

**THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF
THE PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA**

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF
UGANDA**

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The Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Uganda

(Under Article 94(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda)

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon Parliament by Article 94(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, these Rules are made this **18th day of February, 2025**.

PART I—PRELIMINARY

1. Short title

These Rules may be cited as the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Uganda.

2. Interpretation

(1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires—

“arms” means firearms;

“bill” means the draft of an Act of Parliament and includes a private member’s bill and a Government bill;

“Chairperson” means a person presiding over a Committee;

“Chief Opposition Whip” means a Member appointed by the party in opposition to the Government and having the greatest numerical strength in Parliament;

“Clerk” means the Clerk to Parliament, a Deputy Clerk or a Clerk Assistant;

“Commission” means the Parliamentary Commission established under the Administration of Parliament Act;

“Commissioner” means a Member of the Commission;

“Committee” means a Committee of the Whole House, a Standing Committee, a Sectoral Committee, a Select Committee, an Ad-hoc Committee or any other Committee of Parliament;

- “Committee of the Whole House” means a Committee composed of all Members of Parliament;
- “Constitution” means the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda;
- “division” means the division of Members in the lobbies for the purpose of voting as described in rule 107;
- “functions” means tasks or mandates and includes powers and duties;
- “*ex officio* Member of Parliament” means a Vice President or Minister who, not being an elected Member of Parliament, is a Member by virtue of Article 78(1)(d) of the Constitution without a right to vote on any issue requiring a vote in Parliament;
- “Government Chief Whip” means a Member appointed as the Government Chief Whip by the Government from among the Members of Parliament representing the ruling party;
- “House” means a sitting of Members in the Chamber of Parliament and Members virtually present in the House;
- “independent Member” means a Member elected to Parliament independent of a political party or organisation;
- “Leader of Government Business” means the Prime Minister appointed under Article 108A of the Constitution;
- “Leader of the Opposition” means the Member of Parliament who is the leader in Parliament of the party in opposition to the Government and having the greatest numerical strength in Parliament;
- “leave of the House” or any expression of similar import, means permission or agreement given by the majority of Members of the House;

“lobby” means the covered corridor adjoining the Chamber of Parliament and includes any place which makes it possible to separate Members voting for any motion from Members voting against;

“meeting” means any sitting or sittings of Parliament commencing when Parliament first meets after being summoned at any time and ending when Parliament is adjourned *sine die* or at the conclusion of a session;

“Member” means a Member of Parliament;

“Member virtually present in the House” means a Member participating in the proceedings of Parliament outside the Chamber of Parliament through a designated digital platform, having obtained leave of the Speaker and is registered with the Clerk to be virtually present in the House, at least twelve hours before the commencement of a sitting;

“Minister” means a Minister of Government and includes the Prime Minister, a Deputy Prime Minister and a Minister of State;

“motion” means a proposal made by a Member that Parliament or a Committee of Parliament does something, orders something to be done or expresses an opinion concerning some matter;

“Officer of Parliament” means the Clerk to Parliament or any other officer or person acting within the precincts of Parliament, other than when serving a summons under section 9(3) of the Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act, under the orders of the Speaker, and includes any police officer on duty within the precincts of Parliament;

- “official record” includes the official report or Hansard, audio or visual recording of the proceedings of the House or Committee;
- “official report” or “Hansard” means a record of parliamentary proceedings in text or audio visual;
- “order of the House” or “order of Parliament” or any expression of similar import, means an order made by majority Members of the House;
- “paper” means any document in any form that may be laid on Table;
- “party or organisation” means a political party or organisation registered under the Political Parties and Organisations Act, with representation in Parliament;
- “petition” means a written prayer or plea presented to Parliament and includes all similar submissions whether relating to public or private matters of general policy, or to redress local or personal grievances;
- “Prayer” means the prayer prescribed in Appendix A to these Rules;
- “precincts of Parliament” means the Chamber of Parliament, offices of Parliament, the galleries and places provided for the use or accommodation of strangers, members of the public and representatives of the press, and includes, while Parliament is sitting, and subject to any exceptions made by the direction of the Speaker, the entire building in which the Chamber of Parliament is situated, and any forecourt, yard, garden, enclosure or open space adjoining or appertaining to that building and used or provided for the purposes of Parliament;

- “private member’s business” means business other than Government business and includes business of opposition parties or individual Members;
- “privilege” means powers, privileges and immunities enjoyed by the Parliament collectively and by Members individually under the Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act;
- “question” except in respect of question time or period, means a proposal presented to Parliament or a Committee of Parliament by the Speaker or Chairperson for consideration and decision or disposal in some manner;
- “recess” means a period during which the House stands adjourned to any other day other than the next normal sitting day;
- “report of a Committee” means a report signed in accordance with rule 214;
- “ruling” means a decision by the Speaker or Chairperson on a matter of order, procedure or privilege;
- “Sergeant-at-Arms” means the Sergeant-at-Arms, a Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms and an Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms;
- “session” means a period beginning with the date when Parliament commences to sit upon being summoned by the President or Speaker by proclamation under Article 95(1) and (2) of the Constitution and ending with the date when it is prorogued by the Speaker under Article 95(3) of the Constitution or when Parliament is dissolved under Article 96 of the Constitution;
- “shadow cabinet” means Members of the Opposition in Parliament appointed by the Leader of the Opposition, in consultation with his or her party leadership, as shadow Ministers with portfolios and functions that correspond to those of Cabinet Ministers;

“sitting” means a period during which Parliament is sitting continuously without adjournment and includes any period during which Parliament is in Committee;

“Speaker” means the Speaker of Parliament and includes the Deputy Speaker;

“stranger” means a person other than the President, Vice President, Prime Minister, the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, a Minister, a Member or an officer of Parliament;

“subsidiary legislation” means any document by which a power conferred by any Act on the President, Minister or any other authority to make, or a power excisable by making proclamations, rules, regulations, byelaws, statutory orders or statutory instruments, is exercised, and requires approval by Parliament;

“substantive motion” means an independent motion of which notice is duly given but which is neither incidental nor relating to proceedings or order of business before the House;

“Table” means the Clerk’s Table or virtual Table designated by the Speaker from time to time and is accessible to all Members;

“tabling” means the laying of a paper or item on the Table and laying before Parliament shall be construed accordingly;

“whip” means the Government Chief Whip, the Chief Opposition Whip or a party whip;

“witness” means a person to whom summons have been issued to appear before a Committee to give evidence or to produce documents before the Committee in respect of any matter specified in the summons.

(2) A reference made in these Rules to a matter concerning the privileges of the House shall be taken to be a reference to privileges of the House within the meaning of the Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act.

PART II—OATHS, ELECTIONS, GENERAL AUTHORITY
OF SPEAKER, SUSPENSION OF RULES,
WHIPS AND RELATED MATTERS

3. Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Member of Parliament

(1) Every Member shall, before formally taking his or her seat in Parliament, take and subscribe in a manner prescribed by law, the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Member of Parliament as specified in the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution.

(2) Except for purposes of taking the oaths referred to in subrule (1), a person shall not sit or vote in Parliament before taking and subscribing to the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Member of Parliament.

(3) The Clerk shall administer the oaths referred to in subrule (1) prior to the first sitting of Parliament.

(4) Where the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Member of Parliament is to be taken after the first sitting of Parliament, the Speaker shall administer the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Member of Parliament.

4. Language

The proceedings and debates of Parliament shall be in English.

5. Election of Speaker

(1) The Speaker shall be elected by the Members from among their number.

(2) A person shall not be qualified to be elected Speaker if he or she is a Vice President, Prime Minister or a Minister.

(3) A person who publicly campaigns or causes campaigns through his or her agent, in a manner which is in breach of rule 91, shall be subject to the Code of Conduct for Members.

(4) No business shall be transacted in Parliament other than an election to the office of Speaker, at any time the office of the Speaker is vacant.

(5) The Chief Justice or a judge designated by the Chief Justice shall preside at an election of a Speaker.

(6) Subject to subrule (11), the election of a Speaker shall be by secret ballot.

(7) A person presiding at an election of the Speaker shall invite nominations from Members present.

(8) A Member making a nomination shall move a motion that “(Name)..... do take the Chair of this Parliament ‘as the Speaker’” and shall give a brief statement of the background and qualifications of the nominee.

(9) Nomination of a Member for election to the office of Speaker shall be seconded.

(10) A person nominated as a candidate for election to the office of Speaker shall give his or her consent to the nomination.

(11) Where one person is nominated, he or she shall be declared elected and conducted to the Speaker’s Chair.

(12) Where more than one person is nominated, the House shall proceed to elect a Speaker from the persons nominated.

(13) When all nominations have been received, the person presiding shall announce that “the ballot will now be taken”.

(14) Voting shall be in the following manner—

- (a) the Clerk shall ascertain the number of Members present;
- (b) before voting commences, the person presiding shall cause to be produced one ballot box and cause to be demonstrated the fact that the ballot box is empty;
- (c) the person presiding shall cause to be given to each Member present, a ballot paper;
- (d) a Member who wishes to vote shall proceed to a booth or an area designated within reasonable distance of the ballot box for the purpose of voting, and shall, while in the booth or designated area, write the name of the candidate of his or her choice, fold the marked ballot paper and drop it in the ballot box;
- (e) on the election of a Speaker, no vote may be cast or abstention recorded by proxy;
- (f) after all Members who wish to vote have voted, the person presiding shall, in full view of the Members present, cause the Clerk to empty the ballot box and immediately count the ballot papers contained in the ballot box;
- (g) at the completion of counting, the person presiding shall announce the result of the voting, specifying—
 - (i) the total number of ballot papers contained in the ballot box;
 - (ii) the total number of Members who have abstained from voting;

- (iii) the total number of spoilt or blank ballot papers; and
 - (iv) the total number of votes obtained by each nominee;
- (h) where two or more persons are nominated for the office of Speaker, the person who receives the majority of the votes of all Members present and voting shall be declared Speaker;
- (i) where none of the persons nominated for the office of Speaker receives the majority number of votes of all Members present and voting, a second election shall be held between the two persons who obtained the highest number of votes;
- (j) where at an election between two nominees, the nominees receive an equal number of votes, another election shall be held; and
- (k) where a second election has to be held under paragraph (i) and two or more nominees received equal votes in the second position in the first election, there shall be an election to determine the nominee to stand in the second election and the election shall be repeated where there are ties until one nominee can be identified.
- (15) The person elected Speaker shall be conducted to the Chair.
- (16) As soon as possible after the election of the Speaker and before assuming the duties of the office of Speaker, the person elected Speaker shall, in the manner prescribed by law, take and subscribe to the Oath of Speaker specified in the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution as required by Article 82 (10) of the Constitution.
- (17) In this rule, “person presiding” means the Chief Justice or a judge designated by the Chief Justice under subrule (5).

- (18) The Oath of Speaker or Deputy Speaker shall be administered by the President or a person authorised by the President.
- (19) The person elected Speaker shall, upon taking the Oath of Speaker, be presented with—
 - (a) the Mace;
 - (b) the Uganda Flag;
 - (c) the Coat of Arms;
 - (d) the Speaker’s robes;
 - (e) the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda; and
 - (f) the Rules of Procedure of Parliament.

6. Election of Deputy Speaker

- (1) The Deputy Speaker shall be elected by the Members from among their number.
- (2) The Speaker shall preside at an election of the Deputy Speaker.
- (3) The person shall not be qualified to be elected Deputy Speaker if the person is a Vice President, a Prime Minister or a Minister.
- (4) An election to the office of Deputy Speaker shall be held at the first sitting of Parliament after the office becomes vacant.
- (5) The rules prescribed for the election and taking and subscribing to the Oath of Speaker shall apply with necessary modifications, to the election of the Deputy Speaker.

7. General authority of Speaker

(1) The Speaker shall preside at any sitting of the House.

(2) The Speaker shall preserve order and decorum in the House and shall decide questions of order and practice.

(3) In deciding a point of order or practice, the Speaker shall state reasons for the decision and shall cite any rule of procedure or other applicable authority.

(4) The Speaker may invite submissions from Members but no debate shall ensue.

(5) The Speaker may decline debate on any contribution.

8. Procedure in case not provided for and precedents

(1) In case of any doubt and for any question of procedure not provided in these Rules, the Speaker shall decide, having regard to the practices of the House, the constitutional provisions and practices of other Commonwealth Parliaments in so far as the practices may be applicable to the Parliament of Uganda.

(2) The Speaker's ruling under subrule (1) shall become part of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament until such a time when a substantive amendment to these Rules is made in respect to the ruling.

(3) The amendment shall be tabled for consideration within three months from the date of the ruling.

9. Sitting arrangement in House

(1) Every Member shall, as far as possible, have a seat reserved for him or her by the Speaker.

(2) The seats to the right hand side of the Speaker shall be reserved for the Leader of Government Business and Members of the ruling party.

(3) The seats to the left hand side of the Speaker shall be reserved for the Leader of the Opposition and Members of the Opposition party or parties in the House.

(4) The Speaker shall reserve seats for independent Members and other categories of Members.

(5) Where the Speaker determines that it is not practicable to comply with the seating arrangement in subrules (2), (3) and (4), the Speaker may permit a Member to sit on either side of the Speaker.

(6) Notwithstanding subrule (5), the Speaker shall reserve—

(a) the front row seats to the right hand side of the Speaker for the Ministers; and

(b) the front and second rows to the left hand side of the Speaker for the Leader of the Opposition, shadow ministers and Members of the opposition parties in the House.

(7) The Speaker shall ensure that each Member has a comfortable seat taking into consideration the age or disability of a Member.

(8) A Member virtually present in the House shall stand or sit against a background that maintains the decorum of the Chamber of Parliament at all times.

10. Presence of President in House

(1) There shall be a Chair of State for the President in the House.

(2) The House shall be called to order and stand in silence whenever the President enters or leaves the House.

(3) The President may be accompanied in the House by an *Aide-de-Camp*.

- (4) The President, while occupying the Chair of State—
 - (a) may make a presidential statement, which shall be heard in silence and not followed by any comment or question; and
 - (b) shall not participate in the proceedings of the House in any way.

11. Parliamentary Commissioners

(1) The Parliamentary Commission established by the Constitution and the Administration of Parliament Act shall be composed of—

- (a) the Speaker, who shall be the Chairperson;
- (b) the Deputy Speaker;
- (c) the Leader of Government Business or his or her nominee;
- (d) the Leader of the Opposition or his or her nominee;
- (e) the Minister responsible for finance; and
- (f) four Members, one of whom shall represent the Opposition and none of whom shall be a Minister.

(2) In the absence of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker shall chair the meetings of the Commission.

(3) At least one of the four Members referred to in subrule (1) (f) shall be a woman.

(4) Nomination of the candidates for election to the Commission of the four Members referred to in subrule (1)(f) shall be made by the Government and the opposition sides in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix B to these Rules.

(5) The constitution of the Commission under this rule shall be done during the first meeting of the first session of a new Parliament.

(6) The four Members referred to in subrule (1)(f) shall hold office for two and a half years and shall be eligible for re-election.

12. Election of members of the East African Legislative Assembly

(1) The nine members of the East African Legislative Assembly representing Uganda shall be elected by Parliament, not from among Members of Parliament, representing as much as it is feasible, the various political parties represented in Parliament, shades of opinion, gender and other special interest groups in Uganda.

(2) The election of the members to the East African Legislative Assembly representing Uganda shall be held in accordance with the rules set out in Appendix C to these Rules.

(3) Members of the East African Legislative Assembly shall report to Parliament on the activities of the East African Legislative Assembly in accordance with Appendix D to these Rules.

13. By-election of member of the East African Legislative Assembly

(1) A by-election shall be conducted where a member of the East African Legislative Assembly representing Uganda where the seat of a Member of the East African Legislative Assembly representing Uganda becomes vacant in accordance with rule 19 of Appendix C to these Rules.

(2) A by-election of a member of the East African Legislative Assembly representing Uganda shall be conducted in accordance with rule 12.

(3) A member of the East African Legislative Assembly representing Uganda elected under this rule shall serve for the remaining term of the East African Legislative Assembly.

(4) A by-election shall not be held within six months prior to the expiration of the term of the East African Legislative Assembly except where failure to hold an election affects the quorum of the East African Legislative Assembly.

14. Election of members of Pan-African Parliament

(1) Members of the Pan-African Parliament representing Uganda shall be elected in accordance with these Rules, and the representation shall reflect the proportional party membership in Parliament and take into consideration the numerical strength of the parties, gender and the interests of the independent Members.

(2) Subject to subrule (1), at least one of the members of the Pan-African Parliament shall be a woman.

(3) The members of the Pan-African Parliament shall be elected in accordance with the rules set out in Appendix E.

(4) The election of members to the Pan-African Parliament representing Uganda shall take place in the first session of each Parliament.

(5) Members of the Pan-African Parliament shall, with the necessary modifications, report on the activities of the Pan-African Parliament in accordance with the rules set out in Appendix D to these Rules.

(6) A member of the Pan-African Parliament shall not hold a leadership position in Parliament.

(7) Where a Member who is elected to the Pan-African Parliament holds a leadership position in Parliament, the Member shall relinquish the leadership position.

15. Role and functions of Leader of the Opposition

(1) The principal role of the Leader of the Opposition is to keep the Government in check.

(2) The Leader of the Opposition shall, in consultation with his or her party leadership, appoint a shadow cabinet from Members of the opposition in Parliament who shall have portfolios and functions that correspond to the portfolios and functions of Cabinet Ministers.

(3) The Leader of the Opposition shall be a Member of the Business Committee, the Committee on Appointments and shall hold regular consultations with the Leader of Government Business and the Speaker.

(4) The Leader of the Opposition shall study all policy statements of Government with his or her shadow ministers and attend Committee deliberations on policy issues and give views and opinions, and propose possible alternatives.

16. Whips

(1) There shall be in Parliament—

(a) a Government Chief Whip appointed by Government from among the Members of Parliament representing the ruling party;

(b) a Chief Opposition Whip appointed by the party in opposition to Government having the greatest numerical strength among Opposition parties in Parliament; and

(c) a party whip for any other party in opposition.

(2) The role and functions of whips are to—

(a) ensure that Members attend, participate in proceedings and vote in Parliament;

- (b) organise party business in Parliament;
- (c) keep Members informed of parliamentary business;
- (d) supply lists of Members to serve on Standing and Sectoral Committees;
- (e) coordinate and implement agreed parliamentary business;
- (f) act as intermediaries between leaders and other party Members;
- (g) arrange representations of party Members on official parliamentary delegations; and
- (h) act as tellers during divisions.

17. Suspension of rules

(1) A Member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that a rule be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the House.

(2) A Member moving the motion under subrule (1) shall give reasons why the rule should be suspended in its application to a particular matter before the House.

(3) Where the motion is carried, the rule shall be suspended in its application to the matter before the House.

(4) This rule shall not apply to rules 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 15(1), 25, 94, 99, 104, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 124, 130, 131, 132, 133, 140, 149 and 205.

PART III—MEETINGS, SITTINGS AND ADJOURNMENT OF HOUSE

18. Meetings

(1) Subject to these Rules, the House shall meet on such days and such places as the Speaker shall determine.

(2) The Clerk shall, fourteen days before the date of a meeting, dispatch a notice of the meeting to each Member.

(3) The notice referred to in subrule (2) shall not apply where the Speaker adjourns the House to a specified date.

19. Emergency meetings

In the case of an emergency, the Speaker may, upon giving reasonable notice, call a special meeting at any time and at such place as the Speaker considers expedient.

20. Sittings of House

(1) A sitting of the House is duly constituted when it is presided over by the Speaker or Deputy Speaker.

(2) Subject to these Rules, the House shall sit at such place as the Speaker shall determine.

(3) Subject to subrule (5), the House shall sit on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

(4) Sittings shall, subject to the directions of the Speaker, ordinarily be between 2:00 O'clock in the afternoon and 7:00 O'clock in the evening.

(5) Notwithstanding subrules (3) and (4), the Speaker may, having regard to the state of business of the House, direct that sittings be held outside the period prescribed in subrule (4) or on days other than the days prescribed in subrule (3).

(6) The Clerk shall notify all Members of the time of all sittings.

21. Suspension of sittings and recall of House from adjournment

(1) The Speaker may at any time suspend a sitting or adjourn the House.

(2) The Speaker shall be responsible, after consultation with the Business Committee, for fixing the time when a sitting of the House should be adjourned *sine die*.

(3) The Speaker may, if he or she considers necessary, call a sitting of the House before the date or time to which the House has been adjourned or at any time after the House has been adjourned *sine die*.

22. Recall of Parliament from recess

(1) Parliament shall be recalled from recess by a request made in writing by at least one third of all Members.

(2) The request made in subrule (1) shall be by way of petition made to the Speaker, stating—

- (a) that Parliament is in recess;
- (b) the business to be considered; and
- (c) the prayers sought.

(3) The main subject of the petition shall be reflected on each page of the petition.

(4) A signature appended to the petition shall not be withdrawn.

(5) The Speaker shall, within twenty-one days from the date of receipt of the petition referred in subrule (2), summon Parliament to meet.

23. Public holidays

The House shall ordinarily not sit on public holidays.

24. Sittings of House and Committees to be public

(1) Subject to these Rules, the sittings of the House or of its Committees shall be public.

(2) The Speaker may, with the approval of the House and having regard to national security, order the House to move into a closed sitting.

(3) When the House is in a closed sitting, no stranger shall be permitted to be present in the Chamber, lobbies or galleries.

(4) The Speaker may cause the proceedings and decisions of a closed sitting to be recorded or issued in such manner as the Speaker determines.

(5) A person other than a Member acting under the authority of the Speaker shall not keep a note or record of proceedings or decision of a closed sitting of the House.

(6) A person other than a person acting under the authority of the Speaker shall not issue a report of, or purport to describe the proceedings or any decision of a closed sitting.

(7) Disclosure of proceedings or decision of a closed sitting by any person in any manner shall be treated as gross breach of privileges of the House.

25. Quorum of Parliament

(1) The quorum of Parliament shall be one-third of all Members entitled to vote.

(2) The quorum prescribed under subrule (1) shall only be required at a time when Parliament is voting on any question.

(3) At any time when a vote is to be taken, the Speaker shall ascertain whether the Members present in the House form a quorum for the vote to be taken, and if the Speaker finds that the number of Members is less than the required quorum for voting, the Speaker shall suspend the proceedings of the House for an interval of fifteen minutes, and the bell shall be rung.

(4) If on the resumption of proceedings after the expiry of fifteen minutes, the number of Members present is still less than the required quorum for voting, the Speaker shall proceed with other business or suspend the sitting or adjourn the House without question put and in the case of a Committee, the Chairperson shall adjourn the Committee.

(5) If it appears to the Chairperson in a Committee of the Whole House that there is less than the required quorum for the Committee to take a decision, the House shall be resumed thereupon and the Speaker shall act in accordance with the procedure set out in subrules (3) and (4).

(6) For the avoidance of doubt, a Member virtually present in the House shall form part of the quorum of the House.

PART IV—ORDER OF BUSINESS

26. Order of business

(1) The Speaker shall determine the order of business of the House and shall give priority to Government business.

(2) Subject to subrule (1), the business for each sitting as arranged by the Business Committee, in consultation with the Speaker, shall be set out in the Order Paper for each sitting and shall whenever possible be in the following order—

- (a) Prayer, in the form prescribed in Appendix A to these Rules;
- (b) administration of oaths;
- (c) election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker;
- (d) communication from the Chair;
- (e) short reaction to communication;
- (f) addresses by the President;

- (g) message from the President;
- (h) addresses by distinguished personalities;
- (i) bills - (First Reading);
- (j) statements by Ministers;
- (k) statement by the Leader of the Opposition;
- (l) statement by a shadow Minister;
- (m) personal explanations/brief statements by Members;
- (n) presentation of petitions;
- (o) laying of papers;
- (p) presentation of reports of Committees by laying the reports on Table;
- (q) presentation of reports of parliamentary delegations abroad;
- (r) questions to Ministers, the Commission and Committee Chairpersons;
- (s) motions for introduction of private members' bills;
- (t) motions for the adjournment of the House on a definite matter of urgent public importance;
- (u) half-hour motions;
- (v) oral notices of motions;
- (w) ceremonial speeches;
- (x) complaints on contempt of Parliament;
- (y) Government business including motions, Second Reading and subsequent stages of bills and proceedings of the Committee of Supply arranged in order of precedence in accordance with this rule; and
- (z) other motions.

(3) Parliament may proceed to any of the items under subrule (2)(a) to (v) out of the regular order, on a motion, which may be made without notice, and shall take precedence over all other business.

(4) The Clerk shall, on instructions of the Speaker, draw up the order of business for each sitting.

(5) An item of business standing on the Order Paper on any particular day which has not been completed or reached on the interruption of business under the relevant provisions of these Rules, shall be placed on the Order Paper for the next sitting in such order as the Speaker may determine.

