



PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
SRI LANKA

SAMURDHI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA
ACT, No. 30 OF 1995

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 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE SAMURDHI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA; AND TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AUTHORITY OF THE SAMURDHI PROGRAMMES WITH A VIEW TO INTEGRATING YOUTH, WOMEN AND DISADVANTAGED GROUPS INTO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES; AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

1. This Act may be cited as the Samurdhi Authority Act of Sri Lanka Act, No. 30 of 1995 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may appoint by Order published in the Gazette (hereinafter referred to as the "appointed date").

Short title and date of operation

PART I

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SAMURDHI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA

Establishment of the Samurdhi Authority of Sri Lanka

(1) There shall be established an authority which shall be called the Samurdhi Authority of Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as "the Authority") consisting of the persons appointed under section 3.

(2) The Authority shall by the name assigned to it by subsection (1), be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in such name.

Director of the Authority

3. (1) The Authority shall consist of—
- (a) four ex-officio directors, namely,
 - (i) the Secretary to the Ministry of the Minister in charge of the subject of the Rural Development (hereinafter referred to as "the Secretary") ;
 - (ii) the Secretary to the Ministry of the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance ;
 - (iii) the Commissioner-General of Samurdhi appointed under section 10 ;
 - (iv) the Commissioner of Poor Relief ; and
 - (b) three other Directors appointed by the Minister. (A Director appointed under this paragraph shall hereinafter be referred to as an "appointed Director").

(2) The Minister shall appoint one of the Directors to be the Directors-General of the Authority (hereinafter referred to as "the Director-General").

(3) The provisions of the Schedule to this Act shall have effect in relation to the terms of office of the Directors, and the remuneration payable to Directors, and meetings of the Authority and the seal of the Authority.

Functions
of the
Authority.

4. The functions of the Authority shall be to formulate a programme called the Samurdhi National Programme (hereinafter referred to as "the programme") for the improvement of the economic and social conditions of youth, women and disadvantaged groups of society by—

- (a) broadening their opportunities for income enhancement and employment ;
- (b) integrating them into economic and social development activities ;
- (c) linking family level economic activities with community development projects at village, district, divisional, and provincial levels ;
- (d) mobilizing their participation in the planning and management of projects and schemes for their upliftment ;
- (e) fostering co-operation among them, promoting savings amongst them and assisting them to obtain credit facilities ;
- (f) facilitating the delivery of inputs and services of Government departments, public corporations, local authorities, private sector organisations and non-government organisations to beneficiaries of the programme,

and to implement the programme so formulated and other programmes of the Government for poverty alleviation.

Power
of the
Authority.

5. For the purpose of implementing the programme, the Authority shall have the power—

- (a) to establish and maintain district and divisional Samurdhi Committees at district and divisional level ;

- (b) to establish and maintain Samurdhi Centres and Samurdhi Balakayas at village cluster level and village level to provide agricultural, fisheries and industrial inputs, information, management and consultancy services to beneficiaries of the programme ;
- (c) to establish, committees consisting of youth at village level, district level, divisional level and national level to ensure active participation of youth in the implementation of the programme ;
- (d) to establish, manage and operate savings and credit schemes for the beneficiaries under the programme ;
- (e) to provide marketing services (including the provision of marketing centres) for the storage, processing and sale of products of beneficiary families ;
- (f) to arrange for the conduct of lotteries with the assistance of the National Lotteries Board to raise moneys for the implementation of the Samurdhi programme ;
- (g) to appoint committees of beneficiaries of the programme to plan and manage development activities at village level ;
- (h) to provide training, management, consultancy and information services and agricultural, fisheries and industrial inputs to beneficiaries of the programme and beneficiary families, with a view to promoting agricultural productivity, self-employment and small enterprise development ;
- (i) acquire and hold any property movable or immovable, and to sell, transfer, lease, mortgage or otherwise dispose of, such property ;
- (j) receive grants, gifts, or donations in cash or kind from local or foreign sources ;
- (k) enter into and perform either directly or through officers or agents authorized in writing in that behalf by the Authority, all such contracts and agreements as may be necessary for discharging its functions or the exercise of its powers.

