or approved the amalgamation;
- (c) sign and file with the Commission a document consenting to the amalgamation;
- (d) file with the Commission a document setting out how the assets and liabilities of each of the amalgamating political parties will be dealt with;
- (e) cause the details of the proposed amalgamation to be published for at least three separate days in a newspaper; and
- (f) comply with any other directives or requirements given by the Commission in relation to the proposed amalgamation.

**16.** (1) As soon as practicable after an application for registration is made under section 14 or 15, the Registrar must cause notice of the application to be published in -

Applications  
to be  
advertised

- (a) the Gazette; and
  - (b) a newspaper.
- (2) A notice under subsection (1) must -
- (a) include the information referred to in section 14(2)(d), (g) and (h);
  - (b) invite any person wishing to object to the application to lodge a written objection with the Registrar within one month after the date of publication of the notice under subsection (1)(a) or (b), whichever is the earlier date, or within such other period as the Commission may determine; and
  - (c) specify the date for the consideration of the application by the Commission, being a date not less than one month after the

date of publication of a notice under subsection (1)(a) or (b), whichever is the earlier date, or such other period as the Commission may determine.

Grounds of  
objection

17. (1) Objection to an application made under section 14 or 15 may be taken on one or more of the following grounds-

- (a) the application is not in accordance with this Act;
- (b) the information set out in the application or in any document required to accompany the application is incorrect;
- (c) the name -
  - (i) would likely result in the political party being confused by voters with a political party which is already registered;
  - (ii) is obscene or offensive;
  - (iii) includes words the publication of which would likely amount to an offence;
  - (iv) includes the word “independent”; or
  - (v) includes any prescribed prohibited matter; or
- (d) the symbol -
  - (i) would likely be confused by voters with a symbol which is already registered for another political party;
  - (ii) is obscene or offensive;
  - (iii) is of such a character that its publication would likely amount to an offence; or



- (iv) includes any prescribed symbol, word, phrase or matter that is prohibited.

(2) A statement of objection under subsection (1) must-

- (a) contain the name and address of the person making the objection and be signed by that person; and
- (b) specify in detail the grounds of the objection.

(3) The Registrar must –

- (a) send a copy of any objection lodged to –
  - (i) the chief executive officer of the proposed political party making an application under section 14; or
  - (ii) the chief executive officers of the amalgamating political parties making an application under section 15; and
- (b) invite the chief executive officer or officers to provide a response within such reasonable time as the Registrar allows.

**18.** (1) Where an application has been made under section 14 or 15, the Registrar must -

- (a) if the requirements of the applicable section have been met, submit to the Commission the application, any objections to it made under section 17 and any reply to such objections; and
- (b) if the requirements of the applicable section have not been met, require the applicant to furnish the missing requirements and then submit to the Commission the information referred to in paragraph (a).

Referral of  
applications  
to the  
Commission

**19. (1)** Subject to subsection (2), the Commission must, as soon as practicable after the expiry of the time for lodging objections under section 17, consider every application submitted to it by the Registrar under section 18.

(2) The Commission may not consider an application referred to in subsection (1) during the period commencing on the day that the Governor-General appoints a date for election in accordance with section 24 of the National Parliament (Electoral Provisions) Act (Cap. 87) and ending on the day that the results of the election are declared under section 55 of that Act.

**20. (1)** No application for registration under section 14 or 15 may be approved if the Commission is satisfied that –

- (a) the name of the political party is objectionable on any ground referred to in section 17(1)(c);
- (b) the political party manifesto, policy or strategies are substantially the same as those of an existing political party; or
- (c) the constitution is contrary to, inconsistent with or fails to meet the requirements of this Act.

(2) Where the Commission intends to refuse approval of an application because of subsection (1)(b), it may –

- (a) request the applicant to amend its manifesto, policy or strategies before the Commission makes a decision on the application; or
- (b) recommend that the applicant be amalgamated with a political party that has substantially the same manifesto, policy or strategies.

(3) In this section, “substantially the same”, in relation to a political party’s manifesto, policy or strategies, means the use of the same words,

expressions and phrases, the same specific original ideas or subjects or the same elements as those of an existing political party.

**21.** (1) The Commission must approve an application for registration under section 14 or 15 and direct the Registrar to register the political party where the Commission is of the opinion that-

Approval or  
refusal of  
application by  
Commission

- (a) the application is complete;
- (b) the political party is qualified for registration under this Act; and
- (c) any objection to the application does not justify a refusal to register the political party.

(2) The Commission must refuse the application, giving its reasons for the refusal in writing, and notify the Registrar accordingly where the Commission is of the opinion that-

- (a) the application is not complete;
- (b) any of the matters listed in section 20(1) as grounds for refusal of the application exists;
- (c) the political party is not qualified for registration under this Act; or
- (d) any objection to the application justifies a refusal to register the political party.

**22.** (1) The Registrar must, as soon as practicable after receiving from the Commission a direction to register or a notification of refusal to register a political party, give written notification of the Commission's decision to -

Notification of  
decision of the  
Commission

- (a) the chief executive officer of the political party that applied for registration; and
- (b) any person who filed a notice of objection to the application.

(2) Where the Commission refuses the application, the notification to the chief executive officer under subsection (1) must include the reasons given in writing by the Commission for its refusal.

