



# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

## The Honourable The Senate

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The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament at the Parliament Buildings on Wednesday the 10th day of August, 2022, at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

### PRESENT

Senator Dr. the Most Honourable J. X. Walcott, FB, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), J.P. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade*)

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, B.Sc., M.Sc. (*Minister of Tourism and International Transport*) (*Leader of the Senate*)

Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight, Ph.D. (*Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office*)

Senator J. A. King, B.S.S.

Senator Miss P. E. Parris, J.P.

Senator L. R. Harewood, J.P., BSM, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A.

Senator Mrs. S. C. S. Roberts-Odle, B.Sc., M.Sc.

Senator A. A. O. Boyce, B.Sc., M.Sc., LL.B.

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse, F.C.A., F.C.C.A.

Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.S.

(ENT)

Senator K. J. Boyce, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C.

Senator Rev. Dr. J. A. Rogers, B.Sc., B.A. (Hons.), M.Phil., Ph.D.

Senator A. W. Mallalieu, C.P.A., F.R.I.C.S.

and

Senator Dr. the Hon. C. W. DaC. Brathwaite, CHB, Ph.D.

### ABSENT

His Honour Senator R. R. Farley, J.P., B.Sc., C.P.A., C.M.A. (*President*), Her Honour Senator Ms. H. E. Thompson, LL.B. (*Deputy President*), Senator Dr. C. K. M. Haynes, M.B.B.S., Senator G. P. B. Nicholls, B.Sc. (Hons.), LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., MCI Arb., Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt, Q.C., LL.B. (Hons.), M.B.A., Senator Miss C. N. Drakes, B.Sc. (Econ. & Mgmt), M.Phil Econ. and Senator Dr. K. G. Hinds, Ph.D.

The Clerk of Parliament announced the absence of His Honour Senator R. R. Farley, President of the Senate and Her Honour Senator Ms. H. E. Thompson, Deputy President and invited the appointment of a temporary President for the Sitting.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, Senator J. A. King was elected temporary President. Senator J. A. King took the Chair.

Prayers were taken by Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight.

#### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, 13th July, 2022 were taken as read and were confirmed on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT**

Mr. President acting, announced that he was in receipt of excuses for absence from His Honour Senator R. R. Farley, Her Honour Senator Ms. H. E. Thompson, Senators Dr. C. K. M. Haynes, G. P. B. Nicholls, Ms. M. C. Taitt, Miss C. N. Drakes and Dr. K. G. Hinds.

#### **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins by command laid:

1. Audited Financial Statements of the Barbados Agricultural Management Co. Ltd. as at June 30, 2018.
2. 2021 Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Central Bank of Barbados.
3. Barbados Conference Services Limited Annual Report 2021.
4. Green Paper on The National Sports Policy.

#### **MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE**

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse was appointed temporary Deputy President for the remainder of the Sitting.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins gave notice of the Protection of Agricultural Products Bill, 2022 and on her motion the following Bills were read a first time:

- The Financial Services Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2022;
- The Financial Services Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions and Validation) Bill, 2022;
- The Electric Light and Power Bill, 2022; and
- The Protection of Agricultural Products Bill, 2022.

#### **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **ORDER NO. 5**

On the Order being called, Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke on the following Resolution:

WHEREAS by virtue of subsection (1) of section 3 of the *University of the West Indies (Guarantee of Loans) Act*, Cap. 106B, the Government may, with the approval of the Parliament, guarantee the payment of the principal and interest due in respect of loans granted to the University of the West Indies;

AND WHEREAS by virtue of subsection (1) of section 3 of the Act, the Government may by resolution of both Houses of Parliament, guarantee the payment of the principal and interest due in respect of loans granted to the University on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, but such amounts shall not exceed the sum of 100 million dollars, exclusive of the interest payable thereon;

AND WHEREAS the Government is seeking to guarantee approximately BBD \$2.0 million of an approximately BBD \$12 million loan from the Caribbean Development Bank to the University of the West Indies on the terms and conditions of an Agreement, the main provisions of which are set out in the *Schedule* to this Resolution, for the purpose of financing the Regional Digital Transformation Project;

AND WHEREAS the principal and interest due in respect of the loan to be guaranteed does not exceed the limit given to the Government under section 3(1) of the said Act;

BE IT RESOLVED that Parliament approve the guarantee by the Government of approximately BBD \$2.0 million of an approximately BBD \$12 million loan to be granted to the University from the Caribbean Development Bank for the purpose of financing the Regional Digital Transformation Project on the terms and conditions of an Agreement, the main provisions of which are set out in the *Schedule*.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 26th day of July, Two Thousand and Twenty-two.