PART II

DISTRICT SAMURDHI COMMITTEES, DIVISIONAL SAMURDHI COMMITTEES, SAMURDHI CENTRES AND SAMURDHI BALAKAY.

District Samurdhi Committee.

(1) There shall be established in each administrative district, a District Samurdhi Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the District Committee") which shall consist of the District Secretary appointed for such administrative district as its Chairman and consisting of three relevant officers of the Authority and such number of representatives of Government departments, the provincial public service, private sector establishments, non-governmental organisations and the beneficiaries under the programme functioning or resident in such administrative district, as may be determined by the District Secretary in consultation with the Commissioner-General of Samurdhi and the Authority.

(2) The District Committee shall advise on all matters relating to the implementation of the programme and other poverty alleviation programmes of the Government within the District for which such District Committee is established and such committee shall submit reports to the Commissioner-General of Samurdhi and the Authority when called for by the Commissioner-General of Samurdhi and the Authority.

Divisional Samurdhi Committee.

7. (1) There shall be established in each Divisional Secretary's division, a Divisional Samurdhi Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the Divisional Committee") which shall consist of the Divisional Secretary appointed for such Divisional Secretary's division as its Chairman and three relevant officers of the Authority and such number of representatives of Government departments, the provincial public service, local authorities, non-governmental organisations and the beneficiaries under the programme, functioning or resident within such Divisional Secretary's division as may be determined by the Divisional Secretary in consultation with the Commissioner-General of Samurdhi and the Authority.

(2) The Divisional Committee shall advise on all matters relating to the implementation of the programme and other poverty alleviation programmes of the Government within the Divisional Secretary's Division for which such Divisional Committee is established and such committee shall submit reports to the Commissioner-General of Samurdhi and the Authority when called for by the Commissioner-General of Samurdhi and the Authority.

Samurdhi
Centres

(1) There shall be established a Samurdhi Centre in such cluster of Grama Niladhari Divisions as may be determined by the Divisional Secretary appointed for the division within which such Grama Niladhari Divisions are situated in consultation with the Authority, consisting of such number of representatives of the beneficiaries under the programme resident in the Grama Niladhari Divisions which form the cluster as may be determined by the Divisional Secretary.

(2) The functions of the Samurdhi Centre shall be—

(a) to plan and co-ordinate activities of the Samurdhi Balakayas established for the Grama Niladhari Divisions in that cluster;

(b) to provide in collaboration with banks and lending institutions credit and banking facilities, and to provide training, management and other (consultancy) services, necessary to implement activities of the Samurdhi Balakayas established for the Grama Niladhari Divisions in that cluster;

(c) mobilize savings of the beneficiaries of the programme;

(d) to plan and provide infrastructure facilities required for the development of villages with a view to improving productive resources at the Grama Niladhari level;

(e) to co-ordinate with Divisional Committees established for the Divisional Secretary's Division within which the Grama Niladhari Divisions of that cluster are situated to facilitate the implementation of the programme at the Samurdhi Balakaya level.

(1) There shall be established a Samurdhi Balakaya in each Grama Niladhari Division which shall consist of the youth resident in such Grama Niladhari Division.

Samurdhi
Balakaya

(2) There shall be an Executive Council for each Samurdhi Balakaya established under subsection (1) consisting of seven youth elected by the representatives of the Samurdhi Balakaya, at the Annual General Meeting of such Balakaya, five Samurdhi Niyamaka and five representatives of Government departments and non-governmental organisations engaged in Sports, Youth Affairs and Rural Development activities in such Division nominated by the Divisional Secretary appointed for the Division within which such

Grama Niladhari Division is situated, in consultation with the Commissioner-General of Samurdhi.

(3) There shall be appointed a Advisory Council for Samurdhi Balakaya established under subsection (1) the purpose of advising and assisting such Samurdhi Balakaya in discharging its functions and shall consist of seven persons not being youth engaged in social welfare activities in such Grama Niladhari Division in which such Samurdhi Balakaya is established.

