

# THE URDU-SPEAKING UNION ACT 2002

Act No. 39 of 2002

I assent

**KARL AUGUSTE OFFMANN**  
President of the Republic

10<sup>th</sup> December 2002

**Date in Force: Published in Government Gazette of 21 December 2002**

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## AN ACT

**To provide for the establishment and management of the Urdu-Speaking Union**

ENACTED by the Parliament of Mauritius, as follows-

## 1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the **Urdu-Speaking Union Act 2002**.

## 2. Interpretation

In this Act-

"Council" means the Executive Council appointed under section 6;

"Fund" means the General Fund established under section 9;

"members" means ordinary members of the Union as stipulated under section 5;

"Union "means the Urdu-Speaking Union established under section 3.

## 3. Establishment of the Union

- (1) There is established for the purposes of this Act a body corporate which shall be known as the Urdu-Speaking Union.
- (2) The Union shall have its registered office at the National Urdu Institute, Kadhafi Square, Plaine Verte, or at such other place as the Council may determine.
- (3) The Union may be affiliated to any organisation in another country whose objectives are similar to those of the Union.
- (4) The Union may open branches throughout the country on a regional basis.
- (5) Membership of the Union shall be open to all persons who have a keen interest in the promotion of the Urdu language

## 4. Objects of the Union

The objects of the Union shall be to-

- (a) promote the Urdu language in its spoken and written forms;
- (b) promote friendship and understanding between the Urdu- speaking peoples of the world and to engage in any educational, academic, cultural and artistic work to further that objective;
- (c) provide facilities for the exchange of views affecting the interests, well being, development, relationships and common problems of the Urdu-Speaking peoples of the world;

- (d) promote and encourage the linguistic development among all people having an interest in Urdu with special emphasis on the cultural, artistic, economic and social perspectives;
- (e) provide facilities for exchange programmes, scholarships and social intercourse between the Union and other organisations at regional and international level;
- (f) promote, organise and encourage correspondence, debates, elocution, poetry recitations (Mushaira), Ghazals, Qawwali programmes, seminars and other literary activities in Urdu amongst universities, colleges schools and other bodies situated either in Mauritius or any other country;
- (g) promote and encourage the interchange of Urdu books, pamphlets, periodicals and other information among local colleges, schools and educational establishments overseas;
- (h) promote and encourage the publication, exhibition, distribution and sale of Urdu books, magazines, newspapers and calligraphic works;
- (i) promote intercultural and interlinguistic understanding and harmony through exchange and participation in joint projects;
- (j) undertake and carry on all such work as may be deemed necessary for the attainment of the objects afore-mentioned and to do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the accomplishment of any or all of them.

## **5. Members of the Union**

- (1) The Union shall consist of ordinary members with an interest in the development, propagation and promotion of the Urdu language.
- (2) The number of members shall be unlimited but membership will be subject to approval of the Executive Council.
- (3) The Executive Council reserves the right to dismiss any member from the Union at any time in the course of the year if deemed necessary.
- (4) Each and every member shall pay to the Union such entrance fee as well as such monthly fee as may be determined from time to time by the Executive Council.
- (5) The persons specified in the First Schedule to this Act shall be considered as the initial members of the Union.

## **6. Executive Council**

- (1) Subject to subsection (3), the Union shall be managed by an Executive Council elected for the purpose and composed of not less than 20 nor more than 30 members.
- (2) The members of the Council and the office bearers of the Council shall be elected biennially.
- (3) The members of the Council for the first two years shall be the persons specified in the Second Schedule to this Act and shall be eligible for re-election.
- (4) The office bearers of the Council for the first two years shall be the persons specified in the Third Schedule to this Act and shall be eligible for re-election.
- (5) The Council may remove any member or fill any vacancy arising in its membership or any office thereof.
- (6) One third of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

## **7. Patron of the Union**

- (1) The Council may appoint such suitable persons as it thinks fit as Patrons of the Union.
- (2) The first Patron shall be the person specified in the 4th Schedule to this Act.

## **8. Execution of documents**

- (1) Every document of a financial nature issued by or on behalf of the Union shall be signed by the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- (2) Where the President, the Treasurer or the Secretary is absent or, for any other reason, unable to act, the Vice-President, the Deputy Treasurer or the Assistant Secretary, as the case may be, shall act in his stead.

