



GRENADA

STANDING ORDERS

OF THE

Senate

*Made pursuant to Section 50 of the
Grenada Constitution Order, 1973*

STANDING ORDERS OF THE SENATE

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GRENADA

STANDING ORDERS OF THE SENATE

1. Title. These Standing Orders may be cited as the
STANDING ORDERS OF THE SENATE, 2002.

2. Oath of Allegiance.

(1) Except for the purpose of electing a President and Deputy President after the appointment of a new Senate, no Senator shall take part in the proceedings of the Senate until he has made and subscribed to the oath or affirmation of allegiance in the form set out in the Appendix to these Orders.

(2) Immediately following the election of President and Deputy President after the appointment of a new Senate, the Clerk shall administer the oath first to the President and Deputy-President and then to the other Senators.

Provided that any person authorized by law to make an affirmation instead of taking an oath shall be permitted to make a solemn Affirmation in lieu of the Oath of Allegiance.

(3) The Oath or the Affirmation in lieu thereof shall be in the forms set out in the Appendix to these Standing Orders.

(4) The Oath or Affirmation in lieu thereof shall be taken or made immediately after Prayers and every Senator who has taken the Oath or made the Affirmation shall thereupon sign the book to be kept for that purpose at the Table.

(5) At any other time, the Oath or Affirmation shall be administered by the Clerk, before the Senate Chamber, immediately after Prayers.

3. Election of President.

(1) Whenever it is necessary for the Senate to elect a Senator to be President, the procedure for the election shall be as provided in this Order.

(2) Any Senator, having first ascertained that the Senator to be proposed is willing to serve if elected, may, addressing himself to the Clerk, propose any other Senator to the Senate as President. The proposal shall require to be seconded but, except as provided in paragraph (4) of this Order, no debate shall be allowed.

(3) If only one Senator is so proposed, he shall be declared by the Clerk to have been elected.

(4) If more than one Senator is so proposed the Senate shall proceed to elect the President by ballot.

(5) The procedure for the holding of a ballot shall be as follows:-

- (a) Every Senator present shall, if he so desires write upon a ballot paper to be supplied by the Clerk, the name of the Senator so proposed whom he desires to be the President.
- (b) The Clerk shall then call the names of all the Senators and each Senator who so desires shall, as his name is called, go to the Table and drop his ballot paper into a glass thereon in such a manner as not to disclose how he has voted.
- (c) When all Senators who wish to do so have dropped their ballot papers in the glass, the Clerk shall examine the ballot papers and report the result of the ballot.

- (d) If no Senator receives a majority of votes, but two or more persons receive the same number of votes, and that number of votes exceeds the number of votes received by every other Senator, a second ballot shall be taken in the manner prescribed in the preceding sub-paragraphs, save that no vote shall be cast for any Senator except one or other of the Senators who received an equal number of votes.
- (e) If upon the holding of the second ballot referred to in sub-paragraph (d) of this paragraph, two or more Senators receive an equal number of votes, subsequent ballots shall be held until one Senator has been duly elected.
- (f) A Senator shall not drop any ballot paper into the glass save his own.
- (g) A Senator who arrives after the names of the Senators have been called and before the Clerk has begun his examination of the ballot papers, shall be entitled to record his vote in the manner prescribed in this Standing Order.

4. Election of Deputy-President.

(1) Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of Deputy-President the Senate shall, in accordance with Section 28 sub-section (2) of the Constitution, proceed to elect a Senator to be Deputy-President.

(2) The election of the Deputy-President shall be conducted in a similar manner to the election of the President save that the President shall preside.

5. Presiding in the Senate and in Committee.

(1) The President, or in his absence the Deputy President, or in their absence a Senator (not being a Minister) elected by the Senate for the

sitting, shall preside at the sittings of the Senate and shall act as Chairman of Committees of the whole Senate.

(2) Save as otherwise provided in these Standing Orders, the Deputy President, or other Senator presiding, shall have all the authority and power of the President when presiding or otherwise performing the function of the President.

(3) The Deputy President or other Senator presiding, may, without any formal communication to the Senate or to the Committee, request the President to take the Chair.

(4) The President in the Senate and the Chairman in Committee shall have power to regulate the conduct of business in all matters not provided for in these Standing Orders.

(5) The decision in all cases for which these Standing Orders do not provide, shall lie within the discretion of the President, and shall not be open to appeal and shall not be reviewed by the Senate except upon as substantive motion made after notice.

(6) The President or in his absence the Deputy President may, without any formal communication to the Senate or to the Committee, as the case may be, ask any Senator present (not being a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary) to take the Chair temporarily.

6. Language.

(1) The proceedings and debates of the Senate shall be in the English language.

(2) Every petition shall be in the English Language.

7. Duties of the Clerk.

(1) The Clerk of the Senate shall be responsible for keeping Minutes of proceedings of the Senate and Minutes of proceedings of Committees of the Senate. The Minutes shall record the names of Senators attending, all decisions taken, and details of every division held.

(2) The Clerk shall submit the Minutes of the Proceedings of each sitting to the President for his signature and shall then circulate copies thereof to Senators as soon as possible and before the commencement of the next sitting.

(3) The Clerk shall be responsible for the custody of the votes, records, bills and other documents laid before the Senate, which shall be open to inspection by Senators and other persons under such arrangements as may be sanctioned by the President.

(4) It shall be the responsibility of the Clerk to provide every Select Committee of the Senate with a clerk and, if so required by the Committee, a short-hand writer.

(5) In the case of divisions of the Senate or of a Committee of the whole Senate, the Minutes shall include the numbers voting for and against the question, the names of Senators so voting, and the names (and number) of Senators who declined to vote on the question.

(6) The Clerk shall be responsible for preparing for each sitting:-

- (a) an Order Paper containing the business for that sitting, and
- (b) cause the Order paper to be circulated to members at least six clear days before the day on which the Senate is appointed to meet; except in cases of the sitting of the

Senate where short notice has been given, in which event the Order Paper should be so circulated at least one day earlier than the day on which the meeting is to be held.

(7) The Clerk shall prepare from day to day and keep on the Table of the Senate and in the Clerk's Office, an Order Book showing all business appointed for any future day, and any Notices of Questions or Motions which have been set down for a future day whether for a day named or not. The Order Book shall be opened to the inspection of Senators at all reasonable hours.

(8) After the proclamation summoning the Senate is published in the *Gazette*, the Clerk shall send to each Senator a written notice directing attention to that proclamation as soon as possible.

(9) At the end of each session, the Clerk shall cause to be prepared and placed in the records of the Senate a bound volume containing the Minutes of the Proceedings of that session, marked with all such corrections as the President may have directed to be made therein.

8. Duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms:

(1) to attend upon the President with the Mace, on entering or leaving the Chamber.

(2) to remove or cause to be removed, or ensure the removal of persons directed to withdraw.

(3) to maintain or cause to be maintained, order in the Lobby, Passages and Precincts of the House.

(4) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be subject to the orders received from the Presiding Officer or Clerk.

The Police Orderlies on duty in the House shall be under the directions of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

9. Quorum.

(1) The quorum of the Senate and of a Committee of the whole Senate shall consist of four Senators (excluding the Senator in the Chair).

(2) If any Senator draws the attention of the President in the Senate or of the Chairman in Committee of the whole Senate to the fact that a quorum is not present, the President or Chairman, as the case may be, shall direct Senators to be summoned as if for a division.

(3) When the order to summon Senators has been given in the Senate, the President, shall after the expiration of five minutes order a count of the Senators. If a quorum is not then present, he shall adjourn the Senate without question put.

(4) When the order to summon Senators has been given in Committee of the whole Senate, the Chairman shall after the expiration of two minutes, count the Committee. If he ascertains that a quorum is not then present, he shall leave the Chair, the Senate shall resume and the President shall count the Senate. If a quorum is then present, the Senate shall again resolve itself into Committee; but if a quorum is not present, the President shall adjourn the Senate without question put.

(5) If, from the number of Senators taking part in a division, including those Senators who declined to vote, it appears that a quorum is not present, the division shall be invalid, the business then under consideration shall stand over until the next sitting, or such earlier time as the President may appoint and the Senate or Committee shall be counted in accordance with paragraph (3) or paragraph (4) of this Order.

