NATIONAL PARLIAMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS

BILLS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

INQUIRY INTO THE CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) BILL 2026

(Bill No. 3 of 2026)

Adopted by the Committee on Tuesday 13th October 2026

1. REFERRAL

1.1 The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026 (Bill No. 3 of 2026) (**the Bill**) stands referred to the Bills and Legislation Committee (**the Committee**) by the National Parliament on 27th August 2026, pursuant to Standing Order 49.

1.2 The Bill seeks to amend the *Citizenship Act 2018* (**the Act**) to provide an additional ground on which the Citizenship Commission (**the Commission**) may revoke the citizenship of a person who became a citizen by application under Part 3 of the Act, where it is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the person has engaged in conduct that seriously prejudices the stability, security, defence, public safety or public order of Solomon Islands.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

2.1 The Committee shall inquire into and report to Parliament on the Bill, with particular reference to:

(a) the need for the Bill, including the nature and evidence of the risk to national security and public order it is intended to address, and the adequacy of existing law and administrative measures;

(b) the likely effectiveness of the Bill in achieving its objective;

(c) the clarity, certainty and scope of the proposed ground of revocation;

(d) the adequacy of the safeguards for lawful political expression and democratic participation;

(e) the justification for, and implications of, applying the proposed ground only to citizens by application;

(f) the fairness of the revocation process, including the handling of security-sensitive information and the availability of review and remedies;

(g) the role, independence, procedures and capacity of the Commission;

(h) the protection against a person being rendered stateless;

(i) the consistency of the Bill with the Constitution, other written law, the principles of natural justice and the international obligations of Solomon Islands;

(j) the adequacy of consultation on the Bill;

(k) the financial, administrative and resource implications of the Bill;

(l) the technical and drafting quality of the Bill; and

(m) any amendment to the Bill the Committee considers necessary or desirable, and any incidental matter.

2.2 In examining these matters, the Committee will consider whether the Bill is necessary, effective, clear, proportionate, fair, consistent with the Constitution and other law, and capable of effective administration.

3. MATTERS OUTSIDE SCOPE

3.1 The Committee will not inquire into or make findings concerning the citizenship status or conduct of any identifiable individual, or any matter before a court, and will not review the general operation of the Act except so far as necessary to assess the Bill.

4. CONDUCT OF THE INQUIRY

4.1 The Committee will invite public submissions, to be accompanied by an issues paper, and will take evidence from the responsible Ministry, the Attorney-General's Chambers, the Commission, relevant law enforcement and immigration authorities, the Ministry of Finance and Treasury, and such other persons as it considers appropriate.

4.2 Hearings will ordinarily be in public. The Committee may take evidence in camera where it concerns national security, law enforcement or an identifiable individual, or where it otherwise considers it necessary in the public interest.

4.3 The Committee may exercise the powers conferred on it by the Standing Orders and by law to send for persons, papers and records, and may obtain independent legal or technical advice.

4.4 Submissions and evidence are proceedings in Parliament and are protected by parliamentary privilege. Material received in confidence or in camera must not be disclosed except as authorised by the Committee.

5. REPORT

5.1 The Committee shall report to Parliament by Friday 13th November 2026 in accordance with Standing Order 71 (g), setting out its findings, conclusions and recommendations, including any recommended amendments to the Bill.

5.2 The Committee may, by resolution, vary or supplement these Terms of Reference within the scope of the referral, and may seek the leave of Parliament to extend the time for reporting.