Registration

**23.** The Registrar must, on receiving a direction from the Commission under section 21(1), register the political party by –

- (a) entering in the Register the particulars referred to in section 25 of the political party; and
- (b) issuing to the applicant a certificate of registration in the prescribed form.

Effect of  
registration

**24.** (1) On issuance of a certificate of registration to a political party, the political party –

- (a) becomes a body corporate having all the powers of a legal person from the date of issuance; and
- (b) is bound by the Constitution, this Act, the integrity standards, other written laws and its constitution.

(2) The issuance of a certificate of registration to an amalgamated political party does not affect the continuation of the political parties that applied for amalgamation, unless the Commission determines that there are grounds to remove one or more such parties from the Register under section 27.

Entries in the  
Register

**25.** (1) The Registrar must include in an entry in the Register the following particulars of a political party –

- (a) name of the party and the address of its office;
- (b) the names of its leader, the chief executive officer and other officials and their residential addresses and contact details;
- (c) the political party's symbol; and

(d) any other prescribed particulars.

(2) The Registrar must approve the political party's symbol, unless satisfied that it is objectionable on any ground referred to in section 17(1)(d);

(3) Notwithstanding section 14(2)(g), a political party's symbol may, for purposes other than the application, be represented in colours approved by the party.

26. (1) A political party may, on payment of the prescribed fee, apply to the Commission to amend -

Amendment to  
particulars in  
the Register

- (a) any particulars in the Register pertaining to the party;
- (b) its symbol; or
- (c) any prescribed information relating to it.

(2) If the political party requests the replacement of the party leader or chief executive officer, the application must give the full postal address, residential address and telephone numbers of the substituted party officials.

(3) The Commission must refuse to approve any amendment to a political party's symbol if, in the Registrar's opinion, it is objectionable on any ground referred to in section 17(1)(d).

(4) The Commission may approve an application made under subsection (1), subject to conditions if appropriate, and direct the Registrar to enter all approved amendments in the Register.

27. (1) The Commission may remove a political party's registration, if satisfied that -

Removal from  
the Register

- (a) the political party is no longer in operation;

- (b) the political party has breached a provision of this Act or the integrity standards;
- (c) the membership of the political party is less than three hundred members each of whom is a registered elector; or
- (d) the political party has applied for its removal from the Register.

(2) Where a political party meets one or more of the conditions described in subsection (1), the Registrar must advise the party in writing and ask the party to show cause within 30 days as to why it should not be removed from the Register.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), where the Commission finds that a political party has breached the Act or integrity standards, the Commission may, if satisfied that a lesser penalty is warranted in the circumstances, impose a prescribed penalty rather than removing the party from the Register.

(4) The Registrar must publish in a newspaper the name of any political party that is removed from the Register, within seven days after its removal.

(5) Where the Registrar removes the entry of a political party from the Register he must, in considering applications made by other political parties in the three month period beginning on the day that the entry was removed, treat the entry as still being in the Register.

(6) A political party that is removed under this section because of subsection (1)(a) or (c) may apply to the Commission within three months of the day on which the entry was removed to be restored to the Register.

(7) The Commission may restore a political party's registration pursuant to an application made under subsection (6), if it is satisfied that –

- (i) the political party will continue to operate effectively; and
- (ii) its membership has reached or exceeded three hundred members, each of whom is a registered elector.

**28.** (1) The Registrar must, at least 12 months before an anticipated general election, carry out a review of the list of political parties in the Register to ascertain whether they are still in operation.

Review of list of  
political parties

(2) The Registrar must send a request in writing to the chief executive officer of every political party in the Register requesting the party to confirm that it is still in operation.

(3) If a political party does not respond to a request made under subsection (2), the Registrar must publish a notice in a newspaper requesting party officials to confirm within 30 days that the party is still in operation.

(4) The Registrar shall recommend that the Commission remove from the Register a political party that indicates that it is not in operation or does not respond to the Registrar within the period referred to in the notice under subsection (3).

**29.** (1) The Registrar must publish the names of all registered political parties in a newspaper –

Publication of  
names of political  
parties

- (a) within seven days after the Governor-General announces the election day;
- (b) at least seven days before the election day; or
- (c) on such date or dates as may be determined by the Commission.

(2) In addition to publishing the names of the political parties in a newspaper, the Registrar may publish them by any other means.

## PART 4 –POLITICAL PARTIES

Constitution of  
political parties

**30.** (1) A political party must have a constitution containing the minimum provisions set out in Schedule 1.

(2) The objects of a political party must be for lawful purposes only and must be consistent with–

- (a) democratic principles and values;
- (b) human rights and dignity;
- (c) principles, values and goals that are fundamental to building national unity and communal solidarity; and
- (d) broad participation by people in the national and provincial governance of the affairs of the people of Solomon Islands, without discrimination based on ethnic origin.

(3) The constitution of a political party must provide for -

- (a) the establishment of a disciplinary panel of three or more members with the power to hear and determine disciplinary matters;
- (b) the right of a person subject to disciplinary proceedings to be heard in person or through a legal practitioner;
- (c) a reasonable period of time for a person subject to disciplinary proceedings to respond to and defend the charges against him; and
- (d) the right of a person subject to disciplinary proceedings to appeal a decision of the disciplinary panel to a panel with the power to hear and determine appeals, consisting of three or more members and chaired by a legal



practitioner with at least five years experience.