(6) For the avoidance of doubt it is hereby declared that the Senators to be summoned by the Clerk under this Standing Order shall be those Senators who are not in the Chamber of the Senate but are within the precincts thereof.

SITTINGS OF THE SENATE

10. Days and Hours of Sitting.

The Senate shall meet on such days and at such times as it may from time to time decide or, in default of such decision, as the President may direct.

11. Adjournment of the Senate.

A meeting of the Senate may be adjourned at any time by a vote of the majority of the Senate or by the President if he shall think fit.

12. Adjournment – Definite Matter of Urgent Public Importance.

On the motion for the adjournment of the Senate any Senator may rise and speak on any matter of public importance or urgency up to a limit of ten minutes.

ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS

13. Order of Business.

Unless the Senate otherwise directs, the business of each sitting day shall be transacted in the following order:-

- (a) Formal entry of President.
- (b) Prayers.
- (c) Oath of allegiance of a new Senator.
- (d) Messages from the Governor-General.

- (e) Announcements by the President.
- (f) Presentation of Petitions.
- (g) Presentation of Papers and Reports from Select Committees.
- (h) Questions to Ministers
- (i) Statements by Ministers.
- (j) Personal Explanations.
- (k) Motions.
- (l) Bills.
- (m) Public Business.
- (n) Adjournment.

PETITIONS AND PAPERS

14. Presentation of Petitions. (1) Every Petition intended to be presented to the Senate must conclude with a prayer setting forth the general object of the Petition.

(2) A Petition shall not be presented to the Senate unless it shall have been endorsed by the Clerk as being in accordance with the rules in regard to Petitions.

(3) The Senator presenting a Petition may state concisely the purpose of the Petition.

(4) All Petitions shall be ordered to lie upon the Table without question put, unless a Senator when presenting a Petition moves for it to be read or printed, or referred to a Select Committee. Any such motion shall be decided forthwith without debate.

(5) The Senate will not receive any Petition:-

- (a) which is not addressed to the Senate and which is not properly and respectfully worded;
- (b) which has not at least one signature on the sheet on which the prayer of the Petition appears and which has not at least the prayer at the head of each subsequent sheet of signatures; or
- (c) which in the opinion of the President requests that provision be made for imposing or increasing any charge on the revenues or other funds of the State or for altering any such charge otherwise than by reducing it or for compounding or remitting any debt due to the State.

15. Presentation of Papers.

(1) Every paper shall be presented by a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary and its presentation shall be recorded in the Minutes of Proceedings.

(2) A Minister or Parliamentary Secretary presenting a paper may make a short explanatory statement of its contents.

(3) All papers presented to the Senate shall be ordered to lie upon the Table without question put and any motion for the printing thereof shall be determined without amendment or debate.

QUESTIONS

16. Nature of Questions.

Questions relating to Public Affairs may be put to Ministers.

(2) Questions may be put to a Minister relating to any matter, subject or Department in respect of which the Minister is charged with responsibility.

(3) Where there is no Minister in the Senate who is exclusively responsible for the matter forming the subject of a question, such question may be put to the Leader of Government Business in the Senate.

(4) It shall be the duty of the Clerk forthwith to bring any such question to the notice of the appropriate Minister and the Leader of Government Business in the Senate.

17. Notice of Questions.

(1) A question shall not be asked without notice, unless it is of an urgent character or relates to the business of the day, and the Senator has obtained the leave of the Senate to ask it.

(2) Notice of a question may be handed by a Senator to the Clerk when the Senate is sitting, or may be sent to or left at the office of the Clerk at any time during normal working hours. Every such notice must be signed by the Senator giving it.

(3) A Senator who desires an oral answer to a question shall mark his notice with an asterisk and such a question shall be put down for the next sitting of the Senate after the expiration of six clear days from the giving of the notice.

(4) A question not so marked shall be put down for the next sitting of the Senate being a day not earlier than six clear days from the giving of the notice.

The answer, when received, shall be circulated with the minutes of the proceedings.

18. Contents of Questions.

(1) The right to ask a question shall be subject to the following general rules, as to the interpretation of which the President shall be the sole judge:-

- (a) The proper object of a question is to obtain information on a question of fact within the official cognizance of a Minister, or to ask for official action.
- (b) A question shall not include the names of persons, or any statement of fact, unless they be necessary to render the question intelligible.
- (c) If a question contains a statement of fact, the Senator asking it shall make himself responsible for the accuracy of the statement, and no question shall be based upon a newspaper report, or upon an unofficial publication.
- (d) Senator shall address the Senate upon any question, and a question shall not be made the pretext for a debate.
- (e) Not more than one subject shall be referred to in any one question, and a question shall not be of excessive length.
- (f) A question shall not contain arguments, inferences, opinions, imputations, epithets, ironical expressions or hypothetical cases.
- (g) A question shall not be asked:-
 - (i) which raises an issue already decided in the Senate, or which has been answered fully during the current session, or to which an answer has been refused;
 - (ii) seeking information about matters which are in their nature secret;
 - (iii) regarding proceedings in a Committee which have not been placed before the Senate by a report from the Committee;

- (iv) which deals with matters referred to a Commission of Enquiry or within the jurisdiction of the Chairman of a Select Committee;
- (v) as to the character or conduct of any person except in his official or public capacity;
- (vi) about any matter then pending before any Court of Justice, or which reflects on the decision of a Court of Justice;
- (vii) reflecting on the character or conduct of any person whose conduct can only be challenged on a substantive motion under Standing Order 36 (Contents of Speeches);
- (viii) asking whether statements in the press, or of private individuals, or unofficial bodies are accurate;
- (ix) the answer to which can be found by reference to available official publications; or
- (x) referring discourteously to, or seeking information about, the internal affairs of any territory within the Commonwealth or of a friendly Foreign Country;
- (xi) dealing with the action of a Minister for which he is not responsible to the Parliament; or
- (xii) seeking, for purposes of argument, information on matters of past history; or
- (xiii) raising questions of policy too large to be dealt within the limits of an answer to a question.

(h) A question shall not solicit the expression of an opinion on the solution of an abstract legal question or of a hypothetical proposition.

(2) If the President is of the opinion that any question of which a Senator has given notice to the Clerk infringes the provisions of any Standing Order or is in any way an abuse of the right of questioning, he may direct:-

- (i) that the Senator concerned be informed that the question is out of order; or
- (b) that the question be entered in the Order-Book with such alterations as he may direct.

19. Manner of Asking and Answering Questions.

(1) At the time appointed for the oral asking and answering of questions under Standing Order No. 13 (Order of Business), the President shall call in turn upon each Senator in whose name the question stands upon the Order Paper, in the order in which the questions are printed. Each Senator so called shall rise in his place and ask the question by reference to its number on the Order Paper, and the Minister questioned shall give his reply.

(2) After the answer to a question has been given supplementary questions may, at the discretion of the President, be put for the purpose of elucidating the answer given orally, but the President may refuse any such question which in his opinion introduces matters not relative to the original question, or which infringes any of the provisions of Standing Order No. 18 (Contents of Questions), and may in that case direct that such question be not reported in the Official Report.

(3) When all the questions for which an oral answer is required have been called, the President if time permits shall call again any question which has not been asked by reason of the absence of the Senator in whose name it stands; in which case a Senator can ask a question for another Senator if deputed by him to do so. The President shall also call again any question which has not been answered by reason of the absence of the Senator to whom it is addressed.

(4) A Minister may decline to answer a question, if the publication of the answer would in his opinion be contrary to the public interest.

(5) Not more than three questions requiring an oral answer shall appear on the Order Paper in the name of the same Senator for the same day, and any question in excess of this number shall not be called by the President but shall be answered as provided in subsection (6) of this Standing Order, save that no postponement shall be allowed.