#### SCHEDULE

##### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Facility:	Loan.
Lender:	Caribbean Development Bank.
Amount:	BBD \$4 000 000 Special Fund Resources and BBD \$8 000 000 Ordinary Capital Resources.
Guaranteed Amount:	BBD \$2 000 000 of the Special Fund Resources portion.
Borrower:	University of the West Indies.
Guarantor:	Government of Barbados.
Purpose:	To finance a Regional Digital Transformation Project.
Moratorium:	Special Fund Resources: 3 years. Ordinary Capital Resources: 3 years.
Term:	Inclusive of Grace Period: Special Fund Resources: 30 years. Ordinary Capital Resources: 20 years.
Repayment:	Special Fund Resources: 108 equal or approximately equal, consecutive quarterly payments on the due dates.  Ordinary Capital Resources: 68 equal or approximately equal consecutive quarterly payments on the due dates.

## SCHEDULE (Cont'd)

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS - (Cont'd)

Interest rate:	Special Fund Resources:	Per annum, fixed 0.75%.
	Ordinary Capital Resources:	Per annum, variable, currently 3.60%, payable quarterly on the balance of the loan withdrawn and outstanding at the due dates.
Commitment Fee:	Special Fund Resources:	Not applicable.
	Ordinary Capital Resources:	1.0% per annum on undisbursed balance from the 60th day after the date of the loan agreement.
Security:	The Borrower shall furnish or cause to be furnished to the Bank the Guarantee Agreements, in form and substance acceptable to the Bank.	
Conditions precedent to First Disbursement for the purposes of this Resolution:	The Guarantee Agreements have been executed.	
Governing Law:	Laws of Barbados,	

and moved that the Resolution be passed.

Senator A. A. O. Boyce spoke.

Senator Mrs. S. C. S. Roberts-Odle spoke.

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse spoke.

Senator Dr. the Hon. C. W. DaC. Brathwaite spoke.

Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke in reply.

The Resolution was passed.

**ORDER NO. 4**

On the Order being called, Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke on the following Resolution:

RESOLVED that Parliament in accordance with section 5 of the *Crown Lands (Vesting and Disposal) Act*, Cap. 225 approve the vesting of the parcels of land situate at Sargeants Village in the parish of Christ Church in this Island and more particularly described in the *Schedules* for a public purpose, namely housing development.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 19th day of July, Two thousand and twenty-two.

## FIRST SCHEDULE

All THAT land the property of Marjorie Payne situate at Sargeants Village in the parish of Christ Church in this Island containing by admeasurement 1222.2 square metres or thereabouts (inclusive of 144.0 square metres in road reserve) abutting and bounding on lands now or late of Olric Harewood (Lot 7) on lands now or late of Germaine Atkins on other lands now or late of the said Marjorie Payne on lands now or late of Peter Foster (Lot 2) and on a public road which leads to Highway 6 or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 26th day of August, 2021 by Samuel N. Taylor, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 1st day of September, 2021 as Plan No. 1080/2021.

## SECOND SCHEDULE

All THAT land the property of Germaine Atkins situate at Sargeants Village in the parish of Christ Church in this Island containing by admeasurement 5798.8 square metres or thereabouts (inclusive of 149.1 square metres in right-of-way) abutting and bounding on lands now or late of Randolph Sealy (Lot 2) on lands now or late of Marjorie Payne on lands now or late of Olric Harewood (Lot 7) on lands now or late of Kenrick Cox (Lot 6) on lands now or late of Dale Husbands (Lot 5) on lands now or late of Floretta Taylor (Lot 4) on lands now or late of Shawn Hoyte (Lot 3) on lands now or late of Cecil Howard deceased (Lot 2) on lands now or late of Shahida Griffith and others (Lot 1) on lands now or late of June Moe (Lots 2 and 3) on lands now or late of Maureen Atkins on lands now or late of George Atkins on lands now or late of James Phillips on lands now or late of Veta Payne and on a cart road which leads to No. 1 Browne's Gap or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 26th day of August, 2021 by Samuel N. Taylor, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on 1st day of September, 2021 as Plan No. 1080/2021,

and moved that the Resolution be approved.  
 Senator L. R. Harewood spoke.  
 Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke.  
 The Resolution was passed.

**SUSPENSION**

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended to 2.25 p.m.  
 At 1.25 p.m. the Sitting was suspended.

**RESUMPTION**

On resumption Mr. President (Ag.) resumed the Chair.

**ORDER NO. 6**

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke on the following Resolution:

RESOLVED that Parliament in accordance with section 5 of the *Crown Lands (Vesting and Disposal) Act*, Cap. 225 approve the vesting in the National Housing Corporation of the parcel of land, the property of the State, situate at Lancaster in the parish of Saint James in this Island and more particularly described in the *Schedule* for the provision of road access.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 26th day of July, Two thousand and twenty-two.

## SCHEDULE

ALL THAT land the property of the State situate at Lancaster in the parish of St. James in this Island containing by admeasurement 137.9 square metres or thereabouts (forming part of a larger area containing by admeasurement 15 720.9 square metres) abutting and bounding on lands now or formerly of the National Housing Corporation and on a road reserve 6.40 metres wide adjoining a public road which leads to Greenwich in one direction and to the Ronald Mapp Highway in another direction or however else the same may abut and abound as shown and delineated as "Area A" on a plan certified on the 25th day of January, 2021 by Ricardo A. Phillips, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 25th day of January, 2021 as Plan No. 71/2021,

and moved that the Resolution be approved.