31. The minimum age for membership in a political party is 18 years of age.

Minimum age for party membership

32. (1) In a general election, a political party must reserve for women at least ten per cent of the total number of candidates it selects to contest the election.

Reservation and incentives for women candidates

(2) A political party does not contravene subsection (1) if no woman has applied to be a candidate for that political party or if the number of applications from women is less than ten percent of the total number of candidates selected by the party.

(3) Where a woman candidate nominated by a political party is elected into Parliament, the political party may submit a claim under section 38 for a temporary special measure grant to cover her campaign costs.

33. (1) An elected independent candidate may, before taking his Oath of Allegiance in Parliament, renounce his status as an independent member and join a political party.

Right of independent candidates to join a political party

(2) An independent candidate who joins a political party under subsection (1) is deemed to be endorsed by, and a member of, that political party.

34. (1) The chief executive officer of a political party is responsible for ensuring that the party complies with this Act.

Chief executive officers

(2) The chief executive officer is the financial agent of the political party.

(3) If a political party does not have a chief executive officer, the leader of the political party and other office holders of the political party are, for the purposes of this Act, jointly deemed to be the chief executive officer.

- (4) The position of party leader and chief executive officer may not be held by the same person.

Membership  
declaration  
and consent

**35.** (1) No person may be a member of a political party unless the person declares and consents in writing in the prescribed form to such membership.

- (2) A person who signs a membership declaration and consent form under subsection (1) is bound by the constitution of the political party.

- (3) Every registered political party must –

- (a) keep all membership declaration and consent forms completed under subsection (1);
- (b) establish and maintain a register of its members; and
- (c) provide to the Registrar, before 31 March annually, and at least three months before a general election or by-election, a copy of the register of its members in a digital format acceptable to the Registrar.

Multiple  
memberships  
prohibited

**36.** (1) No person shall be a member, whether financial, non-financial or associate, of more than one political party.

- (2) A person who formally resigns as a member of a political party may become a member of another political party.

Non-citizens  
prohibited  
from  
membership

**37.** (1) A person who is not a citizen shall not be a member of, or participate actively in the affairs of, a political party.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not prohibit the participation of a professional person from providing professional services to a political party, if approved by the Commission with or without conditions.

## PART 5 – PUBLIC FUNDING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING OF POLITICAL PARTIES

**38.** (1) A political party that contests a general election is entitled to claim from the Commission, after all members have taken their oaths on the floor of Parliament, one or both of the following -

Entitlements  
of political  
parties

- (a) a temporary special measure grant of \$10,000 for every woman elected into Parliament; and
  - (b) an administration fund of \$20,000 for each Member of Parliament of the political party, payable annually to the political party after submission of its annual financial report under section 41.
- (2) A political party making a claim under subsection (1) may apply to the Commission in the prescribed form within 90 days after the date of appointment of the Prime Minister.
- (3) A political party forfeits its right to make a claim under subsection (1)(b) if it does not -
- (a) make the claim within the period specified in subsection (2); or
  - (b) comply with section 39, 40 and 41.
- (4) Where an independent candidate joins a political party in the circumstances referred to in section 33, the political party is entitled to the administration fund referred to in subsection (1)(b) in respect of that candidate.
- (5) Funds payable to a political party under this section may be retained by the party until the end of the financial year if an independent Member of Parliament or an existing Member of Parliament resigns from the party during the financial year.

Financial  
statement of  
income and  
election  
expenses

**39.** (1) A political party or independent candidate shall, within 90 days after the close of the polling in a general election, lodge with the Commission in the prescribed form a financial statement of donations received, including their sources, and election expenses.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), the financial statement of the political party must also include the donations received (including their sources) and the election expenses for each candidate.

Quarterly  
returns

**40.** (1) A political party shall, in each calendar year, lodge with the Commission quarterly returns in the prescribed form, setting out any donations received by or on behalf of the political party from any source, other than monies paid out of the Fund.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to membership fees, subscriptions, donations or contributions of less than \$1,000, unless the total fees, subscriptions, donations or contribution collected in a quarter exceeds \$10,000.

Annual  
financial  
reports

**41.** (1) A political party shall lodge with the Commission before 31 March each year, beginning in the year ending 2015, an audited annual financial report.

(2) The Commission may extend the deadline for submitting the financial report by a period not exceeding three months, if the political party makes a written request justifying the need for such an extension.

Commission  
to appoint  
auditor

**42.** (1) The Commission, with the consent of the Auditor General, must appoint an auditor to audit political party accounts as required under section 41(1).

(2) When undertaking an audit authorised under this section, the auditor -

- (a) may access, inspect and examine any accounting records and other information in the possession or control of the political party;

- (b) may require any official or member of the political party to provide an explanation for the purposes of the audit;
- (c) must express an opinion on the use of public funds payable to the political party under this Act; and
- (d) may exercise such other powers as are necessary to effectively carry out his powers and duties under this section.

(3) On receiving the auditor's report in relation to a political party, the Commission must send a copy to the Auditor General, and may only consider the audited report after the Auditor General has certified acceptance of it.

## **PART 6 – COALITION AGREEMENTS**

**43.** (1) A political party may, before or after a general election, negotiate and enter into a coalition agreement with other political parties, and such agreement must contain the minimum rules set out in Schedule 2.

Formation  
of coalition  
agreements

(2) The coalition of political parties, within seven days after a coalition agreement is signed, must lodge with the Registrar a prescribed notice affirming the agreement.

