



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

**RULES OF PROCEDURE OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**

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Subject to the provisions of Article 73, paragraph I of the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, the House of Representatives at its sitting on the 11th of December, 1980, passed its Rules of Procedure, which read as follows:

## RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

1. These Rules of Procedure shall be cited as the Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus. Short title.
- 2.—(1) In these Rules of Procedure, unless the context otherwise requires: Interpretation.
- "Committee" means a House Standing Committee set up by the Committee of Selection, including any temporary, ad hoc or other special Committee of the House;
- "House" means the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus;
- "President" means the President of the House and includes, where the context so requires, the Representative presiding over a meeting of the House;
- "Rules of Procedure" means the Rules of Procedure of the House.
- (2) Terms and expressions not otherwise defined in these Rules of Procedure shall have the meaning assigned to them by the Constitution.
3. The provisions of the Constitution referring to the House of Representatives shall be deemed to have been incorporated in these Rules and shall be read, construed and applied subject to the provisions of the Constitution in general. Incorporation of the provisions of the Constitution.

### PART I FUNCTIONS OF THE HOUSE

#### CHAPTER A SESSION AND ORGANISATION OF THE HOUSE

4. At the first sitting of the opening ordinary session of the term of office of the House of Representatives, the functions of the office of the President shall be performed by the eldest Representative present pending the election of the new President of the House. President of the House at the first sitting of the opening ordinary session.
- 5.—(1) The Representative presiding over the sitting referred to hereinbefore shall declare the commencement of such sitting and shall invite the elected Representatives to make, before assuming duties as such in the House of Representatives, the affirmation provided in Article 69 of the Constitution. Affirmation by Representatives.
- (2) A Representative absent from the first sitting of the House or a Representative elected during the period of the term of office of the House, before assuming duties as such in the House, shall make the affirmation provided in Article 69 of the Constitution.

Election  
of President  
of the House.

6. Following the affirmation of the Representatives there shall take place an election of the President of the House under the provisions of Article 72 of the Constitution.

Clerks and  
Administrative  
Clerks of the  
House to take  
seats.

7. The Clerks and Administrative Clerks appointed by the President of the House after his election shall be invited by him to take their seats.

#### EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE HOUSE

Summons of an  
extraordinary  
session.

7A.—(1) The House shall be summoned to an extraordinary session on the written request of ten Representatives addressed to the President. The Representatives requesting the summons of an extraordinary session shall state in their request the topic to be debated and the reasons in brief for which it is necessary for the House to be summoned to an extraordinary session and they shall sign the request in person or through an authorized representative. In the latter case the authorizing document shall be attached to the request.

(2) After receiving the request the President shall without unwarranted delay and in any case within five days from the receipt of such a request, fix the requested session of the House and the first sitting of this session which shall take place within eight days of the date of receiving the aforementioned request. Simultaneously with the fixing of the aforementioned sitting by the President, the content of the request for summons of the extraordinary session shall be made known to all Representatives.

(3) On commencing its sitting on the date and at the time fixed by the President, the House shall decide on the topic proposed to be debated. In the case that the House approves that the proposed topic be debated, this debate can take place either immediately or in another sitting as decided accordingly by the House.

#### CHAPTER B

##### FUNCTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT, CLERKS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CLERKS OF THE HOUSE

Functions  
of President  
of the House.

8.—(1) The President shall perform the functions assigned to him by the Constitution, the Rules of Procedure of the House and the Laws.

(2) The President—

- (a) shall keep the order during the sittings of the House, shall ensure compliance with the rules of procedure, shall conduct the proceedings in the House in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, shall put the matters under debate to the vote, shall announce the results of the voting, shall express the feelings of the House and, generally, shall see that the deliberations of the House are smoothly carried out;
- (b) shall speak from his chair when the subject of the debate is related to the Rules of Procedure, or in order to explain where the matter under debate stands, or to provide the necessary information, or to ask a speaker to keep to the subject under debate or to call to order those deviating from the Rules;
- (c) shall appoint and exercise supervision over the Clerks and Administrative Clerks in the performance of their functions;

- (d) shall be the Head of the Office of the House and shall order payments as in the budget of the House provided;
- (e) shall represent the House at official manifestations held within and outside the building of the House and at official ceremonies and receptions, either when the House is in session or after the end of the session;
- (f) shall address, on behalf of the House, the President of the Republic and other Officers of the State.

9. The Clerks shall assist the President in conducting the proceedings of the House, shall read before the House any document deemed by the President that should be read, shall register in order of request the names of the Representatives asking for the right to speak, shall assist the President during voting and shall write down the decisions taken. Functions of Clerks.

10. The Administrative Clerks shall assist the President in the maintenance of order in the House and shall see that all directions of the President are carried out, especially those related to the maintenance of order during the meetings. Functions of Administrative Clerks.

### CHAPTER C AGENDA

11. The agenda shall be drawn up as in the Constitution provided and shall include the following chapters: Contents of Agenda.

- (a) Chapter one: Legislative work.
- (b) Chapter two: Introduction of Bills and Documents.
- (c) Chapter three: Questions and Answers.
- (d) Chapter four: Matters entered for debate.

### CHAPTER D REPRESENTATIVES

12. For the purpose of this Chapter, unless the context otherwise requires— Interpretation.  
"Committee" means the Committee set up under rule 16 of the present Rules of Procedure;

"fixed date" means the last day of each month and in case of Sundays or holidays, the next following day.

13. The Representatives shall be required to attend the meetings and deliberations of the House and of all Committees of the House of which they are members and they shall have the right to attend and take part, without the right to vote, in the meetings of any Committee of the House of which they are not members. Participation of Representatives in deliberations of the House and of Committees.

14. The presence of the Representatives at the meetings of the House shall be established by the Clerk of the House, and their presence at a meeting of a Committee of the House from a Register kept for the meetings of Committees and signed by the Chairman of the relevant Committee at the end of the meeting. Establishment of presence of Representatives.

15 (1) Any Representative who is absent without reasonable cause from three consecutive meetings of the House or from four consecutive meetings of the same Committee of the House of which he is a member, shall forfeit the right to receive his monthly representation allowance. Absence of Representatives without reasonable cause.

(2) A Representative who is absent without reasonable cause from two consecutive meetings of the House or from three consecutive meetings of the same Committee of the House of which he is a member, shall forfeit the right to receive half of his monthly representation allowance.