(4) The functions of the Samurdhi Balakaya shall be:

(a) to co-ordinate, foster all activities connected with the development projects of the programme at the family level and the development projects of the programme at the Grama Niladhari Division level;

(b) to provide in collaboration with banks and other lending institutions, credit and banking facilities and to provide training, management and other consultancy services, necessary to implement development projects of the programme in Grama Niladhari Division for which the Samurdhi Balakaya is established;

(c) mobilize savings of the beneficiaries of the programme;

(d) to mobilize the participation of beneficiaries residing in such Grama Niladhari Division in planning, managing the development projects of the programme and activities in such division concerning their social upliftment;

(e) to undertake other activities assigned by the Regional Committee appointed for the division in which such Grama Niladhari Division is situated in relation to the programme."

PART III

COMMISSIONER-GENERAL OF SAMURDHI

Appointment
of Com-
missioner-
General
of Samurdhi.

10. (1) There shall be appointed by name or by office for the purposes of this Act, a Commissioner-General of Samurdhi (hereinafter referred to as "the Commissioner-General").

(2) There shall be appointed, by name or by office, such number of Commissioners, District Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act.

(3) Every District Secretary may in relation to the Administrative District to which his appointment relates exercise, perform and discharge, the powers, duties and functions, conferred or imposed on, or assigned to, the Commissioner-General by this Act, Every Divisional Secretary may, in relation to the administrative division in which his appointment relates, exercise, perform and discharge the powers, duties and functions conferred or imposed on, or assigned to, the Commissioner-General by this Act.

(4) Any Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner may be appointed for the whole of Sri Lanka or any part thereof.

11. Subject to the provisions of section 5 the Commissioner-General shall under the directions and control of the Secretary facilitate and assist in, the implementation of the programme and other poverty alleviation programmes of the Government by co-ordinating between the Authority and the relevant Ministries, Government departments and other institutions.

Commissioner-General to assist in the implementation of the programme.

12. (1) Every Commissioner, District Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner shall, in the exercise of his powers, the performance of his duties or the discharge of his functions, be subject to the general direction and control of the Commissioner-General.

Powers and duties of Officers.

(2) Every Commissioner, District Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner may, subject to the general direction and control of the Commissioner-General within the area of his appointment, exercise perform or discharge all or any of the powers, duties or functions conferred or, imposed upon or, assigned to the Commissioner-General by, or under, this Act.

13. The Commissioner-General may, by notice in writing require any person to furnish him, within such time as may be specified in the notice such information as may be necessary to ascertain the accuracy of any statement contained in any declaration made to him under this Act, and it shall be the duty of such person to comply with such requirement.

Power of Commissioner-General to call for information.

PART IV

STAFF OF THE AUTHORITY

Appointment
of officers
and servants
of the
Authority.

14. (1) The Director-General shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority.

(2) The Director-General shall subject to the general direction of the Authority on matters of policy be charged with the direction of the business of the Authority and the discharge of its functions by the Authority.

(3) The Authority shall have the power to appoint such number of officers, agents and servants as it considers necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions and the performance of its duties under this Act, and to exercise disciplinary control over and dismiss any officer, agent or servant so appointed.

(4) The Authority may delegate to the Director-General or any officer appointed under subsection (3) any of its powers, and the person to whom such powers are delegated may exercise such powers subject to the direction of the Authority.

(5) The officers, agents and servants appointed under subsection (3), shall be remunerated in such manner at such rates and shall be subject to such conditions of service as may be determined by the Authority.

(6) At the request of the Authority any officer in the public service may, with the consent of that officer and the Secretary to the Ministry of the Minister in charge of the subject of Public Administration, be temporarily appointed to the staff of the Authority for such period as may be determined by the Authority with the consent or with the like consent be permanently appointed to such staff.

(7) Where any officer in the public service is temporarily appointed to the staff of the Authority the provisions of subsection (2) of section 14 of the National Transport Commission Act, No. 37 of 1991, shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to, and in relation to, him.

(8) Where any officer in the public service is permanently appointed to the staff of the Authority the provisions of subsection (3) of section 14 of the National Transport Commission Act. No. 37 of 1991, shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to, and in relation to, him:

(9) Where the Authority employs any person who has agreed to serve the Government for a specified period, any period of service with the Authority by that person shall be regarded as service to the Government for the purposes of discharging the obligations of that person under such agreement.