(3) Without limiting section 33, no political party may enter into a coalition agreement with any group of independent candidates.

(4) Where there is a conflict between a coalition agreement and the minimum rules in Schedule 2, the minimum rules prevail.

(5) If a coalition agreement does not contain a rule set out in Schedule 2, the rule is deemed to be a term of the agreement.

**44.** (1) No political party that is a party to a coalition agreement may enter into another coalition agreement that has the effect of suppressing, contradicting or countermanding the existing coalition agreement, without first revoking or rescinding the existing agreement.

(2) A political party intending to withdraw from, revoke or rescind an existing coalition agreement must give at least 30 days notice to the other parties to the agreement.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply where -

- (a) a political party, by majority decision, has resolved to withdraw from or cease to be part of its coalition;
- (b) a political party, by majority decision, has resolved to change the Prime Minister of its coalition government;
- (c) a political party is invited to be part of a coalition government under Part 1 of Schedule 2; or
- (d) all the political parties to a coalition agreement agree to rescind the agreement.

(4) In subsection (3), “majority decision” means a resolution passed by the votes of not less than three-quarters of –

- (a) the members of the executive body of the political party; or
- (b) the members present at a meeting of the members of the political party entitled to make the decision pursuant to the party’s constitution.

(5) Any alteration to a coalition agreement or any political party’s resolution to withdraw from, revoke, rescind or affirm a coalition agreement must be lodged with the Registrar within seven days after making it.

(6) Subject to subsection (1), a coalition agreement lodged with and accepted by the Registrar is binding on the parties to it.

(7) The Commission must, not later than 20 days before any election day, cause to be published in a newspaper and announced on the radio the names of any political parties that have signed a coalition agreement.

(8) A coalition agreement that is not received and published by the Commission as required under subsection (7) is deemed to be an agreement entered into after a general election.

## **PART 7 – POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES**

**45.** (1) A political party must, not later than 30 days before the election day, lodge with the Commission a list in the prescribed form of the names of the candidates selected by the party as its candidates to contest the general election.

List of political  
party  
candidates

(2) The list must include the consent, in the prescribed form, of the candidates selected and be signed by each candidate.

(3) The Registrar must, within seven days after the Commission receives the list, publish the list of candidates in a newspaper or in such other manner as is considered appropriate by the Commission.

(4) If the name of any candidate appears on the lists of two or more political parties, the Commission may, after consultation with the candidate and the political parties, reject or remove his name from one or more lists so as to ensure that his name appears on one list of candidates only.

**46.** A political party may not select any person who is not a registered member of the party as its candidate to contest a general election.

Registered  
members to be  
selected as  
candidates

## PART 8 – NON-CONTESTING PARTIES

Declaration as  
non-contesting  
party

**47.** A political party or any other party that is not intending to select a candidate to contest a general election must, at least 30 days from the commencement of the election period, lodge with the Registrar a declaration in the prescribed form that it will not have a candidate contesting the election.

Election  
activity licence

**48.** (1) A non-contesting party shall not undertake any promotion, campaign, advocacy, fundraising or financing activity in relation to a general election, including any promise to provide funds to a political party or candidate before, during or after an election period, unless it has an election activity licence issued by the Registrar in the prescribed form.

(2) A non-contesting party may, in the prescribed form, apply to the Registrar for an election activity licence and must provide such information as is required by the Registrar.

(3) The Registrar may not licence as a non-contesting party -

- (a) a political party or candidate contesting a general election;
- (b) a person involved in the administration of the affairs of a political party or candidate in relation to the election campaign of that political party or candidate; or
- (c) a person who is not a citizen.

Refusal of  
licence

**49.** (1) The Registrar may not issue an election activity licence to –

- (a) a political party or candidate contesting a general election;
- (b) a person involved in the administration of the affairs of a political party or candidate, in relation to the election campaign of that party or candidate; or
- (c) a person who is not a citizen.



(2) The Registrar may refuse to grant an election activity licence if—

- (a) the applicant has not complied with section 48;
- (b) the proposed activity is contrary to any law; or
- (c) the proposed activity may cause or result in a breach of the law or of public peace, order and security.

**50.** If a non-contesting party breaches any licence condition, the Registrar may vary, suspend or cancel the party's licence, taking into account the seriousness of the breach.

Suspension,  
variance or  
cancellation of  
licence

**51.** A non-contesting party aggrieved by a decision made under section 49 or 50 may, within five days from the date of the decision, appeal it to the Commission, and the Commission may vary, confirm or revoke the decision and make a new decision.

Appeals to  
Commission

**52.** The Commission must —

- (a) establish and maintain a list that contains the names and activities of non-contesting parties; and
- (b) publish the list referred to in paragraph (a) in such manner as it considers appropriate, not later than 20 days before the election day.

List of non-  
contesting  
parties

**53.** Every non-contesting party shall, within 14 days after the election day, file with the Commission a return in the prescribed form, setting out the funds collected and raised and the name of the beneficiary political party or candidate.

Disclosure  
of funds

## PART 9 – OFFENCES

**54.** (1) A member of the Commission, the Registrar, or an employee of or any person authorised to perform any function or power by the Commission or the Registrar commits an offence if he discloses or publishes the manifesto, policies or strategies contained in

Unauthorised  
disclosure

an application for registration lodged with the Registrar by a political party, without the party's prior consent.

