

**9th MEETING OF 2012
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MINUTES
3 DECEMBER, 2012
CONFERENCE ROOM
COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT**

PRESENT: Richard Coles Chairman
Rev. Nicholas Sykes Member
Alistair Walters Member
Sara Collins Member

APOLOGIES: Cathy Frazier Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deborah Bodden Manager, Commissions Secretariat
Michael Ebanks Analyst, Commissions Secretariat

1. **Meeting called to order**
The meeting was called to order at 3:35p.m.
2. **Confirmation of previous minutes**
The minutes of 10 October, 2012 and 7 November, 2012 were approved.
3. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**
 - a. **Migrants Policy**
The Commission will seek to reschedule meetings with the Government to discuss the subject matter.
 - b. **Failure by Public Officials to Respond to Requests**
The HRC has written to the Deputy Governor regarding the matter and will continue to monitor the situation.
4. **New Business**
There was no new business to discuss.
5. **Human Rights Complaints**
 - a. **Update on Human Rights Complaint 004/2012**
The HRC continues to review the documentation attached to this complaint.
 - b. **Human Rights Complaint 006/2012**
The HRC received a response from the Chief Officer of the Ministry concerned. Correspondence will be sent accordingly to the complainant as well as to the Chief Officer.
 - c. **Human Rights Complaint 010/2012**

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly. Member Sara Collins recused herself from any decision regarding this particular complaint as per the Policy and Procedures Manual.

d. Human Rights Complaint 011/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly as well as the relevant public authorities.

e. Human Rights Complaint 012/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

f. Human Rights Complaint 013/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

g. Human Rights Complaint 014/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

h. Human Rights Complaint 015/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

i. Human Rights Complainant 016/2012

This complaint form was incomplete and submitted anonymously; as such further contact cannot be made with the complainant to ascertain relevant information.

j. Human Rights Complainant 017/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

k. Human Rights Complaint 018/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

l. Human Rights Complaint 019/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

m. Human Rights Complaint 020/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

n. Human Rights Complaint 021/2012

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.

6. Any Other Business

a. Human Rights Query

The HRC received an enquiry on the above subject. The Elections Office is the appropriate body to which this enquiry will be referred

b. Marine Query

The HRC received an enquiry on the above subject and will review relevant documents prior to making any decision regarding the matter.

c. International Human Rights Day

This year marks the 64th anniversary of the ratification of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Members of the Commission will undertake media and community engagements to promote International Human Rights Day on 10 December 2012.

d. Amendment to Policy and Procedure Manual

The Commission has agreed to minor changes regarding its case management procedure. The changes are aimed at increasing efficiencies for all parties involved. Changes will be reflected in amendments to the Policy and Procedure Manual.

e. Annual Report

The annual report is in the final stages of drafting. The report will reflect the activities of the Commission during the reporting period of 1 January, 2012 to 31 December, 2012.

7. Action Items

Members will review documentation related to HRC case 004/2012 and correspond internally as discussed.

The Secretariat will:

- a. draft amendments to the policies and procedures manual as instructed by the Commission;
- b. schedule meetings with relevant parties regarding Migrants Policy;
- c. draft correspondence and follow up on all outstanding HRC complaints; and
- d. forward the 2012 Annual Report to the Commission Chairman.

8. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Migrants Policy
- b. Volunteer Mediators
- c. Outstanding Human Rights Complaints
- d. Debrief International Human Rights Day

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 9 January, 2012 @ 3:30pm.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm.



Mr. Richard Coles
CHAIRMAN
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION