

# 🇺🇪 SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL ACT (1995) As amended in 2011

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1	Short Title	9	General Meeting
2	Interpretation	10	Funds of the Council
3	Establishment of the Council	11	Execution of documents
4	Objects of the Council	12	Powers of Minister
5	Members of the Council	13	Donations
6	Management of the Council	14	Regulations
7	Powers of the Committee	15	Transitional Provision
8	Staff	16	Commencement

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To provide for the establishment of a Senior Citizens Council

### **1 Short title**

This Act may be cited as the Senior Citizens Council Act

### **2 Interpretation**

In this Act –

“Principal Act” means the Senior Citizens Council Act.

“Committee” means the Executive Committee of the Council established under section 6;

“Member” means a member of the Council;

“Minister” means the Minister to whom responsibility for the subject of Social Security and National Solidarity is assigned;

“senior citizen” means a person of the age of 55 years or over.

### **3 Establishment of the Council**

(1) There is established for the purposes of this Act a Senior Citizens Council.

(2) The Council shall be a body corporate.

### **4 Objects of the Council**

The objects of the Council shall be –

(a) to determine the areas in which the welfare of senior citizens needs to be improved;

(b) to promote generally activities and projects for the welfare of senior citizens;

(c) to maintain effective communication with senior citizens;

(d) to diffuse knowledge and information on gerontology;

(e) to establish contacts with organisations engaged in similar activities in Mauritius and abroad;

(f) to advise the Government on matters relating to the welfare of senior citizens;

- (g) to set up and manage homes, day care centres, recreation centres and other institutions for senior citizens; and
- (h) to implement such policies and programmes in favour of senior citizens, as may be specified or approved by the Minister.

***Senior Citizens Council Act .....***

**5. Members of the Council**

Any voluntary organisation catering for senior citizens and registered with the Registrar of Associations may become a member of the Council subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed.

**6 Management of the Council**

(1) The Council shall be managed and administered by an Executive Committee which shall comprise –

- (a) a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman to be appointed by the Minister, on such terms and conditions as he may determine;
- (b) a representative of the Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity;
- (c) the Medical Director of the Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity;
- (d) a representative of the Ministry of Health;
- (e) a representative of the Ministry of Women’s Rights, Child Development and Family Welfare;
- (f) a representative of the Ministry for Rodrigues;
- (g) 10 elected representatives of member organisations;
- (h) 3 independent persons appointed by the Minister;

(2) The Committee shall regulate its own meetings and proceedings.

(3) The quorum of any meeting of the Committee shall be 11.

(4) The members of the Committee shall be paid such fees as the Minister may approve.

**7 Powers of the Committee**

Except as may be otherwise prescribed by regulations, the Committee shall have and exercise all the powers conferred upon the Council by this Act.

**8 Staff**

The Committee may, with the approval of the Minister, appoint, on such terms and conditions as it may determine, such staff as it may require.

**9 General Meeting**

(1) A general meeting of the Council shall be held once a year at such time and place as the Council may decide.

(2) At least 14 days' notice shall be given before the holding of a general meeting.

(3) The business of the general meeting shall be –

(a) the consideration and adoption of the Annual Report of the Committee and of the Auditor's Report.

(4) The Council shall regulate its own proceedings.

#### **9A Election of representatives of member organisations**

The election of representatives of member organisations to the Council shall be carried out every 2 years in such manner as may be prescribed.

*Senior Citizens Council Act .....*

#### **10 Funds of the Council**

(1) The Council may raise money by means of membership subscription and fundraising activities.

(2) Every member organization shall pay such fee as the Committee may determine.

(3) Subject to paragraph (2), the income and property of the Council shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Council.

#### **11 Execution of documents**

No document shall be executed by or on behalf of the Council unless it is signed by –

(a) the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman; and

(b) the person designated by the Committee to perform the duty of Secretary or in his absence, a member designated by the Committee.

#### **12 Powers of Minister**

The Minister may give such directions of a general nature to the Committee, not inconsistent with this Act and the Committee shall comply with those directions.

#### **13 Directions**

Article 910 of the Code Napoléon shall not apply to any donation received by the Council.

#### **14 Regulations**

(1) The Committee may make such regulations as it thinks fit for the purposes of this Act.

(2) Notwithstanding the Interpretation and General Clauses Act, regulations made under this Act shall not be required to be –

- (a) approved by the Minister;
- (b) laid before the Assembly;
- (c) published in the Gazette.

**15 Transitional provision**

The Committee shall be deemed to be properly constituted notwithstanding the fact that when it is first constituted the representatives of member organisations required to be elected under section 6 (1) (e) have not been so elected.

**16 Commencement**

This Act shall come into operation on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2011.