(2) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable on conviction to a fine of 5,000 penalty units.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply where the applicant has discussed, published or made disclosure of the manifesto, policies or strategies to its members, other persons or voters or where a certificate of registration has been issued to the political party under section 23.

Prohibited  
membership  
in a political  
party

**55.** (1) A person who contravenes section 36(1) (multiple memberships prohibited) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of 5,000 penalty units.

(2) A person who contravenes section 37(1) (non-citizens prohibited from membership) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of 15,000 penalty units or imprisonment for a term of two years.

Contravention  
of financial  
reporting  
requirements

**56.** (1) An independent candidate who contravenes section 39 (financial statement of income and election expenses) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of 5,000 penalty units, and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term of six months.

(2) A political party that contravenes section 39 (financial statement of income and election expenses), 40 (quarterly returns) or 41 (annual financial reports) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of 5,000 penalty units, and in default of payment the chief executive officer of the party is liable to imprisonment for a term of six months.

Unlicensed  
election  
activity

**57.** (1) A non-contesting party that contravenes section 48 (electoral activity licence required) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of 50,000 penalty units or to imprisonment for a term of four years.

(2) Where a political party or other entity is convicted of an offence under subsection (1), the leader and the chief executive officer of the party or the leader of the entity, as the case may be, is deemed to be guilty of the offence and is liable to the same penalty as the non-contesting party.

**58.** A non-contesting party that contravenes section 53 (disclosure of funds) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of 15,000 penalty units or to imprisonment for a term of two years.

Failure to  
disclose  
funds

## PART 10 – MISCELLANEOUS

**59.** The Commission, the Registrar and the officers, employees and other persons acting under the authority of this Act on behalf of the Commission or Registrar for the purposes of administering, implementing or enforcing this Act in good faith, are not -

Exemptions  
from liability

- (a) subject to any action, liability, claim or demand; or
- (b) liable for any matter or thing done or omitted to be done (whether negligently or not) in the performance or purported performance of any function or duty, or the exercise or purported exercise of any power under this Act.

**60.** The Commission must prepare an annual report on the operation of this Act, and table it to before Parliament within three months after the end of the calendar year.

Annual report

**61.** The Commission may make regulations to carry out and give effect to this Act, including regulations respecting -

Regulations

- (a) the regulation of political parties in contesting or campaigning in elections and other matters relating to the election of members of Parliament;
- (b) fees and forms required for the purpose of this Act;

- (c) the procedures required by the Commission or the Registrar to effectively carry out their functions and powers under this Act;
- (d) penalties that may be imposed under section 27(3); and
- (e) any matter required to be prescribed under this Act.

Integrity  
standards

**62.** (1) The Commission may issue guidelines establishing integrity standards for political parties.

(2) The standards must be laid before Parliament and do not take effect until published in the Gazette.

Transitional

**63.** (1) On the commencement of this Act, any political party that is currently represented in Parliament is deemed to have been approved by the Commission and a direction for the party's registration is deemed to have been issued under section 21(1), subject to any direction by the Commission respecting compliance with the Act.

(2) Every existing political party, other than a political party deemed to have been approved by the Commission for registration under subsection (1), must apply for registration within six months after the commencement of this Act.

Consequential  
amendments

**64.** The National Parliament (Electoral Provisions) Act (Cap. 87) is amended –

- (a) in section 28(2), by replacing the full stop at the end of paragraph (h) with “; or” and by adding the following–
  - “(i) the candidate has been nominated to represent in Parliament a group of two or more individuals that is not registered as a political party under the Political Parties Integrity Act 2013; or

- (j) that the candidate is a member of a political party registered under the Political Parties Integrity Act 2013 but has not been selected for nomination by that political party.”; and
- (b) by repealing section 45.

**SCHEDULE 1**  
**(Sections 2 and 30)**

**MINIMUM PROVISIONS FOR THE CONSTITUTION AND  
RULES OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. Name and objects of the political party
2. Office of the political party
3. Executive body, including the chief executive officer and other officials or office holders
4. Procedures for the appointment of parliamentary leader, including the appointment of a new parliamentary leader if the leader is not elected a Member of Parliament after a general election
5. Functions and powers of the executive body
6. Membership and entry requirements, including a requirement of signing of a consent form to abide by the constitution and rules of the political party
7. Elections or nomination of candidates, including a democratic and transparent process of selection of candidates, including women candidates
8. Regulation of its members of Parliament, including the rules on political party solidarity and voting on its important policies, such as amendments to the National Constitution, budget and other important policies
9. Disciplinary powers and procedures for members
10. Resignation and removal of members
11. Financial provisions
12. Appointment of an auditor
13. Other administrative provisions to give effect to the development and management of the political party
14. Creation of branch or provincial offices
15. Creation of other divisions, such as youth and women divisions
16. Amalgamation rules

