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First Session First Parliament Republic of Trinidad  
and Tobago

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REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**Act No. 37 of 1977**

[L.S.]

**AN ACT to provide for the Incorporation of the Trinidad  
and Tobago Federation of Women's Institutes.**

*[Assented to 19th August, 1977]*

**WHEREAS** there has been for many years established in Preamble  
Trinidad and Tobago an organisation known as the  
Trinidad and Tobago Federation of Women's Institutes.

And whereas it is expedient that the said Organization  
should be incorporated for the purpose of carrying out  
its aims and objects and doing other things as herein-  
after set forth.

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Enactment	ENACTED by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as follows :—
Short title	1. This Act may be cited as the Trinidad and Tobago Federation of Women's Institutes (Incorporation) Act, 1977.
Incorporation	2. The Federation shall be and is hereby created a body corporate with perpetual succession and shall use a Common Seal which may from time to time be changed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federation.
Powers of Federation	3. (1) The Federation in or by its name may sue and be sued in the Courts of Justice in Trinidad and Tobago and subject to all laws (including this Act) and the rules of the Federation from time to time in force shall have the powers specified in subsection (2) and such other powers as are appropriate to the fulfilment of its aims and objects as may from time to time be specified in its rules. (2) The Federation shall have power :— (a) to acquire by purchase, transfer, demise, exchange, gift, grant, devise, bequest, donation or otherwise any real or personal property or any estate or interest therein and may hold and enjoy the same; (b) to accept surrenders and reconveyances and to enter into contracts; (c) to grant and receive loans, securities or gifts to and from any of its kindred bodies or members of the Federation and to provide pensions, gratuities, honoraria or gifts to any of its members and present or former employees; (d) to sell, demise, devise, grant, convey, mortgage, reconvey, surrender, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or any property from time to time vested in it.
Aims and objects of Federation	4. The aims and objects of the Federation are :— (a) to improve and develop conditions of home and community life by encouraging the formation of Women's Institutes;

- (b) to foster interest in and to ensure educational, cultural and civic development among the women of Trinidad and Tobago;
- (c) to provide centres for social activities;
- (d) to develop co-operative enterprise;
- (e) to do everything possible both by study and action to further friendship and mutual understanding between women of all nations.

5. The Federation shall have three classes of <sup>Membership of</sup> Membership of <sub>the Federation</sub> Membership—

- (a) ordinary membership which shall be open to all women's institutes and women's sections of mixed organisations whose aims and objects are in harmony with those of the Federation;
- (b) associate membership which shall be open to women's organisations whose aims and objects are in harmony with those of the Federation; and
- (c) honorary membership which shall be open by invitation of the Executive Committee of the Federation to a limited number of women who are interested in the betterment of home and community life and who are in sympathy with the aims and objects of the Federation and are not otherwise eligible for membership in the Federation.

6. The officers of the Federation shall be:—

Officers of the  
Federation

- (a) the President;
- (b) the First Vice-President;
- (c) the Second Vice-President;
- (d) a General Secretary;
- (e) an Assistant Secretary;
- (f) a Correspondence Secretary;
- (g) a Treasurer;
- (h) two (2) trustees.

Executive  
Committee

7. (1) There shall be an Executive Committee of the Federation which shall consist of officers of the Federation and a representative of each of the eight district Federation Councils.

(2) The Executive Committee shall manage the affairs and administer the funds of the Federation and shall be responsible for effectuating the policy of the Federation.

(3) The Executive Committee may in the exercise of its power under subsection (2) of section 7, appoint such committees as it may from time to time deem expedient.

Annual  
Conference

8. There shall be an annual conference to be held not later than April in each calendar year at a time and place to be fixed by the Executive Committee for the following purposes:—

- (a) to receive from the district Federation Councils a report of their activities for the preceding year;
- (b) to receive from the Executive Committee a report on its activities for the preceding year;
- (c) to decide on any resolutions which may be duly submitted to the conference as hereinafter provided;
- (d) to discuss such other matters as with leave of the Chairman may be submitted by any member of the Federation for the consideration of the conference.

Executive  
Committee may  
make rules

9. The Executive Committee may make rules for the purpose of conducting its business and discharging its power, duties and functions under this Act.

Interpretation  
or rules

10. The Executive Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules made under section 9 and the decision of the Committee on any question of interpretation upon any matter affecting the Federation and not provided for by the rules shall be final and conclusive.

11. All deeds, documents or other instruments requiring the seal of the Federation shall be sealed with its common seal in the presence of the President and the General Secretary of the Federation for the time being in office who shall sign every such deed, document or other instrument to which the common seal is affixed and such signing shall be *prima facie* evidence that the said seal was duly and properly affixed and is the lawful seal of the federation. Mode of  
Execution of  
documents

12. (1) The Federation shall at all times have a permanent address in Trinidad and Tobago for service of documents on the Federation and such address and any change thereof shall be registered with the Registrar General. All documents to be served on the Federation may be served by leaving the same at or by sending the same by registered post to the address so registered. Service of  
documents

(2) Failure to register the address and any change thereof is an offence and renders the Federation liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred and twenty dollars and to a further fine of ten dollars for each day during which the offence continues after conviction thereof.

13. Nothing in this act shall affect or be deemed to affect the rights of the State of Trinidad and Tobago or of any bodies politic or corporate or of any other persons except such as are mentioned or referred to in this Act and those claiming by, through, from or under them. Saving of  
rights

Passed in the Senate this 28th day of June, 1977.

E. WILLIAMS  
*Acting Clerk of the Senate*

Passed in the House of Representatives this 15th day of July, 1977.

R. L. GRIFFITH  
*Acting Clerk of the House*