(6) In any case where a question has not received an oral answer, it shall be answered in writing by the Minister to whom the question was addressed, and copies of the answer shall be sent to the Clerk of the Senate, who shall send a copy to the Senator in whose name the question stood upon the Order Paper and shall cause the answer to be circulated with the Minutes of Proceedings. A Senator having a question on the Order Paper but whose name has not yet been called by the President, may signify to the Clerk at the Table his desire to postpone the question to a subsequent sitting of the Senate or to withdraw it.

20. Personal Explanations.

With the leave of the President, a Senator may make a personal explanation at the time appointed under Standing Order No. 13 (Order of Business) although there is no question before the Senate; but no controversial matter may be brought forward nor may debate arise upon the explanation.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

21. Arrangement of Public Business.

(1) Public business shall consist of motions and public bills.

(2) Subject to the provisions of these Standing Orders, Government Business shall have precedence on every day.

(3) Government business shall consist of motions proposed to be made and bills sponsored by Ministers and shall be set down in such order as the Government thinks fit.

(4) Private Senators' business shall be set down in the order in which notice thereof was given.

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO

22. Questions for Debate.

(1) Except on the recommendation of the Governor-General signified thereto by a Minister, the Senate shall not proceed upon any motion or amendment to a motion the effect of which, in the opinion of the President is that provision should be made for imposing or increasing any tax, for imposing or increasing any charge on the revenues or other funds of the State or for altering any such charge otherwise than by reducing it, or for compounding or remitting any debt due to the State.

(2) The signification of the recommendation of the Governor-General shall be recorded in the Minutes of Proceedings.

(3) Subject to these Standing Orders, any Senator may propose by way of motion any matter for debate in the Senate.

23. Notice of Motions or Amendments.

(1) Where under any Standing Order notice of motion or any amendment is required such notice shall be given in writing, signed by the Senator and addressed to the Clerk. Such notice shall be handed to the Clerk or sent to, or left at, the Clerk's Office during normal working hours.

(2) If the President is of opinion that any notice of motion which has been received by the Clerk infringes the provisions of any Standing Order or is in any other way out of order, he may direct:-

- (a) that the Senator concerned be informed that the notice of motion is out of order; or
- (b) that the notice of motion be entered in the Order Book with such alternations as he may direct, and which may be acceptable by the Senator.

(3) Not more than three notices of Motion in the name of the same Senator other than a Minister may be entered on the Order Paper of any sitting.

(4) Motions and amendments sent to the Clerk shall be circulated by him to Senators, and, in the case of amendments to Bills, shall be arranged, so far as may be, in the order in which they will be proposed.

(5) No debate shall take place on the giving of notice of any matter.

24. Period of Notice

(1) With the consent of the President, a notice of a Government motion may be placed upon the Order Paper for the sitting of the day following that on which it was given to the Clerk.

(2) Except as provided in Standing Order No. 69 (Reports from Select Committees), a notice of a Private Senator's motion shall not be entered in the Order Book, or placed upon the Order Paper, for a day earlier than twelve clear days from the day on which the notice was given to the Clerk.

25. Exemptions from Notice.

Unless the Standing Orders otherwise provide, notice shall be given of any motion which it is proposed to make, with the exception of the following:-

- (a) a motion for the amendment of any motion;
- (b) a motion for the adjournment of the Senate or of a debate;
- (c) a motion for the election of a temporary presiding officer under paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 5 (Presiding in the Senate and in Committee);
- (d) a motion for the suspension of Standing Orders put with the leave of the President;
- (e) a motion for the withdrawal of strangers;
- (f) a motion that the Senate resolves itself into Committee;
- (g) a motion made in Committee of the whole Senate;
- (h) a motion for the suspension of a Senator;
- (i) a motion that a petition do lie upon the Table and be read, printed or referred to a Select Committee;

- (j) a motion for the printing of a paper under paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 14 (Presentation of Papers);
- (k) a motion relating to a matter of privilege;
- (l) a motion arising out of any item of business made immediately after that item is disposed of and before the next item is entered upon;
- (m) a motion to recommit a bill under paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 55 (Recommittal of Bills reported from Committee of the whole Senate);
- (n) a motion for the withdrawal of a bill under Standing Order No. 59 (Withdrawal of Bills);
- (o) a motion in respect of which notice has been dispensed with under Standing Order No. 26 (Dispensing with Notice).

26. Dispensing with Notice.

Notice shall not be dispensed with in the case of a motion or in respect of any proceedings for which notice is required, except with the consent of the President and the assent of the majority of the Senators present at the time.

27. Privilege Motions.

(1) A motion directly concerning the privileges of the Senate shall take precedence over all other public business.

(2) Any Senator desiring to raise a matter under this Standing Order shall first obtain leave of the President who shall determine whether the Senator is entitled to raise the matter as a question of privilege.

(3) No debate shall ensue on a Motion under this Order but if the President decides that a *prima facie* case has been made out he shall so state and refer the matter to the Committee of Privileges.

(4) If during a sitting of the Senate a matter suddenly arises which appears to involve the privileges of the Senate and which calls for the immediate intervention of the Senate, the proceedings may be interrupted, save during the progress of a division, by a motion based on such matter.

28. Moving of Motions.

(1) Subject to the Constitution and to these Standing Orders, it shall be competent for any Senator to propose by way of motion any matter for debate in the Senate.

(2) On a motion made and when necessary seconded, the President shall propose the question to the Senate and after debate, if any, shall then put the question for the decision of the Senate.

(3) If a motion embodies two or more separate propositions, the propositions may be proposed by the President of the Senate as separate questions.

(4) If a Senator desires to vary the terms of a motion standing in his name, he may do so by giving an amended notice of motion, provided that such amendment does not, in the opinion of the President, materially alter any principle embodied in the original motion shall run from the time at which the original notice of motion was given.

29. Seconding of Motions.

(1) In the Senate the question upon a motion or amendment shall not be proposed by the President unless such motion or amendment has been seconded.

Provided that Government business shall not require seconding.

(2) In Committee a seconder shall not be required.

30. Motions Not Moved Nor Seconded.

(1) If a Senator does not move a motion or amendment which stands in his name when he is called on, it shall be removed from the Order Paper unless some other Senator, duly authorized by him in writing, move it in his stead, provided that Government business may be moved by any Minister.

(2) No question shall be proposed upon a motion or amendment, which under these Standing Orders is required to be seconded, if it is not so seconded, no record of proceedings upon the Motion or amendment shall be entered in the Minutes of proceedings.

31. Withdrawal of Motions.

(1) A motion may be withdrawn, at the request of the mover, after it has been moved, by leave of the Senate or Committee, before the question is fully put thereon, provided there is no dissentient voice.

(2) A motion so withdrawn may not be moved again during the same session.

(3) If an amendment has been proposed to a question the original motion cannot be withdrawn until the amendment has been disposed of.

32. Amendments to Motions: How Moved and Put

(1) When any motion is under consideration in the Senate or in a Committee thereof an amendment may be proposed to the motion if it is relevant thereto.

(2) An amendment may be proposed to any such amendment if it is relevant thereto.

(3) An amendment to a motion may be moved and seconded at any time after the question upon the motion has been proposed by the President or Chairman, and before it has been put by the President or Chairman at the conclusion of the debate upon the motion. When every such amendment has been disposed of, the President or Chairman shall either again propose the question upon the motion or shall propose the question upon the motion as amended, as the case may require, and after any further debate which may arise thereon, shall put the question to the Senate or Committee for its decision.

- (4) (a) Upon any amendment to leave out any of the words of the motion, the question to be proposed shall be "That the words proposed to be left out, be left out of the question".
- (b) Upon any amendment to insert words in, or add words at the end of, a motion, the question to be proposed shall be "That these words be there inserted" (or "added").
- (c) Upon any amendment to leave out words and insert or add other words instead, a question shall first be proposed "That the words proposed to be left out be left out of the question", and only if that question is agreed to, shall the question then be proposed "That those words be there inserted (or "added")".
- (d) When two or more amendments are proposed to be moved to the same motion, the President shall call upon the movers in the order in which their amendments relate to the text of the motion, or in case of doubt in such order as he shall decide.