**SCHEDULE 2**  
**(Sections 43 and 44)**

**MINIMUM RULES FOR COALITION AGREEMENTS**

**PART 1 - COALITION AGREEMENT RULES FOR THE  
GOVERNMENT SIDE**

1. The rules contained in this Part shall apply as minimum provisions for incorporation into any Coalition Agreement to be made or adopted by political parties in Government.
2. After a general election, the leader of a political party (whether appointed before or after a general election) to a coalition agreement which has won the highest number of seats in Parliament shall be the Leader of the Coalition of Political Parties ("Leader") and, subject to paragraph 8, be nominated as Prime Minister. If the Leader withdraws his nomination as Prime Minister but wishes to remain the Leader, his political party shall select another member of that political party to be nominated the Prime Minister.
3. If two or more political parties have an equal number of seats in Parliament, all the members of the Coalition of Political Parties shall agree to, or elect by secret ballot, the member to become the Leader and, notwithstanding paragraph 4, the Deputy Leader of the Coalition.
4. Where there are more than two political parties forming a Coalition of Political Parties, the leader of the political party (whether appointed before or after a general election) with the second highest number of seats shall, subject to paragraph 9, be the Deputy Leader of the Coalition of Political Parties.
5. There shall be a Coalition Executive comprising the Leader, Deputy Leader and all leaders of the political parties in the Coalition, which shall, where necessary, include other members of the political parties to the Coalition. The Coalition Executive shall be the supreme governing body of the Coalition of Political Parties.

6. The Leader shall be the chairman of the Coalition Executive and the Deputy Leader shall be the deputy chairman. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Coalition Executive.

7. In forming Cabinet, the Leader shall consult the Coalition Executive on the names of Members of Parliament for appointment as Ministers or parliamentary secretaries.

8. A Coalition Executive shall not nominate the name of the Leader for appointment as Prime Minister by the Governor General until he has read before the Executive and signs a Coalition Declaration in the form below:

*Coalition Declaration*

*"I, ..... solemnly and sincerely do declare before all political party leaders of this ..... Coalition of Political Parties that I shall faithfully serve the Coalition as the Leader of the Coalition, and shall at all times be bound by the rules of the Coalition, and will accept and abide by all lawful resolutions duly passed by the Coalition Executive.*

*Date:*

.....  
*Signature".*

9. A Coalition Executive shall not nominate the name of the Deputy Leader for appointment as Deputy Prime Minister until he has made a Coalition Declaration in the form in paragraph 8, subject to appropriate modifications.

10. Where a political party in the Coalition of Political Parties or the Coalition Executive wish to replace the Coalition Leader or Deputy Leader, the political party or the Coalition Executive shall give not less than ten days' notice to the Leader or Deputy Leader specifying the grievances or complaints. Upon receipt of the notice, the Leader shall convene a meeting of the Coalition Executive, within seven days, to deliberate on the matters stated in the notice.

11. For the purposes of paragraph 10, the Leader or Deputy Leader, as the case may be, shall be given fair and reasonable opportunity to respond to grievances or complaints. The Leader or Deputy Leader shall not be present when the Coalition Executive is making deliberations on and delivering its decision. The Coalition Executive may appoint a panel of three members of the Coalition of



Political Parties to investigate the grievance or complaints and prepare and submit a report to the Coalition Executive which will hear and determine the grievance or complaints.

12. At any meeting held under paragraph 10, where both the Leader and Deputy Leader are not present when a decision is made, the political party with the highest number of seats shall appoint one amongst their leaders to preside at that meeting unless all the members present agree to a member to preside.

13. Any policy, strategy and plan which has been adopted, whether wholly or by combination or amalgamation, with or without variations, by the Coalition Executive shall bind and be implemented by the Coalition of Political Parties.

14. If a political party to the Coalition changes its leader, the following rules shall apply -

(a) if the leader of the political party is the Prime Minister, the Prime Minister shall resign as Leader and Prime Minister and the new leader shall be the Leader of the Coalition and be nominated for appointment as Prime Minister, subject to paragraphs 3 and 8;

(b) if the leader of the political party is the Deputy Leader, the Deputy Leader shall resign as such and the new leader shall become the Deputy Leader on the date the resignation is received by the Leader;

(c) in any other case, the new leader shall assume the role of the leader on the date the political party made the decision.

## **PART 2 - COALITION AGREEMENT RULES FOR THE OPPOSITION SIDE**

15. The rules contained in this Part shall apply as minimum provisions for incorporation into any Coalition Agreement to be made or adopted by political parties in opposition.

16. After a general election, the leader of a political party (whether appointed before or after a general election) to a coalition agreement

which has won the highest number of seats in opposition is entitled to be nominated as Leader of the Opposition.

**17.** If two or more political parties have an equal number of seats in opposition, all the members of the political parties shall agree to, or elect by secret ballot, the member to become the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

**18.** Where there are more than two political parties forming an Opposition Coalition, the leader of the political party (whether appointed before or after a general election) with the second highest number shall be the Deputy Leader of Opposition.

**19.** There shall be an executive body of whatever name approved by the Opposition Coalition, comprising all leaders of the political parties in the Opposition Coalition which shall, where necessary, include other members of the political parties to the Opposition Coalition. The executive body shall be the supreme governing body of the Opposition Coalition.

**20.** The Leader of the Opposition shall be the chairman of the executive body and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition shall be the deputy chairman. The Secretary shall be appointed by the executive body.

**21.** In assigning responsibilities to members in opposition, the Leader of the Opposition shall consult the executive body.

**22.** Where a political party in the Opposition Coalition or the executive body wish to replace the Leader or Deputy Leader of Opposition, the political party or the executive shall give no less than ten days notice to the Leader or Deputy Leader specifying the grievances or complaints. Upon receipt of the notice, the Leader of Opposition shall convene a meeting of the executive, within seven days, to deliberate on the matters stated in the notice.

