



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

SENATE PAPER NO. 1 of 2008

PARL: NO. 14/2/3

**SENATE
[2007-2008 SESSION]**

**REPORT
OF
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE**

Ordered by the Senate to be printed

COMPOSITION

1. At a sitting of the Senate held on Tuesday February 19, 2008 the following members were appointed to serve on the House Committee of the Senate for the 2007-2008 session:

Mr. Conrad Enill	-	Chairman
Dr. Emily Gaynor Dick-Forde	-	Member
Mr. Wesley George	-	Member
Mr. Basharat Ali	-	Member
Dr. Adesh Nanan	-	Member

TERMS OF REFERENCE

2. In accordance with Standing Order 66 of the Senate, your Committee had the duty of considering and advising the President on all matters connected to the comfort and convenience of Members of the Senate and from time to time reporting to the Senate.

SECRETARIAL STAFF

3. Ms. Jean Sandy, Ag. Clerk of the Senate served as Secretary to your Committee with Mr. Ralph Deonarine, Temp. Parliamentary Clerk I serving as Assistant Secretary.

MEETINGS

4. To date your Committee has held one (1) meeting on **Tuesday March 12, 2008**. The Minutes are at Appendix I.

REPORT

5. Your Committee wishes to report that during the 2007-2008 Session, the following matters which impact on the comfort and convenience of Senators were considered and agreed to by your Committee:

- (i) **The provision of laptops to Senators;**
- (ii) **The provision of wireless internet connectivity to Senators.**

RECOMMENDATION

6. In light of paragraph 5 above, your Committee hereby recommends that Senators be provided with:

- (i) Laptop computers;
- (ii) Wireless Internet Connectivity.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Conrad Enill
Chairman

Dr. Emily Gaynor Dick-Forde
Member

Mr. Wesley George
Member

Mr. Basharat Ali
Member

Dr. Adesh Nanan
Member

March 13, 2008.

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SENATE HOUSE COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY MARCH 11, 2008 AT 12:50 P.M. IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2, PARLIAMENT BUILDING,
RED HOUSE, ABERCROMBY STREET, PORT OF SPAIN.**

Present

Mr. Conrad Enill	-	Chairman
Dr. Emily Gaynor Dick-Forde	-	Member
Mr. Basharat Ali	-	Member
Dr. Adesh Nanan	-	Member
Mr. Ralph Deonarine	-	Asst. Secretary
Mrs. Jacqueline Stoute	-	Procedural Clerk

Absent

Mr. Wesley George	-	Member
-------------------	---	--------

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Chairman called the Meeting to order at 12:50 p.m. and apologized to Members for the late start, due to his attendance at another Meeting that went beyond schedule.
- 1.2 The Chairman welcomed those in attendance and identified the Members of the Committee.

QUORUM

- 2.1 The Chairman reminded Members that in accordance with Senate Standing Order 73(5) the Committee had fulfilled the stipulated quorum of three (3) Members and the Meeting therefore, was properly constituted.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 3.1 The Chairman outlined the Committee's terms of reference as stated in Senate Standing Order 66.
- 3.2 The Chairman also advised Members that the Committee meets only as the need arises and any decisions taken are to be reported to the Senate.

PROVISION OF LAPTOPS TO SENATORS

- 4.1 The Chairman indicated that the meeting was called as a result of two letters received from Senators Dana Seetahal, SC and Wade Mark, both requesting the provision of laptops to Senators. The Chairman invited Members to air their views on the matter.
- 4.2 Mr. Basharat Ali informed the Committee that the matter was discussed in a meeting among the Independent Senators who were all in support of the proposal.

- 4.3 Dr. Adesh Nanam expressed similar support, further to which he proposed that Senators be provided with wireless internet connectivity. This was agreed to by the Committee.
- 4.4 The Chairman acknowledged the Committee's views and instructed the Clerk to prepare a Report for submission to the Senate.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 5.1 The Chairman invited Members to discuss any other business.
- 5.2 Dr. Adesh Nanam proposed that Medical Benefits be provided to Senators, as no such arrangement currently existed.
- 5.2 The Chairman asked Dr. Nanam to submit a written proposal on such, for the next meeting of the House Committee.
- 5.3 Mr. Basharat Ali informed the meeting that it was the collective view of the Independent Senators that Research personnel be provided for the Independent Senators by the Parliament.
- 5.4 The Chairman similarly advised Mr. Ali to submit a written proposal which the Committee would discuss at the next meeting.
- 5.5 The Chairman informed Members that the next meeting of the Committee would take place pending the submission of proposals as requested of Members.

ADJOURNMENT

- 6.1 There being no further business, the Chairman thanked Members in attendance and informed them that lunch was provided in the Members' lounge.
- 6.2 The Chairman adjourned the Meeting to a date to be fixed.
- 6.3 The adjournment was taken at 12:56 p.m.

We certify that that the above Minutes are true and correct.

Chairman

Secretary

March 12, 2008