- (e) Any amendment may be withdrawn at the request of the mover, by leave of the President, before the question is fully put thereon, provided that there is no dissentient voice.
- (5)
- (a) Any amendment to an amendment which a Senator wishes to propose may be moved and seconded at any time after the question upon the original amendment has been put at the conclusion of the debate on the original amendment.
 - (b) The provisions of paragraph (4) of this Order shall apply to the discussion of amendments to amendments except that in any question to be put, the words “original amendment” shall be substituted for the word “question”.
 - (c) When every such amendment to an amendment has been disposed of, the President shall either again propose the question upon the original amendment, or shall propose the question upon the original amendment as amended, as the case may require.
- (6) Any amendment, whether in the Senate or in Committee of the whole Senate shall be put into writing by the mover and delivered to the Clerk before the question is proposed thereon.
- (7) When the question upon an amendment to a motion has been proposed by the President or Chairman an earlier part of the motion may not be amended unless the amendment under discussion is withdrawn.
- (8) An amendment shall not raise any question which, by these Standing Orders, can only be raised by a substantive motion after notice.

RULES OF DEBATE

33. Time and Manner of Speaking.

(1) A Senator desiring to speak shall rise in his place and if called upon shall address the Chair. No Senator shall speak unless called upon by the President or Chairman.

(2) If two or more Senators rise at the same time, the President or Chairman shall upon the Senator who first catches his eye.

(3) No Senator shall speak more than once on any question except:-

(a) in Committee

(b) in explanation as prescribed in sub-section (4) of this Order;
or

(c) in the case of the mover or a substantive motion or the Senator in charge of a bill in reply or;

(d) to a point of order, as provided in Standing Order No. 35 (Interruptions).

(4) Any Senator may, without prejudice to his right to speak at a later period of the debate, second a motion or amendment by rising in his place and stating that it is his intention to second the motion or amendment.

(5) A Senator who has spoken on a question may again be heard to offer explanation of some material part of his speech which he claims has been misrepresented; but he shall not introduce new matter.

(6) A Senator who has spoken may speak again when a new question has been proposed by the President or Chairman such as a proposed amendment or a motion for the adjournment or the debate.

(7) Except with the leave of the President a Senator shall not read his speech but he may read extracts from books or papers in support of his argument, and may refresh his memory by reference to notes.

(8) No Senator may speak on any question after it has been fully put to the vote by the President or Chairman, that is, after the voices of the Ayes and the Noes have been collected.

34. Right of Reply.

(1) The mover of a motion may reply after all the other Senators present have had an opportunity of addressing the Senate and before the question is put, and after such reply no other Senator may speak, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this Order.

(2) A Minister may conclude a debate on any motion which is critical of the Government, or reflects adversely on or is calculated to bring discredit upon, the Government or a Government Officer thereof.

35. Interruptions.

No Senator shall interrupt another Senator except:

- (a) by rising to a point of order, when the Senator speaking shall resume his seat and the Senator interrupting shall simply direct attention to the point which he desires to bring to notice and submit it to the President or Chairman for decision; or
- (b) to elucidate some matter raised by that Senator in the course of his speech, provided that the Senator speaking is willing to give way and resumes his seat and that the Senator wishing to interrupt is called by the Chair.

36. Contents of Speeches.

(1) Reference shall not be made to any matter which is *sub judice*, in such a way as might in the opinion of the Chair prejudice the interests of parties thereto.

(2) It shall be out of order to attempt to revive, in any debate, a matter or reconsider any specific question (other than a motion or question relating to a bill returned with any amendment by the Other Place) upon which the Senate has come to a conclusion during the current session except upon a substantive motion or the current session except upon a substantive motion or decision, which motion shall not be brought sooner than six months after the date on which the Senate reached its decision.

(3) It shall be out of order to use offensive and insulting language about Members of either House.

(4) Senators may be referred to by name.

(5) No Senator shall impute improper motives to any Member of either House.

(6) Her Majesty's or the Governor-General's name shall not be used to influence the Senate.

(7) The conduct of Her Majesty and Members of the Royal Family shall not be called in question.

(8) The conduct of the Governor-General or Officer administering Government, Members of either House or judges of the Supreme Court shall not be raised except upon a substantive motion moved for the purpose.

37. Scope of Debate.

(1) Debate upon any motion, bill or amendment shall be relevant to such motion, bill or amendment, except in the case of a motion for the adjournment of the Senate.

(2) When an amendment proposes to leave out words and to add or insert other words instead of them, debate upon the question "That the words proposed to be left out be left out of the question" may include both the words proposed to be left out and those proposed to be added or inserted.

(3) On an amendment proposing only to leave out words or to add or insert words, debate shall be confined to the omission, addition or insertion of such words respectively.

(4) Debate upon any motion "That the debate be now adjourned", or "That the Senate do now adjourn" if moved during any debate, or in Committee upon any motion during any debate, or in Committee upon any motion "That the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again", shall be confined to the matter of such motion; and a Senator who has made or seconded such motion shall not be entitled to move or second any similar motion during the same debate.

38. Budget Debate.

Section 37 of Standing Order No. 37.

(1) On the presentation of and debate on the annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure (the Budget) in the Senate, the following rules shall apply:-

- (i) The Leader of Government Business in presenting the said Estimates may speak for no longer than one and a half hours;

(ii) The Leader of Opposition Business may speak for no longer than one and a half hours;

(iii) All other Members may speak for no longer than one hour.

(2) In every case the President may allow a Member an extended period of time not exceeding fifteen (15) minutes in the discretion of the President.

39. Anticipation.

(1) It shall be out of order to anticipate a bill by discussion upon a motion dealing with the subject matter of that bill.

(2) It shall be out of order to anticipate a bill or a notice of motion by discussion upon an amendment, or a motion for the adjournment of the Senate.

(3) In determining whether discussion is out of order on the grounds of anticipation, regard shall be had by the Chair to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the Senate within a reasonable time.

40. Closure of Debate.

(1) After a question has been proposed any Senator may at any time during the course of debate rise in his place and claim to move “that the question be now put” and unless it appears to the Chair that that motion is an abuse of the rules of the Senate or an infringement of the rights of the minority, the question “that the question be now put” shall be put forthwith. No debate on that motion shall be allowed, and if the motion is carried, the debate then before the Senate shall cease and the question before the Senate shall be put forthwith.

(2) When the motion “that the question be now put” has been carried, and the question consequent thereon has been decided, any Senator may claim that any other question already proposed from the Chair be now put and if the assent of the Chair is given, such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.

(3) The provision of this Order shall apply only when, in the Senate, the President, or in Committee the President or Deputy President is in the Chair.

41. Rules for Members Not Speaking.

A Senator present in the Senate during a debate:

- (a) shall enter or leave the Senate with decorum;
- (b) shall not read books, newspapers, letters or other documents save such as relate to the business before the Senate;
- (c) shall maintain silence while another Senator is speaking, and shall not interrupt, except in accordance with these Standing Orders; and
- (d) shall otherwise conduct himself in a fit and proper manner, so as to maintain dignity and order.

RULES OF ORDER

42. Responsibility for Order in the Senate and in Committee.

(1) The President in the Senate and the Chairman in Committee shall be responsible for the observance of the rules of order in the Senate and Committee respectively and their decision upon any point of order shall not be open to appeal; and shall not be reviewed by the Senate except upon a substantive motion made after notice.

(2) When the President or Chairman rises, any Senator then speaking or wishing to speak shall immediately resume his seat and, the Senate or the Committee shall be silent.

43. Order in the Senate and in Committee.

(1) The President or the Chairman, after having called the attention of the Senate, or of the Committee, to the conduct of a Senator who persists in irrelevance, or tedious repetition either of his own arguments, or of the arguments used by other Senators in debate may direct him to discontinue his speech and to resume his seat.

(2) Any Senator may, after the President or Chairman, as the case may be, has under sub-section (1) of this Standing Order once called the attention of the Senate or Committee to the conduct of a Senator who persists in irrelevance or tedious repetition of his own arguments or of the arguments used by other Senators in the debate, move that the Senator be no longer heard and such Motion shall be put forthwith without amendment or debate.