**23.** For the purposes of paragraph 24, the Leader or Deputy Leader of Opposition, as the case may be, shall be given fair and reasonable opportunity to respond to grievances or complaints. The Leader or Deputy Leader of Opposition shall not be present when the executive body is making deliberations on and delivering its decision. The executive body may appoint a panel of three members of the

Opposition Coalition to investigate the grievance or complaints and prepare and submit a report to the executive body which will hear and determine the grievance or complaints.

**24.** At any meeting held under paragraph 22, where both the Leader and Deputy Leader of Opposition are not present when a decision is made, the political party with the highest number of seats shall appoint one amongst their leaders to preside at that meeting unless all the members present agree to a member to preside.

**25.** If a political party to the Opposition Coalition changes its leader, the following rules shall apply –

- (a) if the leader of the political party is the Leader of Opposition, the Leader of Opposition shall resign and the new leader shall be nominated for appointment as the Leader of Opposition;
- (b) if the leader of the political party is the Deputy Leader of Opposition, the Deputy Leader shall resign as such and the new leader shall be nominated for appointment as the Deputy Leader of Opposition;
- (c) in any other case, the new leader shall assume the role of the leader on the date the political party made the decision.

## POLITICAL PARTIES INTEGRITY BILL 2013

### OBJECTS AND REASONS

The objects of this Bill are -

- (a) to establish an authority (the Commission) to regulate political parties and promote integrity in their operation;
- (b) to provide for registration of political parties, including the rules for amalgamation of political parties;
- (c) to regulate the constitution and rules of political parties;
- (d) to regulate coalition agreements, and encourage political parties to enter into pre-election coalition agreements;
- (e) to provide for rules for selection of candidates; and
- (f) to regulate campaigns and other electoral activities of persons other than political parties and candidates.

**Part 1** – Deals with preliminary provisions. It sets out the objectives of the proposed Act in relation to the development of political parties and their roles under our democratic parliamentary system and the governance of the peoples of Solomon Islands.

**Part 2** – Provides for the Commission and officers required for the administration of the proposed Act. Other provisions deal with the powers and functions of the Commission, meeting procedures, directions and delegation, funding and functions of the Registrar and other officers.

**Part 3** – Empowers the Commission to register political parties and provides for the processes for making applications for registration and amalgamation of parties. Other provisions deal with the Register,

establishment and review of the list of parties and removal of parties from the Register.

**Part 4** – Provides for the minimum requirements for a political party's constitution and rules. It establishes the minimum age for membership as 18 years. It provides for a minimum percentage of women candidates for political parties during general elections. It prohibits dual membership and membership by non-citizens.

**Part 5** – Provides guidelines for grants payable to political parties, their acquittals and powers and deadlines for auditing of political parties' accounts.

**Part 6** – Regulates formation of coalition agreements.

**Part 7** – Regulates political party candidates. It provides that only members of political parties can be selected by the party to stand for election.

**Part 8** – Regulates activities of persons who are not political parties contesting elections, during a general election. Such non-contesting parties or groups are required to have a licence to undertake any activity, such as campaigning and fund raising for another political party or candidate.

**Part 9** – Sets out all the offences under the Act and the penalties on conviction for each offence.

**Part 10** – Provides other provisions, such as the exemption from liability, the Commission's regulation making power, power to issue integrity standards and annual report. It also contains consequential amendments and transitional provisions.

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**HON. GORDON DARCY LILO**

**PRIME MINISTER****EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

Clause 1 provides for the short title and commencement of the Act.

Clause 2 defines terms used in the Act.

Clause 3 sets out the objects of the Act.

Clause 4 sets out the functions and powers of the Commission and gives the Commission the power to delegate some functions and powers to the Registrar.

Clause 5 provides for the designation of a Secretary to the Commission.

Clause 6 provides that the Commission's budget shall come from Parliamentary appropriations and gives the Commission control over the budget.

Clause 7 provides for regular meetings of the Commission, sets the quorum for those meetings and empowers the Commission to regulate the procedure at meetings.

Clause 8 declares the Commission's independence from outside control.

Clause 9 provides for allowances to be paid to the Commissioners.

Clause 10 establishes the Office of the Registrar.

Clauses 11 and 12 describe the functions of the Registrar, including his responsibility to establish and maintain the Register of political parties.

Clause 13 prohibits a group that is not registered as a political party from nominating a candidate to represent the group in Parliament and provides that such a nomination is invalid.

Clause 14 sets out the process and details for submitting an application for registration of a political party.

Clause 15 sets out the process and details for submitting an application for amalgamation of two or more political parties.

Clause 16 requires the Registrar to publish information about an application for registration or amalgamation.

Clause 17 sets out the grounds of objection that may be taken to an application for registration and the procedure for making objections.

Clauses 18 and 19 provide for the procedures for the Registrar to submit objections to applications to the Commission and for consideration of such objections by the Commission.

Clause 20 sets out the grounds for refusal of an application but allows the Commission to ask an applicant whose manifesto is substantially the same as an existing political party to differentiate its manifesto or amalgamate with the other party.

Clause 21 provides the procedure for approval or refusal of applications by the Commission.

Clause 22 requires the Registrar to notify the chief executive officer of an applicant political party and persons who filed objections to a registration application of the Commission's decision respecting that registration.

