Mauritius

National Youth Council Act

Act 7 of 1998

Legislation as at 30 June 2017

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Mauritius

National Youth Council Act

Act 7 of 1998

Commenced on 9 February 2000

[This is the version of this document at 30 June 2017.]

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the National Youth Council Act.

2. Interpretation

In this Act—

"**Committee**" means the National Youth Council Executive Committee referred to in section 7;

"**Council**" means the National Youth Council established under section 3;

"**Minister**" means the Minister to whom responsibility for the subject of youth is assigned;

"**National Youth Organisation**" means a youth organisation specified in the Schedule;

"**Regional Youth Council**" means a Regional Youth Council referred to in section 13;

"**Secretary**" means the Secretary of the Council;

"**youth**" means a person aged between 14 and 29;

"**youth organisation**" means any youth organisation catering for the welfare of youth and includes a youth club.

3. National Youth Council

(1) There is established for the purposes of this Act the National Youth Council.

(2) The National Youth Council shall be a body corporate.

4. Objects of Council

(1) The objects of the Council shall be to—

(a) establish and maintain effective communication between Government and youth organisations;

(b) ensure coordination of activities of youth organisations;

(c) assist in the implementation and evaluation of Government policies relating to the needs of youth;

(d) initiate youth development projects and activities with the aim of encouraging the active participation of youth in the process of their own empowerment.

(2) The Council shall, for the purposes of attaining its objects—

(a) examine and evaluate the contribution of youth to the various sectors of development in the light of national needs and priorities; and

(b) study specific areas where the participation of youth should be invited or strengthened.

5. Functions of Council

(1) The functions of the Council shall be to—

(a) advise the Minister on the development and implementation of programmes to integrate youth in all sectors of national development;

(b) grant affiliation to National Youth Organisations;

(c) allocate grants to Regional Youth Councils.

(2) In the exercise of its functions, the Council may appoint such subcommittees as it deems fit.

6. Membership of Council

(1) Any National Youth Organisation may apply to the Council for affiliation.

(2) Every National Youth Organisation shall, on applying to become a member of the Council, submit a certified copy of its rules to the Council.

(3) Every National Youth Organisation shall, within 21 days of any amendment made to its rules, submit a certified copy of the amendment to the Council.

(4) Every Regional Youth Council shall be affiliated to the Council.

7. The Committee

(1) The Council shall be managed by the National Youth Council Executive Committee.

(2) The Committee shall consist of—

(a) a Chairperson, to be appointed by the Minister;

(b) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of youth and sports;

(c) a representative of the Ministry responsible for Rodrigues;

(d) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of women's affairs;

(e) one member elected by the National Youth Organisation;

(f) one representative nominated by the Regional Youth Councils;

(g) 3 members, having experience and proven ability in the field of youth, to be appointed by the Minister.

(3) No person who is—

(a) an office-bearer of a political party; or

(b) a member of the Assembly or of a local authority,

shall be qualified to be a member of the Committee.

(4) Every member of the Committee may be paid such fees as may be determined by the Minister of Finance.

8. Tenure of office

(1) A member of the Committee shall hold office for a period of 2 years, on such terms and conditions as the Minister may determine and, subject to subsection (2), shall be eligible for reappointment.

(2) No person shall sit on the Committee for more than 2 consecutive terms.

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9. Secretary and staff

(1) The Council may appoint, with the approval of the Minister, and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit—

(a) a Secretary, who shall be responsible for the execution of the policy, and the control and management of the day-to-day business, of the Council;

(b) such employees as may be necessary for the proper discharge of its functions under this Act.

(2) Every employee shall be under the administrative control of the Secretary.

10. Duties of Secretary

The Secretary shall—

(a) have the custody of all books, deeds and documents relating to the Council;

(b) keep minutes of all proceedings of the Council and the Committee;

(c) forward to the Minister every year, on or before 31 August, a statement of accounts and the balance sheets of the Council;

(d) submit to the Minister an annual report of the activities of the Council; and

(e) perform such other duties as the Council may assign to him.

11. Meetings of Council

(1) Subject to subsection (2), the annual general meeting of the Council shall take place at such place and at such time as the Committee may determine and not later than 30 September in each year.

(2) —

(3) The Secretary shall give at least 21 days' notice of the date, time, place and agenda of an annual general meeting to—

(a) the executive members of the National Youth Organisations; and

(b) the executive members of the Regional Youth Councils specified in section 16 (2).

(4) The Committee shall place before the annual general meeting the annual report and the audited accounts of the Council.

(5) One third of the total number of the executive members specified in subsection (3) shall constitute a quorum.

(6) A special meeting of the Council may be convened by the Secretary at the request of the Council or upon receipt of the written request of at least half of the total number of National Youth Organisations and Regional Youth Councils affiliated to the Council.