(3) The President or the Chairman shall order any Senator whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the Senate during the remainder of that day's sitting, and may direct such steps to be taken as are required to enforce this order. But if, on any occasion, the President or the Chairman considers that his powers under the previous provisions of this Order are inadequate, the President or Chairman may name such Senator for disregarding the authority of the Chair under this Standing Order, in which event the procedure prescribed in the next succeeding paragraph should be followed.

Whenever a Senator has been named by the President, or by the Chairman, then:-

- (a) If the offence has been committed in the Senate, the President shall call upon a Minister to move “That Senator be suspended from the service of the Senate.” The President shall put the question on such motion forthwith, no seconder being required and no amendment, adjournment or debate being allowed;
 - (b) If the offence has been committed in Committee, the Chairman, shall forthwith suspend the proceedings of the Committee and, as soon as the Senate has resumed, shall report the circumstances whereupon the procedure provided for in the preceding sub-paragraph shall be followed;
 - (c) If any such motion be carried and the Senator be suspended, this suspension on the first occasion shall continue until the next meeting of the Senate and on the second occasion until the expiration of two meetings and on the third or any subsequent occasion until the Senate resolves that such suspension be terminated.
- (4) The President or the Chairman shall order any Senator to withdraw immediately from the Senate during the remainder of the day’s sitting and may direct such steps to be taken, as are required, to enforce such order:-
- (a) where the conduct of such Senator is grossly disorderly; or
 - (b) where such Senator has used objectionable, abusive, insulting or offensive words or language or unparliamentary expressions, and, on being called to order, has refused to withdraw such words or language or expressions, and has not offered an apology for the use thereof to the satisfaction of the Senate.

(5) Not more than one Senator shall be named at the same time, unless several Senators present together have jointly committed the offence.

(6) A senator who is directed to withdraw or who is suspended under this Standing Order shall forthwith leave the Senate and its precincts.

(7) If any Senator who has been directed to withdraw, or who has been suspended under the Standing Order refuses at any time to obey the direction of the President to withdraw from the Senate and its precincts, the President shall call the attention of the Senate to the fact that recourse to force is necessary in order to compel obedience to his direction, and the Senator named by him as having so refused to obey his direction shall thereupon without further question be suspended from the service of the Senate during the remainder of the session.

(8) If resort to force is necessary, the President may suspend the sitting during the removal of the Senator.

(9) A Senator who is directed to withdraw or who is suspended under this Standing Order shall not be entitled to attend the sitting from which he was directed to withdraw or in a case of suspension to attend any sitting or enter the precincts of the Senate until the termination of his suspension.

(10) In the case of grave disorder arising in the Senate the President may, if he thinks it necessary to do so, adjourn the Senate without question put, or suspend the sitting for a time to be named by him.

(11) Nothing in this Order shall be taken to deprive the Senate of the power of proceeding against any Senator according to any resolution of the Senate.

VOTING

44. Decision of Questions

(1) Save as otherwise provided in the Constitution of Grenada or in these Standing Orders all questions proposed for decision in the Senate or in Committee shall be determined by a majority of the votes of those present and voting.

(2) Neither the President nor any other Senator presiding shall vote unless the votes of the other Senators are equally divided in which case he shall have and exercise a casting vote.

45. Collection of Voices.

(1) At the conclusion of a debate upon any question the President or Chairman shall put that question for the decision of the Senate, and shall collect the voices of the Ayes and of the Noes, after which no further debate may take place upon that question.

(2) The result shall be declared by the President or Chairman stating "I think the Ayes have it" or "I think the Noes have it" as the case may be, but any Senator may challenge the opinion of the Chair by claiming a division.

46. Divisions.

(1) A division shall be taken by the Clerk calling each Senator's name and asking each Senator separately how he desires to vote and recording the votes accordingly. The Clerk shall then announce the number of those who have voted for and of those who voted against the proposal and the President or Chairman shall declare the result of the division.

(2) Every Senator present, unless he expressly says that he declines to vote, shall record his vote either for the Ayes or the Noes. The Clerk shall enter in the Minutes of Proceeding the record of each Senator's vote, and shall add a statement of the names of Senators who declined to vote.

(3) If a Senator states that he voted in error or that his vote has been counted wrongly, he may claim to have his vote altered provided that such claim is made as soon as the Clerk has announced the numbers and before the Chair has declared the result of the division. Upon such claim being made the President, or Chairman, at his sole discretion shall either direct the Clerk to alter that Senator's vote or direct that a fresh division be held.

PROCEDURE ON BILLS

47. Introduction and First Reading.

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this Order any Senator may move for leave to introduce a bill of which he has given notice; but a bill may be presented to the Senate on behalf of the Government after notice without an order of the Senate for its introduction.

(2) A notice of the presentation of a bill on behalf of the Government may be entered on the Order Paper for the day following the day on which it was received by the Clerk.

(3) Except upon the recommendation of the Governor-General to be signified by a Minister and recorded in the Minutes of Proceedings, the Senate shall not receive any Government bill and shall not proceed upon any motion for leave to introduce a bill which, in the opinion of the President, would make provision for imposing or increasing any tax, for imposing or increasing any charge on the revenues or other funds or the State or for altering any such charge otherwise than by reducing it, or for compounding or remitting any debt due to the State.

(4) A bill, whether presented in pursuance of an order of the Senate after leave given or without such order, shall be handed to the Clerk at the Table by the Senator who gave notice of the Bill. The Clerk shall then read aloud the short title of the bill, which shall then be recorded in the Minutes of Proceedings as having been read a first time and ordered to be printed and published in the *Gazette*.

(5) When a bill has been brought from the House of Representatives and a Senator has signified to the Clerk his willingness to take charge of the bill, that bill shall be recorded in the Minutes of Proceedings as having been read a first time and ordered to be printed and shall be put down for second reading at the next meeting or at such subsequent meeting as the Senator may name.

48. Appointment of Days for Stages of Bills.

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Standing Order, at the conclusion of the proceeding on any stage of a bill, the Senator in charge of the bill may either name the next sitting or such subsequent sitting to be appointed for the next stage of the bill or move that the next stage be taken forthwith.

(2) An interval of not less than five days must elapse between the first and second reading of a bill, unless the *Senate on motion made and question put, agree to proceed with the bill at an earlier date, or forthwith.*

(3) Subject to sub-section (2) of this Standing Order, no bill shall be read a second time until it has been printed and circulated to Senators.

49. Printing and Circulation of Bills.

(1) The Clerk shall be responsible for the printing of bills from the draft handed to him by the Senator in charge of the bill and, before any bill is printed, he shall satisfy himself that:-

- (a) the bill is divided into successive clauses numbered consecutively;
- (b) the bill has in the margin a short summary of each clause; and
- (c) the provisions of the bill do not go beyond its title.

(2) As soon as possible after the printing of a bill the Clerk shall circulate a copy to every Senator. The Bill may be accompanied by a short explanatory statement of its objects.

(3) The Clerk shall as soon as possible cause every bill to be published in the *Gazette*.

50. Second Reading of Bills.

(1) On the second reading of a bill a debate may arise covering the general merits and principles of the bill.

(2) To the question "That the bill be now read a second time" an amendment may be proposed to leave out the word "now" and add at the end of the question "upon this day six months", or an amendment may be moved to leave out all the words after the word "that" in order to leave out all the words stating the object and motive on which the opposition to the bill is based, but such words must be strictly relevant to the bill and not deal with its details.

51. Committal of Bill.

(1) When a bill has been read a second time it shall stand committed to a Committee of the whole Senate, unless the Senate on motion made commits it to a Select Committee, such motion shall not require notice and must be made immediately after the bill has been read a second time, and the question thereon shall be put without amendment or debate.

(2) When a bill has been committed to a Select Committee, no further proceedings shall be taken thereon until the Select Committee has presented its report to the Senate.

52. Functions of Committees on Bills.

(1) Any committee to which a bill is committed shall not discuss the principle of the bill but only its details.

(2) Any such Committee shall have power to make such amendments therein as they shall think fit, provided that the amendments, including new clauses and new schedules, are relevant to the subject matter of the bill; but if any such amendments are not within the title of the bill, they shall amend the title accordingly, and shall report the same to the Senate.