Clause 23 describes the formal procedures to be taken by the Registrar in registering a political party.

Clause 24 describes the legal effect of registration and provides that in case of amalgamation, the applicant political parties continue to be registered unless there are grounds for their removal from the Register.

Clause 25 sets out the information to be entered in the Register and disallows the Registrar from approving a party's symbol if it is confusing, obscene, offensive or otherwise prohibited.

Clause 26 provides for the making of amendments to entries in the Register.

Clause 27 gives the grounds and process for removal of a political party from the Register.

Clause 28 requires the Registrar to verify the operation of political parties listed in the Register at least 12 months before an anticipated election and sets out the process for verification.

Clause 29 requires the Registrar to publish the list of registered political parties in operation within a week of the announcement of election day.

Clause 30 requires political parties to have constitutions that meet the requirements of Schedule 1 and sets out certain requirements respecting a party's objects and disciplinary procedures.

Clause 31 provides that the minimum age for membership in a political party is 18.

Clause 32 requires that at least ten per cent of a party's candidates for an election shall be women and offers financial incentives to parties to choose women candidates.

Clause 33 empowers independent candidates to join a political party after their election.

Clause 34 sets out the responsibilities of the chief executive officer, leader and other office holders of a political party.

Clause 35 requires members of political parties to sign a membership declaration and consent form and requires the political parties to establish, maintain and provide the Commission with a copy of their membership register.

Clauses 36 and 37 prohibit persons from being a member of more than one political party at one time and non-citizens from joining political parties.

Clause 38 sets out the funding entitlement of political parties contesting a general election and how to make a claim.

Clause 39 requires political parties and independent candidates to lodge with the Commission a financial statement of income and election expenses after a general election.

Clauses 40 and 41 require political parties to lodge with the Commission quarterly returns and annual financial reports.

Clause 42 requires the Commission to appoint an auditor for each political party and gives those auditors certain powers.

Clause 43 provides for political parties to enter into coalition agreements, subject to the minimum rules in Schedule 2.



Clause 44 provides that a political party may only be a party to one coalition agreement at a time and sets out the procedure and requirements for withdrawal from, or revocation of, a coalition agreement. The Clause also requires the Commission to publish such agreements.

Clause 45 requires political parties, before an election, to lodge with the Commission a list of its candidates and requires the Commission to publish that list.

Clause 46 prohibits a political party from choosing as candidates to contest a general election any person who is not a registered member of the party.

Clause 47 requires political parties and other entities that do not intend to contest an election to file a declaration with the Registrar to that effect.

Clause 48 prohibits unlicensed non-contesting parties from becoming involved in activities in relation to a general election and sets out the procedure for applying for a licence.

Clause 49 lists the persons who may not be licensed as non-contesting parties and the conditions under which a licence may not be granted.

Clause 50 empowers the Registrar to vary, suspend or cancel a non-contesting party licence for breach of its terms.

Clause 51 gives a right of appeal to the Commission to a non-contesting party whose licence is varied, suspended or cancelled under Clause 50.

Clause 52 requires the Commission to establish, maintain and publish a list of the names and activities of non-contesting parties.

Clause 53 requires non-contesting parties to disclose funds collected for an election campaign and the names of the beneficiary candidates and political parties of those funds.

Clause 54 makes it an offence for a member of the Commission, the Registrar or their staff, employees or delegates to disclose without consent the manifesto, strategies or policies of a political party contained in the party's application for registration. The Clause also sets the penalties for commission of the offence and creates an exception from the non-disclosure rule.

Clause 55 makes it an offence to hold multiple memberships in political parties and sets the penalty for persons convicted of the offence.

Clause 56 makes contravention of financial reporting requirements by an independent candidate or political party an offence and sets the penalty on conviction of the offence.

Clause 57 makes it an offence to engage in electoral activities without a licence and sets the penalty for persons convicted of the offence.

Clause 58 makes it an offence for a non-contesting party to fail to disclose funds raised by election activities and the beneficiary party or candidate for those funds. The Clause also sets the penalty on conviction of the offence.

Clause 59 protects the Commission and Registrar and their staff and employees from liability for acts done in good faith under the authority of the Act.

Clause 60 requires the Commission to prepare an annual report on its operations under the Act and requires the report to be tabled before Parliament.

Clause 61 gives broad regulation making power to the Commission.

Clause 62 enables the Commission to issue integrity standards for political parties.

Clause 63 deems existing political parties to have been approved by the Commission for registration under the Act and requires all other political parties to apply for registration within 6 months after the coming into force of the Act.

Clause 64 makes consequential amendments to the National Parliament (Electoral Provisions) Act (Cap. 87) to permit the Returning Officer conducting an election to hold a nomination paper invalid in respect of candidates who are members of a political party but are not selected for nomination by that party. The Clause also permits invalidation of nominations of candidates who have been nominated to represent a group in Parliament where the group is not registered as a political party.

Finally, the Clause would repeal section 45 of the National Parliament (Electoral Provisions) Act (Cap. 87) which requires all candidates to submit a declaration of their election expenses to the Returning Officer and creates an offence for candidates whose expenses exceed the permitted maximum.

Schedule 1 lists the minimum provisions to be included in the constitution and rules for political parties.

Schedule 2 sets out the minimum rules for coalition agreements for both the Government side and the Opposition side.

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**HON. GORDON DARCY LILO**  
**PRIME MINISTER**

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