FINANCE

15. (1) The Authority shall have its own Fund (hereinafter referred to as "the Fund").

Fund
of the
Authority.

(2) There shall be paid into, the Fund—

- (a) all such sums of money as may be voted from time to time by Parliament for the use of the Authority;
- (b) all sums of money received by the Authority from any source, as gifts and donations to the Fund;
- (c) all sums of money received by the Authority as income from any property owned or administered by, the Authority; and
- (d) all sums of money derived by the Authority in the exercise of the powers, and the discharge of its functions under this Act.

(3) There shall be paid out of the Fund, all sums of money required to defray expenditure incurred by the Authority in the exercise, performance and discharge, of its powers, duties and functions under this Act, and all sums of money required to be paid out of the Fund, by or under this Act.

16. (1) The Authority may, with the concurrence of the Minister and the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance or in accordance with the terms of any general authority given with like concurrence, borrow by way of loan, draft or otherwise, or negotiate and obtain on credit, such sums as the Authority may require for discharging the functions of the Authority:

Borrowing
powers.

Provided that the aggregate of the amounts outstanding in respect of loans raised by the Authority under this subsection shall not at any time, exceed such sums as may be determined by the Minister with the concurrence of the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance.

(2) The Authority with the consent of the Minister given with the concurrence of the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance borrow money otherwise than by way of loans under subsection (1) for all or any of the following purposes: —

- (a) the requisition or acquisition of any movable or immovable property required for the use of the Authority;
- (b) the repayment of any money borrowed under subsection (1).

Financial year and audit of accounts of the Authority.

17. (1) The financial year of the Authority shall be the calendar year.

(2) The Authority shall cause proper books of accounts to be kept of the income and expenditure, assets and liabilities and all other transactions of the Authority.

(3) The provisions of Article 154 of the Constitution relating to the audit of accounts of public corporations shall apply to the audit of the accounts of the Authority.

PART VI

GENERAL

Declaration of secrecy

18. Every Director of the Authority, all officers and servants of the Authority, the Commissioner-General, every Commissioner, District Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner shall before entering upon his duties sign a declaration pledging himself to observe strict secrecy respecting all matters connected with the working of the Authority and shall by such declaration pledge himself not to disclose any matters which may come to his knowledge in the discharge of his functions, except—

- (a) when required to do so by a court of law, or
- (b) in order to comply with any of the provisions of this Act.

Returns and information.

19. (1) For the purpose of enabling the Authority to exercise and discharge any of its powers and functions under this Act, the Authority or any person authorised in that behalf by the Authority may, by notice in writing require any person to furnish to the Authority or to the person authorised by the Authority, within such period as shall be specified in the notice, such returns and information as shall be specified in such notice and require any person to be present before the Authority.

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(2) It shall be the duty of any person who is required by a notice under subsection (1), to furnish any return or information or to be present before the Authority to comply with the requirements of such notice within the period specified in such notice, except where such person is prohibited from furnishing such returns or information under the provisions of any law.

(3) No information contained in a return furnished in compliance with a notice issued under subsection (1) shall be published or communicated by the Authority to any other person except with the consent of the person furnishing such return or information or in the course of the discharge of the functions of the Authority.

(4) Every person who makes any statement before the Authority shall in respect of such statement be entitled to all the privileges to which a witness giving evidence before a court of law is entitled in respect of evidence given by him before such court.

20. (1) The Authority shall conduct such number of lotteries in each year as may be prescribed.

Conduct of
Lottery.

(2) Every lottery shall be conducted by the Authority in such manner as may be prescribed.

21. All Directors, officers and servants of the Authority shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of, and for the purposes of, the Penal Code.

Directors,
officers and
servants
of the
Authority
deemed to
be public
servants.

22. The Authority shall be deemed to be a scheduled institution within the meaning of the Bribery Act, and the provisions of that Act shall be construed accordingly.

The Authority
deemed to be a
scheduled
institution
within the
meaning
of the
Bribery Act.