The Resolution was approved.

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS****ORDER NO. 1**

On the Order being called Senator Dr. the Hon. C. W. DaC. Brathwaite spoke on the following Resolution:

WHEREAS the global spread of the Corona virus pandemic, Covid 19, and the war between Russia and Ukraine have created an unstable global economic situation in this the twenty second year of the 21st Century;

AND WHEREAS these events have exposed the vulnerability of small island developing states like Barbados to the lack of indigenous energy and food supplies which threatens the viability of our model of development;

AND WHEREAS the Pandemic, the war between Russia and Ukraine and diverse adverse weather events in the last two years have resulted in significant reduction in global food supplies;

AND WHEREAS one third of the world's wheat supplies, two thirds of the world sunflower oil production and a significant part of the world fertilizers are supplied by Russia and Ukraine;

AND WHEREAS there is a general view that the health crisis has already evolved into an economic crisis and the combination of the pandemic and the war signal the real possibility of a food crisis;

AND WHEREAS the World Food Program and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN have already predicted in the near future the occurrence of famines of biblical proportions;

AND WHEREAS historically many Caribbean countries including Barbados grew by narrowly focusing on tourism and have neglected the agricultural sector which has resulted in massive dependency on imports of food and a food import bill of some 4 billion dollars in the CARICOM;

AND WHEREAS the Governments of 35 countries around the world have adopted export controls to secure their domestic food supplies in the last two years and some have banned the exports of wheat, soya, corn and fertilizers;

AND WHEREAS the Caribbean food supply is heavily reliant on imports from the United States where data from the International Trade Centre (ITC) indicates that the 15 nations of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) source up to 94 per cent of their food imports from the US market (2018). 94 per cent of all CARICOM imports of cereals, 90 per cent of edible fruits and nut imports, 90 per cent of imports of edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers and 91 per cent of sugars and sugar confectionary imports originate from the United States (2018);

AND WHEREAS the consumption of imported processed foods high in trans fats, saturated fats, sugars and salt have been associated with the high incidence of chronic non-communicable diseases in the region;

AND WHEREAS in 2011, a high-level meeting was held at the United Nations in New York to discuss the need for a global attack on the incidences of chronic non-communicable diseases concluded that cardiovascular disease, cancer, chronic lung diseases, and diabetes are responsible for 60% of all deaths in the world today. and one of the risk factors that contribute to the incidence of these diseases is the increased consumption of processed foods and ready-to-serve meals that are rich in trans-fats, saturated fats, salts and sugars;

AND WHEREAS the meeting indicated that chronic non-communicable diseases are a threat to development as these diseases contribute to high health care costs and low productivity;

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that in light of the global food crisis that Barbados develop an integrated food security plan which will:

- I. Reposition the agricultural sector and recognise farmers as important contributors to our economic development and decree that all vacant arable land be used to produce food.
- II. Strengthen the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security.
- III. Allocate more resources to the sector especially for investment in new technologies and market information systems.
- IV. Focus our research and development efforts on agricultural technologies for production and processing of locally produced products.
- V. Promote a change in the consumption patterns of the population from a focus on imported food to a focus on consumption of local foods by promoting nutrition education and implementing appropriate policy measures.
- VI. Review our policies on importation of food items and provide incentives to produce food locally and regionally.

- VII. Review our land use policies, strengthen agricultural extension services, make agriculture and food security a compulsory subject on the curriculum in our schools, strengthen the fisheries subsector and promote Climate Smart Agriculture by the incorporation of climate smart technologies in production.
- VIII. Promote Private sector/Public sector partnerships in Food Production and Processing and the development of an agricultural insurance system to support this initiative.
- IX. Develop a regional agricultural information system that would inform on the availability of food supplies in various countries of the region during the year thereby strengthening initiatives to promote regional trade and creating the enabling environment to move food from countries and areas with excess to countries and areas with deficits.
- X. Develop a system of payments for regional food trade in local currencies.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the integrated food security plan informed by the agricultural development vision of 2012 be reduced to a development document and made available to the Senate,

and moved seconded by Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard that the Resolution be passed.  
Further consideration was postponed.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS (recommitted)**

**ORDER NO. 1**

**THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022 (resumed)**

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins sought and obtained permission to withdraw the Bill.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Senate was adjourned *sine die*.

At 3.37 p.m. Mr. President (Ag.) adjourned the Sitting.

N. R. JONES, Q.C.  
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the  
, 2022.

day of

President.

SENATE CHAMBERS  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS  
BRIDGETOWN.









**SENATE**

**FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027**

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**MINUTES**

Wednesday, 10th August, 2022.

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