## **9. General Fund**

- (1) There shall be a General Fund into which shall be paid all monies accruing to the Union, including the fees, donations and contributions that may be raised from its members and its donors including grants from the Government.
- (2) The Council may pay out of the Fund any sum which is lawfully due by the Union or any sum to promote the objects of the Union.

## **10. Audit**

- (1) The Council may appoint a qualified person as auditor of the financial affairs of the Union.
- (2) The auditor shall not later than the end of March in every year, furnish to the Council audited accounts of the Union for the previous year.

## 11. Donations

Article 910 of the Civil Code shall not apply to the Union.

## 12. Rules

- (1) The Council may, for the purposes of this Act, make rules for the Union which shall be binding on the Union and the Council.
- (2) Rules under this section shall not be required to be-
  - (a) otherwise approved;
  - (b) laid before the Assembly; or
  - (c) published in the *Gazette*.

Passed by the National Assembly on the twenty-sixth day of November two thousand and two.

Bhupen Dwarka  
Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

## FIRST SCHEDULE

*(section 5(5))*

1. Mr. Shehzad Abdulla Ahmed
2. Mr. Farook Bauccha
3. Mr. Khalick Bauccha
4. Mr. Gulhamid Beegun
5. Mr. Islam Bhugan
6. Mr. Haniff Caunhye
7. Mr. Mahmood Cheeroo
8. Mr. Fakhru Currimjee
9. Mrs. Najrna Currimjee
10. Mr. Anwar Dusmohamed
11. Mr. Yacoob Ebrahim Dawood

12. Mr. Enayat Hossen Edun
13. Mr. Farook Husnoo
14. Mr. Rafick Elahee
15. Mr. Swabir Goodur
16. Mr. Cassam Heerah
17. Mr. Gany Joonas
18. Mr. Issaack Joonas
19. Mr. Anwar Kathrada
20. Mr. Said Meeajan
21. Mr. Rashid Neerooa
22. Mr. Farook Rujjul
23. Mr. Yousouf Salehrnohamed
24. Mr. Naz Usmani
25. The High Commissioner of India or his Representative '
26. The High Commissioner of Pakistan or his Representative
27. A representative *of* the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research
28. A representative of the Ministry *of* Arts and Culture
29. A representative of the Government Urdu Teachers Union
30. A representative of the Islamic Cultural Centre

## **SECOND SCHEDULE**

*(section 6(3))*

1. Mr. Shehzad Abdulla Ahmed
2. Mr. Farook Bauccha
3. Mr. Khalick Bauccha
4. Mr. Haniff Caunhye
5. Mr. Fakhru Currimjee
6. Mr. Yacoob Ebrahim Dawood
7. Mr. Anwar Dushman
8. Mr. Enayat Hossen Edun
9. Mr. Farook Husnoo
10. *Mr.* Swabir Goodur
11. Mr. Cassam Heerah
12. Mr. Issack Joonas
13. Mr. Anwar Kathrada
14. Mr. Said Meeajan
15. Mr. Rashid Neerooa

16. Mr. Farook Rujjul
17. The High Commissioner of India or his Representative
18. The High Commissioner of Pakistan or his Representative
19. A representative of the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research
20. A representative of the Ministry of Arts and Culture
21. A representative of the Islamic Cultural Centre

### **THIRD SCHEDULE**

*(section 6(4))*

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|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Shehzad A Ahmed  | - | President                      |
| 2. Mr. E. H. Edun       | - | Vice-President                 |
| 3. Mr. Yacoob E. Dawood | - | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President |
| 4. Mr. Farook Bauccha   | - | Secretary                      |
| 5. Mr. Haniff Caunhye   | - | Assistant Secretary            |
| 6. Mr. Rashid Neerooa   | - | Treasurer                      |
| 7. Mr. Farook Rujjul    | - | Assistant Treasurer            |
| 8. Mr. Swabir Goodur    | - | Public Relations Officer       |

### **FOURTH SCHEDULE**

*(section 7(2))*

- I. Mr. A. Abdulla Ahmed, C.B.E., G.O.S.K.,