53. Procedure in Committee of the Whole Senate on a Bill.

(1) The Chairman in Committee of the whole Senate shall call the number of each clause in succession. If no amendment is proposed thereto, or when all proposed amendments have been disposed of, he shall propose the question "That the clause (or the clause as amended) stand part of the bill" and, when all Senators who wish to speak thereon have spoken, he shall put that question to the Committee for its decision.

(2) Any proposed amendment of which notice has not been given shall be handed to Chairman in writing.

(3) The following provisions shall apply to amendments relating to bills:-

- (a) An amendment must be relevant to the subject matter of the bill, and to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates.

- (b) An amendment must not be inconsistent with any clause already agreed to or which any previous decision of the committee.
- (c) An amendment must not be such as to make the clause which it proposes to amend unintelligible or ungrammatical.
- (d) If an amendment refers to, or is not intelligible without a subsequent amendment or scheduled, notice of the subsequent amendment or scheduled must be given before or when the first amendment is moved so as to make the series of amendments intelligible as a whole.

In order to save time and repetition of arguments, the Chairman may allow a single discussion to cover a series of interdependent amendments.

- (e) The Chairman may refuse to allow an amendment, which is, in his opinion, frivolous or meaningless to be moved.
- (f) Except upon the recommendation of the Governor-General to be signified by a Minister and recorded in the Minutes of Proceedings, the Committee shall not proceed upon any amendment, which, in the opinion of the Chairman, would have effect in any of the ways described in paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 46 (Introduction and First Reading).
- (g) The Chairman may at any time during the discussion of a proposed amendment withdraw it from the consideration of the Committee if, in his opinion, the discussion has shown that the amendment violates the provisions of the Standing Order.

- (h) The Provisions of paragraphs (4) and (5) of Standing Order No. 32 (Amendments to Motions) shall apply to the discussion of amendments to bills, with the substitution where appropriate of the word “clause” for the word “motion” or the word “question”, and the word “Chairman” for the word “President” and the word “Committee” for the word “Senate” throughout.

(4) A clause may be postponed, unless a decision has already been taken upon an amendment thereto. Postponed clauses shall be considered after the remaining clauses of the bill have been considered and before new clauses are brought up.

(5) Any proposed new clause shall be considered after the clauses of the bill have been disposed of and before consideration of any Schedule to the bill; provided that a new clause proposed in substitution for a clause which has been disagreed to may be considered immediately after such disagreement.

(6) On the title of any new clause being read by the Clerk, the clause shall be deemed to have been read a first time. The question shall then be proposed “That the clause be read a second time”; if this is agreed to, amendments may then be proposed to the new clause. The final question to be proposed shall be “That the clause (or the clause as amended) be added to the bill”.

(7) Schedules shall be disposed of in the same way as clauses and any proposed new schedules shall be considered after the schedules to the bill have been disposed of, and shall be treated in the same manner as a new clause.

(8) When every clause and schedule and proposed new clause or schedule has been dealt with, the preamble if there is one, shall be considered and the question put “That this be the preamble to the bill”. No amendment to the preamble shall be considered which is not made necessary by a previous amendment to the bill.

(9) If any amendment to the title of the bill is made necessary by an amendment to the title of the bill is made necessary by an amendment to the bill, it shall be made at the conclusion of the proceedings detailed above, but no question shall be put that the title (as amended) stand part of the bill; nor shall any question be put upon the enacting formula.

(10) At the conclusion of the proceedings in Committee on a bill, the Chairman shall put the question "That the bill (or the bill as amended) be reported to the "Senate" which question shall be decided without amendment or debate.

(11) If any Senator, before the conclusion of proceedings on a bill, moves to report progress and such motion is carried, or if the proceedings in a Committee of the whole Senate have not been finished at the moment of interruption, the Chairman shall leave the Chair of the Committee and the Senator in charge of the bill shall report progress to the Senate and ask leave to sit again, and name a day for the resumption of the proceedings.

(12) A committee having met to consider a bill shall proceed with its consideration, except that during the proceedings on a bill the Senator in charge of the bill may, subject to the discretion of the Chairman move a motion "that the Committee do not proceed further with the bill". If the motion is carried the Committee shall then report the bill to the Senate as so far amended or without amendment as the case may be, and make a special report and the bill shall be ordered to lie upon the Table without question put.

54. Procedure in Select Committee on a Bill.

A select Committee on a bill shall be subject to Standing Orders No. 66 (Procedure in Select Committees) and No. 67 (Divisions in select Committees) but before reporting the bill to the Senate, it shall go through the bill as provided in Standing Order No. 52 (Procedure in Committee of the whole Senate on a Bill).

55. Procedure on Reporting of Bills from Committee of the Whole Senate.

(1) So soon as a Committee of the whole Senate has agreed that a bill be reported, the Chairman shall leave the Chair of the Committee and the Senate shall resume and the Chairman of the Committee shall report it to the Senate.

(2) Subject to these Standing Orders, when a bill has been reported from a Committee of the whole Senate, it shall be ordered to be read a third time.

56. Recommittal of Bills from Committee of the Whole Senate.

(1) If any Senator desires to delete or amend any provision contained in a bill as reported from a Committee of the whole Senate or to introduce any new provision therein he may at any time before a senator rises to move the third reading of the bill, move that the bill be recommitted either wholly or in respect only of some particular part or parts of the bill or some proposed new clause or new schedule. No notice of such motion shall stand so recommitted. The Senate may then, upon motion made, resolve itself into Committee to consider the business so recommitted either forthwith or at some subsequent meeting to be named.

(2) When the whole bill has been recommitted, the Committee shall go through the bill as provided in Standing Order No. 52 (Procedure in Committee of the whole Senate on Bill).

(3) When the bill has been recommitted in respect only of some particular part or parts or of some proposed new clause or new schedule, the Committee shall consider only the matter so recommitted and any amendment which may be moved thereto.

(4) At the conclusion of the proceedings in Committee on a bill recommitted under the provisions of this order, the Chairman shall put the question "That the bill (or the bill as amended on recommitment) be reported to the Senate" which question shall be decided without amendment or debate. So soon as the bill has been reported the Senator in charge of the bill may either name a future sitting for the third reading of the bill or move that it be read a third time forthwith.

57. Proceedings on Bills Reported from Select Committee.

(1) When a Bill has been reported from a Select Committee the Senate may proceed to consider the bill as reported from the select Committee upon a motion "That the report of the Select Committee on.....Bill be adopted", moved under paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 69 (Reports from Select Committees.)

(2) If that motion is agreed to without amendment the Senate may proceed to the third reading of the bill as reported from the Select Committee.

(3) Upon a motion to approve the report of the Select Committee on a bill, any Senator may propose an amendment, to add at the end of the motion, the words "subject to the recommitment of the bill (either wholly or in respect only of some proposed new clause or new schedule) to a Committee of the whole Senate" and if that motion is agreed to with such an amendment, the bill shall stand so recommitted. The Senate may then, upon motion made, resolve itself into a Committee to consider the business so recommitted.

(4) A committee of the whole Senate upon a bill recommitted under the provisions of this Standing Order shall proceed in accordance with paragraph (2) of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 55 (Recommitment of Bill reported from Committee of the whole Senate), and the conclusion of its proceedings and the remaining proceedings on the bill shall be subject to paragraph (4) of that Order.

58. Third Reading.

(1) On the third reading of a bill, amendments may be proposed to the question "that the bill be read a third time" similar to those which may be proposed on second reading; otherwise the question shall be put without amendment or debate.

(2) Amendments for the correction of errors or oversights may, with the President's permission, be made before the question for the third reading of the bill is put from the chair, but no amendment of a material character shall be proposed.

(3) When a bill originating in the Senate has been read a third time, a printed copy of it signed by the Clerk and endorsed by the President, shall be forwarded by the Clerk of the Senate to the Clerk of the House of Representatives, together with a message desiring the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

(4) When a Bill which originated in the House of Representatives has been read a third time and passed by the Senate with amendment or amendments, the Clerk of the Senate shall cause the said amendment or amendments made to the Bill by the Senate to be entered in the original copy, signed by the Clerk, and (endorsed by the President), shall then be returned to the House of Representatives, with a message desiring the concurrence of the House of Representatives to the amendment or amendments made by the Senate.