27. Procedure of business

(1) Government business shall consist of public business in the name or in the charge of a Minister.

(2) Subject to these Rules, Government business shall take precedence over private members' business on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

(3) Private members' business shall consist of business in the name or in the charge of a Member other than a Minister.

(4) The first two hours of a sitting on every Thursday shall be allotted to the transaction of private members' business.

(5) Where the House does not sit on Thursday, the Speaker may, in consultation with the Leader of Government Business and the Leader of the Opposition, direct that any other day in the week be allotted for private members' business.

28. Order Paper to be sent in advance to Members

(1) The Clerk shall send to each Member a copy of the Order Paper for each sitting—

- (a) in the case of the first sitting of a meeting, at least two days before the sitting; or
- (b) in the case of any other sitting, at least three hours before the sitting, without fail.

(2) Subject to subrule (1), the Clerk shall, every Friday, send to each Member a copy of the business arranged for the succeeding week.

(3) The Clerk shall keep a book to be called “Order Book” in which the Clerk shall enter and number in succession, all matters intended for discussion at each meeting.

29. Statement of business by Leader of Government Business

(1) The Leader of Government Business shall, at every last sitting day of the week, make a statement in the House regarding the Government business for the succeeding week.

(2) The Speaker shall cause the statement referred to under subrule (1) to be reflected on the Order Paper of the last sitting day of the week.

30. Weekly Order Paper

(1) A weekly Order Paper, including relevant documents, shall be made and distributed to every Member through the Member’s pigeon hole and where possible, electronically.

(2) Where the relevant documents referred to in subrule (1) originate from a Government department, sector or agency, the responsible Minister shall avail to the Clerk sufficient copies of the documents for distribution to the Members.

PART V—PETITIONS

31. Petitions

(1) Subject to these Rules, every application to Parliament shall be in the form of a petition.

(2) A petition shall be filed with the Clerk who shall immediately notify the whips and table the petition before the Business Committee.

(3) A petition shall be presented to the House by a Member who shall be responsible for observing the rules contained in Appendix F of these Rules and informing the House that the petition is properly worded.

(4) In presenting a petition, a Member shall confine himself or herself to a statement of the petitioners, the number of signatures attached to the petition and the prayers contained in the petition.

(5) A petition shall be laid on Table without a question put and may be ordered to be printed.

(6) Where a petition relates to a matter other than a bill before a Committee, the Speaker may refer the petition to a Committee.

(7) Notwithstanding subrule (6), the Speaker may refer a petition of an urgent matter to a particular Minister or Committee where the Speaker is of the opinion that the petition would be better handled by such a Minister or Committee.

(8) Where the Speaker refers a petition to a particular Minister or Committee, the Speaker shall inform the House of his or her decision in subrule (7).

(9) The Minister or Committee to whom or which a petition is referred under subrule (7) shall report back to Parliament within the time stated by the Speaker.

(10) The Speaker may refer a petition on a bill under rule 148 to a Select Committee.

(11) A petition referred to a Committee shall be disposed of within forty-five working days from the date the petition is referred to the Committee.

(12) A Member may move a motion that a petition be rejected on the ground that it is not properly and respectfully worded or on any other ground, and if the motion is seconded and carried, the petition shall be rejected.

(13) A petition not relating to a breach of the privileges of the House and which, according to the rules contained in Appendix F to these Rules or usual practice of the House, shall, on being received, be laid on Table under the direction of the Speaker.

(14) After consideration of a petition under this rule, the House may take any decision the House considers appropriate, and communicate its decision to the petitioner through the Office of the Speaker.

(15) The Clerk shall, where necessary, afford the Member presenting a petition professional assistance in drafting the petition.

PART VI—LAYING AND PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND OTHER ITEMS

32. Laying of papers and other items

(1) A Member may, with the leave of the Speaker, lay a paper or any item on Table in the House.

(2) Notwithstanding subrule (1), a Member may, with the leave of the Speaker, lay a paper on a virtual Table designated by the Speaker and accessible to all Members.

33. Mode of laying and presentation of papers

(1) The Clerk shall ensure that a paper to be laid on Table is distributed to all Members before the paper is laid.

(2) As soon as the Clerk announces “papers for presentation”, the paper shall be laid on Table without question put.

(3) A person presenting a paper may, upon presentation of the paper, make a short explanatory statement.

(4) Where a paper is presented to the House, the Clerk shall—

(a) record the paper in the first issue of the minutes;

(b) serially number the paper; and

(c) cause the paper to be deposited in the parliamentary library.

(5) A paper laid on Table may be referred to the relevant Committee.

PART VII—LAYING AND PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF
PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS AND REPORTS OF
REGIONAL BODIES OR ORGANISATIONS

34. Laying of reports of parliamentary delegations abroad

(1) The leader of a parliamentary delegation abroad or a Member acting on behalf of a leader of a parliamentary delegation abroad shall, within fourteen working days of sitting after return to Uganda, lay on Table a report on the activities of the delegation.

(2) Upon laying of the report under subrule (1), the leader of a parliamentary delegation abroad or the Member acting on behalf of a leader of a parliamentary delegation abroad shall present a brief summary of the report and highlight the key lessons learnt and recommendations contained in the report.

(3) The Speaker shall appoint time, not exceeding forty-five minutes, for debate of the report.

35. Laying of Committee field reports

(1) The Chairperson or a Member acting on behalf of the Chairperson of the Committee which travelled to the field to conduct parliamentary business shall lay on Table a report containing the activities of the Committee's field visit.

(2) Upon laying of the report under subrule (1), the Chairperson or the Member acting on behalf of the Chairperson shall present a brief summary of the report and highlight the key recommendations contained in the report.

(3) The Speaker shall appoint time, not exceeding forty-five minutes, for debate of the report.

36. Laying of reports by Leader of the Opposition

(1) Where the Leader of the Opposition conducts a study for parliamentary purposes, the Leader of the Opposition or a Member acting on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition shall lay on Table a report within twenty-one working days after conclusion of the study.

(2) Upon laying of the report under subrule (1), the Leader of the Opposition or the Member acting on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition shall present a brief summary of the report and highlight the key recommendations contained in the report.

(3) The Speaker shall appoint time, not exceeding forty-five minutes, for debate of the report.

37. Laying of records of debates, Bills and Acts of the East African Legislative Assembly

(1) In accordance with Article 65 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, the Minister responsible for East African Community affairs shall, within twenty-one working days after the end of every session of the East African Legislative Assembly, lay on Table, for information—

- (a) copies of records of all relevant debates of the meetings of the Assembly;
- (b) copies of Bills introduced into the Assembly; or
- (c) Acts of the East African Community.

(2) Upon laying of records of debates, Bills and Acts under subrule (1), the Minister responsible for East African Community affairs shall present a summary of the debates, Bills and Acts highlighting the key issues for parliamentary action.

- (3) Debate shall not ensue.

38. Laying of resolutions of Pan-African Parliament

(1) Upon conclusion of every session of the Pan-African Parliament, a member of the Pan-African Parliament shall lay on Table, copies of the resolutions of the Pan-African Parliament.

(2) Upon laying of the resolutions under subrule (1), a member of the Pan-African Parliament shall present a summary of the resolutions, highlighting the key issues for parliamentary action.

- (3) Debate shall not ensue.

39. Laying of decisions and resolutions of African Union

(1) The Minister responsible for foreign affairs shall present a bi-annual report on the decisions and resolutions of the African Union Organs, Summit of Heads of State, the Executive Council of Ministers, and the Permanent Representatives Council.

(2) The report in subrule (1) shall highlight the key issues for parliamentary action.

- (3) Debate shall not ensue.

40. Laying of reports by Commission

(1) Where the Speaker or the Commission conducts a study for parliamentary purposes, the Speaker shall, within twenty-one working days after conclusion of the study, nominate a Commissioner to lay on Table a report.

(2) Upon laying of the report under subrule (1), the Commissioner shall present a summary of the report highlighting the key recommendations contained in the report.

(3) The Speaker shall appoint time, not exceeding forty-five minutes, for debate of the report.

PART VIII—TREATIES, PROTOCOLS AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

41. Presentation of treaties, protocols or international agreements before Parliament

(1) The Minister responsible for treaties, protocols or international agreements shall lay before Parliament, a treaty, protocol or international agreement entered into by the Government of Uganda, within ninety working days after the treaty, protocol or international agreement has been concluded or signed.

(2) The Committee on Foreign Affairs shall examine a treaty, protocol or international agreement laid before Parliament, and shall report to the House within forty-five working days.

(3) The Minister responsible for the implementation of a treaty, protocol or international agreement shall, at least twice a year, report to Parliament on the implementation of the treaty, protocol or international agreement entered into by Government.

(4) Where a treaty, protocol or international agreement imposes an obligation on Uganda to submit periodic reports to a relevant treaty body, the Minister responsible for the implementation of the treaty,

protocol or international agreement shall present to Parliament the draft periodic reports prior to the periodic reports being submitted to the relevant treaty body.

42. Ratification of treaties

(1) A treaty submitted to Parliament for ratification under section 2(b) of the Ratification of Treaties Act shall be laid on Table and the Speaker shall refer the treaty to the relevant Committee for scrutiny.

(2) The Committee to which a treaty is referred under subrule (1) shall examine the treaty in detail and make inquiries in relation to the treaty, and report to the House.

(3) The report of the Committee to the House shall include a recommendation that the House—

- (a) ratifies the treaty;
- (b) ratifies the treaty with reservations; or
- (c) rejects the ratification of the treaty.

(4) Where the House ratifies a treaty with reservations, the House shall specify the affected provisions of the treaty and the proposed text of each reservation may include prescription of timelines within which an obligation is to be fulfilled before implementation of the treaty.

(5) Upon the resolution of the House on a treaty, the Clerk shall, within seven working days, notify the Minister responsible for foreign affairs to enter the information in the register of treaties.

PART IX—PRIME MINISTER’S TIME, QUESTIONS TO
MINISTERS AND OTHER MEMBERS

43. Prime Minister’s Time

(1) There shall be time designated as Prime Minister’s Time every Thursday, commencing at 4:00 O’clock in the afternoon.

(2) During the Prime Minister’s Time—

(a) the Prime Minister may make a statement; or

(b) questions may be put to the Prime Minister relating to matters of Government policy or the general performance of the Government and Government agencies.

(3) Questions to the Prime Minister may be—

(a) made in writing and submitted to the Clerk; or

(b) put to the Prime Minister during the Prime Minister’s Time under subrule (1).

(4) A written or oral question to the Prime Minister shall be precise and concise and shall not address more than one matter of government policy or general performance of Government.

(5) The Clerk shall enter all questions in the Prime Minister’s Question Record Book and forward all the questions to the Prime Minister.

(6) The Prime Minister shall answer the questions in a precise and concise manner.

(7) The Prime Minister’s written response to a question shall be copied to the relevant Member, and the Prime Minister shall, within fourteen working days of receipt of the question, respond to the question during the Prime Minister’s Time.

(8) The Clerk shall publish a list of all questions and the responses made every month.

(9) In the absence of the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister may make a statement or answer the questions.

(10) The Prime Minister's Time shall not exceed sixty minutes.

(11) The sixty minutes referred to in subrule (10) shall be allotted as follows—

- (a) twenty minutes for responding to the written questions; and
- (b) forty minutes for responding to the oral questions.

(12) Where the Prime Minister does not provide a response to an oral question, the Prime Minister shall provide a response in the following Prime Minister's Time.

(13) Notwithstanding subrule (1), the Speaker shall designate one day in a month as Prime Minister's Time during which—

- (a) questions may be put to the Prime Minister relating to matters of Government policy or the general performance of the Government and Government agencies; or
- (b) the Prime Minister shall inform the House on the action taken on the questions raised.

(14) The Leader of the Opposition shall have a right to comment or reply.

44. Questions to Ministers

(1) Questions may be asked of Ministers relating to public affairs with which the Ministers are officially connected, proceedings pending in Parliament or any matter of administration for which the Ministers are responsible.

(2) Questions relating to matters which are under the control of a statutory body shall be restricted to the matters for which a Minister is responsible for by law or which affect the general policy of the statutory body.

45. Questions to Chairpersons and Commission

(1) Questions may be asked of a Chairperson of a Committee relating to a bill, motion or other public matter connected with the business of the House for which the Committee is responsible.

(2) Questions may be asked of the Commission relating to the administration of Parliament or other Commission matters.

46. Conditions for admissibility of questions

- (1) A question shall not—
- (a) include the name of a person or statement of fact unless it is necessary to make the question intelligible, and in the case of a statement of fact, can be authenticated by the Member concerned;
 - (b) contain charges which the Member asking the question is not prepared to substantiate;
 - (c) contain any argument, expression of opinion or inferences, imputations, epithets or controversial, ironical or offensive expressions or hypothetical cases;
 - (d) be asked, which raises an issue upon which a decision has been made or which has been answered substantially, during the current session;
 - (e) be asked regarding proceedings in a Committee which have not been tabled before the House through a report from the Committee;
 - (f) solicit the expression of an opinion or the solution of an abstract legal case or a hypothetical proposition;

- (g) be asked as to the character or conduct of any person except the person's official capacity;
 - (h) refer to more than one subject, and shall not be of excessive length;
 - (i) be asked the answer to which is readily available in official publications;
 - (j) be asked on the character or conduct of persons whose conduct may only be challenged on a substantive motion; and
 - (k) be asked as to be likely to prejudice a case under trial.
- (2) A supplementary question shall be subject to the conditions in subrule (1).

47. Questions for oral answer

(1) Notice of a question for oral answer shall be given by delivery of the written question to the Clerk at least three working days before the day on which the Member proposes to ask the question.

(2) The written question referred to in subrule (1) shall be marked with the words "oral reply".

(3) The Clerk shall ensure that the notice delivered to him or her under subrule (1) is communicated to the person required to answer the question as soon as is practicable from the date of delivery and the person asking the question shall be informed of the communication.

(4) The response by a Minister to a question asked of him or her shall be sent to the Clerk within five working days, and the Clerk shall distribute the response to the Members within five days.

(5) A Minister shall not take more than two weeks to respond to a question from a Member.

(6) Answers to questions not marked “oral reply” shall be communicated in writing to Members and shall be printed in the official report.

(7) There shall be a Question Record Book to be kept by the Clerk, which shall be open for inspection by Members and in which shall be recorded—

- (a) all questions submitted by Members;
- (b) the name of the Member asking the question;
- (c) the date of receipt of the question;
- (d) the date of dispatch of the question to the person required to answer; and
- (e) the date the question was answered in the House.

48. Order of questions for oral answer to be determined by lot

(1) The order in which questions for oral answers shall be placed on the list of questions shall be determined by lot, under the direction of the Speaker.

(2) Not more than three questions for oral answers shall be asked by a Member at any one sitting.

(3) The answer to a question remaining on the Order Paper after the time allocated for questions has passed shall be printed in the official report.

49. Manner of asking and answering questions

(1) During question time, the Speaker shall call successively each Member in whose name a question stands on the Order Paper.

(2) The Member called upon under subrule (1) shall rise and read out the number assigned to the question standing in his or her name on the Order Paper.

(3) In the absence of the Member asking the question, a Member authorised by the Member may, with the Speaker's prior permission, read the number of the question on behalf of the absent Member.

(4) The answer to a question shall be printed and a copy of the answer supplied to the Member asking the question, not less than fifteen minutes before the time fixed for the sitting at which the question is to be answered, and the answer shall be read by the Member to whom the question is addressed or by the Member acting for the Member to whom the question is addressed.

(5) The reply to a question shall be limited to three minutes.

(6) Notwithstanding subrule (5), where the Speaker considers that the matter is of sufficient importance, the Speaker may grant an additional two minutes.

(7) Without prejudice to the right to answer a question, a Member shall not address the House upon any question, or in asking the question, raise any argument or offer an opinion on the question.

(8) Where a question has been asked and answered, no debate on it shall be permitted.

50. Supplementary questions

(1) As soon as a question is answered in the House, a Member, starting with the Member who asked the question, may without notice, ask a supplementary question for elucidation of any matter of fact regarding the answer which has been given.

(2) A supplementary question shall arise directly from the answer to the original question and shall not be used to introduce matters not included in the original answer to the question.

(3) The reply to each supplementary question shall, except with the permission of the Speaker, be limited to two minutes.

51. Notice of urgent questions

(1) A Member shall not ask a question without notice unless the question is of an urgent nature relating to a matter of public importance or the arrangement of business.

(2) A question without notice shall only be asked with the prior leave of the Speaker.

(3) The Speaker shall determine the admissibility of a question in accordance with Rule 46.

(4) Where the Speaker is of the opinion that any question which a Member has sought leave to ask without notice infringes any of the conditions set out in this rule, the Speaker may direct that—

- (a) the question be asked or printed with such alterations as the Speaker shall direct; or
- (b) the question be returned to the Member for being inadmissible.

(5) Where the Speaker does not admit a question under this rule, the Member bringing the question may, in writing, appeal to the Business Committee.

52. Ministers to attend House to answer questions

(1) A Minister shall attend sittings of the House to answer questions asked of him or her.

(2) Question time to Ministers shall ordinarily not exceed two hours except that the Speaker may, in exceptional cases, exercise his or her discretion and permit questions after the expiry of the two hours.

(3) The questions shall be asked on Wednesdays and Thursdays of the week of the sitting of Parliament.

(4) It shall be disorderly conduct of a Member to fail to ask or for a Minister to fail to answer a question listed on the Order Paper without the leave of the Speaker.

53. Rota of questions

The time available for answering questions shall be allotted on different days in rotation relating to such Ministry or Ministries as the Speaker may determine, and on each such day, only questions relating to the Ministry or Ministries for which time has been allotted on that day shall be placed on the list of questions for oral answer.

PART X—STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS, MEMBERS AND PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

54. Statements by Ministers

(1) A Minister may, with the prior permission of the Speaker, make a statement for the purpose of explaining Government policy or action upon any matter.

(2) The statement made by the Minister under subrule (1) may be debated and the debate shall not exceed one hour.

(3) The statement made by the Minister under subrule (1) shall be in writing.

55. Statements by Leader of the Opposition

(1) The Leader of the Opposition may make a statement at the appropriate time on the sequence of business prescribed by rule 26, with the prior permission of the Speaker, in regard to the State of the Nation Address, Budget Framework Paper, budget proposals, alternative policy or action upon any matter.

(2) The Statement made by the Leader of the Opposition may be debated by the House and the debate shall not exceed one hour.

56. Matters of urgent public importance

(1) A Member who desires to raise a matter of urgent public importance shall, with the leave of the Speaker, raise the matter.

(2) A statement made by a Member under subrule (1) shall be non-controversial, on a matter of urgent public importance or on an emergency, and shall not take more than five minutes.

(3) In determining whether a matter is of urgent public importance, the Speaker shall ensure that the matter—

- (a) relates to a genuine emergency, calling for immediate and urgent consideration to warrant taking precedence over other business on the Order Paper; and
- (b) has raised public concern or interest.

(4) The Speaker may order the Member to resume his or her seat if, in the opinion of the Speaker, the Member is not raising a matter of urgent public importance in accordance with subrule (2).

(5) The statement by a Member shall be submitted to the Speaker, in writing, before 11:00 O'clock in the morning on the day on which the statement is to be made.

(6) The statement by a Member may be commented upon by other Members for not more than fifteen minutes.

57. Personal explanations

(1) A Member may explain a matter of personal nature but no controversial matter may be brought in the explanation.

(2) A personal explanation shall not be debated.

(3) Unless the situation warrants otherwise, any personal explanation under this rule shall be submitted to the Speaker in writing by 11:00 O'clock in the morning on the day on which the personal explanation is to be made.

PART XI—MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS

General motions

58. Notice of motions

A motion shall not be moved unless the Member moving the motion has given written notice of the motion to the Speaker and the Clerk, not less than three days previous to the sitting at which the Member intends to move the motion.

59. Oral notice of motions

(1) Notwithstanding rule 58, a Member may, with the leave of the Speaker, give oral notice of a motion during a sitting.

(2) The motion referred to in subrule (1) shall not be placed on the Order Paper until three days have elapsed from the day the notice is given.

(3) Where the Speaker is of the opinion that it is in the public interest that the motion should be placed on the Order Paper prior to the expiration of three days, the Speaker may direct that the motion be placed on the Order Paper at such time as the Speaker determines convenient.

60. Amendment of motions of which notice has been given

The Speaker may permit a Member to move in amended form, without notice, a motion of which notice has been given, if in the opinion of the Speaker, the amendment does not materially alter any principle embodied in the motion of which notice has been given.

61. Motions without notice

- (1) The following motions may be moved without notice—
 - (a) motion by way of amendment to a question already proposed by the Speaker;
 - (b) motion for adjournment for purposes of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance;
 - (c) motion for the adjournment of a debate;
 - (d) motion for the suspension of any rule of procedure;
 - (e) motion for the withdrawal or re-admission of strangers;
 - (f) motion for the reference of a bill to a Committee;
 - (g) motion for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House;
 - (h) motion made when the House is in Committee;
 - (i) motion for the approval of a report of the Committee of Supply;
 - (j) motion made in accordance with rules governing the procedure of bills;
 - (k) motion which in the opinion of the Speaker is a matter of emergency;
 - (l) motion, notice of which has been dispensed with in accordance with rule 59;
 - (m) motion raising a point of privilege;
 - (n) motion for closure of debate under rule 73; and
 - (o) motion relating to an appeal from the President or a reference from the Committee on Appointments under rule 178.

(2) A Member may move a motion without notice in the following manner—

“Mr /Madam Speaker/Chairperson, I rise to move that the House/ Committee considers the following motion without notice under (rule 61(1) ...”)

62. Seconding of motions

(1) In the House, the question upon a motion or an amendment to a motion shall not be proposed by the Speaker nor shall the debate on the motion or amendment to a motion commence, unless the motion or amendment to the motion has been seconded.

(2) The motion or amendment to the motion under subrule (1) shall be seconded by at least two Members, and the Speaker shall mention the name or constituency of the Members seconding the motion or the amendment to the motion.

(3) In Committee of the Whole House or before a Committee, secondment of a motion or an amendment to a motion shall not be required.

63. Amendments to motions

(1) Where a motion is under consideration in the House or in the Committee of the Whole House, an amendment may be proposed to the motion if the amendment is relevant to the motion.

(2) An amendment may be proposed to the amendment if the amendment is relevant to that amendment.

(3) An amendment moved and permitted by the Speaker may be put in writing by the mover and delivered to the Clerk.

(4) An amendment shall not be permitted if, in the opinion of the Speaker, the amendment substantially alters the principle of the question proposed.

(5) An amendment to the motion which a Member wishes to propose under this rule may be moved and seconded at any time after the question upon the motion has been proposed by the Speaker and before the question has been put by the Speaker, at the conclusion of the debate upon the motion.

(6) When the amendment has been disposed of, the Speaker shall again propose the question upon the motion as amended, as the case may require, and after any further debate which may arise on the motion, the Speaker shall put the question.

(7) Where two or more amendments are proposed to be moved to the same motion, the Speaker shall call upon the movers in the order in which their amendments relate to the text of the motion, with the one which departs furthest being called first, or in case of doubt, in such order as the Speaker shall decide.

(8) An amendment to an amendment which a Member wishes to propose shall be moved and seconded at any time after the question upon the original amendment has been proposed by the Speaker, and before the question has been put by the Speaker at the conclusion of the debate on the original amendment.

(9) Subrule (7) shall apply to the discussion of the amendments to amendments, with the substitution for the word “motion” throughout, the words “original amendment.”

(10) When every amendment to an amendment has been disposed of, the Speaker 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.

(11) Upon an amendment to delete any of the words of a motion, the question to be proposed by the Speaker shall be “That the following words ... be deleted from the motion.”

(12) Upon an amendment to insert words in, or add words at the end of a motion, the question to be proposed by the Speaker shall be “That the following words ... be inserted or added.”

(13) Upon an amendment to delete words and insert or add other words instead, a question shall first be proposed “That the following words... be deleted from the motion”, and if the question is agreed to, the question shall then be proposed “That the following words,... be inserted or added.”

(14) If the first question is negatived, no further amendment may be proposed to the words which were to be deleted.

(15) If an amendment is moved to an amendment upon which the Speaker has proposed a question, the last mentioned amendment shall be dealt with as if it were the original motion until all amendments to it have been disposed of.

64. Withdrawal of motions

(1) A motion or an amendment to the motion may be withdrawn at the request of the mover with leave of the House or Committee before the question is put on the motion or the amendment to the motion.

(2) A motion or an amendment to the motion withdrawn under subrule (1) may be proposed again, if, in case of a motion, notice as required by these Rules is given.

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

65. Manner of debating motions

(1) When a motion has been moved and seconded in the House, the Speaker shall propose the question on the motion in the

same terms as the motion, and debate may then take place upon that motion and may continue for a period not exceeding one hour.

(2) The Speaker may at the beginning of any debate specify the period that each Member contributing to a debate may be given.