(3) A Representative who is absent without reasonable cause from two consecutive meetings of the same Committee of the House of which he is a member, shall forfeit the right to receive one third of his monthly representation allowance.

Rules Observing  
Committee.

16.—(1) A Committee shall be set up consisting of the President of the House as chairman and another three Representatives appointed by the Committee of Selection, which shall meet once a month and at a fixed date to consider the absence of Representatives from the sittings of the House and from the meetings of the Committees of the House and to decide whether any such absence during the month was justified or not.

(2) The President shall forward to the Minister of Finance the decisions of the Committee for deducting the whole or part of the monthly representation allowance, as the case may be, of the Representatives who were unjustifiably absent. Such deductions shall be made from the allowance of the month next following.

Notification by a  
Representative  
about his  
absence.

17.—(1) A Representative intending to be absent from any sitting during the month must, if this is possible, inform the President in advance accordingly.

(2) A Representative who was absent from any meeting during the month shall submit in writing to the President of the House the reasons for his absence before the date fixed for the meeting of the Committee.

(3) An absent Representative who does not submit in writing the reasons for his absence, shall be considered to have been absent without reasonable cause, unless he satisfies the Committee to the contrary.

Consideration  
of reasons by  
Rules Observing  
Committee.

18. The Committee shall consider the reasons given for each such absence and shall decide accordingly, basing its decision on the following criteria:

An absence of a Representative shall be considered to be justified for reasons of health, or because of death or of serious illness of a member of his family, or because of his going abroad for any public purpose or for any private or other purpose which is considered by the Committee as reasonable:

Provided that, in case of his going abroad for private purposes, such visit abroad shall be for a reasonable, under the circumstances, period.

Deposit of sum  
cut off in a  
Special Fund.

19. Any sum deducted under this Chapter shall be deposited in a special Fund under the charge of the Committee and shall be disposed of for such purpose as the House may decide in accordance with regulations made to this effect.

## PART II PROCEDURE IN THE HOUSE

### CHAPTER A DEBATE AND SPEECHES IN THE HOUSE

Speech by  
Representative  
from his seat.

20. Speeches on a matter of order or procedure, including matters of interpretation or application of the Rules, may be made not from the rostrum of the House, but from the Representative's seat. Also the President may for any sufficient reason allow a Representative to make a speech from his seat.

Permission  
to speak.

21. A Representative shall ask for oral permission to make a speech by raising his hand.

Invitation by  
the President to  
make a speech.

22. A Representative shall make a speech after being invited to do so by the President.

23. When two or more Representatives ask at the same time for permission to speak, the President shall give permission to speak to the Representative whom he has noticed first.

Simultaneous request for permission to speak.

24. No Representative may, unless he obtains the permission of the President, speak more than once on the same subject, unless:

More than one speech on the same subject.

- (a) he will explain an essential part of his speech which was misinterpreted or was the subject of criticism by another Representative without, however, introducing a new subject;
- (b) he is the introducer of a motion or amendment to a matter of substance and not a matter of form;
- (c) he is the Representative who introduced the Private Bill under debate or he is the mover of a matter entered for debate;
- (d) he is a Representative speaking on behalf of the Committee before which the Bill or Private Bill, or the matter moved was referred for debate in the first instance;
- (e) he will express an opposite view, or comment on an argument or speak or take a stand on a new point or new idea raised from the speech of a Representative;
- (f) he will reply to a personal attack made against him by a previous speaker.

25. A Representative can support a motion or amendment moved, or proposed by another Representative by rising from his seat and stating that he intends to support such motion or amendment. This statement shall not be considered as a speech on the proposed motion or amendment.

Support to a motion or amendment by a Representative.

26. A Representative shall not read his speech, but may read extracts from books or documents in order to support his arguments; he can also make use of notes to refresh his memory:

Reading of speeches, limitations, etc.

It is to be understood that a Representative may read his speech from a manuscript in the case of—

- (a) an introductory speech on a Private Bill, or a subject entered for debate in the agenda, or to give a reply thereto;
- (b) a speech on the Budget; and
- (c) statements made by Party leaders in the House or by Parliamentary Spokesmen or by their Representatives.

27. A Representative, when called to speak, must direct his speech to the matter under debate or to a motion or amendment he intends to move or support, or to a point of order. When, however, a Representative deviates from the subject, the President shall remind him that he must speak on the subject.

A Representative must not deviate from the question under debate.

28. A Representative during his speech, when referring to any particular matter which is sub judice, must speak in a way that is not prejudicial to a fair trial of the case.

Speech on matters sub judice.

29. Any attempt to re-examine any particular matter on which the House expressed an opinion during the current session shall be considered to be out of order, unless this is supported by new elements or circumstances.

Out of order.

30. No Representative shall interrupt another Representative unless—

Interruption of a Representative.

- (a) he will raise a procedural matter or intervene for reasons of order; or
- (b) he will clarify, with the speaker's consent, a matter raised by such speaker, provided that in either case he obtains the permission of the President.

Adjournment of debate on any particular topic of the agenda. 31. A debate on any particular topic of the agenda may be adjourned for the next meeting of the House at the request of the majority of the Representatives present at the meeting.

Conclusion of debate on a matter and voting. 32. The President shall not accept any motion by a Representative requesting that the matter be put to the vote in the House, unless:

- (a) the matter has been fully debated, and
- (b) acceptance of such motion would not be contrary to or in violation of any rule of procedure.

Procedure to be followed in putting a motion to the vote. 33. In applying the provisions of rule 32 hereof the President may move that the matter be put to the vote before the House. In such a case two Representatives, one in favour and one against the motion, shall be allowed up to fifteen minutes each for their respective speeches. The House shall then decide on the motion without further debate and without any amendment thereto.

Decision to conclude debate. 34. A decision on a motion for the conclusion of the debate must be taken by a 2/3 majority of the Representatives present and voting.

Observance of the Rules by Representatives. 35. During the sittings of the House and of the Committees, the Representatives must observe the provisions of these Rules of Procedure and have due respect for the Constitution and the functions of the State.

Behaviour of Representatives during the sittings of the House. 36. During the sittings of the House, the Representatives must—

- (a) present themselves and behave in a manner suited to the place, the task performed and the mission of the House;
- (b) avoid any activities obstructing the smooth conduct of the proceedings of the House; and
- (c) avoid the use of abusive language against the person of any Representative.