(5) When the House of Representatives has agreed to any amendment inserted by the Senate in a Bill to which sub-section (4) of this Standing Order relates, or has returned to the Senate a bill to which sub-section (3) of this Standing Order relates with a Message that the Bill has been read a third time and passed without amendment, a printed copy shall be submitted to the Governor-General for his Assent.

59. Procedure on House of Representatives Amendments.

(1) When a bill is returned from the House of Representatives with amendments the consideration of such amendments shall be put down for such future meeting as the Senator in charge of the bill shall appoint.

(2) Upon a motion being made "That the House of Representatives amendments to the Bill be now considered" an amendment may be proposed to that question, to leave out the word "now", and add at the end of the question "upon this day, six months", or some other date.

(3) When the Senate proceeds to the consideration of House of Representatives amendments, each amendment shall be read by the Clerk and may be agreed to or agreed to with amendment, or disagreed to. Upon any such amendment being disagreed to, an amendment may be made to the Bill in lieu thereof.

(4) When the Senate has concluded the consideration of the House of Representatives amendments:-

- (a) If such amendments have been agreed to, a message shall be sent to the House of Representatives informing the House "that the Senate has agreed to the amendments to the.....Bill", and a printed copy of the Bill as amended shall be submitted to the Governor-General for his Assent;
- (b) If such amendments have been amended, a printed copy of the Bill as amended, endorsed by the President, shall be returned to the House of Representatives together with a message informing the House of Representatives that the Senate has passed the Bill with amendments to which they desire the concurrence of the House;

- (c) If such amendments have been disagreed to, a message shall be sent informing the House of Representatives "that the Senate has disagreed to the House of Representatives amendments to the..... Bill".

60. Withdrawal of Bills.

By leave of the Senate or as the case may be, of the Committee, the Senator in charge of a Bill may make a motion, without notice, for its withdrawal, either before the commencement of Public Business or when any stage of the Bill is reached in the Order of Business.

61. Bills Containing Substantially the Same Subject Matter.

Once the second reading of any bill has been agreed to or negatived, no question shall be proposed during the same session for the second reading of any other bill containing substantially the same provisions.

62. Money Bills.

When a bill has been brought from the House of Representatives, endorsed with the Speaker's Certificate that it is a money Bill, the debate on the second reading thereof may cover the general merits and principles of the Bill, in the light of the economic and financial situation of the State. At the conclusion of the debate and when the question that the Bill be now read a second time has been agreed to, the Bill shall not be committed to a Committee of the whole Senate, unless on motion made, of which no notice shall be required, the Senate decides that the Bill shall be committed. If the Bill is not committed, the President shall forthwith put the question that the Bill be now read a third time, and the question shall now be decided without amendment or debate.

63. Select Committees.

SESSIONAL SELECT COMMITTEES

(1) There shall be the following Sessional Select Committees:-

- (a) Committee of Selection
- (b) Standing Orders Committee
- (c) House Committee
- (d) Committee of Privileges

(2) Members of the Sessional Select Committee shall be appointed by the Senate as soon as may be after the beginning of each Session.

(3) A Sessional Select Committee shall consist of not more than three Members, inclusive of the Chairman thereof, with the exception of the Committee of Privileges which shall consist of five Members including the President.

THE COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

- (1) (a) There shall be a Committee of Selection appointed at the beginning of every session to perform the functions allotted to it by these Standing Orders, and for such other matters as the Senate may from time to time refer to it.
- (b) The Committee of Selection shall consist of the President as Chairman, and two Senators to be nominated by the Senate. The Committee shall inform the Senate by means of a report when any Senator has been nominated to any Committee.
- (c) The Committee shall not have power to send for persons, papers and records.

THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

(1) The Standing Orders Committee shall have the duty of considering from time to time and reporting on all such matters relating to the Standing Orders as may be referred to it by the Senate.

(2) The President shall be a Member and the Chairman of the Standing Orders Committee.

(3) The Committee shall not have power to send for persons, papers and records unless the Senate so resolves.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

(1) The House Committee shall consider and advise the President upon all matters connected with the comfort and convenience of Senators.

(2) The President shall be a Member and the Chairman of the House Committee.

(3) (a) The said Committee shall from time to time report its minutes of proceedings to the Senate.

(b) The Committee, before arriving at any decision, shall consult its counterpart in the House of Representatives, if there be one.

THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

(1) There shall be referred to the Committee of Privileges any matter which appears to affect the powers or privileges of the Senate and it shall be the duty of the Committee to consider any matter so referred and to report thereon to the Senate.

(2) The President shall be a Member and the Chairman of the Committee of Privileges.

64. Special Select Committee.

(1) A select Committee other than a Sessional Select Committee-

- (a) shall be known as a special Select committee;
- (b) shall be appointed by order of the Senate which shall specify the terms of reference of the Committee; and
- (c) shall consist of such and so many Senators as the Senate may nominate.

(2) The quorum of a Special Select Committee shall be such as shall be specified in the order of the Senate.

65. Constitution of Select Committees.

(1) Every Select Committee shall be so constituted as to ensure so far as is possible, that the balance of parties in the Senate is reflected in the Committee.

(2) In the event of the death of a Senator nominated to a Committee, or if his seat becomes vacant for any other reason, the Senate, or the Committee of Selection, as the case may require, shall nominate another Senator in his place, and in so doing shall observe the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Order. Every such nomination by the Committee of Selection shall be reported to the Senate.

66. Joint Select Committees.

(1) The Senate may for the purposes of any Select Committee appoint not more than five members to sit with members of the House of Representatives as a Joint Select Committee.

(2) The quorum of a Joint Select Committee shall be such as the Committee may decide.

(3) A Joint Select Committee shall elect its own Chairman unless otherwise provided.

(4) A Joint Select Committee may be appointed at the request of either the Senate or the House of Representatives with the approval of the other.

67. Procedure in Select Committees.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in Standing Order No. 62 (Sessional Select Committees) this Order shall apply to all Select Committees.

(2) If the Chairman is unable to be present at any meeting, the Committee shall elect another Chairman whose tenure of office shall be for the day of his election.

(3) A select Committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, and shall have leave to report its opinion and observations, together with the minutes of evidence taken before it to the Senate.

(4) Unless the Senate otherwise directs, three Senators shall be the quorum. In ascertaining whether there is a quorum present the Senator in the Chair shall not be excluded.

(5) The deliberations of a Select Committee shall be confined to the matter referred to it by the Senate and any extension or limitation thereof made by the Senate, and, in the case of select Committee on a bill, to the bill committed to it and relevant amendments.

(6) The first meeting of a Select Committee shall be held at such time and place as the Chairman in the case of a Sessional Select Committee, or the President in the case of a Special Select Committee, shall appoint. Subsequent meetings shall be held at such time and place as the Committee may determine:

Provided that if the Committee fails to do so the Chairman shall, in consultation with the Clerk of the Senate, appoint such time and place.

(7) Except by leave of the Senate no Select Committee may sit while the Senate is sitting, but a Select Committee may sit at any time when the Senate is adjourned.

(8) (a) When it is intended to examine any witness, the Senator requiring such witnesses shall deliver to the Clerk of the Committee the name, residence and occupation of any witness he desires to examine.

(b) If the Committee desires to summon any witness, the Chairman shall supply the name, residence and occupation of every such witness to the Clerk of the Senate at least seven days before his evidence is required.

The Clerk shall then summon every witness on behalf of the Senate.

(9) The evidence of every witness shall be taken down verbatim and sent in proof to the witness. The witness shall be at liberty within fourteen days from that on which the Clerk sent out the proof to suggest corrections due to inaccurate reporting and the evidence shall be printed with such of the corrections as may be approved by the Chairman.

(10) The Committee may, at its discretion, refuse to hear any irrelevant evidence or any recalcitrant witness.

- (11) (a) Any member of a Select Committee may bring up a report for its consideration, and all such reports shall be entered in full upon, the minutes of proceedings of the Committee. When all the reports have been brought up, the Chairman shall propose the reports in order until one is accepted as a basis for discussion, beginning with his own report and proceeding with the remainder in the question to be proposed by the chairman on any report shall be "That the Chairman's (or Senator's.....) report be read a second time paragraph by paragraph". When this question has been agreed to, it shall not be proposed on any further reports, but any portions thereof may be offered as amendments to the report under consideration, if they are relevant to it.
- (b) The Committee shall then proceed to go through the report paragraph by paragraph and paragraphs (1) to (7) of Standing Order No. 52 (Procedure in Committee of the whole Senate on a Bill) shall apply to such consideration as if the report were a bill and the paragraphs thereof the clauses of the bill.
- (c) Upon the conclusion of the consideration of the report paragraph by paragraph and when all proposed new paragraphs have been considered the Chairman shall put the question that this report be the report of the Committee to the Senate.

68. Divisions in Select Committees.

(1) Every Division in a Select Committee shall be taken by the Clerk to the Committee asking each member of the Committee separately how he desires to vote and recording the votes accordingly.

(2) In taking the division, the names of all members of the Committee shall be called in alphabetical order.

(3) When a division is claimed in a Select Committee every member of the Committee present shall, unless he expressly states that he declines to vote, record his or her vote either for Ayes or Noes. The Clerk to the Committee shall enter in the minutes of the proceedings a record of each member's vote and shall add a statement of the names of members, who declined to vote.

(4) As soon as the clerk has collected the votes he shall state the number of members voting for the Ayes and Noes respectively and the Chairman shall then declare the result of the division. The Chairman shall not have an original vote but in the event of an equality of votes he shall give a casting vote.

(5) If a member of the Committee states that he voted in error or that his vote has been wrongly counted he may claim to have his vote altered, provided that such request is made as soon as the Clerk has announced the numbers and before the Chairman has declared the results of the division.

69. Premature Publication of Evidence.

The Proceedings of and the evidence taken before any Select Committee and any documents presented to such Committee shall not be published by any member of such Committee or by any other person before the Committee has presented its Report to the Senate.

70. Reports from Select Committees.

(1) Every Select Committee shall make a report to the Senate upon the matters referred to them before the end of the session in which the Committee was appointed but if a Committee finds itself unable to conclude its investigations before the end of the session, it may so report to the Senate.

(2) A select Committee shall have leave to make a special report relating to the powers, functions and proceedings of the Committee on any matter which it may think fit to bring to the notice of the Senate.

(3) A report or special report together with the minutes of proceedings of a Select Committee and the minutes of any evidence taken before that Committee shall be presented to the Senate by the Chairman or other Senator deputed by the Committee and shall be ordered to lie upon the Table and be printed without question put.

(4) The minutes of proceedings of a Committee shall record all proceedings upon the consideration of any report or bill in the Committee and upon every amendment proposed to such report or bill together with a note of any division taken in the Committee and of the names of Senators voting therein or declining to vote.

(5) The report of a Select Committee may be taken into consideration on a motion "That the report of the Select Committee on.....be adopted". Such a motion may be moved by any Senator after one clear day's notice.

- (a) The Chairman of a Select Committee shall prepare a draft report and submit it for the consideration of the Committee; but alternative drafts may be submitted for consideration by any other member at the request of the Chairman.
- (b) The report finally to be adopted shall be such as is agreed to, with amendments (if any), by all members of the Select Committee or, failing unanimous agreement, then such as is agreed to by a majority of the Members.
- (c) Any Member dissenting from the report of a majority of the Committee may put in a concise and written statement of his reasons for such dissent, and such statement shall be appended to the report; or, if he so desires, he may submit a minority report.

(6) A bill reported from a Select Committee shall be recommitted to a Committee of the whole Senate without question put, and shall be considered either forthwith or on a day to be appointed by the Member in charge of the Bill.

71. Absence of the President.

(1) During any period where the President is absent on account of illness or is for an other reason unable to perform, the functions shall be assumed and performed by the Deputy-President until such time as the President resumes his office.

72. Absence of Members.

(1) Any Senator who is prevented from attending a sitting of the Senate shall acquaint the Clerk as early as possible of his inability to attend.

(2) Any member who intends to leave the State shall so inform the President.

(3) If without the leave of the President obtained in writing, any Senator absents himself from five consecutive Meetings of the Senate, he shall vacate his seat in the Senate, under Sub-Section 2 (a) of Section 27 of the Grenada Constitution Order, 1967.

73. Employment of Senators in Professional Capacity.

(1) No Senator shall appear before the Senate or any Committee thereof as a Counsel or Solicitor for any party or in any capacity for which he is to receive a fee or reward.

74. Report of Debates.

(1) An official report of all speeches made in the Senate shall be prepared under the supervision of the Clerk, acting under such instructions as the President may give.

(2) The report shall be published in such form as the President may direct, and a copy thereof shall be sent to each Senator as soon as practicable.

75. Strangers.

(1) Strangers shall be admitted to debates in the Senate under such rules as the President may make from time to time for that purpose.

(2) If, at any sitting of the Senate, any Senator shall move that strangers withdraw, the President shall forthwith put the question "That strangers do withdraw" without permitting any debate or amendment.

(3) The President may, whenever he thinks fit, order the withdrawal of strangers from any part of the Chamber and its precincts, and may order the doors of the Chamber to be closed.

(4) Strangers must preserve silence, and must conduct themselves in a fit and proper manner during a sitting.

(5) Strangers must withdraw from the Chamber and its precincts when called upon to do so by the President.

76. Press.

(1) The President may grant a general permission to the representative of any journal or newspaper or other medium of public information to attend the sittings of the Senate under such rules as he may make from time to time for that purpose.

(2) If such rules are contravened, such permission may be suspended or revoked.

77. Suspension of Standing Orders.

- (a) Any one or more of these Standing Orders may after notice or with the leave of the President be suspended on a motion made by a Senator at any sitting.
- (b) A motion under this Standing Order shall be decided without amendment or debate.

78. Rules in cases not Provided for by the Standing Orders.

(1) In any matter not herein provided for, resort shall be had to the usage and practice of the House of Commons of the Parliament of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which shall be followed as far as the same may be applicable to the Senate and not inconsistent with these Standing Orders.

(2) In cases of doubt the Standing Orders of the Senate shall be interpreted in the light of the relevant usage and practice of the House of Commons, but no restrictions which the House of Commons has introduced by Standing Order shall be deemed to extend to the Senate or to Senators until the Senate has provided by Standing Order for such restrictions.

79. Amendment of Standing Orders.

(1) Unless the President shall otherwise direct, not less than twelve days notice of a motion to amend the Standing Orders shall be given, and the notice shall be accompanied by a draft of the proposed amendments.

(2) The motion shall be set down for the earliest sitting after the expiration of the notice.

(3) When the motion is reached, the mover shall move the motion, and after it has, if necessary, been seconded, the motion shall be referred forthwith, without any question being put thereon, to the Standing Orders Committee, and no further proceedings shall be taken on any such motion until the Committee has reported thereon.

80. Definition.

(1) The term “Minister” shall include Parliamentary Secretary, except where this is inconsistent with the Constitution.

(2) The term ‘Precincts of the Senate’ and ‘Senate and its Precincts’ shall be construed to mean any room in York House, or any other building, in which the Senate may from time to time be sitting, which is allocated for the use of the Senate, and any lobby or corridor leading exclusively to any such room.

81. Revocation.

(1) The Standing Orders of the Senate made by the Senate pursuant to Section 50 of the Grenada Constitution Order, 1967 are hereby revoked.

Made by the Senate pursuant to Section 50(1) of the Constitution of Grenada this 9th day of April, 2002.

ABEL NEWTON
Clerk to the Senate.

APPENDIX

FORMS OF OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS

Oath of Allegiance

I do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen ELIZABETH THE SECOND, Her Heirs and Successors, according to law. So help me God.

Affirmation of Allegiance

I do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen ELIZABETH THE SECOND, Her Heirs and Successors, according to law.

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