(3) The Speaker may call upon the mover to reply at the end of the period allocated for debate and immediately the mover has concluded his or her reply, the Speaker shall put the question to the motion.

Specialised motions

66. Adjournment motion

(1) A Member may move an adjournment motion for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, and if—

- (a) not less than five other Members rise in their places in support; and
- (b) the Speaker orders that the matter is a definite matter of urgent public importance,

the Speaker shall appoint a time on the same day when the motion may be moved.

(2) A Member who desires to move an adjournment motion under subrule (1) shall, except in exceptional circumstances to the satisfaction of the Speaker, submit to the Speaker, in writing, the terms of the matter the Member desires to be discussed, at least two hours before the commencement of the day's sitting.

(3) In determining whether a matter should have urgent consideration, the Speaker shall have regard to—

- (a) the extent to which the matter concerns the administrative responsibilities of the Government or could come within the scope of ministerial action; and

(b) the probability of the matter being brought before the House within a reasonable time by other means.

(4) The right to move a motion under this rule is subject to the following conditions—

(a) the matter proposed for discussion must be one that calls for immediate and urgent consideration;

(b) not more than one such motion may be made at any one sitting;

(c) not more than one matter may be discussed on the same motion;

(d) the motion must not revive debate on a matter which has already been discussed in the same session under this rule;

(e) the motion must not raise a point of privilege; or

(f) the debate under the motion must not raise any question which, according to these Rules, can only be debated on a substantive motion under notice.

(5) A proceeding which has been postponed under this rule shall be exempted from rule 28(1) (b) for a period of time equal to the duration of the proceedings upon a motion under this rule, and may be resumed and proceeded with at or after the time fixed for debating the motion.

67. Motion for adjournment of debate (dilatory motions)

(1) A Member who wishes to postpone to some future date further discussion of a question which has been proposed from the Chair may move “that the debate be now adjourned”, or in Committee of the Whole House, “that the House do now resume and the Committee do report thereto”, such motion being termed dilatory motion.

(2) The debate on the motion shall be confined to the subject matter of the motion.

(3) If the Speaker or the Chairperson holds the opinion that a dilatory motion is an abuse of the proceedings of the House or Committee, as the case may be, the Speaker or Chairperson may decline to propose a question on the dilatory motion.

(4) If the motion is carried, debate shall be deferred to a date fixed by the Speaker.

(5) A dilatory motion which has been negatived may not subsequently be moved during the same debate, whether in the House or in the Committee of the Whole House.

(6) A dilatory motion shall be made only by a Member who, having been called by the Speaker to contribute to a substantive motion, is holding the floor.

68. Debate interrupted by adjournment of House

Debate interrupted by a motion under rule 67 shall, on coming again before the House or a Committee of the Whole House, be resumed at a point where the debate was interrupted as if debate was continuous.

69. Half-hour motions

(1) On any day on which the Order Paper contains the item half-hour motions, the Speaker shall interrupt business thirty minutes before the conclusion of business or at the conclusion of business before that time, and call upon the Member in whose name the item stands to move the half-hour motion.

(2) On the interruption of business under subrule (1), the closure may be moved, and if it is so moved or if proceedings under rule 73 are already in progress at the time of interruption, the Speaker shall not interrupt the business until the question consequent upon the moving of the closure and any further question relating to it has been decided.

(3) If business is interrupted for a half-hour motion and at that hour a division is in progress, the Speaker shall not interrupt business until the Speaker has declared the determination of the House on the division.

(4) The right to move the motion shall not be allotted to more than one Member for each sitting, and at the stated end of the sitting or the conclusion of the debate before that time, the Speaker shall put the question on the motion without allowing a division.

(5) Where the Member is called upon, the sitting shall be subject to the provisions of rule 80 and debate may proceed for not more than thirty minutes.

70. Motion with regard to settlement of financial matters

Parliament shall not proceed on any motion, including any amendment to a motion that in the opinion of the person presiding makes provision for any of the purposes set out in rule 130 unless the motion is introduced by a Member or a Minister on behalf of Government.

71. Motions to amend Rules of Procedure of Parliament

(1) A Member may move that any of these Rules be amended by giving not less than five days' notice.

(2) The notice of motion for the amendment of any of these Rules shall be accompanied by a draft of the proposed amendment.

(3) When the motion has been proposed and seconded, the motion shall stand referred to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline, and no further proceedings shall be taken on the motion until the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline has reported on the motion.

PART XII—RULES OF DEBATE

72. Time and manner of speaking

(1) A Member desiring to speak shall—

(a) in the case of a Member physically present in the Chamber, rise and face the Chair of the Speaker; or

(b) in the case of a Member virtually present in the House, raise his or her hand up,

and shall not speak until he or she catches the Speaker's eye.

(2) When the Speaker rises during the proceedings in the House or when the Chairperson rises during the proceedings in a Committee of the Whole House, all the Members shall rise.

(3) By the indulgence of the Speaker, a Member unable to conveniently stand by reason of sickness or disability, may be permitted to speak while seated.

(4) The Speaker shall be referred to as Mr./Madam/ Speaker.

(5) A Minister shall be referred to by his or her ministerial title.

(6) Every other Member shall be referred to as “Honourable” together with the name of his or her constituency or the group or body represented by the Member, that is, “the Honourable Member for ...”

(7) Where an Honourable Member has already been referred to as described in subrule (6) in a speech, he or she may only be further referred to as “My Honourable Friend” or “The Honourable Gentleman, Lady or Member”.

(8) A Member shall not speak more than once to a motion except—

- (a) in Committee or before a Committee of the Whole House;
- (b) in explanation, as prescribed in subrule (9); or
- (c) in the case of the mover of a substantive motion wishing to reply, but any Member may second a motion or an amendment by rising in his or her place and saying “Mr Speaker or Madam Speaker, I beg to second the motion, or amendment” without prejudice to his or her right to speak at a later period of the debate.

(9) A Member who has spoken to a motion may again be heard for the purpose of explaining some material part of his or her speech which has been misunderstood, or vindicating his or her character or conduct if it has been impugned, but the Member must not in the process introduce a new matter.

(10) Subject to rule 62, the mover of the motion shall be called upon to speak to his or her motion before any other Member.

(11) The Speaker may, on the commencement of the proceedings of the day or on any motion, announce the time limit he or she is to allow each Member contributing to debate, and may direct a Member to take his or her seat who has spoken for the period given.

73. Close of debate

A Member may not speak on a question after the question has been put by the Speaker, that is, after the voices of both “Ayes” and “Nays” have been given on the question.

74. Contents of speech

(1) A speech of a Member must have reference to the subject matter under discussion.

(2) The conduct of the President, Speaker, Members, the Chief Justice and Judges of the Courts of Judicature shall not be raised,

except upon a substantive motion, and, in any amendment, question to a Member or remarks in a debate on a motion dealing with any other subject, any reference to the conduct of persons mentioned is out of order.

75. *Sub-judice* rule

(1) Subject to subrule (5), a Member shall not refer to any particular matter which is *sub-judice*.

(2) A matter shall be considered *sub-judice* if the matter refers to active criminal or civil proceedings and in the opinion of the Speaker or Chairperson of a Committee, the discussion of such matter is likely to prejudice its fair determination.

(3) In determining whether a criminal or civil proceeding is active, the following shall apply—

- (a) criminal proceedings shall be deemed to be active when a charge has been made or summons to appear have been issued by court;
- (b) criminal proceedings shall be deemed to have ceased to be active when the criminal proceedings are concluded by verdict and sentence or charges have been withdrawn;
- (c) civil proceedings shall be deemed to be active when arrangements for hearing, such as setting down matters for hearing have been made, until the proceedings are ended by judgment or settlement or withdrawal; or
- (d) appellate proceedings whether criminal or civil shall be deemed to be active from the time when the appellate proceedings are commenced by application for leave to appeal or by notice of appeal until the proceedings are ended by judgment or withdrawn.

(4) A Member alleging that a matter is *sub-judice* shall provide justification to show that subrules (2) and (3) are applicable.

(5) The Speaker or Chairperson of a Committee shall make a ruling as to whether a matter is *sub-judice* before debate or investigations can continue.

76. Scope of debate

(1) Debate upon a motion or amendment to a motion or upon a bill, part of a bill or amendment to a bill shall be relevant to the matter being debated.

(2) Where an amendment to a motion or to a bill proposes to omit words and insert or add other words, debate upon the question to omit words may include the words to be omitted and the words proposed to be inserted or added.

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

(4) In any debate on an amendment to a motion, the Speaker may, in his or her discretion, direct that the debate on the amendment may include debate on the matter of the motion where, in his or her opinion, the matter of the amendment is not conveniently separable from the matter of the motion.

(5) When the Speaker gives a direction under subrule (4), a Member who has already spoken to the motion may, in speaking to the amendment, speak only to a new matter raised by the amendment.

77. Newspapers, periodicals or books not to be read in House

Subject to these Rules and except with the leave of the Speaker, a Member shall not read a newspaper, periodical or book in the House.

78. Reading of speeches by Members

(1) A Member shall not read his or her speech, but may read extracts from written or printed documents in support of his or her argument and may refresh his or her memory by reference to notes.

(2) The Speaker may, in exceptional circumstances, permit a Member to read his or her speech.

79. Speaker not to participate in debate

The Speaker shall not participate in debate before the House, but may give guidance to the House on a matter before the House.

80. Interruption of debate

(1) Debate may be interrupted—

- (a) by a matter of privilege suddenly arising and being raised;
- (b) by a point of order being raised;
- (c) upon a point of information, elucidation or clarification being raised; or
- (d) upon a point of procedure being raised.

(2) When giving leave to interrupt debate, the Speaker shall follow the following precedence—

- (a) point of privilege;
- (b) point of procedure;
- (c) point of order; and
- (d) point of information, elucidation or clarification.

(3) A Member who rises to interrupt debate on a point of privilege, procedure, order, information, elucidation or clarification shall not depart from that point.

81. Point of privilege

(1) A Member may raise a point of privilege during debate where a breach of privilege suddenly arises.

(2) Where a Member raises a point of privilege, the Speaker shall make a ruling on the point of privilege.

(3) The Speaker shall, in making a ruling under subrule (2), have regard to the provisions of the Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act.

(4) Notwithstanding subrule (2), the Speaker may refer the matter raised on the point of privilege to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline.

82. Point of order

(1) A Member may raise a point of order on unparliamentary language being used by another Member or on a matter of unparliamentary conduct by another Member, immediately the unparliamentary language is used or the unparliamentary conduct arises.

(2) Where a Member rises on a point of order, the Member holding the floor shall immediately resume his or her seat.

(3) Where the point of order has been raised under subrule (2), no other Member shall, except with leave of the Speaker, rise until the Speaker has decided on the point of order.

(4) Where a Member interrupts debate on a point of order, the Member shall cite the rule of procedure he or she deems to have been breached by a Member, before subjecting the Member to the Speaker's ruling.

83. Point of information, elucidation or clarification

A Member may rise on a point of information, elucidation or clarification in relation to a matter raised by a Member holding the

floor and may only proceed with the point if the Member holding the floor is willing to take the point of information, elucidation or clarification and resume his or her seat.

84. Point of procedure

(1) A Member may raise a point of procedure where a breach of rules arises.

(2) Where a Member rises on a point of procedure, the Member holding the floor shall immediately resume his or her seat.

(3) Where the point of procedure has been raised under subrule (2), no other Member shall, except with leave of the Speaker, rise until the Speaker has decided on the matter.

(4) Where a Member interrupts debate on a point of procedure, the Member raising the point of procedure shall cite the rule the Member holding the floor is deemed to have breached or the procedural matter the Member wishes to be ruled upon, before the Speaker makes a ruling.

85. Motion that Member no longer be heard

Where a Member persists in irrelevancy or tedious repetitions or uses objectionable words and on being called to order, fails to retract or explain the words and offer an apology to the satisfaction of the Speaker, a Member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that the Member persisting in irrelevancy or tedious repetitions or using objectionable words no longer be heard, and the question on that motion shall be put forthwith without amendment or debate.

86. Anticipation

(1) It is out of order to anticipate a bill by discussing a motion dealing with the subject matter of a bill on a day prior to the day appointed for the consideration of the bill.

(2) It is out of order to anticipate a motion by discussing a matter directly relating to the subject matter of the motion prior to the date appointed for consideration of the motion.

(3) In determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, the Speaker shall have regard to the probability of the subject matter in anticipation being brought before the House within a reasonable time.

(4) A Member may not, during debate, refer to a matter in a Committee report until such a report has been tabled in the House.

87. Motion for closure of debate

(1) After a question has been proposed in the House or in Committee and debated, a Member may move “That the question be now put”, and, unless it appears to the Speaker that the motion is an abuse of the rules of the House or an infringement of the rights of a Member, the question “That the question be now put” shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.

(2) If the question of closure is agreed to by a majority, the motion which was being discussed when the closure motion was moved shall be put forthwith without further discussion.

PART XIII—BEHAVIOUR OF MEMBERS DURING DEBATE

88. Dress code

(1) A Member shall dress in a dignified manner stipulated as follows—

(a) in the case of a male Member—

(i) a suit and shirt with a tie, cravat or flaps;

(ii) a kanzu, a pair of trousers and a jacket; or

(iii) military attire, except combat uniform, for Members representing the army;

- (b) in the case of a female Member—
 - (i) a suit;
 - (ii) decent dress with sleeves;
 - (iii) decent dress with jacket;
 - (iv) decent blouse with sleeves and decent skirt;
 - (v) decent blouse with sleeves and decent pair of trousers;
 - (vi) decent blouse with jacket and decent skirt;
 - (vii) decent blouse with jacket and decent pair of trousers;
 - (viii) a hijab;
 - (ix) a gomesi; or
 - (x) military attire, except combat uniform, for Members representing the army.

(2) A Member shall put on dignified shoes, except that a Member may, with leave of the Speaker, put on footwear which may not necessarily be described as shoes.

(3) A Member attending the House or a Committee meeting shall adhere to the dress code prescribed in subrules (1) and (2).

(4) Where a Member does not adhere to the dress code prescribed in subrules (1) and (2), the Member shall be cited for being out of order and the presiding officer shall order the Member to withdraw immediately from the House or Committee, and return when dressed in accordance with these Rules.

(5) In this rule—

“decent blouse”, “decent dress”, “decent pair of trousers” or “decent skirt” means a dress, blouse, pair of trousers or

skirt that is socially acceptable and generally considered to be smart, good, reasonable and portrays a good image of Parliament; and

“dignified” means dressing in a manner consistent with the dress code prescribed in this rule.

89. Behaviour of Members in House

(1) During a sitting—

- (a) a Member shall enter or leave the House with decorum;
- (b) a Member shall not cross the floor of the House or move around unnecessarily;
- (c) while a Member is speaking, all other Members shall be silent and shall not make unseemly interruptions;
- (d) when a Member has finished his or her observation he or she shall resume his or her seat;
- (e) a maiden speech shall not be interrupted except by the Speaker or in circumstances which in the opinion of the Speaker warrant interruption;
- (f) a Member shall not, without the consent of the Speaker, bring into the House anything other than papers, books or other documents which are directly connected with the business of the House;
- (g) a Member shall not bring into the House any camera, arms or weapon, tape recorder or transistor radio; and
- (h) a Member shall not clap in the House.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (g), a Member may bring in the House specific electronic devices that cannot disrupt the proceedings of the House and also pass the security test of Parliament.

90. Use of unparliamentary language

It is out of order to use offensive, abusive, insulting, blasphemous or unbecoming words or to impute improper motive to a Member or to make personal allusions.

91. General behaviour

The behaviour of a Member shall be guided by the Code of Conduct for Members prescribed in Appendix G to these Rules.

PART XIV—ORDER IN HOUSE

92. Chair to be heard in silence

When the Speaker is addressing the House, a Member standing shall immediately resume his or her seat and the Speaker shall be heard in silence.

93. Decision of Speaker or Chairperson

(1) The Speaker or a Chairperson of a Committee shall be responsible for the observance of the rules or order in the House or in the Committee.

(2) The decision of the Speaker or Chairperson on any point shall not be open to appeal and shall not be reviewed by the House, except upon a substantive motion made after notice.

94. Order in House

(1) The Speaker or a Chairperson may, after calling the attention of the House or a Committee to the conduct of a Member who persists in irrelevance or tedious repetition of the Member's own arguments or the arguments made by other Members in the debate, direct the Member to discontinue his or her speech.

(2) The Speaker or Chairperson shall order any Member whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the House or Committee for the remainder of that day's sitting and the Clerk or the Sergeant-at-Arms shall act on such orders Clerk or

the Sergeant-at-Arms may receive from the Speaker or Chairperson to ensure compliance with this rule.

(3) The conduct of a Member is deemed to be grossly disorderly under subrule (2), if the Member—

- (a) defies a ruling or direction of the Speaker or Chairperson;
- (b) disrupts the Speaker's communication;
- (c) demonstrates or makes disruptive utterances;
- (d) declines to retract words ruled unparliamentary by the Speaker when ordered to retract;
- (e) declines to offer an apology, when ordered to apologise;
- (f) attempts to cause or causes disorder of whatever nature;
- (g) uses or attempts to use violence against any person in the House, Committee or within the precincts of Parliament;
- (h) destroys property in the House or Committee;
- (i) attempts to disrupt or disrupts the Speaker's procession;
- (j) attempts to remove or removes the mace from its place;
- (k) deliberately gives false information to the House; or
- (l) publishes or discloses a report of a Committee, evidence or a document received by a Committee before the presentation of a report of a Committee to Parliament.

95. Naming and suspension of Members

(1) If the Speaker or a Chairperson of a Committee considers that the conduct of a Member cannot be adequately dealt with under rule 94(2), the Speaker or the Chairperson may name the Member.

- (2) Where a Member has been named—
 - (a) in the House, the Speaker shall suspend the Member named from the service of the House; or
 - (b) in the Committee of the Whole House, the Chairperson shall forthwith leave the Chair and report the circumstances to the House and the Speaker shall suspend the Member named from the service of the House.

(3) Where a Member has been named by a Chairperson of a Committee other than the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House, the Chairperson shall, with the consent of the Committee, suspend the Member named from the service of the Committee and report at the next sitting of the House.

(4) If a Member is suspended, his or her suspension on the first occasion in a session shall be for the next three sittings, excluding the sitting in which he or she was suspended; on the second occasion in a session, for the next seven sittings excluding the sitting in which he or she was suspended, and on the third and any subsequent occasion during the same session, for the next twenty-eight sittings of the House, excluding the sitting in which the Member was suspended.

(5) Notwithstanding the number of days a Member has been suspended, the suspension shall cease at the end of the session in which the Member was suspended unless the House otherwise directs.

(6) Where a Member who has been suspended under this rule from the service of the House refuses to obey the direction of the Speaker when summoned under the Speaker's orders by the Sergeant-at-Arms to obey such direction, the Speaker shall call the attention of the House to the fact that recourse to force is necessary in order to compel obedience to his or her direction, and the Sergeant-at-Arms shall be called upon to eject the Member from the House.

(7) Subsequent to the suspension, on receipt of a written expression of regret from a Member suspended, the Speaker shall read the message to the House and upon a motion moved by any Member for the discharge of the order of suspension, the question thereon shall be decided without amendment or debate and if the question is agreed to, the order shall be discharged and the Member shall be re-admitted to the service of the House.

(8) Suspension from the service of the House shall exclude a Member who is suspended from serving on a Committee to which the Member may have been appointed prior to his or her suspension and bar the Member from lodging questions or notices of motion.

96. Withdrawal of suspended Member from precincts

A Member who is ordered to withdraw or who is suspended from the service of the House or Committee under these Rules shall immediately withdraw from the precincts of Parliament and shall not participate in any parliamentary business or activity until the end of the period of withdrawal or suspension.

97. Defamatory statements to be investigated by Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline

(1) Whenever in the opinion of the Speaker, a statement made by a Member is *prima facie* defamatory against another Member, the Speaker shall refer the matter to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline for inquiry.

(2) Where a Member makes a statement in a Committee which is *prima facie* defamatory against another Member, the Chairperson of the Committee shall refer the matter to the Speaker.

(3) Where in the opinion of the Speaker, the statement referred to under subrule (2), is *prima facie* defamatory against a Member, the Speaker shall refer the matter to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline for inquiry.

(4) Notwithstanding subrule (3), where a statement made by a Member before the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline is *prima facie* defamatory, the Speaker shall refer the matter to a Select Committee appointed in accordance with rule 198, for inquiry.

(5) Where a matter is referred to the Committee under subrule (1), (2), (3) or (4), the Committee shall, not later than twenty-one working days after the matter is referred to the Committee, report its findings to the House.

(6) Where the Committee reports to the House that the statement made by the Member is defamatory of any person, the Member who made the statement shall, within seven days after the report, render an apology at the bar of the House, the terms of which shall be approved by the Committee and communicated to the person who was defamed.

(7) Where a Member refuses to render an apology in accordance with subrule (6), the Speaker shall, upon the circumstances of the matter being reported to him or her by the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline, suspend the Member for the duration of the session.

98. Powers of Speaker to adjourn House or suspend sitting

In the case of grave disorder arising in the House, the Speaker may adjourn the House without question put or suspend the sitting until a time to be named by the Speaker.

PART XV—VOTING IN HOUSE

99. Questions to be decided by majority

(1) Except as otherwise prescribed by the Constitution or any law consistent with the Constitution, all questions proposed for decision of Parliament shall be determined by a majority of votes of the Members present and voting.

(2) Notwithstanding subrule (1), a Member on leave of absence may appoint another Member to vote on his or her behalf using the voting proxy form prescribed in Appendix H to these Rules.

(3) The voting proxy form shall be submitted to the Clerk within twelve hours before the commencement of the sitting to which it relates.

(4) The person presiding in Parliament or Committee shall have neither an original vote nor a casting vote and if upon any question before the House, the votes are equally divided, the motion shall be lost.

100. Declaration of personal interest in any matter before House or Committee

(1) A Member shall not take part in the discussion of any matter before the House or Committee in which the Member has direct pecuniary interest unless the Member has declared the nature of the interest to the House or Committee.

(2) A Member having interest in any matter before the House or Committee shall declare the nature of his or her interest in the matter and shall not vote on any question relating to that matter.

(3) At the time of voting, a Member who has declared his or her interest under this rule shall absent himself or herself from the sitting or meeting until voting is concluded.

(4) Where a Member fails to declare his or her interest under subrule (1), a Member may raise the matter in the House and the Speaker may order the Member who failed to declare his or her interest not to vote on the matter and may refer the conduct of that Member to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline.

(5) The Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline may, after investigation, recommend to the House such action on the matter as the Committee may consider appropriate.

101. *Ex officio* Members of Parliament

A Vice President, a Prime Minister or a Minister who by virtue of Article 78(1)(d) of the Constitution is an *ex officio* Member of Parliament, shall not vote in the House.

102. Voting in House

(1) Subject to rule 101, every Member present in the House at the time of voting shall cast a vote.

(2) Voting in the House shall be by—

- (a) voice voting;
- (b) secret voting;
- (c) electronic voting;
- (d) division;
- (e) roll call and tally; or
- (f) voting by show of hands.

(3) The Speaker may, where necessary, designate a specific voting method for a Member virtually present in the House, where the Member is unable to vote through any of the voting methods specified under subrule (2).

103. Voice voting

(1) Except where these Rules expressly provide otherwise, where a matter is to be put to vote, voice voting shall be the default method of voting.

(2) When a question has been put by the Speaker or the Chairperson, the votes shall be taken by voices of “Ayes” and “Nays” and the result shall be declared by the Speaker or the Chairperson.

104. Secret voting

There shall be secret voting in the House in respect of—

- (a) the election or removal of a person holding office under the Constitution or under a law made under the Constitution;
- (b) removal of a Commissioner; or
- (c) any matter where the House resolves that such matter be voted upon by secret ballot.

105. Roll call and tally

(1) Roll call and tally voting shall be held in the following circumstances—

- (a) at the second and third reading of a bill for an Act of Parliament to amend the Constitution;
- (b) on a decision to censure a Minister; or
- (c) on a decision, on an appeal from the President, or a reference from the Appointments Committee on an appeal to the House.

(2) When the Speaker directs a roll call and tally voting to be taken, the bell shall be rung for five minutes.

(3) The names of the teller for the “Ayes” and the teller for the “Nays” shall be submitted to the Speaker and the Speaker shall direct the tellers to take seats at designated places.

(4) The Speaker shall then direct the doors to be locked and the bar drawn and no Member shall thereafter enter or leave the House until after the roll call vote has been taken.

(5) The Speaker shall put the question again and direct the Clerk to call out the names of Members in alphabetical order in the presence of the tellers.

(6) When called out, a Member shall, thereupon rise in his or her place and declare or use a recognisable sign to assent, dissent or abstain to the question in the following manner, “I vote Yes”, or “I vote No”, or “I Abstain”, or use a recognised sign language.