## CHAPTER B COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

### Part I

#### Establishment — Composition

Appointment of Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Members of a Committee of the House. 37.—(1) The Committee of Selection shall appoint the Chairman and the Members of each Committee, as well as the Member who will be replacing the Chairman in case of temporary absence or incapacity.

(2) Should the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of a Committee not be present at a meeting of the Committee, the duties of the President shall be exercised by a Representative of the parliamentary group to which the Chairman of the Committee belongs. In case that no Representative of the said parliamentary group is present at the meeting, the eldest Representative present shall preside over the Committee.

Refusal to accept appointment to a Committee of the House. 38. No Representative can refuse appointment to any Standing Committee or any special or temporary Committee of the House, unless he has special reasons to this effect to the satisfaction of the Committee of Selection.

### Part II

#### Functioning

Convocation of a meeting of a Committee of the House. 39.—(1) The Chairman of a Committee of the House or the member deputizing for him in his absence shall convoke the meetings of the Committee and direct its proceedings accordingly.

(2) The Committees shall meet whenever it is deemed necessary following a decision by the Chairman, or a request addressed to him by a Member acting on behalf of the parliamentary group to which that Member belongs, or a request by two Members, provided that this has been notified in time to all Members of the Committee.

39A.—(1) The Committees shall hold their meetings in the building of the House of Representatives, unless it is deemed necessary to hold them elsewhere due to special reasons. In such a case, this shall be decided by the Committee, which shall inform the President of the House of its decision.

Place of the meeting of a Committee.

(2) When a Committee visits a specific place, it can hold an informal meeting there. However, it shall not decide or take a position on the matter which is the object of the visit, until an ordinary meeting of the Committee is held at the building of the House.

40. The quorum of the Committees shall consist of at least one half of the total number of its members.

Quorum of Committees of the House.

41.—(1) Following a decision of the House to this effect a Bill or Private Bill, or any other particular matter may be referred to for debate before one or more Committees of the House.

A Bill or Private Bill or other matter may be referred for debate to more than one Committee.

(2) Notwithstanding any decision made under the paragraph hereinbefore mentioned, for the elaboration of any Bill or Private Bill or matter falling within the competence of more than one Committee, the President of the House may call joint meetings of the competent Committees of the House. Should the President of the House not be present, the Chairman of the Committee which is mentioned first in the reference of the matter to the Committees shall preside over the joint meeting.

(3) A Committee shall proceed to the earliest possible consideration of the matter referred to it, shall prepare its report as quickly as possible and shall see to its immediate distribution to all Representatives.

41A.—(1) Each Committee in addition to the matters referred to it by the House, may, in the exercise of parliamentary control on matters within its competence, by unanimous decision, consider on its own motion any other matters within its competence.

Consideration of matters by a Committee on its own motion.

(2) In cases of a decision not taken unanimously by a Committee for the consideration of a matter on its own motion, it is required that a proposal duly explained be submitted in advance, either in writing or orally, by one or more interested Representatives to the Chairman of the Committee. The aforementioned proposal has to encompass evidence that would constitute a prima facie case of consideration. A proposal not duly explained, or a proposal solely expressing suspicion, or encompassing such elements which constitute an issue of mere information, cannot be approved by the Committee. Should the Committee decide that there is a prima facie matter which is not identical or similar to any other matter already entered for debate in the House, or in any Committee, it shall approve, by majority, the introduction of the matter in question in the list of pending issues of the Committee.

42.—(1) A Representative who has introduced a Private Bill or entered a matter for debate in a Committee, shall attend the meeting of the Committee in person in order to support and elaborate on the Private Bill or matter in question respectively:

Procedure of debates in the Committees.



It is to be understood that in case of a serious impediment, the Representative may be represented by another Representative of the same political party group.

(2) In case of an introduction of a Bill by the Government, a notification for the meeting of the competent Committee of the House shall be sent to the Minister who has introduced the Bill under question, or in whose competence the matter under question falls.

(3) Ministers can be present at the debates of the Committees of the House and express their views.

(4) A Committee of the House shall have the right to summon any interested organ, authority, organization, society, association, trade union, person or corporate body to provide information and evidence or to express and elaborate views and opinions on any Bill or matter under debate.

(5) For procedural purposes, the Committees of the House shall take into consideration information and evidence submitted before them in accordance with their own decision, or as a result of representations addressed to them, or by invocation of the legislation in force pertaining to the submission of evidence and information to the House of Representatives and the Committees.

(6) Should a person wish to express views or elaborate on them or opinions on a matter, he shall inform accordingly the Chairman of the Committee in writing, through the Director of the Parliamentary Committees Service.

(7) The decision concerning the specific procedure to be followed in each case for the collection of evidence and information in question, shall be taken by the Committee itself.

(8) The Chairman of the Committee shall make clear to those wishing to submit information to the Committee that the evidence and information submitted shall be made public, unless they themselves request that the said evidence and information be considered as confidential. In such a case, the submitted evidence shall be classified and considered from then on as confidential without this precluding any member of the House from having access to this evidence.

(9) Should a Ministry, a government department or another organization be summoned to a meeting of a Committee, the level of their representation to the said meeting shall be decided by the Ministry, the government department or the organization themselves:

It is to be understood that the aforementioned provisions do not deprive the Committee of the right to summon to a hearing particular members of the Government or the civil service, if it deems this purposeful.

(10) A Committee may require a priori the submission of a memorandum comprising the views of a Ministry, government department or organization on the matter to be debated:

It is to be understood that, in case these views are expressed in person before a Committee, the representative of any of the aforementioned services shall not be deprived of the right to support these views with a written note or memorandum, which he shall forward to the Committee upon conclusion of the meeting concerned.

(11) Once all evidence submitted before a Committee has been distributed to all its Members, the Committee may at the first stage ask for clarifications from

the persons who have submitted such evidence, in relation to either the evidence itself or any other new points emanating from the evidence in question.

(12) Further evaluation of the evidence submitted before a Committee shall be the work of its Members in a meeting in camera.

(13) The Chairman of a Committee shall require from persons appearing before it to express concisely and comprehensively their opinions or views and submit relevant evidence and information on the matter under consideration. Then, he shall give the floor to those Members of the Committee who wish to address questions for clarification only on any point that has been expressed or raised.

(14) The Members of the Committee shall at this stage avoid to express or disclose in any way their positions or conclusions on the matter under debate.

(15) Should the Chairman of a Committee consider that abusive language or phrases, or words offending the House or other institutions are used in a document submitted before the Committee, he may order the withdrawal of the said document or the deletion of such phrases or words. The decision of the Chairman of the Committee shall be notified to the President of the House.