23. The Authority may establish Committees for such period for the purpose of advising and assisting the Authority in the discharge of its functions and may appoint any such person as it may deem necessary to serve on such Committees.

Committees

Protection
for action
taken under
this Act
or on the
direction
of the
Authority.

24. No suit or prosecution shall lie—
(a) against the Authority for any act which in good faith is done or purported to be done by, it under this Act; or
(b) against any Director, officer or servant of the Authority for any act which in good faith is done or purported to be done by him under this Act, or on the direction of the Authority.

Non
An application
of the
provisions
of the
Finance
Companies
Act, No. 78
of 1988.
Offences.

25. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2 of the Finance Companies Act, No. 78 of 1988, the provisions of that Act shall not apply to the business carried on by the Authority under paragraph (d) of section 5.

26. (1) Any person who makes any statement relating to his assets and liabilities or those of his spouse, children or dependants, which to his knowledge is false or incorrect in any declaration made by him under this Act shall be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate, be liable to a fine not exceeding two thousand rupees or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) Any person who, being a person who is a beneficiary under the programme, omits, without reasonable cause, to notify the authority or the Commissioner-General any material change in the particulars furnished by him in a declaration made by him under this Act with respect to—

(a) his assets and liabilities; or

(b) the assets and liabilities of his spouse, children or other dependants,

within a period of two months from the date of such change, shall be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate be liable to a fine not exceeding two thousand rupees or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(3) Any person who—

(a) fails to comply with the requirement of a notice sent to him under section 19;

(b) knowingly furnish any false or incorrect information, in compliance with the requirements of any such notice,
(c) the manner in which applications to be a beneficiary shall be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate, be liable to a fine not exceeding two thousand rupees or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both such fine and imprisonment;
(d) Any person who—
(i) obtains relief under the provisions of this Act in a manner and form and manner in which relief is to be granted;
(ii) attempts to interfere with or obstructs or attempts to interfere with, or influence, any officer of the Authority in the discharge of his functions under this Act;

(3) Every regulation made under this Act shall be published in the Gazette and shall come into operation on the date of such publication or on such later date as may be specified in the regulation.
shall be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate be liable to a fine not exceeding two thousand rupees or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(4) Every regulation made under subsection (1) shall, as soon as convenient after its publication in the Gazette, be brought before Parliament for approval. Any such regulation which is not so approved shall be deemed to be rescinded from the date of disapproval but without prejudice to any thing done thereunder.
(5) Any person required to take an oath of secrecy under section 18 or to take an oath under this Act without taking such oath; or

(b) who acts in contravention of the provisions of section 18 or an oath taken under that section, shall be guilty of an offence under this Act, and shall be liable, on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate, to a fine not exceeding two thousand rupees or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(6) Any person who contravenes any regulation made under this Act shall be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall, on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand rupees.

27. (1) The Minister may make regulations in respect of all or any of the following matters:— **Regulations.**

(a) all matters required or authorized by this Act to be prescribed;

- (b) conditions of eligibility to be a beneficiary under the programme ;
- (c) the manner in which applications to be a beneficiary under the programme shall be made ;
- (d) the conditions to be complied with by such beneficiaries to obtain relief under the programme and the form and manner in which relief is to be granted to such beneficiaries under the programme ;
- (e) the form of all notices and declarations required to be issued or made for the purposes of this Act ;
- (f) the publication, from time to time, of lists of persons declared to be beneficiaries under the programme.

(2) Every regulation made under subsection (1) shall be published in the Gazette and shall come into operation on the date of such publication or on such later date as may be specified in the regulation.

(3) Every regulation made under subsection (1) shall, as soon as convenient after its publication in the Gazette, be brought before Parliament for approval. Any such regulation which is not so approved shall be deemed to be rescinded from the date of disapproval but without prejudice to any thing previously done thereunder. Notification of the date on which a regulation is deemed to be rescinded shall be published in the Gazette.

Sinhala text to prevail in case of inconsistency.

28. In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail.

Interpretation.

29. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires—

“local authority” means a Municipal Council, Urban Council or Pradeshiya Sabha and includes any authority created or established by or under any law to exercise, perform and discharge powers, duties and functions corresponding to or similar to the powers, duties and functions, exercised, performed and discharged by any such Council or Sabha ;

“Provincial Council” means a Provincial Council established by Chapter XVIIIA of the Constitution ;

"Youth" means any person between eighteen and thirty five years of age;

SCHEDULE

[Section 3 (3)]

PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE
AUTHORITY

1. A person shall be disqualified from being appointed or from continuing as a Director, if he—

(a) is a Member of Parliament or a member of a Provincial Council or a member of a local authority; or

(b) is under any law in force in Sri Lanka or in any other country, found or declared to be of unsound mind; or

(c) is a person who having been declared insolvent or a bankrupt under any law in Sri Lanka or in any other country, is an undischarged insolvent or bankrupt; or

(d) is a person on whom a sentence of imprisonment (including a suspended sentence) has been imposed by any court in Sri Lanka or any other country; or

(e) has any such financial or other interest as is likely to affect prejudicially the discharge by him of his functions as a Director.

2. An appointed Director may resign his office by letter addressed to the Minister.

3. The Minister may without assigning any reason therefor, remove any appointed Director from office and such removal shall not be called in question in any court of law or tribunal.

4. (1) Every appointed Director shall, unless he vacates office earlier by death, resignation or removal, hold office for a term of three years from the date of his appointment and shall, unless he has been removed from office, be eligible for re-appointment:

Provided that a Director appointed in place of a Director who dies or resigns or otherwise vacates office shall, unless he earlier vacates office, hold office for the unexpired part of the term of office of the Director whom he succeeds.

(2) Where the Director-General or any appointed Director becomes, by reason of illness, infirmity or absence from Sri Lanka, temporarily unable to discharge the functions of his office, the Minister may appoint any other Director to act as the Director-General or any other person to act in place of such appointed Director, as the case may be.

5. The Director-General and the Directors shall be paid such remuneration out of the Fund as may be determined by the Minister.

6. A Director who is in any way directly or indirectly interested in any contract made or proposed to be made by the Authority shall disclose the nature of his interest at a meeting of the Authority. This disclosure shall be recorded in the minutes of the meetings of the Authority and such Director shall not take part in any deliberation or decision of the Authority with respect to that contract, provided that the interest which any Director may have in a contract by virtue of his being an officer of a Government Department or public corporation or a Director of a public corporation shall be deemed not to be an interest within the meaning of this paragraph.

7. (1) The Director-General may resign his office as Director-General by letter in that behalf addressed to the Minister.

(2) The Minister may at any time and without assigning any reason therefor, remove the Director-General from the office of Director-General.

(3) The term of office of the Director-General shall be the period of his membership of the Authority.

8. The Director-General shall preside at all meetings of the Authority. In the absence of the Director-General from any meeting of the Authority, an *ex officio* Director shall preside at such meeting.

9. (1) Subject to the other provisions of this paragraph, the Authority may regulate the procedure in regard to its meetings and the transaction of business at such meetings.

(2) The quorum for a meeting of the Authority shall be four Directors.

10. No act, decision or proceeding of the Authority shall be invalidated by reason only of the existence of a vacancy in the Authority or any defect in the appointment of any of its Directors.

11. (1) The seal of the Authority shall be in the custody of such persons as the Authority may decide from time to time.

(2) The seal of the Authority may be altered in such manner as may be determined by the Authority.

(3) The seal of the Authority shall not be affixed to any instrument or document except in the presence of two Directors who shall sign the instrument or document in token of their presence.

(4) The Authority shall maintain a register of the instruments or documents to which its seal has been affixed.

12. A Director referred to in paragraph (a) of section 3(1) may designate a senior official of his Ministry not below the level of a Senior Assistant Secretary to attend meetings of the Authority in his place and as his alternate, and shall inform the Director-General of the Authority in writing of such designation.

13. An alternate Director designated under paragraph (12) shall have the right to attend meetings of the Authority and vote there at but shall not be eligible to be elected under paragraph 8 to preside at meetings of the Authority.

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