(7) After the Clerk has read the last name on the list, the tellers shall present the result of the roll call vote to the Speaker who shall thereupon announce the result of the vote to the House.

(8) In case of confusion or error occurring in the course of a roll call and tally voting concerning the numbers or names recorded which cannot otherwise be corrected, the Speaker shall direct the House to proceed to another roll call vote.

106. Electronic voting

(1) Electronic voting shall be ordered by the Speaker where—

(a) the House resolves that a matter be voted upon electronically; or

(b) after the Speaker has announced the results of the voice voting, and immediately forty or more Members stand in their places signifying their disapproval of the outcome of the vote and in the opinion of the Speaker, the Speaker considers it necessary that the matter be voted upon electronically.

(2) When electronic voting is to be taken in the House, the bell shall be rung for five minutes after which, the House shall proceed to vote.

(3) During electronic voting, a Member shall cast his or her vote by pressing either the “Yes”, “No” or “Abstain” button.

(4) As soon as the result of the voting appears on the indicator board, the Speaker shall declare the results of the votes cast forthwith.

(5) A Member who is not able to cast his or her vote electronically due to any reason considered justifiable by the Speaker may, before the declaration of the results by the Speaker, have his or her vote recorded verbally.

(6) Where a technical failure, confusion or error occurs in the course of electronic voting which in the opinion of the Speaker cannot otherwise be corrected, the Speaker may direct the House to another round of voting.

(7) Where the technical failure, confusion or error continues to occur in the course of electronic voting, the Speaker may direct the House to proceed to a division or any other manner of voting.

107. Division

(1) A division may be ordered by the Speaker or Chairperson where—

- (a) a technical failure, confusion or an error has occurred in the course of electronic voting and electronic voting cannot proceed; or
- (b) the Speaker has announced the results of the voice voting, and immediately forty or more Members stand in their places signifying their disapproval of the outcome of the vote.

(2) Where a division has been ordered, the lobbies shall be cleared for that purpose.

(3) The Speaker or Chairperson shall direct the “Ayes” into the lobby on his or her right and the “Nays” into the lobby on his or her left and appoint two tellers for each lobby, and one teller for Members who abstain, to count the votes.

(4) The tellers shall take positions by the rear doors to the respective lobbies and Members shall enter the lobbies by the rear doors and shall leave through the fore doors back to the Chamber.

(5) Tellers shall record the names of the Members as the Members pass through the rear doors.

(6) After the lapse of a reasonable period from the Speaker's original direction, the Speaker shall direct that the rear doors giving access to the division lobbies from the Chamber be closed.

(7) A Member is not obliged to vote, and a Member who does not wish to vote shall not enter a division lobby while a division is in progress.

(8) A record shall be made of the names of Members who abstain.

(9) When all Members wishing to vote have left the division lobbies, the tellers shall return to the Chamber and shall report the number of Members who have voted in their respective lobbies, and the Members who have abstained, to the Speaker or the Chairperson, who shall then declare the results of the division.

(10) The rear doors giving access to the lobbies from the Chamber shall then be unlocked.

(11) In the case of confusion or error occurring in the course of a division concerning the numbers recorded which cannot otherwise be corrected, the Speaker or the Chairperson shall direct the House or the Committee, as the case may be, to proceed to another division.

(12) For the purposes of this rule, unless the context otherwise requires—

“fore doors” means the doors on the sides of the Chamber nearest to the Speaker;

“rear doors” means the doors on the sides of the Chamber furthest from the Speaker.

108. Division by Speaker

The Speaker or Chairperson may, at his or her discretion, order a division.

109. Special consideration for Members with disability

A Member who is incapacitated by physical infirmity or disability shall, for the purpose of a division, be counted and recorded in the House.

110. Voting in error

If a Member states that he or she voted in error or that his or her vote was counted wrongly, the Member may, immediately before the Speaker announces the figures and before the Speaker declares the results of the division, move to have his or her vote correctly recorded.

111. Equality of votes

Where the numbers in a division are equal, the motion shall be considered lost.

PART XVI—VOTES OF CENSURE AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

112. Votes of censure and removal from office

The House may pass a resolution for the removal of the President from office, or pass a vote of no confidence in the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker, or pass a vote of censure against a Minister as prescribed by the Constitution or for the removal of a Commissioner.

113. Removal of the President under Article 107 of the Constitution

(1) The President may be removed from office by a resolution of Parliament on grounds prescribed under Article 107 of the Constitution.

(2) A motion for a resolution for the removal of the President shall be initiated by a notice in writing to the Speaker, signed by not

less than one-third of all Members, indicating their intention to move a motion for a resolution for the removal of the President, on grounds of—

- (a) abuse of office or wilful violation of the oath of allegiance and the presidential oath or any provision of the Constitution;
- (b) misconduct or misbehaviour; or
- (c) physical or mental incapacity.

(3) A Member who is desirous of moving a motion for the removal of the President shall notify the Clerk in writing of his or her intention, citing the grounds for the proposed motion and giving detailed particulars supporting the grounds.

(4) The Clerk shall, within three days upon receipt of the notice of a motion under subrule (3), notify Parliament by causing the notice, grounds and particulars supporting the grounds of the proposed motion to be pinned on the Members' notice board.

(5) The Clerk shall, on the date and time of pinning the notice of motion on the Members' notice board, cause to be prepared and deposited with the Sergeant-at-Arms, for a period of ten working days, a list of all Members of Parliament with an open space against each name for purposes of appending of signatures, which list shall be entitled "SIGNATURES IN SUPPORT OF THE NOTICE OF MOTION TO REMOVE THE PRESIDENT".

(6) A Member who is desirous of appending his or her signature on the list of all Members of Parliament referred to in subrule (5) shall append his or her signature on the list of all Members of Parliament at the office of the Sergeant-at-Arms during working hours.

(7) After one-third of the Members have appended their signatures on the list signifying support for the proposed motion, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall, with immediate effect, forward the list to the

Clerk who shall not later than twenty-four hours transmit the notice of motion, the grounds and all supporting particulars and signatures to the Speaker.

(8) A signature appended to the notice may be withdrawn.

(9) If within ten days referred to in subrule (5), less than one-third of Members have appended their signatures on the notice, the notice shall lapse.

(10) For the purpose of a notice for a resolution based on grounds under subrule (2)(a) and (b), the Speaker shall, within twenty-four hours of receipt of the notice and accompanying particulars, forward the notice to the President and a copy of the notice to the Chief Justice.

(11) The Chief Justice shall, within seven days from receipt of the notice, constitute a tribunal comprising three justices of the Supreme Court to investigate the allegations contained in the notice and establish whether there is a *prima facie* case for the removal of the President.

(12) The tribunal's investigations shall be carried out within a period of seven consecutive days.

(13) The President shall be entitled to appear in person or by a representative of his or her choice before the tribunal.

(14) If the tribunal's finding is that there is a *prima facie* case for the removal of the President, the Speaker shall, after the tabling of the report, cause the motion to be formally moved and debate on the motion shall take not more than three days.

(15) The mover of the motion shall be entitled to a closing speech at the end of the debate.

(16) If at the end of the debate, Parliament passes the motion by not less than two-thirds majority of all the voting Members, the President shall cease to hold office.

(17) If the tribunal finds that there is no *prima facie* case made against the President, the Speaker shall report the findings of the tribunal to Parliament and no debate shall ensue on the matter.

(18) For the purposes of a resolution based on ground referred to in subrule (2)(c), the Speaker shall, within twenty-four hours of receipt of the notice and particulars supporting the motion, transmit a copy of the motion to the President and the Chief Justice.

(19) The Chief Justice shall, within seven days of receipt of the notice and in consultation with the professional head of the medical services in Uganda, constitute a medical board comprising five qualified and eminent medical specialists for purposes of examining the President in respect of the alleged incapacity.

(20) The Chief Justice shall, within twenty-four hours of constitution of the medical board, inform the President and request him or her to submit himself or herself for examination by the medical board within seven days.

(21) The medical board shall, on examining the President, report its findings to the Speaker, who shall lay the report on Table within twenty-four hours of its receipt.

(22) Where the medical board finds that the President is still capable of performing the functions of the office of President, the motion shall lapse.

(23) Where the medical board finds that the President is, by reason of the physical or mental incapacity, unable to perform the functions of the office of the President, the Speaker shall, within

fourteen days of receipt of the report, cause a formal motion for the removal of the President to be moved in Parliament by any Member who shall cite in full the findings of the medical board.

(24) Where after the expiry of seven days referred to in subrule (19), the President refuses or fails to submit himself or herself for examination by the medical board, the Chief Justice shall report the same to the Speaker, who shall report to Parliament and cause a formal motion for a resolution for the removal of the President to be moved within forty-eight hours after the receipt of the report.

(25) The President is entitled to appear in person and be heard or to be assisted or represented by a lawyer or other expert or person of his or her choice during the proceedings of Parliament relating to the motion for his or her removal.

(26) Where Parliament passes the motion for the removal of the President by not less than two-thirds majority of all Members, the President shall cease to hold office.

114. Procedure for removal of Speaker or Deputy Speaker

(1) A motion for a resolution for the removal of the Speaker or Deputy Speaker from office shall be moved in the following manner—

- (a) seven days' notice, signed by not less than one-third of all Members, shall be given to the Clerk;
- (b) the Clerk shall, within twenty-four hours of receipt of the list of names, forward the notice to the Speaker or Deputy Speaker, as the case may be;
- (c) the motion shall be tabled in Parliament and shall be listed for debate within fourteen days after receipt of the notice by the Speaker or Deputy Speaker;

- (d) in debating the motion under paragraph (c), Parliament shall constitute itself into a Committee of the whole House, which shall report its findings to Parliament for adoption; and
- (e) the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker is entitled to appear in person and to be assisted or represented by a lawyer or any other person when the Committee of the Whole House is considering the motion for his or her removal.

(2) Subrules (3) to (9) of rule 113 shall apply to the removal of the Speaker or Deputy Speaker with the necessary modifications.

(3) The Speaker or Deputy Speaker in respect of whom proceedings for removal have commenced, shall not preside over the proceedings.

(4) Where Parliament passes the motion for removal of the Speaker or Deputy Speaker by not less than two-thirds majority of all the voting Members of Parliament, the Speaker or Deputy Speaker shall cease to hold office.

115. Vote of censure against Ministers

(1) Proceedings for censure of a Minister shall be initiated by a petition to the President, through the Speaker, signed by not less than one-third of all Members.

(2) A Member who is desirous of moving a petition for the censure of a Minister shall notify the Clerk, in writing, of his or her intention to present a petition to the President.

(3) The proposed petition shall cite the grounds and set out the particulars of the grounds for censure.

(4) The Clerk shall, within three working days of receipt of the notice of petition for censure under subrule (2), notify the Speaker of the proposed petition.

(5) The Clerk shall, within three working days after notifying the Speaker of the proposed petition, notify all Members by causing the proposed petition to be pinned on the Members' notice board and uploaded on the parliamentary information system.

(6) The Clerk shall on the date of pinning and uploading the proposed petition as required under subrule (5), cause to be prepared, a list of all Members with an open space against each name for purposes of appending signatures, which list shall be titled, "SIGNATURES IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITION FOR THE CENSURE OF HON. ... MINISTER OF IN THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA".

(7) The list of Members referred to in subrule (6) shall be deposited with the Sergeant-at-Arms for a period of ten working days, for Members to append signatures in support of the petition, and the signatures shall be appended during working hours.

(8) A signature appended under subrule (7) may be withdrawn.

(9) When at least one-third of the Members have appended their signatures on the list signifying support for the proposed petition under subrule (1), the Sergeant-at-Arms shall immediately forward the list to the Clerk who shall, not later than twenty-four hours, transmit the petition to the Speaker.

(10) If after the ten working days referred to in subrule (7), less than one-third of all the Members have appended their signatures on the list, the petition shall lapse.

(11) On receipt of the petition under subrule (9), the Speaker shall transmit the petition to the President.

(12) The Speaker shall, upon transmitting the petition to the President, inform the petitioner that the petition has been transmitted to the President.

(13) The President shall, upon receipt of the petition, cause a copy of the petition to be given to the Minister against whom the motion for a resolution of censure is to be moved.

(14) The petitioner shall, upon receipt of the information from the Speaker that the petition has been transmitted to the President under subrule (12), notify the Clerk that he or she intends to move a motion for a resolution of censure of a Minister.

(15) The motion shall set out particulars of the grounds in support of the motion for a resolution of censure of a Minister.

(16) The Speaker shall, after fourteen working days of receipt of a motion for a resolution of censure, cause the motion to be placed on the Order Paper.

(17) The petitioner shall move the motion for a resolution of censure and lay all supporting documents on Table, and each document laid shall be endorsed by the Clerk.

(18) The Speaker shall refer the motion and all supporting documents to a Select Committee appointed in accordance with rule 198.

(19) The Select Committee to which the motion is referred under subrule (18) shall examine, analyse and scrutinise evidence adduced in the matter and report to the House within fifteen working days from the date the motion is referred.

(20) The Committee may, in the exercise of its functions under subrule (19)—

- (a) co-opt any Member to the Committee; or
- (b) receive additional information.

(21) The Committee shall give a Minister against whom a motion for a resolution of censure has been moved or his or her representative an opportunity to appear before the Committee to defend himself or herself against the allegations made.

(22) The motion for the resolution of censure shall not be debated in the House until the expiry of thirty days after the petition was transmitted to the President.

(23) Upon presentation of the report of the Select Committee, the Speaker shall —

- (a) where the Select Committee finds that the evidence adduced supports the particulars of the grounds for the motion for a resolution of censure, call upon the petitioner to open the debate on the motion, followed by the Minister against whom the motion has been moved to defend himself or herself, before the debate ensues; or
- (b) where the Select Committee finds that the evidence adduced does not support the grounds for the motion for a resolution of censure or the allegations are false, misleading or frivolous, the Speaker shall put a question for the adoption of the report of the Select Committee.

(24) Where the question for the adoption of the report of the Select Committee is carried under subrule (23)(b), the motion shall lapse.

(25) Where the question for adoption of the report of the Select Committee is not carried under subrule (23)(b), debate shall ensue.

(26) The House shall, upon closure of debate under subrule (23)(a) or subrule (25), vote on the motion for a resolution of censure and if the motion is supported by more than half of all Members, the Minister shall be censured.

(27) The Speaker shall, within twenty-four hours from the time of censure of the Minister, inform the President of the censure of the Minister, and the President shall take appropriate action in the matter.

116. Removal of Commissioner

(1) A Member of the Commission, other than the Speaker, the Leader of Government Business, the Leader of the Opposition or the Minister responsible for finance may be removed from office by Parliament for—

- (a) incompetence;
- (b) misconduct; or
- (c) inability to perform the functions of his or her office arising from infirmity of body or mind.

(2) A motion for a resolution for the removal of a Commissioner shall be initiated by a Member giving notice in writing to the Clerk, signed by not less than one-third of all the voting Members, indicating their intention to move a motion for the removal of a Commissioner.

(3) The notice under subrule (2) shall indicate the grounds for the motion and all particulars supporting the grounds.

(4) The Clerk shall, within three working days upon receipt of the notice of a motion under subrule (2), notify Parliament by causing the notice, grounds and particulars supporting the grounds of the proposed motion, to be pinned on the Member's notice board and uploaded on the parliamentary information system.

(5) The Clerk shall, on the date and time of pinning the notice of motion on the Members' notice board, cause to be prepared and deposited with the Sergeant-at-Arms, for a period of ten working days, a list of all the Members with an open space against each name for purposes of appending of signatures, which list shall be titled "SIGNATURES IN SUPPORT OF THE NOTICE OF MOTION TO REMOVE COMMISSIONER ..."

(6) A Member who is desirous of appending his or her signature on the list of all Members referred to in subrule (5) shall append his or her signature on the list of all Members at the office of the Sergeant-at-Arms during working hours.

(7) Notwithstanding subrule (5), where at least one-third of the Members have appended their signatures on the list signifying support for the proposed motion before the expiry of the ten working days referred to in subrule (5), the Sergeant-at-Arms shall forward the list to the Clerk who shall, not later than twenty-four hours, transmit the notice of motion, the grounds, all particulars supporting the grounds and the signatures, to the Speaker.

(8) Where after ten working days referred to in subrule (5), less than one-third of the Members have appended their signatures on the notice, the notice shall lapse.

(9) A signature appended to the notice may be withdrawn.

(10) A motion for the resolution under this rule shall be placed on the Order Paper, fourteen days from the date on which notice to remove the Commissioner shall have been communicated to the Clerk.

(11) A Member who initiates the motion for a resolution for removal of a Commissioner under subrule (2) shall move the motion and lay all supporting documents on Table and each document shall be endorsed by the Clerk.

(12) The Speaker shall refer the motion for removal of a Commissioner to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline for consideration.

(13) The Committee to which the motion for removal of a Commissioner is referred shall afford the Commissioner against whom the motion for removal is moved an opportunity to appear before the Committee to defend himself or herself against the allegations.

(14) The Commissioner against whom the motion for removal is moved may be represented by counsel in the proceedings before the Committee.

(15) The Committee shall, within fifteen working days, consider the motion and report back to the House.

(16) A resolution for the removal of a Commissioner shall be supported by more than half of all the voting Members.

(17) For the purposes of this rule, “misconduct” includes—

(a) unlawful conduct;

(b) breach of the Code of Conduct;

(c) conduct which is likely to bring Parliament into hatred, ridicule or disrepute; or

(d) negligence in the performance of duty.

117. Other provisions relating to removal of person from office

(1) A person being removed from office shall be entitled to appear before the Committee in person and shall be entitled to legal representation.

(2) A person being removed from office shall be availed the report of the Committee, together with any other evidence adduced at least five days before the debate on the motion for removal of the person from office.

(3) Debate on the motion for the removal of a person from office shall take precedence over all other business on the Order Paper for the day.

(4) During the debate, a Member may, with leave of the Speaker and on giving adequate notice, produce additional evidence in support of his or her argument.

(5) When the Speaker is satisfied that the motion has been adequately debated, the Speaker shall call upon the person who is being removed from office to answer issues raised in the debate, and then call upon the chief petitioner, to wind up debate.

PART XVII—LEAVE OF ABSENCE

118. Leave of absence

(1) Every Member shall attend the sittings of the House unless leave of absence has been granted to a Member by the Speaker.

(2) The Speaker may grant leave of absence to a Member who—

- (a) shows sufficient cause justifying his or her absence; or
- (b) is away on official or parliamentary duties.

(3) In exceptional cases, the relevant whip may inform the Speaker of a Member's absence and the circumstances leading to such absence.

(4) Application for leave of absence shall be in writing unless the Speaker, in exceptional circumstances, permits otherwise.

(5) The decision of the Speaker in subrule (4) shall be in writing.

(6) Except with leave of the Speaker, a Member shall not absent himself or herself from fifteen or more sittings of the House during any period when the House is continuously meeting.

(7) The Speaker shall, if it comes to his or her attention that a Member is consistently absent from the sittings of the House without permission, give a written warning to the Member, which warning shall be read during a sitting of Parliament.

(8) Where a Member alleged to have breached subrule (6), persists in absenting himself or herself from sittings of the House after having been warned by the Speaker under subrule (7), the conduct of the Member shall be referred by the Speaker to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline.

(9) A Member whose conduct is under investigation by the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline under this rule is entitled to be heard in his or her own defence and may be represented by counsel of his or her choice.

(10) Where the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline upon investigation, finds the conduct of the Member referred to under subrule (8) proved, and the report of the Committee is adopted by the House, the Member shall, upon adoption of the report, vacate his or her seat as provided under Article 83(1)(d) of the Constitution.

119. Leave of absence in Committees

(1) A member of a Committee shall attend meetings of the Committee unless leave of absence has been granted to the member of the Committee by the Speaker or Chairperson of the Committee.

(2) Leave of absence under subrule (1) shall be granted to a member of a Committee upon the member providing satisfactory explanation to the Speaker or Chairperson of a Committee.

(3) A request for leave of absence shall be in writing unless the Speaker or Chairperson, in exceptional circumstances, permits otherwise.

(4) A member of a Committee who, without leave of absence, misses ten meetings of a Committee during any period when the Committee is continuously meeting shall be referred to the relevant whip by the Chairperson of the Committee.

(5) The whip shall, upon receipt of the reference made under subrule (4), issue a written warning to the member of the Committee and notify the Chairperson of the Committee.

(6) The Chairperson shall upon receipt of the notice referred to under subrule (5), inform the Committee.

(7) Where the member of the Committee is warned under subrule (5) and the member persists in absenting himself or herself for an additional five meetings when the Committee is continuously meeting, the Chairperson of the Committee shall refer the conduct of the member of the Committee to the Speaker.

(8) The Speaker shall, upon receipt of a reference made under subrule (7), refer the matter to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline.

(9) Where the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline finds the conduct of the member referred to under subrule (7) proved, the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline may recommend that the member be discharged from the Committee to which the member was designated.

(10) Where the House adopts the recommendation of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline under subrule (9), the House may discharge the member from the Committee.

(11) A Member discharged from a Committee under subrule (10) shall not be re-designated to another Committee for a period of three months from the time the House resolves to discharge the Member from the Committee.

120. Attendance of sittings by Ministers

(1) For any Ministry, the Minister or at least the Minister of State shall attend sittings of the House and where the Minister or Minister of State is not able to attend, the Minister shall request

another Minister to represent that Ministry's interests in the House and notify the Speaker accordingly.

(2) The Leader of Government Business shall ensure that subrule (1) is complied with.

PART XVIII—FORM, PUBLICATION AND
INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

121. Form of bills

(1) A bill shall bear at the head, a short title and a long title describing the leading provisions of the bill.

(2) To each clause in a bill, there shall be, for ease of reference, annexed in the margin or at the top, a short indication of the contents of the clause.

(3) The provisions of a bill shall be prefaced by the words of enactment provided under the Acts of Parliament Act, which words shall extend to all clauses and the schedules to the bill.

(4) Where a bill contains more than one enactment, the bill shall be divided into clauses and if a clause contains more than one enactment, the clause shall be divided into sub-clauses, in each case numbered consecutively.

122. Subject matter of bills

(1) Matters with no proper relation to each other shall not be provided for in the same bill.

(2) A bill shall not contain anything foreign to what the long title of the bill imports.

123. Bills to be published in *Gazette*

(1) A bill shall be published in the *Gazette*.

(2) A bill shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum setting out the policy and principles of the bill, the defects in the existing law, if any, the remedies proposed to deal with the defects, and the necessity for introduction of the bill.

(3) The explanatory memorandum shall be signed by the Minister or a Member introducing the bill.

124. Certificate of financial implications

(1) A bill introduced in the House shall be accompanied by a certificate of financial implications issued by the Minister responsible for finance.

(2) The certificate of financial implications issued under subrule (1) shall indicate the estimates of revenue and expenditure over the period of not less than two years after the coming into effect of the bill when passed.

(3) In addition to the requirements under subrule (2), the certificate of financial implications shall indicate the impact of the bill on the economy.

(4) Notwithstanding subrules (1), (2) and (3), a certificate of financial implication shall be deemed to have been issued after sixty days from the date of request for the certificate.

125. Urgent bills

(1) Where the House determines that a bill is of an urgent nature, the bill may be introduced without publication in the *Gazette*.

(2) Copies of a bill referred to in subrule (1) shall be distributed to Members, and the bill may be taken through all its stages in a day, notwithstanding any provision in these Rules to the contrary.

126. Bills to be delivered to Clerk for distribution to Members

(1) On publication of a bill in the *Gazette*, the Minister in charge of the bill shall deliver to the Clerk a sufficient number of copies for distribution to Members.

(2) On receipt of the copies of the bill under subrule (1), the Clerk shall immediately dispatch a copy to every Member.

(3) Where a bill seeks to amend an existing Act, the text of the relevant part of the law to be amended shall be copied and supplied together with the amending bill, unless in the opinion of the Speaker, the amendment is of a minor nature or is self-explanatory.

(4) In the case of a private member's bill, the Clerk shall ensure the publication of the bill in the *Gazette* and the distribution of copies to all Members.

127. Private members' bills

(1) A Member has a right to move a private member's bill.

(2) A Member moving a private members' bill shall be afforded reasonable assistance by the department of Government whose area of operation is affected by the bill.

(3) The Clerk to Parliament shall, where necessary, afford the Member moving the private member's bill professional assistance in the drafting of the bill.

(4) The Clerk shall compile the final bill to be attached to the motion under rule 128.

128. Procedure for private members' bills

(1) A private member's bill shall be introduced first by way of motion to which shall be attached the proposed draft of the bill.

(2) If the motion is carried, the printing and publication of the bill in the *Gazette* shall be the responsibility of the Clerk.

(3) Following the publication of the bill in the *Gazette*, the progress of the bill shall be the same as that followed in respect of a Government bill.