(16) During hearings in a Committee, its Chairman has responsibility for and ensures the protection of the invited persons against unbecoming expressions or the launching of accusations or personal attacks.

43.—(1) The members of a Committee, having first obtained the permission to speak from the Chairman, shall limit themselves to the matter under consideration.

Permission to speak in a Committee.

(2) Each Member of a Committee who takes the floor, shall express his views or observations addressing the Chair or another person through the Chair.

(3) A Member who has obtained permission to speak, may not be interrupted, unless the Chairman of the Committee consents to this.

(4) The Chairman of a Committee is entitled to revoke permission to speak from a Member who acts improperly, or in the Chairman's judgement deviates from the matter under discussion, or is out of order.

44. In case a Member of a Committee has a direct personal interest in relation to the matter under consideration by a Committee, he should inform accordingly the Chairman and the Members of the Committee at the opening of the meeting or as soon as the existence of such an interest becomes evident in the course of the discussion.

Personal interests of a Member of a Committee.

45. Should the Chairman of a Committee consider that a matter has been sufficiently debated, he shall first put to the vote a motion that the debate on the matter has been exhausted and shall immediately thereafter put the said matter to the vote, without any further discussion, for the adoption of a final position.

Procedure to be followed in putting a motion to the vote.

46. The decisions of the Committees of the House shall be taken by majority. In case of equality of votes the Chairman or the Member deputizing for him shall have a second or casting vote. Any disagreement by a Member of the Committee and the reasons therefor shall be briefly entered, at his request, in the report of the Committee.

Decisions of Committees of the House.

46A.—(1) The meetings of the Committees are public, unless the Committee concerned otherwise decides.

Publicity of the meetings of a Committee and handling of confidential documents.

(2) Notwithstanding the paragraph hereinabove, the meetings of the Committees, at the stage of the adoption of a final position and decision, shall always be held in camera.

(3) Should a document which is classified as confidential be distributed to the Members of a Committee, any notification concerning its content to any person other than a Representative is not permitted, unless if and to the extent the Chairman of the Committee consents to.

(4) In case of a leak of such document, the President of the House shall ensure the investigation of the case and submit a relevant report to the plenary of the House.

Functioning of  
subcommittees.

46B.—(1) A Committee may decide to entrust the study of one or more matters to subcommittees composed of Committee Members. Furthermore, the Committee may decide to extend or amend the terms of reference of, or dissolve the subcommittees. The subcommittees shall submit the results of their study to all Members of the Committee before the latter is convened in order to decide upon the matter in question.

(2) On setting up a subcommittee, the Chairman of the Committee concerned shall appoint the Chairman of the said subcommittee.

(3) The same procedure followed by the Committees shall be adopted, to the possible extent, as far as both the composition and the procedure to be followed by the subcommittees are concerned.

Minutes of  
proceedings of  
meetings of  
Committees  
of the House.

47.—(1) The minutes of proceedings of the meetings of Committees shall be kept in a summary form. Should a Committee deem it necessary, it may exceptionally order that precise minutes are kept, taking into consideration the nature and seriousness of the matter under debate.

(2) The Chairman of each Committee shall ensure that copies of the minutes are forwarded to all its Members. The said minutes shall be considered as confidential and shall not be distributed to any person other than a Member of the House, without the instructions of the President of the House.

Reports by  
Committees  
of the House.

47A.—(1) Once the consideration of a matter has been concluded, a Report addressed to the plenary of the House shall be prepared by the Committee.

(2) The draft Report shall be prepared by the secretariat of a Committee and shall be forwarded to all its Members for approval. Should the time limit set by the Committee for the approval of the said text expire without any proposals for amendments or additions, the text of the draft Report shall be considered as adopted by all the Members of the Committee and shall be distributed to all the Members of the House.

(3) In case a Committee decides to examine the draft text of a Report, the said text shall be submitted to the Committee for final approval.

(4) A Member of a Committee disagreeing with the content of the Report of the Committee or wishing to express different views or positions, may present his own position in brief which shall be incorporated in the text of the Report in question.

(5) The Chairman of a Committee, or the Member who for any reason deputizes for him in his absence, shall have responsibility for the presentation of the Report of that Committee before the plenary of the House.

(6) The Chairman of a Committee may order the rectification of errors appearing in a Report of the Committee, provided that the said errors are purely casual and do not affect in any way the substance of the content of a Report.

48.—(1) All memoranda addressed to a Committee shall be submitted to the secretariat of the Committee which shall forward them to all its Members. Should the preliminary examination of these memoranda give rise to issues requiring further investigation, then the whole matter shall be placed before the Committee which shall decide on the procedure to be followed:

It is to be understood that the Committees or their secretariat shall not consider any representations submitted anonymously to the Committees, or any other representations notified to them, unless it is deemed that in the latter case issues for consideration are raised.

(2) The person submitting a memorandum/representation shall be informed the soonest possible of the results of the examination of the issue he has raised.

Consideration of memoranda/representations submitted to Committees.

### PART III LEGISLATIVE WORK

#### CHAPTER A

#### PROCEDURE IN RELATION TO BILLS AND PRIVATE BILLS

49. All Bills or Private Bills must be accompanied by an explanatory report stating the objects and reasons of such Bill or Private Bill (in these Rules referred to as "Explanatory Reports").

Explanatory Report.

50. A Representative intending to introduce a Private Bill must hand over to the President before the commencement of the sitting at which he wishes such Private Bill to be introduced, a copy of the Bill and of its Explanatory Report.

Procedure in introduction of Private Bills.

51. Bills and Private Bills shall be introduced to the House during its sittings and shall be published as early as possible in the official Gazette of the Republic. Copies of any such Bills or Private Bills shall be distributed to all Representatives as quickly as possible after their introduction to the House.

Publication of Bills and Private Bills in the official Gazette.

52. The report of the appropriate Committee to which the Bill or Private Bill was referred, shall be read out from the rostrum of the House by the Chairman of such Committee or, in his absence, by the Member deputizing for him.

Reading of Committee reports.

53. After the reading of the report there shall follow a debate in principle on the Bill or Private Bill followed by the reading, debate and voting on such Bill or Private Bill, taken clause by clause and as a whole.

Procedure in debating and voting on Bills and Private Bills.

54. Any amendment proposed by a Representative shall be deposited with the President, if possible before the clause by clause commencement of the debate on the Bill or Private Bill and with the permission of the President during such debate.