(7) Every executive member specified in subsection (3) shall have one vote.

12. Meetings of Committee

(1) The Committee shall meet at least once monthly at such place and at such time as the Chairperson may determine.

(2) Five members shall constitute a quorum.

(3) The Committee shall regulate its proceedings in such manner as it thinks fit.

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(4) The Secretary shall give at least 7 days' notice of the date, time, place and agenda of any meeting of the Committee.

13. Regional Youth Councils

(1) There shall be in each district a Regional Youth Council.

(2) For the purposes of this Act, the Island of Rodrigues shall be considered as a district.

(3) Every Regional Youth Council shall promote the objectives of the Council and shall organise activities with the collaboration of youth organisations in the district.

(4) Every Regional Youth Council shall establish an agenda of activities for the year, in collaboration with the Council.

14. Duties of Regional Youth Councils

(1) Every Regional Youth Council shall keep a register of youth organisations affiliated to it.

(2) Every Regional Youth Council shall produce its books and documents for inspection whenever so requested by the National Youth Council.

(3) Every Regional Youth Council shall submit a certified report of its activities and its statement of accounts duly audited to the National Youth Council on or before 31 July in each year.

15. Membership of Regional Youth Councils

(1) Any youth organisation may apply for affiliation to the appropriate Regional Youth Council.

(2) A Regional Youth Council shall not grant affiliation to a youth organisation, unless it is satisfied that the principal objectives of the youth organisation are compatible with the aims and objectives of the Regional Youth Council.

16. Regional Youth Council Executive Committee

(1) Every Regional Youth Council shall be managed and administered by a Regional Youth Council Executive Committee.

(2) Every Regional Youth Council Executive Committee shall be composed of 9 members aged between 14 and 29, elected for a period of 2 years.

(3) Every youth organisation affiliated to a Regional Youth Council shall nominate one representative to stand for election to the Regional Youth Council Executive Committee.

(4) An election under subsection (2) shall be conducted in such manner as the Council may prescribe.

(5) The members elected under subsection (2) shall elect among themselves the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary of a Regional Youth Council Executive Committee.

17. Meetings of Regional Youth Council

(1) The annual general meeting of a Regional Youth Council shall be convened at such place and at such time as may be determined by the Regional Youth Council Executive Committee, but not later than 31 August in each year.

(2) The Secretary of the Regional Youth Council shall give notice of the annual general meeting at least 15 days in advance.

(3) One third of the total number of youth organisations shall constitute a quorum.

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(4) The meeting shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the Regional Youth Council and, in his absence, by the Vice-Chairperson.

(5) Two auditors shall be appointed at the annual general meeting.

18. Meetings of Regional Youth Council Executive Committees

(1) A Regional Youth Council Executive Committee shall meet at least once monthly at such place and at such time as the Chairperson of the Regional Youth Council may determine.

(2) The Secretary of the Regional Youth Council shall give at least 5 clear days' notice of any meeting of a Regional Youth Council Executive Committee.

(3) Five members of a Regional Youth Council Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(4) A Regional Youth Council Executive Committee shall regulate its proceedings in such manner as it thinks fit.

19. Suspension of membership by Regional Youth Council

(1) A Regional Youth Council may suspend the membership of any youth organisation, if it is satisfied that the youth organisation—

(a) has acted in a manner which is prejudicial to the interests of the Regional Youth Council or the Council; or

(b) is wound up.

(2) Any youth organisation aggrieved by a decision of a Regional Youth Council under subsection (1) or section 15 (2), may appeal to the National Youth Council within a period of one month of the communication of the decision to it.

(3) The appeal shall be in such form as the Council may determine.

20. Funds of National Youth Council

(1) The Council shall receive grants from the Ministry for its operation and may raise funds from other sources.

(2) The income of the Council shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Council.

21. Execution of documents

(1) Subject to subsection (2), all documents shall be deemed to be executed by or on behalf of the Council if signed by the Chairperson of the Council.

(2) Every cheque of the Council shall be signed by the Chairperson and the Secretary of the Council.

22. Donations and legacies

Article 910 of the Code Civil Mauricien shall not apply to the Council

23. Powers of Minister

The Minister may, in the public interest, give directions not inconsistent with this Act to the Council and the Council shall comply with those directions.

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24. Regulations

The Minister may—

(a) make such regulations as he thinks fit for the purposes of this Act;

(b) by regulations, amend the Schedule.

25. ***

26. ***

Schedule (Section 2)

National Youth Organisations

Federation of UNESCO Clubs

Mauritius Council of Social Services

Mauritius Girl Guides Association

Mauritius Red Cross Society

Mauritius Scouts Association

National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs

St. John Ambulance Brigade

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