129. Bills introduced by Committees under rule 166

(1) A Committee may initiate a bill within the Committee's area of competence.

(2) A bill initiated by a Committee shall be introduced by the Chairperson of the Committee in the same manner as a private member's bill.

130. Rules regarding settlement of financial matters

(1) A question shall not be proposed upon a bill, motion, an amendment bill or an amendment to a motion which has not been introduced or moved by a Minister if, in the opinion of the Speaker, the object of the bill, motion, an amendment bill or an amendment to a motion is to make provision for any of the following—

- (a) the imposition of taxation or the alteration of taxation otherwise than by reduction;
- (b) the imposition of a charge upon the Consolidated Fund or other public fund of Uganda or the alteration of any such charge otherwise than by reduction;
- (c) the payment, issue or withdrawal from the Consolidated Fund or other public fund of Uganda of any moneys not charged on that fund or any increase in the amount of that payment, issue or withdrawal; or
- (d) the composition or remission of any debt due to the Government of Uganda.

(2) Unless introduced on behalf of the Government, the House shall not proceed upon a motion, including an amendment of a motion, the effect of which would be to make a provision of any of the purposes specified in subrule (1).

131. Bills to be read three times

A bill shall be read three times prior to the bill being passed.

132. Prohibition of bills promoting one-party State

A bill, motion or amendment to a bill or motion shall not be moved or introduced in the House which, in the opinion of the Speaker, is likely to result in the establishment of a one-party State contrary to Article 75 of the Constitution.

133. Prohibition of bills derogating from particular human rights and freedoms

A bill, motion or amendment to a bill or motion shall not be introduced in the House which, in the opinion of the Speaker, is likely to result in the derogation from the enjoyment of any of the particular human rights and freedoms specified in Article 44 of the Constitution.

PART XIX—FIRST READING OF BILLS

134. First Reading

(1) At the time of introducing or presenting a bill, the Speaker shall call successively each Member in whose name a bill stands on the Order Paper.

(2) The Member called under subrule (1) shall rise and move that the bill be read the first time and no question shall be put.

(3) The Clerk shall read aloud the short title of the bill and the bill shall then be taken as read the first time.

(4) Where a bill under rule 125 has been read the first time without prior publication in the *Gazette*, the bill shall be published within twenty-four hours or as soon as practicable after the Bill being read.

135. Reference of bill to Committee

(1) Whenever a bill is read the first time in the House, the bill shall be referred to the appropriate Committee appointed under these Rules.

(2) The Committee shall examine the bill in detail and make all such inquiries in relation to the bill as the Committee considers expedient or necessary and report to the House within forty-five working days from the date the bill is referred to the Committee.

(3) Except in cases of very minor amendments, and subject to rule 138, all proposed amendments to a bill referred to a Committee shall be presented to the Committee by the person proposing the amendment and the Committee shall scrutinise the amendment together with the bill.

(4) The Committee may propose and accept proposed amendments in the bill as the Committee considers necessary, if the amendments, including new clauses and new schedules, are relevant to the subject matter of the bill.

PART XX— SECOND READING OF BILLS

136. Second Reading

(1) Subject to this rule, the Vice President, a Minister or a Member in charge of a bill shall move a motion that the “bill be read a second time” and may speak to the motion.

(2) The Chairperson of the Committee to which the bill is referred or a member of the Committee designated by the Committee or by the Speaker shall, after the motion for the second reading has been moved under subrule (1) and seconded, present to the House the report of the Committee on the bill.

(3) Debate shall ensue on the merits and principles of the bill on the basis of the explanatory memorandum and the report from the Committee.

(4) If the motion is carried, the Clerk shall read aloud the short title of the bill, and the bill shall then be taken to have been read the second time.

(5) Subject to these Rules, the second reading of a bill shall not be taken earlier than the fourteenth day after the publication of the bill in the Gazette unless this subrule is suspended for the purpose.

(6) A motion for the suspension of subrule (5) may contain a reference to more than one bill, but a Member may require separate motions to be moved in respect of any particular bill or bills named by the Member.

(7) Subrules (5) and (6) shall not apply to the Appropriation Bill or Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

PART XXI—BILLS IN COMMITTEE

137. Bills in Committee

(1) Where a motion for the second reading of a bill is carried, the bill shall stand committed, immediately or on a date to be fixed, to the Committee of the Whole House unless the House, on motion, commits it to a Select Committee which shall immediately be appointed by the Speaker in consultation with the Government Chief Whip and opposition whips.

(2) The Speaker shall in appointing a Select Committee under subrule (1) take into consideration the interests of independent Members.

(3) A motion for the committal of a bill to a Select Committee under this rule—

(a) does not require notice;

- (b) may be moved at any time before the House has resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the bill; and
- (c) may be proposed by any Member.

138. Functions of Committee of the Whole House and Select Committee on bill

(1) The Committee of the Whole House or the Select Committee to which a bill is committed under this Part shall not discuss the principles of the bill, but shall only discuss the details of the bill.

(2) The Committee of the Whole House or the Select Committee may propose and accept proposed amendments to the bill as it considers fit, if the amendments, including new clauses and new schedules, are relevant to the subject matter of the bill.

(3) The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House or the Select Committee may accept proposals for the correction of obvious misprints and punctuation errors, and may instruct the Clerk to make necessary amendments to the bill without any formal amendment being moved by a Member.

139. Committee of the Whole House

(1) Whenever the Committee stage of a bill is reached, the Speaker shall leave the Speaker's Chair without putting any question and the House shall then resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

(2) Proceedings of the Committee of the Whole House shall be under the chairmanship of the Speaker acting as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House.

(3) When consideration of a bill referred to a Committee of the Whole House has been completed, or at any time when the Committee

desires to report that the Committee is unable to complete the bill at the current sitting, a Member may move “That the House do resume and the Committee of the Whole House do report thereto”.

(4) The question shall then be put on the motion without amendment or debate and, upon the motion being agreed to, the House shall resume under the Speaker and the mover of the bill shall report to the House how far the Committee of the Whole House has considered the bill.

(5) On resumption of proceedings, any bill which the Committee of the Whole House has reported that it has been unable to complete shall be placed on the order of business for a subsequent sitting in accordance with rule 26.

140. Procedure in Committee of the Whole House on bill

(1) When the House resolves itself into a Committee of the Whole House, the Clerk shall call the number of each clause or sub clause if any, of the bill in succession for consideration of the Committee of the Whole House.

(2) Where no amendment is proposed on the clause, or all proposed amendments have been disposed of, the Chairperson shall propose the question “That the clause, or the clause as amended, do stand part of the bill”.

(3) Where a clause is called, and—

(a) the Chairperson is satisfied that there has been sufficient debate on the clause; or

(b) all Members who wish to speak on the clause have spoken, the Chairperson shall put the question on the clause for the Committee to make a decision.

(4) The Committee of the Whole House shall consider proposed amendments by the Committee to which the bill was

referred and may consider proposed amendments, on notice, where the amendments were presented but rejected by the relevant Committee or where, for reasonable cause, the amendments were not presented before the relevant Committee.

(5) The Chairperson may accept for consideration minor amendments proposed on the floor without notice and may refuse to propose the question upon any amendment of which less than one day's notice has been given.

(6) If any proposed amendment refers to or is not intelligible without a subsequent amendment, notice of the subsequent amendment shall, unless the Chairperson otherwise permits, be given before or when the first amendment is moved, so as to make the series of amendments intelligible.

(7) Rules 60 and 63 shall apply to the discussion of amendments to bills, with the substitution of the word "clause" for the word "motion" throughout and any amendment proposed to an amendment shall be dealt with before a decision is taken on the original amendment.

(8) Where two or more amendments are proposed on the same clause, the Chairperson shall call upon the movers in the order in which their amendments relate to the text of the clause, and the amendment which, in the opinion of the Chairperson, departs furthest from the text under discussion shall be debated and disposed of first.

(9) Where two or more proposed amendments to any clause seek to attain the same objective but the wording of the amendments differs, sponsors of the amendments may be required by the Chairperson to discuss their amendments and to reconcile the amendments or agree on compromise amendments that will be acceptable to the sponsors.

(10) No amendment shall be moved which is inconsistent with any clause already agreed upon or any decision taken by the Committee

of the Whole House, and the Chairperson may, at any time during the discussion of a proposed amendment, direct for the withdrawal of an amendment from the consideration of the Committee if, in the opinion of the Chairperson, the discussion has shown that the amendment contravenes this subrule.

(11) When every amendment to an amendment has been disposed of, the Chairperson shall either again propose the question upon the original amendment, or shall propose the question upon the original amendments as amended.

(12) A clause may be stood over unless a decision has already been taken upon it.

(13) A clause that is stood over shall be considered after the remaining clauses of the bill have been considered.

(14) The final question to be proposed shall be, "That the clause, as amended, be added to the bill".

(15) Schedules shall be disposed of in the same way as clauses and any proposed new schedule shall be considered after the schedules to the bill have been disposed of.

(16) An amendment, new clause or new schedule may, with leave of the Committee of the Whole House, be withdrawn at the request of the mover, before the question has been put to it.

(17) If the question has been proposed on an amendment to an amendment to a clause or schedule, the original amendment may not be withdrawn until the amendment to it has been disposed of.

(18) When every clause, schedule or proposed new clause or new schedule have been disposed of, the preamble, if there is one, shall be considered and the question put "That this preamble (as amended) be the preamble to the bill."

(19) An amendment to the preamble shall not be considered which is not made necessary by a previous amendment to the bill.

(20) If an amendment to the title of the bill is made necessary by an amendment to the bill, the amendment to the title of the bill 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 or shall any question be put upon the enacting formula.

141. Procedure in Select Committee on bills

(1) A Select Committee on a bill shall be subject to the provisions of Part XXVII that are relevant to the Select Committee.

(2) When a bill has been substantially amended in a Select Committee, the bill as amended, shall be printed as part of the report of the Select Committee.

(3) After consideration of the bill by the Committee, the Chairperson shall lay the report of the Committee on Table at the time specified in rule 26 and the Speaker shall appoint the time for the consideration of the report.

PART XXII—RECOMMITTAL AND THIRD READING OF BILLS

142. Report of Committee after Committee Stage

Immediately a Committee of the Whole House has reported, the House may proceed to the Third Reading of a bill.

143. Third Reading and passing of bills

(1) The House shall proceed to the Third Reading of a bill upon a motion “That the bill be read a third time and do pass”.

(2) A bill shall pass upon a motion “That the bill entitled ... do pass”.

144. Recommittal of bills reported from Committee of the Whole House

(1) If a Member desires to delete or amend any provision contained in a bill as reported from the Committee of the Whole House, the Member may, at any time before a Member moves a motion for Third Reading of a bill, move that the bill be recommitted either wholly or in respect only of some particular clause, amendment or amendments.

(2) A notice of motion for recommittal is not required, and if the motion is agreed to, the bill shall stand so recommitted and the House shall proceed in accordance with rule 137(1) to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider the bill wholly, clause, amendment or amendments recommitted.

(3) Where the whole bill has been recommitted, the Committee of the Whole House shall go through the bill as provided in rule 140.

(4) Where the bill has been recommitted in respect only of some particular clause, amendment or amendments, the Committee of the Whole House shall consider only that particular clause, amendment or amendments and any amendment which may be moved on the clause, amendment or amendments, unless the Chairperson is satisfied that the clause, amendment or amendments proposed are substantial and it is necessary or desirable to reconsider the whole bill as provided in subrule (3) of this rule.

(5) At the conclusion of the proceedings in Committee of the Whole House on a bill recommitted either wholly or in respect only of some particular clause, amendment or amendments, the Member in charge of the bill may move a motion “That the House do resume and the Committee of the Whole House do report thereto” and the question on the motion shall be put without amendment or debate.

(6) If the motion is agreed to, the House shall resume and the Member in charge of the bill shall report to the House and the House may then proceed to the Third Reading of the bill.

145. Proceedings on bills reported from Select Committee

(1) Where a bill has been reported from a Select Committee, the House shall proceed to consider the bill as reported from the Select Committee upon a motion “That the report of the Select Committee be approved”.

(2) If the motion is agreed to without amendment, the House may proceed to the Third Reading of the bill as reported from the Select Committee.

(3) Upon a motion to approve the report of a Select Committee on a bill, a Member may propose an amendment to add, at the end of the motion, the words “subject to the recommittal of the bill either wholly or in respect only of some particular amendment or amendments, to a Committee of the Whole House”, and if that motion is agreed to with the amendment, the bill shall stand so recommitted.

(4) The House may then, upon a motion made in accordance with rule 139 resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider the bill either wholly or in respect only of some particular amendment or amendments so recommitted.

(5) The Committee of the Whole House upon a bill, or a part or clause of a bill recommitted after having been reported from a Select Committee, shall proceed in accordance with rule 140 as the case may require, and the conclusion of its proceedings and the remaining proceedings on the bill shall be handled in accordance with rules 142 and 143.

146. Withdrawal of bills

(1) A Member in charge of a bill may, at any time, give notice that he or she wishes to withdraw the bill, subject to the approval of the House.

(2) Whenever the House grants its approval for withdrawal of a bill, the bill shall stand withdrawn except that the same bill may be reintroduced after publication in the *Gazette*.

(3) Where the House withholds its approval, the bill shall proceed in the House under the guidance of the Chairperson of the relevant Committee.

PART XXIII—DELAYS WITH BILLS

147. Delays with bills

(1) Subject to the Constitution, a Committee to which a bill is referred for consideration shall consider the bill within forty-five working days.

(2) Where a Committee finds itself unable to complete consideration of the bill within forty-five working days, the Committee may seek extension of time from the House.

(3) Where the extension of time is not granted or upon the expiry of the extension of time granted under subrule (2), the House shall proceed to consider the bill without any further delay.

148. Petitions on bills

(1) Where individual rights or the property of any particular person, association or corporate body may be peculiarly affected by a bill, a petition from any party so interested may be presented to the House in accordance with rule 31 at any time before the bill has been read a second time.

(2) Where the Speaker is of the opinion that a bill in respect of which a petition has been presented may have the effect described in subrule (1), the Speaker shall, immediately the bill has been read a second time, direct that the bill be committed to a Select Committee.

(3) A petition connected with the bill which has been presented to the House shall stand committed to a Select Committee under subrule (2), and any person on whose behalf the petition was presented may be heard by the Select Committee in person or be represented by counsel.

149. Bills returned by the President

(1) Where a bill passed by Parliament is returned to Parliament by the President with a request that Parliament reconsiders the bill or a particular provision of the bill or any such amendments as are recommended in the President's request, the Speaker shall read the request of the President, or if Parliament is not in session, direct that the message be published in the *Gazette*.

(2) The Speaker shall refer the bill to the relevant Committee and the Committee shall consider the request of the President and report to the House within two weeks.

(3) The Minister, in the case of a Government bill or a Member, in the case of a private member's bill, shall move a motion for reconsideration of the bill by the House.

(4) Debate on a motion under this rule shall be confined to consideration of matters referred to in the President's request or to any suggestion relevant to the subject matter of the amendment recommended by the President.

(5) Where the motion for reconsideration is not carried, the request by the President shall be taken to have been considered and rejected and the bill as originally passed by Parliament shall be presented to the President for assent.

(6) An amendment relevant to the subject matter of an amendment recommended by the President may be moved but no further amendment shall be moved to the bill unless the amendment is consequential upon, incidental or alternative to, an amendment recommended by the President.

(7) Where all the amendments have been disposed of, the Minister, in the case of a Government bill or a Member, in the case of a private member's bill, may move that the bill be passed again or passed as amended, as the case may be.

(8) Where the bill is passed, the bill shall be presented to the President indicating whether the bill was passed with amendment or without amendment.

(9) The Clerk shall certify on a bill to be presented to the President under subrules (5) and (8), the following—

“This bill, which was passed by Parliament and returned by Your Excellency the President for reconsideration, has been considered and passed again with amendment or without amendment by Parliament on the ... day of.....20... Dated... day of..... 20..”

(10) Where the President returns the same bill twice under Article 91(3) of the Constitution, these Rules shall, subject to the necessary modifications and to such other modifications as the Speaker may direct, apply.

PART XXIV—SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

150. Subsidiary legislation

(1) Where the Constitution or an Act of Parliament requires a statutory instrument to be approved by Parliament, the Minister responsible for issuing the statutory instrument shall lay the statutory instrument on Table.

(2) Where the statutory instrument is laid on Table under subrule (1), the Speaker shall refer the statutory instrument to the Committee on Subsidiary Legislation.

(3) The Committee on Subsidiary Legislation shall examine the statutory instrument in detail and report to the House within the time prescribed by the relevant law or in accordance with these Rules, as the case may be.

PART XXV—ESTIMATES, BUDGET AND COMMITTEE
OF SUPPLY

151. Submission of Budget Framework Paper

(1) The President shall, not later than the 31st day of December in each financial year, cause to be prepared and laid before Parliament, a Budget Framework Paper of the following financial year.

(2) The Budget Framework Paper shall be accompanied by a certificate of gender and equity responsiveness issued by the Minister responsible for finance.

152. Consideration of Budget Framework Paper

(1) The Speaker shall commit the Budget Framework Paper to the Committee on Budget for consideration and to a Sectoral Committee, the part of the Budget Framework Paper that falls within the jurisdiction of the respective Sectoral Committee.

(2) A Sectoral Committee shall consider, discuss and review the Budget Framework Paper committed to the Sectoral Committee under subrule (1) and submit its report to the Committee on Budget not later than the 20th day of January of each year.

(3) The Committee on Budget shall scrutinise the Budget Framework Paper and the reports under subrule (2) and present a report to the House for approval, by the 1st day of February of each year.

153. Policy statements

(1) Each Minister responsible for a vote or Ministry, or the head responsible for a vote shall, by the 15th day of March submit to Parliament a policy statement for the proceeding financial year, for the Ministry or vote.

(2) The policy statement made under subrule (1) shall be in a form prescribed by the Minister responsible for finance and shall contain the following—

- (a) the achievements of the vote for the previous financial year;
- (b) the annual and three months' work plans and outcome, the objectives, outputs, targets and performance indicators of the work plans and outcomes;
- (c) the annual procurement plan of the vote;
- (d) the annual recruitment plan of the vote;
- (e) a statement of the actions taken by the vote to implement the recommendations of Parliament in respect to the report of the Auditor General of the preceding financial year;
- (f) the cash flow projections of the vote;
- (g) a certificate of gender and equity responsiveness;
- (h) a vehicle utilisation report;
- (i) the asset register of the vote;
- (j) a report on the loan portfolio and utilisation;
- (k) a statement on domestic arrears; and
- (l) lists of requests for access to information made by the public during the previous year indicating whether or not access was granted and the reasons for denial in accordance with the Access to Information Act.

(3) The policy statement submitted under subrule (1) shall be committed to the relevant Sectoral Committee for scrutiny and report to the House.

154. Alternative policy statements

Shadow ministers may submit their alternative policy statements to Parliament by the 29th day of March each year.

155. Submission of proposed annual budget

(1) The Minister shall, in accordance with section 12 of the Public Finance Management Act, on behalf of the President, present the proposed annual budget of a financial year to Parliament, by the 1st day of April of the preceding financial year.

(2) The Speaker shall commit the proposed annual budget to the Committee on Budget and to a Sectoral Committee, the part of the annual budget that falls within the jurisdiction of the Sectoral Committee.

156. Consideration of reports on policy statements and proposed annual budget

(1) A Sectoral Committee shall consider and review policy statements and budget estimates committed to the Sectoral Committee under rule 155, including the budgets of public corporations and state enterprises that fall within the jurisdiction of the Sectoral Committee and present its report to the House, not later than the 20th day of April each financial year.

(2) The House shall consider the reports of the Sectoral Committee and refer the approved recommendations to the Committee on Budget for reconciliation, harmonisation and consolidation, not later than the 30th day of April each financial year.

(3) The Budget Committee shall, not later than the 15th day of May each financial year, present its report to the House.

(4) The Committee of Supply shall, not later than the 20th day of May each financial year, consider and approve the estimates and expenditure.

157. Consideration of bills operationalising collection of taxes

Parliament shall, before proceeding to the Committee of Supply, consider the bills operationalising the collection of taxes.

158. Committee of Supply

(1) There shall be a Committee of the Whole House designated “the Committee of Supply” to which shall be referred the annual estimates or supplementary estimates.

(2) Upon an order of the day for Committee of Supply being read, the Minister shall move a motion “That the House do resolve itself into the Committee of Supply” for the purpose of—

- (a) enabling the President, the Vice President or a Minister to deliver a financial statement; or
- (b) enabling the President, the Vice President or a Minister to initiate a debate on the policy implied under a vote.

(3) In moving a motion under subrule (2)(a), the mover is entitled to refer to the revenue of Uganda and the manner in which the mover proposes that the revenue shall be raised, and in debating the motion, Members are entitled to refer to similar matters.

(4) Upon a motion proposed by the Speaker, the debate shall be adjourned for such period as the Business Committee may determine.

(5) On resumption of debate on the motion, the Speaker shall give the first opportunity to respond to the motion to the shadow minister responsible for finance, followed by the Chairperson of the Committee on Budget, before debate ensues.

(6) The House shall consider the annual estimates either on a motion moved under subrule (2)(b) or in the Committee of Supply not later than the 20th day of May each financial year.

159. Consideration of Appropriation Bill

(1) The Committee on Budget shall scrutinise the Appropriation Bill to ensure that the Schedule thereto contains the allocations as appropriated by the Committee of Supply.

(2) The Committee on Budget shall present its report not later than the 30th day of May each financial year.

160. Consideration of supplementary estimates

(1) The Minister responsible for finance shall, in accordance with Article 156 (2) of the Constitution and section 24 of the Public Finance Management Act, present before Parliament, supplementary estimates on behalf of the President.

(2) The supplementary estimates presented under subrule (1) shall clearly spell out the source of funding for the supplementary expenditure request for each vote.

(3) The Speaker shall commit the proposed supplementary estimates to the Committee on Budget and to each Sectoral Committee, the part of the supplementary that falls within the jurisdiction of the respective Sectoral Committee.

(4) The Sectoral Committee shall report back to the Committee on Budget within fourteen days.

(5) The Committee on Budget shall present the report on the supplementary budget request to the House.

161. Rules governing Committee of Supply when considering annual or supplementary estimates

(1) The House shall consider the supplementary estimates for such period as the Business Committee shall determine.

(2) When the House is in the Committee of Supply to consider annual or supplementary estimates—

- (a) a Member may move to reduce the amount of the estimates of a vote, and such motion shall take the form that “I beg to move that the sum of Shillings ten thousand be reduced in respect to vote...”;

- (b) the motion for reduction of the amount of estimates of a vote shall be moved when the subhead to which the motion relates is under consideration by the Committee;
- (c) where a motion to reduce the amount of the estimates of a vote in relation to the particular subhead has been agreed to or negatived, no further motion to reduce the amount of the estimates of the vote in relation to the same subhead shall be made;
- (d) when a motion is moved to reduce the amount of the estimates of a vote, the question shall be proposed from the Chairperson accordingly;
- (e) when consideration of a vote has been completed, the Chairperson shall put the question that the amount proposed or amended if appropriate by any reductions agreed, be provided for under the vote;
- (f) after a vote has been disposed of, it is not in order to refer to that vote in proceedings on a motion relating to another vote except for the purpose of examples or illustration;
- (g) notwithstanding the rules relating to motions, any Member may ask for information relating to the details of any vote;
- (h) on the last of the allotted days, the Chairperson shall, at such time as he or she considers necessary to conclude the business on that day, put every question necessary to dispose of the vote then under consideration and shall immediately put severally, the questions with respect to the votes not yet considered, namely, that the total amounts of the votes outstanding be provided for services specified, and no debate shall ensue on the questions being put.

162. Consideration of loans and guarantees

(1) The Minister responsible for finance shall, in accordance with Article 159 of the Constitution and sections 34 and 37 of the

Public Finance Management Act, present to Parliament the proposed loan or guarantee request for approval.

(2) The Speaker shall commit the proposed loan or guarantee request to the Committee on National Economy and to the relevant Sectoral Committee, under which the subject matter of the request falls.

(3) The relevant Sectoral Committee shall report to the Committee on National Economy within fourteen days.

(4) The Committee on National Economy shall present the report on the loan or guarantee request to the House.

(5) With exception of loans raised through issuance of securities, any loan request submitted before Parliament for approval shall be accompanied by the following documents—

- (a) draft financing agreement;
- (b) list of financing options considered when identifying the creditor;
- (c) loan disbursement and repayment schedule; and
- (d) a letter from National Planning Authority clearing the project or expenditure.

(6) Where a loan is raised through issuance of securities, the documents under subrule (5)(b) to (d) shall apply.

(7) Where a loan is a project specific loan, the following documents shall, in addition to the documents required under subrule (5), accompany the loan request—

- (a) socio-economic impact assessment report;
- (b) performance report for all the projects being implemented by the sector;

- (c) evidence of consistency with the National Development Plan and Sector strategy;
- (d) evidence of availability of counterpart funds in the budget;
- (e) project appraisal document;
- (f) procurement plan;
- (g) project implementation plan;
- (h) project management structure;
- (i) resettlement action plan, where applicable;
- (j) environmental impact assessment report, where applicable;
- (k) performance of past loans; and
- (l) any other necessary document.

PART XXVI—COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT

163. Committees of Parliament

(1) In accordance with Article 90 of the Constitution, the House shall appoint Committees of Parliament necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, these Rules shall prescribe the powers, composition and functions of Committees.

General provisions on Committees

164. Standing Committees and Sectoral Committees

(1) Parliament shall have Standing Committees and Sectoral Committees as provided for in this Part.

(2) The Vice President, the Prime Minister or a Minister shall not be a Member of a Standing or Sectoral Committee, and if a Member of any such Committee becomes the Vice President, the

Prime Minister or a Minister, the Member shall cease to be a member of the Committee.

(3) Except as provided by these Rules in respect to the Business Committee and Committee on Appointments, a Member shall not belong to more than two Committees.

(4) The party or organisation in Government and the party in opposition to the Government having the greatest numerical strength in Parliament shall, where applicable—

- (a) ensure that at least forty percent of the leadership positions of Committees are held by women; and
- (b) take into consideration, as much as is feasible, representation by special interest groups.

165. Standing Committees

Standing Committees of Parliament shall have a tenure of two and a half years and shall be the following—

- (a) the Committee on Public Accounts (Central Government);
- (b) the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline;
- (c) the Business Committee;
- (d) the Committee on Budget;
- (e) the Committee on National Economy;
- (f) the Committee on Appointments;
- (g) the Committee on Equal Opportunities;
- (h) the Government Assurance and Implementation Committee;
- (i) the Committee on Public Accounts (Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises);

- (j) the Committee on Public Accounts (Local Governments);
- (k) the Committee on Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune-Deficiency Syndrome (HIV) and related matters;
- (l) the Committee on Human Rights;
- (m) the Committee on Climate Change;
- (n) the Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation; and
- (o) the Committee on Subsidiary Legislation.

166. General functions of Committees

Committees shall, in addition to their specific functions, perform the following functions—

- (a) to discuss and make recommendations on bills laid before Parliament;
- (b) to initiate any bill within the Committee's area of competence;
- (c) to assess and evaluate activities of Government and other bodies;
- (d) to carry out relevant research in their respective field;
- (e) to report to Parliament on their functions; and
- (f) to carry out any other function as the House may assign from time to time.

167. Representation on Standing Committees

(1) The members of Standing Committees shall be selected from among the Members of Parliament.

(2) In the selection of Members of Standing Committees, the parties represented in Parliament shall designate through their whips, membership to Committees on the basis of party representation in Parliament.

(3) Unless otherwise provided in these Rules and as far as is reasonably practicable, the overall membership of Committees shall reflect proportional membership in Parliament, taking into consideration the numerical strength of the parties and the interests of the independent Members.

(4) Independent Members shall apply to the Clerk to join Committees of their choice and the Speaker shall accordingly ensure that the independent Members join the Committees of their choice.

(5) Parties have powers to withdraw and relocate Members from individual Committees.

(6) The party or organisation in Government shall designate the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of each Standing Committee of Parliament.

(7) Notwithstanding subrule (6), the Standing Committees on Public Accounts (Central Government), Public Accounts (Local Governments), Public Accounts (Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises) and Government Assurances and Implementation Committee shall be chaired and deputised by Members designated by the official opposition party or organisation.

(8) Members designated under this rule shall be announced by the Speaker in the House and accordingly assume their respective membership or offices.

168. Membership of Standing Committees

A Standing Committee shall comprise of not less than twenty Members and not more than forty Members.

169. Vacancy on Standing Committees

Where a vacancy occurs in a Standing Committee, the Clerk shall notify the Speaker, who shall, in consultation with whips and independent Members, fill the vacancy within one month of the occurrence of the vacancy.

Specific functions of Standing Committees

170. Chairperson of Committee on Appointments

(1) The Speaker shall be the Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments.

(2) The person presiding over a meeting of the Committee on Appointments shall neither have an original nor a casting vote.

171. Meetings of Committee on Appointments

(1) Meetings of the Committee on Appointments shall be convened by the Speaker and in his or her absence, the Deputy Speaker.

(2) The proceedings of the Committee on Appointments shall be closed.

172. Quorum of Committee on Appointments

The quorum at any meeting of the Committee on Appointments is one half of the Members of the Committee.

173. Functions of Committee on Appointments

(1) The Committee on Appointments shall be responsible for approving, on behalf of Parliament, the appointment of persons nominated for appointment by the President under the Constitution or any other appointment required to be approved by Parliament under any law.

(2) The Committee on Appointments shall determine any question which arises under Article 113 (4) of the Constitution as to whether or not any office is an office of profit or emolument, the

holding of which is likely to compromise the office of a Minister or a public officer.

174. Submission of names to Committee on Appointments

(1) The names of persons nominated for appointment shall be communicated in writing to the Committee on Appointments through the Speaker.

(2) The Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments shall communicate to the House the names of persons submitted for approval and the date of sitting of the Committee on Appointments to consider the names of persons nominated for appointment.

(3) Every decision of the Committee on Appointments shall be by open vote.

(4) A person nominated for appointment shall be taken as approved provided votes cast in favour of the person nominated for appointment constitute a simple majority of Members present and voting.

(5) If the votes are equal, the person nominated for appointment shall be taken not to have been approved.

(6) A Member of the Committee on Appointments whose name has been submitted to the Committee for approval shall not participate in the proceedings of the Committee when the Member's name is under consideration, except as a person nominated for appointment.

(7) The Committee on Appointments may summon a person whose name has been submitted for approval to appear before the Committee.

(8) A person whose name has been submitted to the Committee on Appointments for approval shall be given an opportunity to answer before the Committee to any adverse statements made against the person and shall be availed all necessary documents for that purpose.

175. Nominations not approved

(1) The approval by the Committee on Appointments shall not be withheld unless the Committee is satisfied on evidence that the person nominated for appointment does not possess qualifications as prescribed by law to hold the office.

(2) The Committee on Appointments shall act expeditiously and shall, within fifteen working days after receipt of the nomination, take an appropriate decision on a nomination submitted to the Committee.

(3) Where, upon consideration of a nomination, the Committee on Appointments finds itself unable to take a decision on the nomination by reason of inadequate information or any other reason, the Committee shall, within three working days after coming to that conclusion, communicate to the President that the Committee is unable to make a decision and the reasons for the Committee's inability to take a decision.

176. Committee on Appointments to report to House

The Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments shall report to the House any appointment approved by the Committee and the report shall not be subject to debate.

177. Report to the President

The Speaker shall communicate to the President in writing, within three working days after the decision of the Committee on Appointments, on any person nominated by the President for appointment.

178. Appeal to House

(1) Where the person nominated for appointment by the President is not approved by the Committee, the President may appeal to the House to take a decision on the matter.

(2) The Committee on Appointments may by resolution of at least one third of its Members, refer a particular nomination to a decision of the House.

(3) The decision of the House under this rule shall be communicated to the President by the Speaker.

179. Functions of Committee on Budget

The functions of the Committee on Budget shall be to—

- (a) examine and recommend to Parliament for approval, the Charter of Fiscal Responsibility;
- (b) consider and recommend requests by the Minister responsible for finance for deviations from the Charter of Fiscal Responsibility;
- (c) consider the Appropriation Bill based on the decisions of the Committee of Supply;
- (d) examine the Budget Framework Paper and report to the House;
- (e) scrutinise the proposed annual budget and harmonise recommendations of the House on the reports of the Sectoral Committees on ministerial policy statements;
- (f) scrutinise and advise Parliament on the certificate of compliance of the annual budget to the National Development Plan and the certificate on gender and equity responsiveness under section 12 of the Public Finance Management Act;
- (g) review proposals, monitor operations and report on the Contingencies Fund;
- (h) review and advise Parliament on the reports submitted by the Minister responsible for finance to Parliament on fiscal performance and the economy as provided for under section 17 of the Public Finance Management Act;

- (i) scrutinise the annual performance of the multi-year commitments report;
- (j) scrutinise and advise Parliament on the budgets of public corporations and State enterprises submitted under section 12(11)(f) of the Public Finance Management Act;
- (k) consider the annual budget, compile amendments and report to the House; and
- (l) carry out such other functions relating to the annual budget as may be assigned by the House.

180. Functions of Committee on Public Accounts (Central Government)

(1) The function of the Committee on Public Accounts (Central Government) shall be to examine the audited accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by Parliament to meet the expenditure of the Central Government and the Judiciary.

(2) The Clerk shall receive the Auditor General's report submitted in accordance with Article 163(4) of the Constitution relating to the Central Government and the Judiciary.

(3) The Speaker shall cause the report to be laid before the House by a Commissioner, and the report shall be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts (Central Government).

(4) In scrutinising the report of the Auditor General, the Committee shall satisfy itself that—

- (a) the monies appropriated by Parliament and disbursed were legally available for, and applicable to, the service or purpose to which the monies have been applied or charged;

- (b) the expenditure conforms to the authority which governs it;
- (c) re-appropriation has been made in accordance with the provisions of the rules of a competent authority; and
- (d) the intended value of the expended monies was attained.

(5) The Chairperson of the Committee on Public Accounts (Central Government) shall table the report of the Committee before the House for debate, within six months of the referral of the report of the Auditor General to the Committee.

181. Functions of Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline

(1) The Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline shall, by order of the House—

- (a) inquire into any complaint of contempt of Parliament or breach of privilege or any matter of privilege which may be referred to the Committee and to recommend to the House such action as the Committee may consider appropriate;
- (b) consider any matter of discipline referred to the Committee by the Speaker or the House, including attendance of Members at sittings of Committees, and to report its findings to the House;
- (c) review these Rules from time to time and make such recommendations to the House for amendment as the Committee considers necessary for the satisfactory functioning and efficient transaction of the business of the House and Committees;
- (d) examine and advise the House on amendments proposed to these Rules by Members or other Committees; and
- (e) carry out such other functions as are conferred by these Rules or assigned by the House.

(2) The findings and recommendations of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline shall be presented to, debated and approved by the House.

(3) Without prejudice to subrule (2), where an affected party agrees to the findings and recommendations referred to in subrule (2), the findings and recommendations in the report shall be approved without debate.

(4) Where the House has pronounced itself on any report presented under this rule, the decision of the House shall be binding on the parties.

182. Composition of Business Committee

(1) The Business Committee shall comprise the following Members—

- (a) the Speaker;
- (b) the Deputy Speaker;
- (c) the Leader of Government Business;
- (d) the Leader of the Opposition;
- (e) the Government Chief Whip or his or her nominee;
- (f) the Chief Opposition Whip or his or her nominee;
- (g) party whips;
- (h) two independent Members decided upon by the Speaker, taking into account gender; and
- (i) Chairpersons of Committees.

(2) The Chairpersons of Committees shall be *ex officio* Members with no right to vote.

(3) The Speaker shall preside over a sitting of the Business Committee and in his or her absence, the Deputy Speaker.

183. Functions of Business Committee

(1) Subject to rule 26, the Business Committee shall arrange the business of each meeting and the order in which the business shall be taken, except that the powers of the Committee shall be without prejudice to the powers of the Speaker to determine the order of business in the House and in particular, the Speaker's power to give priority to Government business as required by Article 94(4)(a) of the Constitution.

(2) The Business Committee may, in consultation with the Speaker, recommend the time allotted for debate on the stages of bills and other business.

(3) The Business Committee may indicate in the proposed time-table the different hours at which the various stages of a bill or other business shall be completed.

(4) The allocation of time in respect of bills and other business as approved by the Business Committee shall take effect as if it were an order of the House and shall be notified in the Order Paper.

(5) The Business Committee shall assign the time frame on items of business which is to be allocated among the parties represented in the House.

(6) Without prejudice to the above functions, the Business Committee shall carry out such other functions as are conferred by these Rules or as the House may assign to the Business Committee.

(7) The sittings of the Business Committee shall not be public.

(8) The Business Committee shall meet—

(a) at the request of the Speaker;

(b) at the request of not less than one-third of the members of the Committee; or

(c) when directed by the House.

(9) A variation in the allocation of time shall not be made except on a motion made and agreed to by the House, except that the Speaker may increase the time allocated for a period not exceeding one hour, without a motion being moved.

184. Functions of Committee on National Economy

(1) The Committee on National Economy shall review, consider and scrutinise all matters relating to national economy generally, finance and any other matters referred to the Committee by the House.

(2) The Committee on National Economy shall have the following functions—

- (a) to examine and monitor the state of the national economy;
- (b) to examine the terms and conditions of loans;
- (c) to annually assess the performance of loans and guarantees approved by Parliament;
- (d) to examine the annual state of indebtedness and management of Government debt, including the debt management performance assessment framework;
- (e) to examine loan guarantee requests and assess the performance of existing loan guarantees by Government;
- (f) to examine the report on grants received by Government; and
- (g) to explore means of improving the national economy.

185. Functions of Government Assurance and Implementation Committee

(1) The Government Assurance and Implementation Committee shall—

- (a) record and scrutinise the assurances, promises and undertakings given by a Minister, the Prime Minister, the Vice President or the President, in the House from time to time;
- (b) monitor and evaluate the fulfilment of Government assurances; and
- (c) exercise such other functions that are not covered by paragraphs (a) and (b) as may be allocated to the Committee by the Speaker from time to time.

(2) Where the time frame is not given by the Minister, the Government Assurance and Implementation Committee shall determine the category within which the assurance falls and accordingly determine the time frame within which the assurance ought to be implemented.

(3) For the purposes of subrule (2), the categories shall include—

- (a) emergency assurances;
- (b) short term assurances;
- (c) midterm assurances; or
- (d) long term assurances.

(4) The Chairperson of the Government Assurance and Implementation Committee shall present a report to the House on the status of the implementation and extent to which the assurances, promises and undertakings have been fulfilled, withdrawn or broken from time to time.

(5) The report submitted under subrule (4) shall be debated by the House.

(6) The Leader of Government Business shall respond to the report and issues raised during the debate.

(7) The Committee shall submit to each Sectoral Committee a list of Government assurances that are pending fulfilment during consideration of the Budget Framework Paper.

(8) The Speaker shall allot time for Members to raise specific Government undertakings and assurances made in their constituencies.

186. Withdrawal of assurance

(1) A withdrawal of an assurance or undertaking shall be made to the Government Assurance and Implementation Committee and the Committee shall report to the House.

(2) For the purposes of rule 185 and this rule, “assurance” means any undertaking or promise made by a Minister, the Prime Minister, the Vice President or the President on the floor of the House.

187. Functions of Committee on Public Accounts (Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises)

(1) The function of the Committee on Public Accounts (Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises) is to examine the reports and audited accounts of statutory authorities, corporations and public enterprises.

(2) The Clerk shall receive the Auditor General’s report submitted in accordance with Article 163(4) of the Constitution relating to commissions, statutory authorities and state enterprises.

(3) The Speaker shall cause the report to be laid before the House by a Commissioner, and the report shall be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts (Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises).

(4) The Committee on Public Accounts (Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises) shall, upon receipt of the

Auditor General's report under subrule (3), consider and examine the recommendations of the Auditor General on the audited accounts of commissions, statutory authorities and state enterprises.

(5) The Chairperson of the Committee on Public Accounts (Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises) shall present the report of the Committee before the House for debate, within six months of the referral of the report of the Auditor General to the Committee.

188. Functions of Committee on Public Accounts (Local Governments)

(1) The Minister responsible for local governments shall, in accordance with section 92 (10) of the Local Governments Act, lay before Parliament, reports of the local government public accounts committees on the examination of the reports of the Auditor General, chief internal auditor and any reports of commissions of inquiry.

(2) The report submitted by the Minister shall be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts (Local Governments).

(3) The Clerk shall receive the Auditor General's report submitted in accordance with Article 163(4) of the Constitution relating to local government accounts.

(4) The Speaker shall cause the report to be laid in the House by a Commissioner, and the report shall be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts (Local Governments).

(5) The Committee on Public Accounts (Local Governments) shall, upon receipt of the Auditor General's report under subrule (3) and the reports submitted under subrule (1), consider and examine the recommendations of the Auditor General and the report of the local government public accounts committees.

(6) The Chairperson of the Committee on Public Accounts (Local Governments) shall present the report of the Committee before the House for debate, within six months of the referral of the report of the Auditor General to the Committee.

189. Functions of Committee on Equal Opportunities

(1) The Committee on Equal Opportunities shall monitor and promote measures designed to enhance the equalisation of opportunities and improvement in the quality of life and status of all people including groups marginalised on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them.

(2) The Committee on Equal Opportunities shall, in the performance of its functions—

- (a) examine and make recommendations on relevant bills and other matters to ensure compliance with the relevant constitutional provisions and favourable responsiveness to gender, and other marginalised groups;
- (b) initiate relevant bills and motions appropriate for the protection, equalisation of opportunities and promoting the welfare of women, youth, workers, persons with disabilities and other marginalised groups;
- (c) monitor and evaluate activities of Government and other bodies in determining the extent to which the activities contribute to the realisation of ideals enshrined in the Constitution and other relevant laws; and
- (d) carry out or cause to be carried out research in the relevant areas to assist Parliament make decisions to enable Parliament attain the goal of equalisation and improving welfare of various groups.

(3) The Committee on Equal Opportunities shall act with a view to realising the provisions of Articles 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36 of the Constitution and other provisions of the Constitution relating to equal opportunities.

(4) The Committee on Equal Opportunities shall report to the House at least twice a year.

190. Functions of Committee on Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus/Acquired Immune-Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and related matters

(1) The Committee on HIV/AIDS and related matters shall—

- (a) coordinate HIV/AIDS activities of Parliament and provide a link between Parliament with the Uganda Aids Commission and the Ministry responsible for health, in combating the epidemic in Uganda;
- (b) scrutinise the HIV/AIDS policies, monitor and evaluate strategies and activities of Government, local government and other bodies aimed at HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment and psycho-social support of infected and affected persons;
- (c) examine and make recommendations on relevant bills and other matters relating to HIV/AIDS; and
- (d) in cooperation with the Uganda Aids Commission and the Ministry responsible for health, initiate relevant bills and motions required for combating the epidemic in Uganda.

(2) The Committee on HIV/AIDS and related matters shall report to Parliament at least twice a year.

191. Functions of Committee on Human Rights

(1) The Committee on Human Rights shall have the following functions—

- (a) to track and report on human rights concerns in every business handled by Parliament;
- (b) to monitor Government compliance with national and international human rights instruments to which Uganda is a party and follow up on Government periodic reports to international human rights monitoring bodies;
- (c) examine the recommendations in the Uganda Human Rights Commission reports and ensure that Government is held accountable in this regard;
- (d) to inquire into any matter relating to human rights in Uganda; and
- (e) carry on such other functions relating to human rights as may be assigned to the Committee by Parliament under these Rules or any other law in force.

(2) The Committee on Human Rights shall report to Parliament at least twice a year.

192. Functions of Committee on Climate Change

(1) The Committee on Climate Change shall provide oversight on the responsiveness of Government to matters of climate change, its mitigation and adaptation.

(2) The Committee on Climate Change shall in the performance of its functions under subrule (1)—

- (a) scrutinise all bills presented before Parliament in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- (b) coordinate parliamentary activities related to climate change;
- (c) make recommendations to Parliament on legal and institutional mechanisms to address climate change;

- (d) supervise implementation of climate smart practices in public and private sectors;
- (e) monitor technological transfers in order to mitigate effects on the environment;
- (f) make recommendations to Parliament on how to mitigate the effects and impact of climate change; and
- (g) provide a link between Parliament and other institutions in mitigating the effects and impacts of climate change.

(3) The Committee on Climate Change shall report to Parliament at least twice every session.

193. Functions of Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation

(1) The Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation shall—

- (a) review, discuss and make recommendations on content of bills laid before Parliament relating to science, technology and innovation;
- (b) initiate bills on strategic issues of science, technology and innovation for national development;
- (c) monitor, evaluate or assess activities of public institutions and any other bodies engaged in national science, technology and innovation development; and
- (d) examine and undertake research on the performance of science, technology and innovation subsector.

(2) The Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation shall report to Parliament at least twice a year on its functions.

194. Functions of Committee on Subsidiary Legislation

The Committee on Subsidiary Legislation shall perform the following functions—

- (a) to examine statutory instruments that require the approval of Parliament; and
- (b) to carry out such other functions as prescribed under these Rules or assigned to the Committee by the House.

Provisions relating to Sectoral Committees

195. Sectoral Committees

(1) There shall be Sectoral Committees of Parliament, whose members shall be designated by whips on the basis of party or organisation representation and interests of independent Members.

(2) The Members of the Sectoral Committees shall be designated in the House at the beginning of every session.

(3) The Sectoral Committees shall be on the following sectors—

- (a) agriculture, animal industry and fisheries;
- (b) tourism, trade, and industry;
- (c) health;
- (d) education and sports;
- (e) gender, labour and social development, including equal opportunities and interest groups;
- (f) physical infrastructure covering—
 - (i) works; and
 - (ii) transport;

- (g) lands covering—
 - (i) land;
 - (ii) housing;
 - (iii) urban development; and
 - (iv) physical planning;
- (h) legal and parliamentary affairs covering—
 - (i) Judiciary;
 - (ii) Parliament;
 - (iii) Justice;
 - (iv) Uganda Law Reform Commission;
 - (v) Electoral Commission;
 - (vi) Uganda Human Rights Commission; and
 - (vii) Inspectorate of Government;
- (i) public service and local governments;
- (j) environment and natural resources covering—
 - (i) energy;
 - (ii) water;
 - (iii) minerals and petroleum; and
 - (iv) environment;
- (k) presidential affairs covering—
 - (i) Office of the President;
 - (ii) State House;
 - (iii) Office of the Vice President;

- (iv) Office of the Prime Minister;
- (v) Internal Security Organisation;
- (vi) External Security Organisation;
- (vii) Directorate of Ethics and Integrity;
- (viii) Uganda Aids Commission;
- (ix) Kampala Capital City Authority; and
- (x) science, technology and innovation;
- (l) foreign affairs covering—
 - (i) missions abroad; and
 - (ii) bilateral, multi-lateral and inter-governmental relations;
- (m) defence and internal affairs covering—
 - (i) Ministry of Defence;
 - (ii) Ministry of Internal Affairs;
 - (iii) Uganda Police Force; and
 - (iv) Uganda Prisons Service;
- (n) finance, planning and economic development covering—
 - (i) Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and its agencies; and
 - (ii) Office of the Auditor General;
- (o) information, communication technology and national guidance; and
- (p) East African Community affairs.

196. Composition of Sectoral Committees

(1) A Sectoral Committee shall comprise of not less than twenty Members and not more than forty Members.

(2) In the selection of members of Sectoral Committees, the parties or organisations represented in Parliament shall designate through the whips, members to Committees on the basis of party or organisation representation in Parliament.

(3) Unless otherwise provided in these Rules and so far as is reasonably practicable, the overall membership of the Committees shall reflect proportional membership in Parliament taking into consideration the numerical strength of the parties or organisations and the interests of the independent Members.

(4) Independent Members shall apply to the Clerk to join Sectoral Committees of their choice and the Speaker shall ensure that the independent Members join the Sectoral Committees of their choice.

(5) Parties or organisations shall have powers to withdraw and relocate Members from a Sectoral Committee.

(6) The party or organisation in Government shall designate the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of each Sectoral Committee provided that no active member of the Uganda Peoples Defence Forces shall be designated Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on Defence and Internal Affairs.

(7) Members designated under this rule shall be announced in the House by the Speaker and the Members designated shall assume their respective membership or offices.

(8) A Commissioner under rule 11 (1) shall not be designated to the Committee on Legal and Parliamentary Affairs.

197. Functions of Sectoral Committees

Sectoral Committees shall have the following functions—

- (a) to examine and comment on policy matters affecting the Ministries covered by Sectoral Committees;
- (b) to initiate or evaluate action programmes of ministries and sectors and to make appropriate recommendations on the action programmes;
- (c) to examine bills referred to the Sectoral Committee by the House;
- (d) to examine Government recurrent and capital budget estimates and make recommendations on them for general debate in the House;
- (e) to monitor the performance of ministries, departments and agencies;
- (f) to monitor Government compliance with approved plans and programmes;
- (g) to monitor the progress on implementation of the sustainable development goals made by the sectors that fall within their jurisdiction; and
- (h) to conduct post legislative scrutiny on legislation.

PART XXVII—SELECT COMMITTEES

198. Select Committees

(1) The House may, at any time upon a motion moved after notice, appoint a Select Committee to investigate a particular matter.

(2) A Select Committee shall comprise at least five Members who shall be designated by whips, on the basis of proportional party representation in Parliament, taking into consideration interests of the independent Members in the House.