Procedure in introducing amendments.

55. All amendments shall be submitted in writing to the President's Office and shall be distributed to all Representatives. An oral proposal for an amendment can only be made with the permission of the President.

Written and oral proposals for amendments.

56. Amendments shall be debated and put to the vote before the main subject of the debate is voted upon, while sub-amendments shall be debated and put to the vote before amendments. The order in which amendments must be put to the vote is proposed by the President and in case of any objection the decision shall rest with the House.

Debate and voting on amendments and sub-amendments.

57. After the clause by clause reading and debate on a Bill or Private Bill and following a decision taken by the President under the provisions of these Rules of Procedure that the debate has been concluded, no proposal for amendment can be

Amendments relating to numerical errors and to linguistic or grammatical improvements.

made unless this is related to corrections of numerical errors, or to amendments aiming exclusively at effecting linguistic or grammatical improvements to the text without changing its meaning.

Amendments containing improper expressions.

58. The President shall have the right not to allow the expounding of proposals for amendments or additional clauses containing improper expressions, and shall also have the right to refuse to put such proposals to the vote. Should the Representative insist, the President shall put the matter before the House which shall decide without any debate.

Final reading and voting on Bills and Private Bills.

59. Upon the conclusion of the clause by clause debate of a Bill or Private Bill under the provisions referred to hereinbefore, the House, unless it otherwise decides, shall proceed to the final reading of the Bill or Private Bill by reading only its title and by putting it to the vote as a whole.

Explanation of reasons for negative vote or abstention.

60. After a Bill or Private Bill has passed, no Representative can speak on the subject except in the case of a negative vote or abstention and only for the purpose of explaining the reasons for his abstention or negative vote.

Transmission of laws of the House to the President of the Republic.

61. After the passing of any Bill or Private Bill into law, the President shall transmit such law to the President of the Republic for promulgation by publication in the official Gazette of the Republic.

Pronouncement by the House on law or Budget returned.

62. In case a law is returned, the President shall within three days notify all Representatives of such return and the House of Representatives shall pronounce on the matter so returned within fifteen days of such return and in the case of return of the Budget as in paragraph 2 of Article 51 of the Constitution provided, the House of Representatives shall pronounce on the matter so returned within thirty days of such return.

## CHAPTER B

### PROCEDURE IN RELATION TO SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION, PUBLIC DOCUMENTS AND PETITIONS

Reference of Regulations to a Committee of the House.

63. Regulations issued and introduced to the House under the relevant laws shall, on being introduced, be referred for debate by the President before the appropriate Committee of the House.

Study and preparation of report on Regulations by a Committee of the House.

64. The appropriate Committee of the House shall proceed as quickly as possible to a study of the Regulations and shall prepare a report thereon following as far as possible the same procedure as that applied in the case of Bills or Private Bills.

Procedure in adopting Regulations.

65. The debate in the House on both the Regulations and the report of the appropriate Committee of the House, as well as the debate on a motion for their amendment and the taking of a vote thereon, shall be carried out as far as possible as provided in the Rules of Procedure with reference to Bills or Private Bills.

Introduction of public documents and petitions.

66. Public documents or petitions properly introduced to the House shall likewise be referred to the appropriate Committee of the House which after consideration thereof shall submit its report or comments thereon to the House.

## CHAPTER C

### MINUTES AND ARCHIVES

Typing and checking of minutes of the House.

67. The minutes of the proceedings of the House shall be typed within three days of the respective sitting and shall be at the disposal of the Representatives for the purpose of checking the text of their speech.

- 68. An objection to the minutes of a sitting of the House can be raised by a Representative by a written objection sent to the President of the relevant sitting, or through an oral submission at the following sitting. The House may then decide to correct such minutes accordingly.

Objection to minutes.
- 69. The minutes of the proceedings of the House of Representatives shall be printed, published and distributed to the Representatives.

Publication and distribution of minutes.
- 70. The official minutes of the proceedings of the House shall be signed by the President or by the Representative presiding over the relevant sitting and shall be kept in the Archives of the House.

Official minutes to be kept in Archives.
- 71. The Representatives shall have the right to inspect and go through the official minutes and documents recorded in the Archives and shall be furnished with certified free copies thereof.

Inspection of minutes by Representatives.

**PART IV**  
**PROCEDURE IN CASES OF NON-LEGISLATIVE WORK,**  
**QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS**

- 72. A Representative intending to submit a question to the Government or to any particular Minister shall submit such question in writing through the Office of the President.

Questions by Representatives.
- 73. The purpose of a question submitted as hereinbefore provided, is to obtain information for the House of an occurrence, news or event, or of the truthfulness of such occurrence, news or event, or of the intention or measures under consideration by the Government on a particular matter of general interest, or of the enquiries made into the reasons or purpose of some Government action or omission.

Purpose of questions submitted.
- 74. Questions submitted by Representatives must be brief and shall not contain any offensive expressions.

Form and contents of questions.
- 75. Answers to questions submitted by Representatives shall be read out by the Clerk at the next sitting following the day on which the answer is received. Copies of such answers together with the questions submitted by the Representatives shall be distributed to all Representatives prior to the commencement of the sitting of the House.

Reading of answers to questions.
- 76. If within thirty days of the day on which a question was forwarded to the appropriate authorities no answer has been received, or, if after reading an answer received and distributed as in Rule 75 provided, the Representative who submitted the question does not consider the answer to be satisfactory, then such Representative may at that same meeting or at any of the next three following meetings ask that the matter be registered for debate and the matter shall be so registered.

Entry of matter for debate for not receiving an answer or for receiving a non-satisfactory answer to a question.
- 77. A Representative wishing that any particular question or matter of general interest be debated at any sitting of the House, shall make his request upon the announcement by the President of the agenda of the next sitting of the House and shall move that such question or matter be registered for debate. In such case the provisions of Article 73.6 of the Constitution shall apply.

Procedure in entering a matter for debate.
- 78. Without affecting the generality of Rule 77, a Representative may ask that any question or matter of particularly exceptional interest and unforeseen circumstances be debated immediately or at any sitting of the House regardless of whether it has been entered or not in the agenda. In such case the provisions of Article 73.6 of the Constitution shall apply.

Procedure for debate of a matter of particularly exceptional interest.

Procedure to be followed and duration of matters debated under Chapter D of the agenda.

78A.—(1) The debate on matters of Chapter D of the agenda emanating either by implementation of Rule 76 or by implementation of Rules 77 and 78, shall be held in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) The President of the House, upon consent of the representatives of the political party groups and in consultation with the mover of the matter, shall determine, within a reasonable time limit before the debate on the said matter, the duration of the debate. In case that no agreement is reached, the President shall, according to his judgement, set a reasonable period of time for the debate.
- (b) The time set shall be apportioned to the political party groups, in accordance with the number of Representatives of each group, unless the President of the House, upon consent of the representatives of the political party groups and after taking into consideration both the nature of the matter and the special interest of the political group to which the mover belongs, otherwise decides. The President shall set, according to his judgement, a reasonable period of time for the speeches of independent Representatives or Representatives who are members of a party which, under Article 73.12 of the Constitution, is not eligible to form such a political party group entitled to be recognized as such.
- (c) The parliamentary spokesman of each political party group shall submit to the President the list of speakers of his group, in which both the order and the duration of each speech is determined:

The total duration of speeches by the Representatives of each group shall not exceed the period of time that has been set.

(2) The debate on a matter of Chapter D of the agenda for which a report has been prepared by the competent Committee of the House, shall be held according to the provisions of the present Rule, after the reading of the relevant report. In case of a report unanimously adopted by the Committee, the report shall be considered as having been read out. In case that any Representative expresses his opposition to the practice the report shall be read out.

With regard to matters on which the report has been unanimously adopted, no debate shall be held, unless any Representative so requests.

Order in which matters of Chapter D shall be debated.

78B. Unless otherwise decided by the plenary of the House, matters of Chapter D shall be debated upon in the chronological order in which they have been registered for debate.

Deletion of matters of Chapter D.

78C. Upon expiry of each term of office of the House, all matters which have been registered for debate in Chapter D and have not been debated shall be deleted from the agenda. For the re-introduction of the said matters, the procedure provided for under Rules 76, 77 and 78 shall be followed.

## PART V MISCELLANEOUS

Amendment of Rules of Procedure.

79. Any Representative has the right to propose an amendment by addition to, deletion or modification of these Rules of Procedure or any of their provisions.

Submission of proposal for amendment.

80. A proposal for amendment shall be submitted to the President of the House and be accompanied by a short explanatory report.

Submission to the competent Committee of the House of a proposal for amendment.

81. A proposal submitted as provided hereinbefore shall be forwarded to the House Committee on Rules of Procedure and Members' Rights which shall consider such proposal and report to the House accordingly.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 82. Any decision by the House to amend the Rules of Procedure shall be taken by a simple majority vote of the total number of the Representatives.  | Decision to amend the Rules of Procedure of the House.                    |
| 83. Each political party group which is entitled to be recognized as such, shall appoint its spokesman in the House and inform the President of the House accordingly.  | Representation of a political party group in the House.                   |
| 84. Any Representative belonging to a political party group in the House shall inform accordingly the President of the House in writing.  | Statement by a Representative that he belongs to a political party group. |
| 85. Any matter for which no provision has been made in these Rules of Procedure and any matter concerning the implementation of the provisions of these Rules shall be decided by the House in such manner as the President may decide. | House to decide on matters not provided for in the Rules.                 |
| 86. The present Rules of Procedure shall come into effect as from the date of their publication in the official Gazette of the Republic.  | Date of coming into effect of these Rules.                                |



APPENDIX

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS  
REFERRING TO THE FUNCTIONING OF THE HOUSE

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS  
REFERRING TO THE FUNCTIONING OF THE HOUSE

ARTICLE 3

1. The official languages of the Republic are Greek and Turkish.
2. Legislative, executive and administrative acts and documents shall be drawn up in both official languages and shall, where under the express provisions of this Constitution promulgation is required, be promulgated by publication in the official Gazette of the Republic in both official languages.

ARTICLE 42

1. The President and the Vice-President of the Republic are invested by the House of Representatives before which they make the following affirmation:  

"I do solemnly affirm faith to, and respect for, the Constitution and the laws made thereunder, the preservation of the independence and the territorial integrity, of the Republic of Cyprus".
2. For this purpose the House of Representatives shall meet on the date the five years' period of office of the outgoing President and the outgoing Vice-President of the Republic expires, and in the case of a by-election under paragraph 4 of Article 44 on the third day from the date of such by-election.

ARTICLE 45

2. The President or the Vice-President of the Republic may be prosecuted for high treason on a charge preferred by the Attorney-General and the Deputy Attorney-General of the Republic before the High Court upon a resolution of the House of Representatives carried by a secret ballot and a majority of three-fourths of the total number of Representatives:

ARTICLE 51

3. In case a law or decision or any part thereof is returned to the House of Representatives as in paragraph 1 of this Article provided, the House of Representatives shall pronounce on the matter so returned within fifteen days of such return and in the case of return of the Budget as in paragraph 2 of this Article provided the House of Representatives shall pronounce on the matter so returned within thirty days of such return.
4. If the House of Representatives persists in its decision, the President and the Vice-President of the Republic shall, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, promulgate the law or decision or the Budget, as the case may be, within the time limit fixed for the promulgation of laws and decisions of the House of Representatives by publication of such law or decision or Budget in the official Gazette of the Republic.

ARTICLE 52

1. The President and the Vice-President of the Republic shall, within fifteen days of the transmission to their respective offices of any law or decision of the House of Representatives, promulgate by publication in the official Gazette of the Republic such law or decision unless in the meantime they exercise, separately or conjointly, as the case may be, their right of veto as in Article 50 provided or their right of return as in Article 51 provided or their right of reference to the Supreme Constitutional Court as in Articles 140 and 141 provided or in the case of the Budget their right of recourse to the Supreme Constitutional Court as in Article 138 provided.

## ARTICLE 65

1. The term of office of the House of Representatives shall be for a period of five years. The term of office of the first House of Representatives shall commence on the date of the coming into operation of this Constitution.
2. The outgoing House shall continue in office until the newly-elected House assumes office under paragraph 1 of this Article.

## ARTICLE 66

2. When a vacancy occurs in the seat of a Representative such vacancy shall be filled within a period not exceeding forty-five days of the occurrence of such vacancy in a manner stipulated by law.

