

**BELIZE**

**No.16/1/14**

## **SENATE**

**Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**9:00 A.M.**

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### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

- 1. Prayers.**
- 2. Oath of Allegiance of a new Senator.**
- 3. Announcement by the President.**
- 4. Bill brought from the House of Representatives.**

*1. Belize Companies Bill, 2022.*

*(Leader of Government Business and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration)*

- 6. Paper.**

No. 27/1/14 - Hol Chan Marine Reserve Annual Budget for financial year April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023.

*(Leader of Government Business and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration)*

- 13. Motions relating to the Business or Sitzings of the Senate.**
- 14. Public Business.**

#### **A. GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

##### **I MOTIONS *(For Text of Motions see Notice Papers attached)***

1. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development - Belize COVID-19 Response Project – (US\$6.2 Million) Loan Motion, 2022.
2. Resolution Authorising the Ratification by Belize of the Protocol to Amend the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas Establishing the Caribbean Community, including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy to Allow Enhanced Cooperation Among Member States and to Address Related Issues Motion, 2022.

3. Resolution Authorising the Ratification by Belize of the Protocol to Amend Article 32 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas Establishing the Caribbean Community, including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy Motion, 2022.

*(Leader of Government Business and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration)*

**II BILL FOR SECOND READING**

**III COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SENATE ON MOTIONS AND BILL**

**IV BILL FOR THIRD READING**

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**BELIZE**

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## **SENATE**

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### **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS**

### **MOTIONS**

**1. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development - Belize COVID-19 Response Project – (US\$6.2 Million) Loan Motion, 2022.**

**WHEREAS**, Belize being a member of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the “Bank”), is eligible for development assistance in the form of loans, grants, and technical assistance from the Bank on such terms and conditions as may be agreed between Belize and the Bank from time to time;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Government of Belize has approached the Bank for financial assistance to implement Belize’s Covid-19 Emergency Response Project to be undertaken by the Ministry of Health;

**AND WHEREAS**, this Project will finance (1) the purchasing of Covid-19 vaccines; (2) deploying these vaccines to the Belizean population; and (3) strengthening the capacity of Belize’s health system emergency response in accessing ancillary supply kits, personal protective equipment and medical supplies; broadening an outreach program to provide integrated essential health services; capacity building to strengthen infection control and waste management practices; digitizing data reporting systems in outreach areas; supporting Covid-19 immunization campaigns; and acquiring medical equipment to strength Covid-19 case management;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Bank has offered financing of up to **US\$6,200,000** for the said purpose under the following terms and conditions:

Lender:	The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development;
Loan Principal Amount:	US\$6,200,000.00;
Disbursement Schedule:	Over a period of two years, from the date of signature of the Loan Contract, up to 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2024, (four months after the closing date of 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2024);
Loan Term:	Eighteen (18) years inclusive of a forty-eight (48) month Grace Period on Principal Repayments;
Repayment Period:	To be repaid in 28 approximately equal, semi-annual, and consecutive installments of about US\$221,428.57, on 15 <sup>th</sup> April and 15 <sup>th</sup> October in each year;

Purpose:	To support the Government of Belize's Covid-19 Response Project in the acquisition and deployment of Covid-19 vaccines and enhance the capability of Belize's healthcare system to respond to health emergencies;
Rate of Interest:	Reference Rate based on the USD Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) plus the variable spread or such rate as may apply following a conversion; the Rate is currently at about 0.28% but will be fixed on date of signing;
Front End Fee:	One quarter of one percent (0.25%) per annum on the unwithdrawn loan balance;

**AND WHEREAS**, under the provisions of section 7(2) of the Finance and Audit (Reform) Act, 2005, the Government of Belize is required to obtain the prior authorization of the National Assembly, by way of a Resolution, for such a borrowing;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House, being satisfied that the Loan proceeds would significantly assist the Government of Belize in its continuous efforts to contain and mitigate the spread of, and deaths caused by, COVID-19, and strengthen the ability of the health system to respond to future health emergencies, approves and confirms that the Government may enter into a Loan Contract with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on the terms and conditions set out above, and further authorizes the Minister of Finance to execute and deliver the said Loan Contract and all other documents associated therewith.

2. **Resolution Authorising the Ratification by Belize of the Protocol to Amend the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas Establishing the Caribbean Community, including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy to Allow Enhanced Cooperation Among Member States and to Address Related Issues Motion, 2022.**

**WHEREAS**, the Protocol to Amend the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas Establishing the Caribbean Community, including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy to Allow Enhanced Cooperation Among Member States and to Address Related Issues (hereinafter referred to as "the Enhanced Protocol"), was signed by Belize on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022;

**AND WHEREAS**, the objective of the Enhanced Protocol is to allow for Member States of CARICOM to establish enhanced cooperation among themselves within the framework of the principle, goals and objectives of the Revised Treaty;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Government of Belize is desirous of ratifying the Enhanced Protocol, pursuant to Article 236 (2) of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas;

**AND WHEREAS**, section 61(A)(2)(a) of the Belize Constitution, as amended by the Belize Constitution (Sixth Amendment) Act (No. 13 of 2008), provides that the Senate shall authorize the accession to any treaty by the Government of Belize;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate authorizes the Government of Belize to ratify the Enhanced Protocol, a full text of which is hereto annexed.

3. **Resolution Authorising the Ratification by Belize of the Protocol to Amend Article 32 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas Establishing the Caribbean Community, including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy Motion, 2022.**

**WHEREAS**, the Protocol to Amend Article 32 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas Establishing the Caribbean Community, including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (hereinafter referred to as “the Protocol”), was signed by Belize on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022;

**AND WHEREAS**, the objective of the Protocol is to clarify the connection to Montserrat required for a person to be regarded as a national of Montserrat for the purposes of Article 32(5)(a)(ii) of the Revised Treaty;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Government of Belize is desirous of ratifying the Enhanced Protocol, pursuant to Article 236 (2) of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas;

**AND WHEREAS**, section 61(A)(2)(a) of the Belize Constitution, as amended by the Belize Constitution (Sixth Amendment) Act (No. 13 of 2008), provides that the Senate shall authorize the accession to any treaty by the Government of Belize;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate authorizes the Government of Belize to ratify the Enhanced Protocol, a full text of which is hereto annexed.

*(Leader of Government Business and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration)*

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