(3) The Speaker shall, in consultation with the Government Chief Whip and the Chief Opposition Whip, appoint Members and the Chairpersons of the Select Committee.

(4) Three Members shall form a quorum if the Committee consists of five Members, and if the Committee consists of more than five Members, the quorum shall be one-third of all the Members.

(5) Where for any reason a Member of a Select Committee is unable to act, another Member may be appointed in his or her place, taking into consideration party proportionality in Parliament.

PART XXVIII—AD-HOC COMMITTEES

199. Ad-hoc Committees

The House may at any time, on the advice of the Business Committee, appoint an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate any matter of public importance that does not come under the jurisdiction of any Standing Committee or Sectoral Committee or any matter that has not been dealt with by a Select Committee.

PART XXIX—CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS BY MORE THAN ONE COMMITTEE

200. Consideration of matters by more than one Committee

(1) The Speaker may, where a matter requires consideration by more than one Committee, refer the matter to more than one Committee for consideration.

(2) The Committees to which a matter is referred under subrule (1) shall consider the matter jointly.

(3) Where the Speaker refers a matter to more than one Committee under subrule (1), the Speaker shall designate a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson from among the Chairpersons of the Committees to which the matter is referred.

(4) The Committees to which a matter is referred under subrule (1) shall jointly report to the House.

201. Quorum of Committees considering a matter jointly

(1) The quorum of Committees to which a matter is referred for consideration under rule 200 shall be one third of the total number of Members of the Committees.

(2) The quorum referred to in subrule (1) shall comprise, as far as is practicable, an equal number of Members from each of the Committees considering the matter.

PART XXX—OPERATION OF COMMITTEES GENERALLY

202. Application of this Part

This Part applies to Committees generally unless an express provision is made to the contrary in these Rules.

203. Rules to apply generally

(1) In Committees, these Rules shall be observed so far as may be applicable.

(2) The Chairperson of a Committee shall maintain order in the Committee and decisions on all questions of order and disorder in a Committee shall be dealt in accordance with rule 94.

204. Chairpersons of Committees

(1) A Member shall not chair more than one Committee or be a Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson at the same time.

(2) A Commissioner shall not be a Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson of a Committee.

(3) Subrule (1) shall not apply to the Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

205. Removal of Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson from office

(1) A Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson of a Committee may be removed by members of the Committee on a motion supported by two-thirds of all members of the Committee on any of the following grounds—

- (a) incompetence;
- (b) misconduct;
- (c) misbehaviour; or
- (d) failure or refusal, without justifiable reason, to execute the duties of the Committee.

(2) The motion for removal of the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson shall be initiated by not less than one-third of the members of the Committee giving seven days' notice to members of the Committee, the Chairperson of the Committee, the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee and the Speaker, that the members of the Committee are dissatisfied with the conduct or performance of the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson and intend to move a motion for the removal of the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

(3) The motion shall not be debated before the expiry of fourteen days after a copy of the notice is received by the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

(4) The Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson in respect of whom a motion for removal is to be moved is entitled to be heard in his or her defence during the debate.

(5) The Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson in respect of whom proceedings for removal have commenced shall not preside over any proceeding of the Committee until the proceedings for removal have been concluded in his or her favour.

(6) The Committee shall report to the House on the removal of the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

(7) The whip or the Speaker as the case may be, shall designate another Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson within seven days after the removal of a Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

(8) For the purposes of this rule, “misconduct” includes—

(a) unlawful conduct;

(b) breach of the Code of Conduct for Members;

(c) conduct which is likely to bring Parliament into hatred, ridicule or disrepute; or

(d) negligence in the performance of duty.

206. Re-designation of Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson

A Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson of a Committee may be re-designated at any time during his or her tenure by the relevant whip, with the approval of the House.

207. Quorum of Committees

(1) Unless the House otherwise directs or these Rules otherwise provide, the quorum of a Committee shall be one-third of its members and shall only be required for the purpose of voting.

(2) The number of Members required to form the quorum of every Committee under subrule (1) shall be in addition to the Chairperson or any other Member presiding.

(3) If at any time of voting during the sitting of a Committee there is no quorum, the Chairperson or other person presiding shall adjourn the proceedings of the Committee to a future day or a later time on the same day after allowing a reasonable time to ascertain whether a quorum can be realised.

208. Clerk to Committee

The Clerk to Parliament shall be the clerk to every Committee and may delegate his or her duties to a Deputy Clerk or a Clerk Assistant.

209. Instructions to Committees

(1) Subject to any instructions by the House, the deliberations of every Committee shall be confined to the matters referred to the Committee by the House, and in the case of a Committee on a bill, to the bill committed to the Committee and any relevant amendments.

(2) Subject to subrule (4), instructions to a Committee may empower the Committee to consider matters not otherwise referred to it.

(3) Instructions shall not be given to a Committee to do what it is already empowered to do or to deal with a question beyond the scope of a bill or matter referred to the Committee.

(4) Instructions to a Committee extending or restricting the order of reference may be moved in the House after notice, on any day prior to the report of the Committee.

210. Duration of Committee

A Committee may continue to sit although the House may be adjourned, and the Committee shall not be dissolved until the presentation to the House of its report or until the Committee is dissolved by the House.

211. Decisions by Committee

(1) A decision of a Committee shall be arrived at by consensus and in the absence of consensus, a decision shall be by the votes of the majority of members of the Committee present and voting.

(2) The Chairperson or other person presiding at a meeting of a Committee shall have neither a deliberative nor a casting vote, and where the votes are equal, the proposal shall be taken to be lost.

212. Sub-committees of Committees

A Committee may, if it determines necessary, appoint a sub-committee from its number and assign to the sub-committee such functions as the Committee determines necessary, and the sub-committee shall report to the Committee.

213. Meetings of Committees

(1) A Committee shall commence sittings as soon as possible after the Committee has been appointed to consider a bill or other matter referred to the Committee by the House.

(2) A meeting of the Committee shall be held at such a time and place as may be determined by the Chairperson of the Committee or in his or her absence, by the Deputy Chairperson.

(3) A meeting of a Committee may be called at the request of not less than one-third of the members of the Committee.

(4) Unless the House is sitting, not less than forty-eight hours' notice shall be given to members of the Committee when calling any meeting.

(5) A meeting of a Committee shall be presided over by the Chairperson of the Committee and in his or her absence, by the Deputy Chairperson or, in the absence of the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson, by a member of the Committee elected by the Members present and voting.

(6) A Committee may sit while the House is sitting but on any vote or a division being called in the House, the Chairperson of the Committee or any other person presiding shall suspend the proceedings of the Committee for such time as may, in his or her opinion, enable members of the Committee to participate in a vote or division.

(7) A Member may attend a meeting of a Committee through a designated digital platform.

(8) Rules governing the participation of Members in proceedings of Parliament through a designated digital platform shall, with necessary modifications, apply to the participation of Members in a meeting of a Committee through a designated digital platform.

214. Report to be signed by members of Committee

(1) A report of a Committee shall be signed and initialed by at least one-third of all the members of the Committee.

(2) The one-third of members referred to in subrule (1) shall be arrived at by counting the signatures of Members—

- (a) forming the decision of the majority;
- (b) dissenting from the decision of the majority, if any; and
- (c) on the list of the Members abstaining from taking a decision on the matter before the Committee, if any.

(3) For the purposes of subrule (2)(a) and rule 215, a decision shall be deemed to be a decision of the majority where the members in support of a matter before a Committee are more than the members dissenting from the decision of the members in support of the matter.

(4) A member of the Committee may, in accordance with rule 215, dissent from a decision of the majority.

(5) A member of a Committee may abstain from taking a decision on a matter before a Committee by appending his or her signature on the list of Members abstaining from taking a decision on a matter before a Committee.

(6) Where a member of a Committee does not sign a report of a Committee or does not abstain from taking a decision on a matter before a Committee, the member shall, to the satisfaction of the Chairperson, in writing, offer an explanation for not signing the report or abstaining from taking a decision on the matter.

(7) Where, in the opinion of the Chairperson, a member of the Committee referred to in subrule (6) does not offer a satisfactory explanation, the Chairperson shall refer the matter to the Speaker.

(8) The Speaker may, upon receipt of the matter referred to in subrule (7), take appropriate action.

(9) A report of a Committee shall be accompanied by a list of members who—

- (a) form the majority decision;
- (b) form the minority decision, if any;
- (c) abstain from taking a decision on the matter before the Committee, if any; and
- (d) do not sign the report, if any.

(10) The report of the Committee shall be laid on Table.

(11) Members of the Committee shall be collectively responsible for decisions contained in the report and shall not debate the report in the House.

(12) In case of a complaint as to the authenticity of a report, the Speaker shall halt debate on the report and refer the matter to the Clerk for investigation, who shall report back to the Speaker before the next sitting of the House.

(13) Upon receipt of the report from the Clerk, the Speaker shall inform the House of the findings of the investigation by the Clerk and a decision shall be taken on the complaint and the report of the Committee.

(14) The report of a Committee on a bill shall—

- (a) be uploaded on the parliamentary information system for the information of Members before the report is laid on Table; and

- (b) only be debated after the expiry of at least three days from the day the report was laid on Table by the Chairperson or the Deputy Chairperson or a Member designated by the Committee or by the Speaker.

(15) Notwithstanding subrule (14), debate on the report may, in the discretion of the Speaker, ensue—

- (a) if three or more days have elapsed since the report of the Committee was uploaded on the parliamentary information system and a notification of the existence of the report sent out to all Members by the Clerk; and
- (b) after the report has been laid on Table by the Chairperson or the Deputy Chairperson or a Member designated by the Committee or by the Speaker.

(16) A member of a Committee shall not withdraw his or her initials or signature appended to the report.

(17) The Chairperson or a member of the Committee may move a motion that the House adopts the report of the Committee.

(18) The report of the Committee shall form part of the official record.

215. Dissent from decision of majority

(1) A member of a Committee dissenting from a decision of the majority may state, in writing, the reasons for dissent, and the statement of reasons shall form part of the report of the Committee.

(2) The member of the Committee dissenting from a decision of the majority shall be given time to present the statement of reasons referred to in subrule (1).

(3) In preparing a statement of reasons for dissent, a member of a Committee shall be afforded reasonable assistance by the Office of the Clerk to Parliament.

216. Only Members of Committee may vote

(1) A Member who is not a member of a Committee may, unless the House or the Committee concerned otherwise orders, take part in the public proceedings of the Committee, but the Member shall not vote or form part of the quorum.

(2) Subject to these Rules and except as otherwise directed by the House, a Member referred to in subrule (1) may, with the approval of the Committee, attend private sittings of the Committee.

217. Agenda and minutes of meetings

(1) The clerk to a Committee shall transmit written notice of each meeting and a copy of the agenda to each member of the Committee.

(2) The clerk to a Committee shall record the minutes of proceedings of the Committee.

218. Special powers of Committees

In the exercise of its functions, a Committee—

- (a) may call any Minister or any person holding public office and private individuals to submit memoranda or appear before the Committee to give evidence;
- (b) may employ qualified persons to assist the Committee in the discharge of its functions;
- (c) may call or invite any person to take part in the proceedings of the Committee without the right to vote;
- (d) shall have the powers of the High Court for—
 - (i) enforcing the attendance of witnesses and examining the witnesses on oath, affirmation or otherwise;
 - (ii) compelling the production of documents; and

- (iii) issuing a commission or request to examine witnesses abroad;
- (e) order for the arrest and confinement of a recalcitrant witness for purposes of investigation by a competent authority; or
- (f) cite any person for contempt of Parliament.

219. Co-opting Members by Committees

(1) A Committee may, with the approval of its members, co-opt any other Member who is not a member of the Committee for a specific purpose and period.

(2) A Member co-opted under this rule may participate in the proceedings of the Committee but shall not vote on any matter to be determined by the Committee.

220. Counsel

(1) A Committee shall have power to request the Attorney General to attend a meeting of the Committee and give legal assistance as may be required.

(2) A person alleged to be in contempt of Parliament may be represented by counsel in proceedings in the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline.

(3) A witness before any other Committee may also be represented by counsel.

221. Evidence of witnesses

(1) The evidence of a witness shall be recorded and a copy of the evidence may be sent to the witness, on request.

(2) A witness may, within seven days from the date of receipt of the copy, suggest corrections to his or her evidence due to inaccurate reporting and the evidence shall be printed with such corrections as may be approved by the Chairperson.

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

222. Examination of witnesses on oath or affirmation

(1) A Committee shall have power to cause a witness to be examined on oath, and the clerk to the Committee shall have authority to administer it.

(2) A witness may, instead of taking the oath, make a solemn affirmation.

(3) The oath or affirmation under this rule shall be in the form prescribed under Appendix I to these Rules.

223. Issue and service of summons

(1) An order to attend to give evidence or to produce documents before a Committee shall be notified to the person required to attend or to produce documents by summons in the format prescribed in Appendix J to these Rules, signed by the Clerk to Parliament, under the direction of the Speaker.

(2) The summons shall state the time when and the place where the person summoned is required to attend, and the particular documents which the person summoned is required to produce.

(3) The summons shall be served on the person mentioned in the summons by delivering to him or her a copy of the summons or by leaving the summons at his or her usual place of abode with an adult person, or where this is not known, by publishing the summons in the press.

(4) Summons under this rule may be served by an officer of Parliament or a police officer.

(5) For the purposes of this rule, “person” means a witness.

224. Withdrawal of documents before Committee

(1) A clerk to a Committee shall receive all documents on behalf of the Committee.

(2) A document received by a clerk to a Committee shall not be withdrawn or altered without the knowledge and approval of the Committee.

225. Prohibition of publication of evidence and reports of Committees

(1) A Member or any other person shall not publish or supply a report of a Committee before the report is laid on Table.

(2) Evidence or a document received by a Committee shall not be published or otherwise disclosed to any person other than a member of the Committee, until the report of the Committee is presented to the House.

(3) Where a Member is alleged to have breached subrule (1), the Speaker shall refer the matter to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline for investigation.

(4) A Member who is found to have breached subrule (1) shall be suspended from the service of the House for the next three sittings, excluding the sitting in which the Member is suspended.

226. Admission of certain papers in evidence

Where an inquiry affects the privileges, immunities and powers of the House or any of its Members, a copy of the proceedings of the House or a report from a Committee shall be admitted as *prima facie* evidence.

227. Time frame for Committees to report

(1) Every Committee, except a Committee to which a specific assignment is referred, shall report to the House within forty-five working days.

(2) If a Committee finds itself unable to complete any investigations, inquiry or other matter referred to it within the period provided in subrule (1), the Committee may seek extension of time from the House.

(3) Where extension of time is not granted or upon expiry of the additional time granted under subrule (2), the House shall proceed to deal with the matter in question without further delay.

228. Minutes of proceedings to accompany Committee reports

The minutes of the proceedings of a Committee and the report of a Committee shall be laid together on Table by the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson or a member of the Committee nominated by the Committee, when reporting to the House.

229. Action taken reports

Except as otherwise directed by the House or the Speaker, a Minister shall, within sixty working days after Parliament has passed a resolution or made a recommendation, submit to Parliament an action taken report detailing the action taken by the Minister on the resolution or recommendation.

PART XXXI—GENERAL

230. Consideration of Treasury Memoranda

The Speaker shall, after receiving the Treasury Memorandum, refer the Treasury Memorandum to the Auditor General for auditing in accordance with the National Audit Act.

231. Reconsideration of decision of House

(1) It is out of order to attempt to reconsider a specific question upon which the House has come to a conclusion during the current session.

(2) Notwithstanding subrule (1), the House may reconsider its decision upon a substantive motion for reconsideration, moved with notice of not less than fourteen days.

232. Ceremonial speeches and speeches by distinguished personalities

(1) A ceremonial speech may be allowed by the Speaker.

(2) A ceremonial speech referred to under subrule (1) shall be confined to commemorating a special event or occasion of death of a distinguished person.

(3) A distinguished person from within Uganda or outside Uganda may be allowed by the Speaker to address the House on any matter of importance.

233. Contempt of Parliament

An act or omission shall amount to contempt of Parliament if the act or omission—

- (a) obstructs or impedes Parliament in the performance of its functions;
- (b) obstructs or impedes a Member or officer of Parliament in the discharge of his or her duties;
- (c) affronts the dignity of Parliament; or
- (d) directly or indirectly produces any of the results referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) or (c).

234. Notice of meetings

The Clerk shall, under the authority of the Speaker and before the beginning of a new session, send to each Member a written notice directing the attention of the Member to the proclamation summoning Parliament.

235. Minutes of proceedings of House

The Clerk shall keep the minutes of the proceedings of the House in which shall be recorded the attendance of Members at each sitting and all decisions taken by the House.

236. Records

- (1) The Clerk shall—
 - (a) be responsible for making entries and records of business approved or passed in the House;
 - (b) have custody of all records and other documents belonging or presented to the House; and
 - (c) keep secret the matters required by the House to be treated as secret and not discuss the matters before the matters are officially published.

(2) The records kept under this rule shall be open to the inspection of Members under such arrangements as the Speaker may direct.

237. Official report

(1) The Clerk shall be responsible for ensuring that all parliamentary proceedings are reported word for word, and that an official report of the proceedings is published as soon as possible after each sitting.

(2) For the purposes of subrule (1), the Clerk shall act in accordance with such orders as the Speaker may give from time to time.

238. Expunging from official record

(1) Where the Speaker is of the opinion that a Member has used defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary or undignified words, the Speaker shall order the defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary or undignified words to be expunged from the official record.

(2) Where a statement is made in relation or connection to the words expunged in subrule (1), the statement shall be expunged from the official record except the order of the Speaker directing that the words be expunged.

239. Electronic coverage of parliamentary proceedings

(1) Parliamentary proceedings may be broadcast by electronic media having due regard to the dignity of the House.

(2) Television coverage of the proceedings of the House shall be regulated by the rules set out in Appendix K to these Rules.

240. Broadcasting

(1) The proceedings of the House shall be available for broadcast on radio, television and other platforms during all hours of sitting except as directed by the Speaker.

(2) Broadcast of the proceedings of the House shall maintain such standards of fairness as may be adopted by the House.

241. Custody and production of papers

(1) A paper laid before the House shall, upon being laid, be deposited with the Clerk to Parliament who shall be responsible for the safe custody of the paper.

(2) The paper laid before the House in subrule (1) shall be available for production before the House whenever required by a Member and shall at all times be open for inspection by Members.

242. Admission of public and press into House and Committees

(1) A member of the public or the press may be admitted in the House during debate under rules that the Speaker may make from time to time.

(2) The Clerk and the Sergeant-at-Arms shall ensure that the rules made under subrule (1) are complied with.

(3) Subject to the rules made under subrule (1), the authority to admit strangers shall be with the Clerk acting on behalf of the Speaker.

(4) A Member shall not bring a stranger into any part of the House reserved for Members while Parliament is sitting.

(5) A person shall not carry into the gallery a briefcase, firearm or any weapon.

(6) A person shall not smoke or read a book or newspaper, draw or stand in the galleries.

(7) A person admitted under this rule shall act with decorum and dress in a dignified manner.

(8) In accordance with the rules made under subrule (1), a Member of the press or media accredited by Parliament may be admitted into the press gallery with an electronic device for recording and coverage purposes.

(9) A Member of the press or media accredited to Parliament under subrule (8) shall adhere to the rules of electronic coverage of parliamentary proceedings under Appendix K to these Rules.

243. Business of Committee not to lapse on prorogation of House

(1) Business pending before a Committee shall not lapse by reason of the prorogation of the House.

(2) A Committee which is unable to complete its work before the expiration of the term of the Committee or before the prorogation of the House may report to the House that the Committee has not been able to complete its work.

(3) Upon expiration of the term of a Committee, the outgoing Chairperson of the Committee shall immediately prepare and make available to the new Committee, a hand over report containing all the business pending before the Committee with reasons why the business was not completed.

244. Legacy report

(1) Upon dissolution of Parliament, the Clerk to Parliament shall prepare a legacy report detailing the achievements, challenges and business pending before the House and each Committee.

(2) The legacy report shall be laid on Table within the first seven sittings of the first session of Parliament.

245. Lapse or reinstatement of parliamentary business upon dissolution of Parliament

(1) A bill, petition, motion or other business pending before the House or a Committee during the term of Parliament lapses upon dissolution of Parliament.

(2) Notwithstanding subrule (1), a bill, petition, motion or other business pending before the House or a Committee may be reinstated in the next Parliament by a resolution of Parliament.

(3) The reinstatement of a bill, petition, motion or other business under subrule (2) shall be treated as a fresh reference to a Committee before which the bill, petition, motion or other business was pending at the dissolution of Parliament.

(4) The resolution of Parliament referred to in subrule (2) shall be passed within the first fourteen sittings of the first session of Parliament.

(5) The business reinstated shall be handled and completed in the first session of Parliament.

246. Assistance to persons with disabilities and older persons

(1) The Speaker or a Chairperson of a Committee shall take all necessary steps to ensure that a Member with a disability or a Member who is an older person is facilitated in his or her participation in proceedings of the House or a Committee, including—

- (a) allowing a person who is not a Member or an officer of Parliament to give reasonable assistance to the Member; or
- (b) allowing the Member to bring into the House crutches, equipment or other aid needed by the Member to participate in the proceedings of the House or a Committee.

(2) A person allowed to give assistance to a Member under subrule (1)(a) shall act with decorum, dress in a dignified manner, and take the oath of secrecy.

247. Withdrawal of strangers

(1) A Member may, without notice, at any time, for the purpose of enabling a matter to be debated in the absence of strangers, rise and move a motion “That strangers do withdraw” and if the motion is seconded, the Speaker or Chairperson shall put the question on the motion immediately without amendment or debate.

(2) When the motion has been agreed to, and after the matter which gave rise to the motion has been disposed of, a Member on being called by the Speaker or Chairperson, may move “That strangers be readmitted”, and if the motion is seconded, the Speaker or Chairperson shall put the question immediately without amendment or debate.

(3) Notwithstanding subrule (1), the Speaker may at any time order a stranger to withdraw and the doors of the Chamber of the House to be closed.

(4) The Clerk and the Sergeant-at-Arms shall ensure that an order for the withdrawal of strangers is duly complied with.

248. Adjustments in numbering in bills

Subject to the directions of the Speaker, the Clerk may make such adjustments and modifications in the numbering of provisions of a bill or in references in a bill passed by the House, and make such other

adaptations as may be necessary to accord with decisions taken by the House on a bill.

249. Employment of Members in professional capacity

A Member shall not appear before the House or a Committee of Parliament as counsel for any party or in any capacity for which he or she is to receive a fee or reward in any matter to be deliberated upon by the House or a Committee.

250. General application of rules to digital parliamentary processes

(1) Except where these Rules provide otherwise, the rules shall apply to all digital parliamentary processes online and to a Member virtually present in the House or Committee.

(2) A requirement for written notice to the Speaker or Clerk under these Rules, may be satisfied by a Member submitting the notice by email to speaker@parliament.go.ug, clerk@parliament.go.ug or to any other digital platform designated by the Speaker.

(3) A document relating to a Committee meeting and sitting of the House may be distributed by electronic means to which a Member has access.

(4) For the avoidance of doubt, the rules relating to the participation of a Member in the proceedings of Parliament outside the Chamber of Parliament through a designated digital platform shall only take effect upon a proclamation made by the Speaker.

251. Publication of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament

The Speaker shall, as soon as practicable, cause the publication of these Rules in the *Gazette*.

252. Computation of time

(1) For the purposes of rules 31(11), 34(1), 36(1), 37(1), 40(1), 41(2), 43(7), 135(2), 147(1), 175(2) and (3) and 227(1), “working

days” exclude Saturday, Sunday, a public holiday declared under the Public Holidays Act and any period of recess declared by the Speaker.

(2) Where in these Rules a reference is made to a “week”, the reference shall be deemed to mean a period of seven working days.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Rules 2, 26 (2) (a)

PRAYER

(Recited at the commencement of sittings of Parliament)

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who in Your infinite wisdom and providential goodness has appointed the offices of leaders and Parliaments for the welfare of society and the just government of humanity; we beseech You to look upon, with Your abundant favour, these Your servants, whom You have been pleased to call to the performance of such important trusts in this land.

LET YOUR blessing descend upon them here assembled, and grant that they may, as in Your presence, treat and consider all matters that shall come under their deliberation, in so just and faithful a manner as to promote Your Honour and Glory, and to advance the good of those whose interests You have committed to their charge.

AMEN

PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF FOUR MEMBERS TO THE COMMISSION

1. Notice for nomination of four Members to Commission

The Clerk shall—

- (a) within two working days of the first sitting of the first meeting of the first session of Parliament; or
- (b) at least fourteen working days before the end of the term of the four Members of the Commission in existence during the term of Parliament,

by notice, inform the Government and Opposition sides of the date appointed for nomination of Members to the Commission.

2. Nomination of Members to Commission

(1) Subject to section 2 of the Administration of Parliament Act, the nomination of Members for election to the Commission shall be made by—

- (a) the Government side, which shall nominate Members from among their number, and
- (b) the Opposition side, which shall nominate members from among their number.

(2) The Government and Opposition sides shall ensure that at least one of the Members nominated in subparagraph (1) of this paragraph is a woman.

3. Election of Members to Commission

(1) Members of the Government side shall elect to the Commission, three Members from among the Members nominated for election under paragraph 2(1)(a).

(2) Members of the Opposition side shall elect to the Commission, one Member from among the Members nominated for election under paragraph 2(1)(b).

(3) The election referred to in subparagraph (1) of this paragraph shall be conducted in accordance with the internal democratic election processes of the Government side.

(4) The election referred to in subparagraph (2) of this paragraph shall be conducted in accordance with the internal democratic election processes of the Opposition side.

(5) At least one of the four Members elected in subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this paragraph shall be a woman.

4. Submission to Speaker of names of elected Members

(1) The Government Chief Whip and the Chief Opposition Whip shall submit to the Speaker the names of the Members elected to the Commission by the Government and Opposition sides.

(2) The Speaker shall, upon receipt of the names of the Members elected to the Commission under subparagraph (1) of this paragraph, announce to the House the names of the Members elected to the Commission.

5. Miscellaneous

(1) Where any matter arises which is not specifically provided for in this Appendix, the Speaker shall make a ruling directing what is to be done in respect of the matter.

(2) In making a ruling under subparagraph (1) of this paragraph, the Speaker shall be guided by the practices and procedures of Parliament.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS
OF THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by Article 50(1) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, Parliament makes the following Rules:

PART I

1. Citation

The Rules under this Appendix may be cited as the Election of Members of the East African Legislative Assembly Rules.

2. Interpretation

(1) In the Rules under this Appendix, unless the context otherwise requires, and subject to subrule (2) of this rule, words and expressions used shall have the meaning assigned to them in the Rules of Procedure of Parliament.

(2) In the Rules under this Appendix, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Assembly” means the East African Legislative Assembly established by the Treaty”;

“candidate” means a person who is nominated to stand for election to the Assembly;

“Committee” means the Verification Committee established under rule 8 of the Rules under this Appendix;

“election” includes the process of nomination and voting of candidates to the Assembly”

“nomination” means nomination as a candidate to stand for election to the Assembly;

“Treaty” means the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community.

PART II

3. Appointment of nomination day

(1) The Clerk to Parliament shall issue a notice in the *Gazette* and the mass media appointing two days during which the nomination of candidates shall take place.

(2) The notice issued under subrule (1) shall indicate the place, date and time fixed for the nomination of candidates.

4. Nomination of candidates by political party or organisation

(1) A political party or organisation represented in Parliament may nominate candidates for election to the Assembly in the format prescribed in Schedule 1 to this Appendix.

(2) The nomination of candidates under subrule (1) of this rule shall represent as much as it is feasible, gender and other special interest groups.

(3) A political party or organisation nominating a candidate under subrule (1) of this rule shall tender the nomination in writing to the Clerk indicating the following—

- (a) a statement under oath specifying the name, educational qualifications, address and occupation of the candidate in the format prescribed in Schedule 1 to this Appendix; and
- (b) a statement under oath in the format prescribed in Schedule 3 to this Appendix by the candidate stating that the candidate—
 - (i) is a citizen of Uganda;
 - (ii) qualifies to be elected a Member of Parliament;
 - (iii) is not a Member of Parliament;
 - (iv) is not holding office as a Minister;
 - (v) is not an officer in the service of the East African Community; and
 - (vi) has proven experience or interest in consolidating and furthering the aims and the objectives of the East African Community.

(4) The Secretary General of a political party or organisation or a person authorised by the Secretary General of a political party or organisation nominating a candidate under this rule shall endorse and seal the nomination form of the candidate.

(5) A person nominated by a political party or organisation shall consent to his or her nomination in the format prescribed in Schedule 1 to this Appendix.

5. Nomination of candidates independent of a political party or organisation

A person intending to stand for election to the Assembly independent of a political party or organisation shall submit to the Clerk—

- (a) his or her duly filled nomination form in the format prescribed in Schedule 2 to this Appendix;
- (b) a statement under oath in the format prescribed in Schedule 2 to this Appendix, specifying the name, educational qualifications, address and occupation of the candidate; and
- (c) a statement in compliance with rule 4(3)(b) of the Rules under this Appendix.

6. Signatures supporting nominations

(1) All nomination forms shall include the names, signatures and constituency of not less than five Members of Parliament supporting the nomination of the candidate.

(2) The names, signatures and constituencies of the Members of Parliament in subrule (1) of this rule shall be in the format prescribed in Schedule 4 to this Appendix.

(3) A Member of Parliament shall not nominate more than nine candidates for election to the Assembly.

(4) Where a Member of Parliament nominates more than nine candidates—

- (a) the Member of Parliament shall be cited for contempt of Parliament in accordance with rule 233 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament and referred to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline; and
- (b) the tenth candidate and subsequent candidates nominated by the Member of Parliament shall be granted three working days to find an alternative Member of Parliament to nominate them.

7. Payment of nomination fee

A candidate is required to pay a nomination fee of Uganda Shillings three million.

8. Verification Committee

(1) There shall be a Verification Committee consisting of twenty Members of Parliament nominated by the Speaker with the approval of Parliament.

(2) The membership of the Committee shall reflect the various political parties and organisations represented in Parliament, shades of opinion, gender and other special interest groups.

9. Forwarding nomination papers

The Clerk shall receive and shall as soon as is practicable forward to the Committee, the documents referred to in rules 4 and 5 of the Rules under this Appendix.

10. Verification of nominees

The Committee shall consider the nominees and all applicants independent of a political party or organisation, and shall ensure that the requirements of Article 50 of the Treaty are fulfilled.

11. Report of Committee

The Chairperson of the Committee or any other authorised member of the Committee shall present the report of the Committee to the House indicating the list of the nominees verified and found to have satisfied the requirements of Article 50 of the Treaty and rules 4 and 5 of the Rules under this Appendix.

12. Publication of approved nominees

The list of candidates approved by the House shall be published in the mass media and displayed on a notice board of Parliament.

13. Withdrawal or death of candidate

(1) Subject to subrules (2), (3) and (4) of this rule, a duly nominated candidate for election may withdraw his or her nomination at any time before the declaration of elected members to the Assembly.

(2) Withdrawal of a candidate under subrule (1) shall be effected by a written notification to the Clerk and shall be signed by the candidate personally, and by the Secretary General of the political party or organisation where the candidate was nominated by a political party or organisation.

(3) Where a candidate withdraws before or on the election day, the Speaker shall inform the Members of Parliament of the withdrawal.

(4) Where a candidate withdraws or dies before the election, the Speaker shall inform the House and the Clerk shall re-open nominations to enable a new candidate to be nominated.

(5) The fresh nomination shall only be open to a person belonging to a political party or organisation, gender, shades of opinion or other interest groups to which the nominee who withdrew or died belonged.

(6) The political party or organisation or the Chairperson of the verification Committee, as the case may be, which nominated or approved a candidate who withdraws from the elections or dies shall nominate another person.

14. Campaign and voting

(1) A person duly verified by the Committee and approved by the House shall be given at least seven minutes by the Speaker to address the House.

(2) Voting of members to the Assembly shall be done in the House by secret ballot.

(3) The Clerk shall ensure that the relevant materials for voting are in place.

(4) The ballot paper to be used in the election shall be in the form prescribed in Schedule 5 to this Appendix.

15. Compliance with Article 50 (1) of the Treaty

The Speaker shall ensure that the members elected to the Assembly under Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, in as much as it is feasible, represent the various political parties represented in Parliament, shades of opinion, gender and other special interest groups in Uganda.

16. Declaration of elected Members

(1) The Speaker shall announce to the House the results of the election conducted under these Rules and in accordance with Article 50 of the Treaty.

(2) Upon announcing the results in subrule (1), the Speaker shall proceed to declare the successful candidates as elected members of the Assembly representing Uganda.

17. Publication in *Gazette*

The Clerk to Parliament shall as soon as practicable cause the publication in the *Gazette* of the names of persons declared by the Speaker under rule 16 of the Rules in this Appendix.

18. Transmission of names of elected Members to the Secretary General

The Clerk to Parliament shall transmit to the Secretary General of the East African Community the names of the duly elected Members as published in the *Gazette*.

19. Vacation of office

A member of the Assembly shall vacate his or her seat in the Assembly upon—

- (a) delivery of the member's resignation, in writing, to the Speaker of the Assembly;

- (b) the member ceasing to be qualified for election as member of the Assembly;
- (c) his or her nomination or election as a Member of Parliament;
- (d) his or her appointment as a Minister;
- (e) the member being absent from the Assembly for such period and in such circumstances as are prescribed by the rules of procedure of the Assembly;
- (f) his or her conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction of an offence and sentenced to imprisonment for a term exceeding six months and where no appeal has been preferred against such a decision;
- (g) his or her appointment as an officer in the service of the East African Community;
- (h) the dissolution of the Assembly; or
- (i) death.

20. Occurrence of a vacancy

(1) Where a vacancy occurs in the Assembly, the Speaker of the Assembly shall notify the Speaker of the existence of a vacancy.

(2) Upon notification of a vacancy under subrule (1), a by-election shall be held within a period of ninety days.

21. Miscellaneous

(1) Where any matter arises which is not specifically provided for in these Rules, the Speaker shall make a ruling directing what is to be done in respect of that matter.

(2) In making a ruling under subrule (1), the Speaker shall be guided by the practices and procedures normally followed in similar situations with regard to parliamentary elections.

22. Amendment of Rules

The Rules under this Appendix may be amended at any time by a resolution of Parliament on a motion by the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline.

Schedule 1

Part I—Nomination Form A

Rule 4(1)

I, _____ being the Secretary General/person authorised by the Secretary General of _____ Political Party/Organisation do nominate, on behalf of my Party the following person as a candidate for election as a member of the East African Legislative Assembly representing Uganda and I do certify to the best of my belief that he/she is qualified to be elected as a member of the Assembly—

<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Academic Qualifications</i>	<i>Occupation</i>

Part II—Consent to nomination

Rule 4(5)

I _____ consent to my nomination as a candidate for election as a member of the East African Legislative Assembly and I make this solemn statement knowing and believing it to be true.

Signed and declared by me at _____, on this _____ day of _____, 20 __.

Candidate

Before me

A commissioner for oaths/magistrate, Chief Registrar of the High Court (including deputy and district registrar) or other person authorised by law to administer oaths.

Part III—Oath authenticating statement

Rule 4(3)(a)

I, _____, solemnly swear in the name of the Almighty God/ solemnly affirm that the statement in this nomination paper of my name, age, address, occupation, address for service of process and papers and the name and address of my appointed agent are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature

Before me

commissioner for oaths/magistrate, Chief Registrar of the High Court (including deputy and district registrar) or other person authorised by law to administer oaths.

Schedule 2

Part I—Nomination Form B

Rule 5(a)

I, _____ being a person independent of a political party or organisation in Uganda do hereby present myself as a candidate for election as a member of the East African Legislative Assembly representing Uganda and I do certify to the best of my knowledge that I am qualified to be elected as a member of the Assembly and the following are my particulars—

<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Academic Qualifications</i>	<i>Occupation</i>

Part II—Oath authenticating statement

Rule 5 (b)

I, _____, solemnly swear in the name of the Almighty God/solemnly affirm that the statement in this nomination paper of my name, age, address, occupation, address for service of process and papers, are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature

Before me

Commissioner for oaths/magistrate, Chief Registrar of the High Court (including deputy and district registrar) or other person authorised by law to administer oaths.

Statement under oath by person nominated

I, _____, solemnly and sincerely state that:

1. I am a citizen of Uganda;
2. I am not below the age of eighteen years;
3. I am not a traditional or cultural leader as defined in Article 246(6) of the Constitution of Uganda;
4. I have proven experience or interest in consolidating and furthering the aims and objectives of the community, evidence of which I attach to this statement;
5. I have the following educational qualifications for standing for East African Legislative Assembly election—
 - (a) _____
 - (b) _____
 - (c) _____
 - (d) _____
6. I am not under sentence of death or other sentence of imprisonment exceeding nine months without the option of a fine, imposed on me by a competent court;
7. I have not been adjudged or otherwise declared—
 - (a) bankrupt under any law in force in Uganda from which I have not been discharged; nor
 - (b) to be of unsound mind, under any law in force in Uganda; and
8. I am not disqualified—
 - (a) by reason of being a Member of Parliament;
 - (b) by reason of holding office as Minister;
 - (c) by reason of being in the service of the East African Community as an officer; or

- (d) for any other reason under the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community.

Signature

Before me

commissioner for oaths/magistrate, Chief Registrar of the High Court (including deputy and district registrar) or other person authorised by law to administer oaths.

Schedule 4

Rule 6(2)

**Names, constituency and signatures of Members supporting
nomination of candidate**

We, the undersigned Members of Parliament support the nomination of _____ as a candidate for election as a member of the East African Legislative Assembly.

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Constituency</i>	<i>Signature</i>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Schedule 5

Rule 14(4)

Ballot paper
(Tick nine (9) candidates only)

	<i>Name of Candidate</i>	<i>Candidature (Political Party or Otherwise)</i>	<i>Voter's Choice</i>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

APPENDIX D

Rules 12(3) and 14(5)

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF REPORTS TO PARLIAMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Members of the East African Legislative Assembly shall present a bi-annual report of the activities of the Assembly for the relevant year to Parliament through the Committee on East African Community Affairs.
2. The bi-annual reports shall be presented at regular meetings of the Committee at a time to be determined by the Chairperson of the Committee.
3. The Members of the Assembly may, at any other scheduled meeting of the Committee, if the Members of the Assembly consider it desirable to do so, present any special report or make any appropriate consultations with the Committee on any matter which is relevant to the work of the Assembly.
4. All Members of the Assembly may be present at the time of presentation of a report to the Committee.
5. The Committee shall report to the House on the reports presented to the Committee under this Appendix and the House may debate the report.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF
THE PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT**

In exercise of powers conferred by Article 5 of the Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to the Pan-African Parliament, Parliament makes the following Rules—

1. Citation

The Rules under this Appendix may be cited as the Election of Members of the Pan-African Parliament Rules.

2. Interpretation

In the Rules under this Appendix, unless the context otherwise requires—

- (a) words and expressions used shall have the meaning assigned to them in the Rules of Procedure of Parliament; and
- (b) “election” means the process of approval of names nominated by political parties or organisations represented in the House and presented to the House by the Speaker.

3. Election of Members of the Pan-African Parliament

The Members of the Pan-African Parliament shall be elected by Parliament from among the Members of Parliament.

4. Tenure

(1) Subject to the Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to the Pan-African Parliament, the term of a Member of the Pan-African Parliament shall run concurrently with his or her term in Parliament.

(2) The seat of a Member of the Pan-African Parliament shall become vacant where—

- (a) the Member dies;
- (b) the Member resigns in writing to the President of the Pan-African Parliament;

- (c) the Member is unable to perform his or her functions for reasons of physical or mental incapacity;
- (d) the Member is removed on grounds of misconduct;
- (e) the Member ceases to be a Member of Parliament;
- (f) the Member is recalled by Parliament;
- (g) Uganda withdraws from the African Union.

5. Nomination and election of Members

The political parties or organisations represented in the House shall submit names to the Speaker, on the basis of proportional party membership taking into consideration the numerical strength of the parties, interests of independent Members and gender.

6. Rules 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 under Appendix C of these Rules shall, with necessary modifications, apply to the election of Members of the Pan-African Parliament.

RULES CONCERNING PETITIONS

1. A Member presenting a petition to the House shall put his or her name at the beginning of the petition and shall give notice of his or her intention to present the petition by entering his or her name on the notice paper reserved for that purpose.
2. A petition shall contain a prayer at the beginning of the petition stating the general object of the petitioner or the nature of the relief sought.
3. A petition shall be signed, thumb-printed or marked by at least one person.
4. Where the signatures are affixed to more than one sheet, the prayer of the petition shall be repeated at the head of one side of each sheet, but signatures may be written on either side of a sheet.
5. A person signing a petition shall write his or her address after the signature.
6. A petition shall be written in the English language.
7. A petition shall be signed by the parties whose names are appended to the petition by their names or marks.
8. A petition of a corporation aggregate shall be under its common seal.
9. No erasures or interlineations may be made in a petition.
10. A petition shall be respectful, decorous and temperate in language.
11. The style in which a petition to Parliament shall be drawn up shall be as follows—

TO: THE PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

The Humble Petition of *(here insert the names or description of the petitioner or petitioners)*.

STATES that *(here set forth the case or circumstances to be brought to the notice of Parliament)*.

THEREFORE your petitioner (or petitioners) prays (or pray) that (here set forth the particular object of the petitioner or nature of the relief sought).
And your petitioner(s), as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Signatures with addresses to follow

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

1. Purpose of Code

The purpose of the Code is to assist Members in the discharge of their obligations to the House, constituents and the public at large.

2. Public duty

(1) By virtue of the Oath of Allegiance taken by all Members, Members have a duty to be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Republic of Uganda and to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution, and to uphold the law and act on all occasions in accordance with the public trust placed in the Members.

(2) Members have a general duty to act in the interest of the nation as a whole and a special duty to their constituents.

3. Personal conduct

Members shall observe the general principles of conduct specified below—

- (a) Selflessness: Members should take decisions solely in terms of public interest. Members should not take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family or their friends;
- (b) Integrity: Members should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might influence them in the performance of their duties;
- (c) Objectivity: In carrying out business, including making recommendations on public appointments, awarding contract, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, Members should make choices on merit;
- (d) Accountability: Members are accountable for their decisions and actions to the electorate and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate;

- (e) Openness: Members should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions the Members take and should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the public interest clearly demands;
- (f) Honesty: Members have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their parliamentary duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest;
- (g) Leadership: Members should promote and support good governance by leadership and example.

4. Public interest

Members shall base their conduct on full consideration of the public interest, avoid conflict between personal interest and the public interest and resolve any conflict between the personal interest and the public interest, at once, and in favour of the public interest.

5. Public trust

Members shall at all times conduct themselves in a manner which will maintain and strengthen the public's trust and confidence in the integrity of Parliament and never undertake any action which may bring the House or its Members generally, into disrepute.

6. Corruption

The acceptance by a Member of a bribe to influence his or her conduct as a Member, including any fee, compensation or reward in connection with the promotion of, or opposition to, any bill, motion, or other matter submitted or intended to be submitted to the House or to any Committee of the House, is contrary to this Code of Conduct.

7. Declaration of interest

Members shall fulfil conscientiously the requirements of the House in respect of the declaration of interest and shall always draw attention to any relevant interest in any proceeding of the House or its Committees or in any communications with Ministers, Government departments or executive agencies.

8. Openness

In any activities with, or on behalf of, an organisation with which a Member has a financial relationship, including activities which may not be a matter of public record such as informal meetings and functions, Members must always bear in mind the need to be open and frank.

9. Acting as paid advocate

A Member shall not act as a paid advocate for any person or organisation in any proceedings of the House.

10. Improper use of payments

No improper use shall be made of any payment or allowance made to Members for public purposes and any rules which apply to such payments and allowances must be strictly observed.

11. Use of information received

Members must bear in mind that information which they receive in confidence in the course of their parliamentary duties should be used only in connection with those duties, and that such information must never be used for purposes of publicity or financial gain.

12. Matter not provided for

For any matter not provided for, Members may seek advice of the Speaker or Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline.

APPENDIX H

Rule 99(2)

PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

VOTING PROXY FORM

I
Member of Parliament representing.....
do hereby appoint Member of Parliament representing
.....to vote on my behalf on questions
put to the following matters before the House:

.....

Dated this..... day of 20..... by
.....

.....
SIGNATURE

Verification by the Clerk to Parliament

This proxy was received on at hours.

Mode of delivery

.....
CLERK TO PARLIAMENT

APPENDIX I

Rule 222

OATH AND AFFIRMATION OF WITNESS

Part A — Oath

I..... do solemnly swear that the evidence I shall give touching the matter before the Parliamentary Committee on shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.
So help me God/Allah

Witness Signature

Sworn before.....

For: CLERK TO PARLIAMENT

Dated this..... day of, 20.....

Part B—Affirmation

I..... do solemnly affirm that the evidence I shall give touching the matter before the Parliamentary Committee on shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

Witness Signature.....

Sworn before.....

For: CLERK TO PARLIAMENT

Dated this.....day of, 20.....

APPENDIX J

Rule 223

SUMMONS

To:

Whereas your personal attendance is required by the Committee on....., sitting at.....

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Committee on the..... day of20....., at O'clock at.....without fail, and to bring with you documents relating to..... (*indicate the matter under consideration by the Committee*)

If no appearance is made by you in person or no document is produced as directed by the Committee, the Committee may enforce your attendance or production of documents by any means authorised by law.

Dated this.....day of....., 20.....

.....
CLERK TO PARLIAMENT

APPENDIX K

Rule 239

RULES OF ELECTRONIC COVERAGE OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS

1. Objective

The Clerk shall seek to give a full, balanced, fair and accurate account of proceedings of the House with the aim of informing viewers about the work of the House.

2. Dignity of House

In covering the proceedings of the House, the Clerk shall have regard to the dignity of the House and its functions as a legislature rather than a place of entertainment.

3. Restricting filming of certain parts of the Chamber

(1) The press and public galleries, the officials' and the area behind the Speaker's Chair, not being directly related to proceedings, shall not be shown, other than unavoidably, as part of the wide-angle or other authorized shots of the Chamber.

(2) Great care shall be exercised in showing the Speaker.

(3) Shots designed to show the Speaker receiving advice from a Clerk at the Table shall not be used.

(4) Officers of the House and Chamber attendants attending in the Chamber should not normally be shown, other than unavoidably, as part of the wide angle or other authorised shots of the Chamber.

(5) During divisions, a wide-angle shot of the Chamber may be used. In addition, the following events relating to divisions may be shown using the standard format; that is to say, secondment of a motion by a Member(s), the putting of the question, the announcement of the names of the tellers; any points of order which may arise, together with any response by the Chair; and the announcement by the tellers and the Chair of the voting figures.

(6) In no circumstances should close up shots of Members' or officers' papers be taken.

4. Style and presentation

(1) The standard format for depicting a Member who has the floor shall be a head and shoulders shot, not a close-up.

(2) The camera shall normally remain on a Member speaking until the Member finishes speaking.

(3) Wide-angle shots of the Chamber may be used from time to time, such as when the gallery camera focuses on a Member who has just been called, moving a motion or at times when no single Member has the floor, and to establish the geography of the House for the benefit of viewers, or to establish Members wishing to contribute to a debate.

(4) As a matter of general practice, the gallery camera shall focus on a Member whenever the Member rises and this principle should be applied all the more strictly during incidents of disorder.

(5) Occasional cut-away shots to illustrate individual reactions shall be allowed, but only to show a Member who has been referred to by the Member speaking.

(6) Medium-angle shots, including over-the-shoulder shots, are permissible where the gallery camera shows both the Member who has the floor and another Member intervening or seeking to do so.

(7) Occasional group shots mid-way between the standard head and shoulders shot at the wide-angle shot shall be permitted and such shots may be used either for the purposes of showing the reaction of a group of Members, or in order to establish the geography of a particular part of the Chamber.

5. Special camera techniques

(1) In no circumstances are split-screen shots to be used.

(2) Panning shots along the benches shall not normally be used.

(3) Occasional zoom shots are permitted.

6. Disorder in the galleries

(1) Neither interruptions from, nor demonstrations in the galleries are “proceedings”, and as such they shall in no circumstances be televised.

(2) If an incident of the sort described in subparagraph (1) occurs in such a way as to interfere with an otherwise permissible shot, the gallery camera shall show a wide-angle shot of the Chamber which does not show the offending incident, or focus on the Speaker.

7. Disorder on the floor of the House

(1) Televising may continue during incidents of grave disorder or unparliamentary behaviour for as long as the sitting continues, but subject to the following guidelines—

- (a) on occasions of grave disorder, the gallery camera shall normally focus on the Speaker for as long as proceedings continue, or until order has been restored;
- (b) in case of unparliamentary behaviour, the gallery camera shall normally focus on the Speaker and shall certainly do so if he or she rises, but occasional wide-angle shots of the Chamber are acceptable.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)—

“grave disorder” means incidents of individual, but more likely collective, misconduct of serious disruptive nature as to place in jeopardy the continuation of the sitting;

“unparliamentary behaviour” means any conduct which amounts to defiance of the Chair but which falls short of grave disorder.

8. The use of signals by broadcasters

(1) Extracts of parliamentary proceedings may be used for information, education and news purposes.

(2) No extracts of parliamentary proceedings may be used in any light entertainment programme or in a programme of political satire.

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