## ARTICLE 67

1. The House of Representatives may dissolve itself only by its own decision carried by an absolute majority including at least one third of the Representatives elected by the Turkish Community.
2. Any such decision shall, notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph 1 of Article 65 and paragraph 1 of Article 66, provide for the date of the holding of the general election which shall not be less than thirty days and not more than forty days from the date of such decision, and also for the date of the first meeting of the newly elected House which shall not be later than fifteen days after such general election and until such date the outgoing House shall continue to be in office.
3. Notwithstanding anything in paragraph 1 of Article 65 contained, the term of office of the House of Representatives to be elected after dissolution shall be for the unexpired period of the term of office of the dissolved House. In case of dissolution within the last year of the five years' term of office, a general election for the House of Representatives shall take place both for the unexpired part of the term of office of the dissolved House, during which any session of the newly elected House shall be considered to be an extraordinary session, and for the subsequent five years' term of office.

## ARTICLE 68

Whenever a House of Representatives continues to be in office until the assumption of office by a newly elected House under either paragraph 2 of Article 65 or paragraph 2 of Article 67, such House shall not have power to make any laws or to take any decisions on any matter except only in case of urgent and exceptional unforeseen circumstances to be specifically stated in the relevant law or decision.

## ARTICLE 69

A Representative before assuming duties as such in the House of Representatives and at a public meeting thereof shall make the following affirmation:

"I do solemnly affirm faith to, and respect for, the Constitution and the laws made thereunder, the preservation of the independence and the territorial integrity, of the Republic of Cyprus".

## ARTICLE 72

1. The President of the House of Representatives shall be a Greek, and shall be elected by the Representatives elected by the Greek Community, and the Vice-President shall be a Turk and shall be elected by the Representatives elected by the Turkish Community. Each shall be elected separately as above at the same meeting at the beginning and for the whole period of the term of office of the House of Representatives.
2. In case of any vacancy in either of the offices provided in paragraph 1 of this Article, an election as provided in such paragraph shall take place with all due speed and at an extraordinary session if necessary in order to fill such vacancy.
3. In case of temporary absence or pending the filling of a vacancy as provided in paragraph 2 of this Article in either of the offices of the President or the Vice-President of the House, their functions shall be performed by the eldest Representative of the respective Community unless the Representatives of such Community should otherwise decide.
4. In addition to the President and the Vice-President of the House there shall be appointed from amongst the Representatives and by the President and the Vice-President of the House, respectively, two Greek and one Turkish Clerks of the House and two Greek and one Turkish Administrative Clerks of the House who shall be attached respectively to the office of the President and the Vice-President of the House.

## ARTICLE 73

1. Subject to the ensuing provisions of this Article, the House of Representatives by its Standing Orders regulates any matter of parliamentary procedure and of functions of its offices.
2. There shall be a Committee to be known as the Committee of Selection consisting of the President of the House as Chairman, the Vice-President of the House as Vice-Chairman and eight other members elected by the House of Representatives at its meeting after the election of the President and the Vice-President of the House, six from amongst the Representatives elected by the Greek Community and two from amongst the Representatives elected by the Turkish Community.
3. The Committee of Selection shall set up the Standing Committees and any other temporary, ad hoc or special Committee of the House of Representatives and shall appoint Representatives to be members thereof and in so doing due regard should be had to the proposals made by the Greek and the Turkish Communal groups or political party groups in the House for such setting up and appointments. The appointments to such Committees shall be subject to the provisions of the paragraph next following.
4. The Greek and the Turkish Communal groups and political party groups in the House of Representatives shall be adequately represented on each of the Standing, and of any other temporary, ad hoc or special, Committee of the House:

Provided that the total number of the seats on such Committees distributed respectively to the Representatives elected by the Greek and

the Turkish Communities shall be in the same proportion as that in which the seats in the House are distributed to the Representatives elected by the Greek and the Turkish Communities, respectively.

5. Every Bill on being introduced in the House of Representatives shall be referred for debate in the first instance before the appropriate Committee.

With the exception of those which are considered to be of an urgent nature, no Bill shall be debated by a Committee before the lapse of forty-eight hours after its being distributed to the Representatives constituting such a Committee.

With the exception of those which are considered to be of an urgent nature, no Bill which has passed the Committee stage shall be debated in the House of Representatives before the lapse of forty-eight hours after it has been distributed to the Representatives together with the report of the Committee.

6. The agenda of the meeting of the House of Representatives, which shall include any additional subject proposed by the Vice-President of the House, shall be drawn up and presented to the House of Representatives by the President of the House.

After the presentation of the agenda to the House of Representatives, any Representative may move any addition or amendment to such agenda, and such motion shall be decided upon by the House of Representatives.

7. No Representative can speak at any meeting of the House of Representatives unless he registers his name in the proper Register or unless he obtains the permission of the person presiding at such meeting.

Every Representative who has complied with such formality is entitled to be given reasonably sufficient time, having regard to the particular subject, to speak and to be heard at the relevant meeting.

The speeches shall be made in order of the registration or of oral request, as the case may be, of those who desire to speak:

Provided that there are opposite views held, a speaker shall, as far as practicable, follow another one who supports the opposite view. But Representatives speaking on behalf of the Committees or of the political party groups of the House of Representatives shall not be subject to such order of precedence.

Representatives desiring to speak in connection with motions with regard to any matter relating to the agenda, the application of the Standing Orders or the closure of the debate shall be given precedence in time over the Representatives desiring to speak in connection with the subject of the debate, and in such a case two Representatives, one in favour and one against the motion, shall be allowed fifteen minutes each for their respective speeches.

8. All speeches in the House of Representatives shall be made from the rostrum of the House and addressed to the House of Representatives. All speeches and other proceedings in the House and at all the Committee meetings shall, simultaneously as they are being made or taking place, be translated from the official language in which they are being made or taking place into the other official language.

9. Save as otherwise provided in the Standing Orders, interruptions of the speech of a Representative or personal attacks against any Representative unconnected with the subject under debate, both in the House and at the Committee meetings, are prohibited.
10. The votes in the House of Representatives shall be jointly counted and recorded by one Greek and the Turkish Clerk of the House.
11. The minutes of the debates in the House of Representatives shall comprise all proceedings fully.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Committees shall be kept in a summary form. Upon objection to the minutes of a meeting of the House of Representatives through the oral submission of a Representative at the first following meeting or by a written objection sent to the President of the relevant meeting, the House of Representatives may decide to correct such minutes accordingly.

12. Any political party which is represented at least by twelve per centum of the total number of the Representatives in the House of Representatives can form and shall be entitled to be recognized as a political party group.

#### ARTICLE 74

1. The House of Representatives shall meet on the fifteenth day next following a general election and thereafter in each year on the corresponding day in such year without summons for its ordinary session.
2. The ordinary session of the House of Representatives shall last for a period of three to six months in each year, as the House of Representatives may determine.
3. The House of Representatives shall be summoned to an extraordinary session by the President or the Vice-President of the House on the request of ten Representatives addressed to both the President and the Vice-President of the House.

#### ARTICLE 75

1. The meetings of the House of Representatives shall be open to the public and the minutes of its debates shall be published.
2. The House of Representatives may, if it thinks necessary, hold secret sessions on a resolution carried by a three-quarters majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

#### ARTICLE 76

1. The President of the House shall declare the commencement and the end of every meeting.
2. The President of the House in declaring the end of a meeting shall at the same time announce the date and time fixed, with the consent of the House of Representatives, of the meeting next following and shall present to the House of Representatives the agenda of such meeting and thereupon the provision of paragraph 6 of Article 73 shall apply.

3. Any agenda shall be printed and distributed to the Representatives at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting, but if such agenda relates to the topic already under debate such distribution may be made at any time prior to the meeting.

#### ARTICLE 77

1. The quorum of the House of Representatives shall consist of at least one-third of the total number of its members.
2. The debate relating to any particular topic shall be adjourned once for twenty-four hours at the request of the majority of the Representatives of either Community who are present at a meeting.

#### ARTICLE 78

1. The laws and the decisions of the House of Representatives shall be passed by a simple majority vote of the Representatives present and voting.
2. Any modification of the Electoral Law and the adoption of any law relating to the municipalities and of any law imposing duties or taxes shall require a separate simple majority of the Representatives elected by the Greek and the Turkish Communities respectively taking part in the vote.

#### ARTICLE 80

1. The right to introduce Bills belongs to the Representatives and to the Ministers.
2. No Bill relating to an increase in budgetary expenditure can be introduced by any Representative.

#### ARTICLE 81

1. The Budget is introduced to the House of Representatives at least three months before the day fixed by law for the commencement of the financial year and is voted by it not later than the day so fixed.
2. Within three months from the end of the financial year the final accounts shall be submitted to the House of Representatives for approval.

#### ARTICLE 82

A law or decision of the House of Representatives shall come into operation on its publication in the official Gazette of the Republic unless another date is provided by such law or decision.

#### ARTICLE 83

1. Representatives shall not be liable to civil or criminal proceedings in respect of any statement made or vote given by them in the House or Representatives.

#### ARTICLE 84

1. Representatives receive from the Public Revenue remuneration defined by law.
2. Any increase of such remuneration shall not become operative during the term of office in the House of Representatives in which such increase has been made.

#### ARTICLE 116

4. The Auditor-General shall submit annually a report on the exercise of his functions and duties under this Chapter to the President and the Vice-President of the Republic who shall cause it to be laid before the House of Representatives.

#### ARTICLE 119

5. The Governor of the Issuing Bank of the Republic shall submit half-yearly reports on the state of currency, funds and securities of the Republic to the President and the Vice-President of the Republic who shall cause such reports to be laid before the House of Representatives.

#### ARTICLE 139

3. Recourse to the Court under paragraph 1 of this Article may be made by—
  - (a) the President or the Vice-President of the Republic; or
  - (b) the House of Representatives; or
  - (c) one of, or both the Communal Chambers; or
  - (d) any other organ of, or authority in, the Republic,if involved in such conflict or contest.

#### ARTICLE 143

1. The President or the Vice-President of the Republic or Representatives consisting of at least one-fifth of the total number of a newly-elected House of Representatives shall have a right of recourse to the Supreme Constitutional Court on the question whether there exist such urgent and exceptional unforeseen circumstances as to justify a House of Representatives which continues to be in office until the assumption of office of a newly-elected House to make any laws or take any decisions as in Article 68 provided.
2. Such recourse, if made by the President or the Vice-President of the Republic shall be made within the period provided by this Constitution for the promulgation of the laws and decisions of the House of Representatives, and if made by such Representatives shall be made within fifteen days of the date when the new House first meets.

#### ARTICLE 167

6. The House of Representatives may approve or refuse its approval to any expenditure contained in a supplementary Budget but may not vote an increased amount or an alteration in its destination.



ARTICLE 168

3. If the Budget has not been adopted by the House of Representatives by the first day of the financial year to which it relates, the House of Representatives may, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, by a resolution, authorize the meeting of any expenditure required, for a period not exceeding one month at any one time but in any event not exceeding two months in the aggregate, from the Consolidated Fund or other Public Funds as they may consider essential for the continuance of the public services shown in the Budget until the expiration of such period:

Provided that the expenditure so authorized for any service shall not exceed the proportion with respect to such period of the amount voted for the service in the Budget for the preceding financial year.

ARTICLE 169

- (2) any other treaty, convention or international agreement shall be negotiated and signed under a decision of the Council of Ministers and shall only be operative and binding on the Republic when approved by a law made by the House of Representatives whereupon it shall be concluded.

ARTICLE 179

1. This Constitution shall be the supreme law of the Republic.
2. No law or decision of the House of Representatives or of any of the Communal Chambers and no act or decision of any organ, authority or person in the Republic exercising executive power or any administrative function shall in any way be repugnant to, or inconsistent with, any of the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 183

4. A Proclamation promulgated under the foregoing provisions of this Article shall be laid forthwith before the House of Representatives. If the House of Representatives is not sitting it must be convened as soon as possible for this purpose.
5. The House of Representatives shall have the right to reject or confirm such Proclamation of Emergency. In the case of rejection the Proclamation of Emergency shall have no legal effect. In the case of confirmation the President and the Vice-President of the Republic shall promulgate forthwith such decision of the House of Representatives by publication in the official Gazette of the Republic.
6. The Proclamation of Emergency shall cease to operate at the expiration of two months from the date of confirmation by the House of Representatives unless the House, at the request of the Council of Ministers, decides to prolong the duration of the state of emergency, whereupon the President and the Vice-President of the Republic, separately or conjointly, shall have a right of veto against such decision of prolongation to be exercised in accordance with Article 50.

INDEX TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
AND THE RELEVANT ARTICLES  
OF THE CONSTITUTION

INDEX TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
AND THE RELEVANT ARTICLES  
OF THE CONSTITUTION

(In this Index the figures printed in light type indicate the numbers of the relevant Rules of Procedure, while the figures in heavy type indicate the relevant articles of the Constitution).

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