

LAWS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CHAGUARAMAS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ACT

CHAPTER 35:02

**Act
37 of 1972**

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CHAPTER 35:02

CHAGUARAMAS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ACT

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SCHEDULE.

An Act to provide for the establishment and operation of the Authority for the development of the North-West Peninsula in the interest of the People of Trinidad and Tobago. 37 of 1972.

[9TH DECEMBER 1972]

Commencement.

1. This Act may be cited as the Chaguaramas Development Authority Act. Short title.

Interpretation.

2. (1) In this Act—

“Authority” means the Chaguaramas Development Authority established under section 3;

“company” means a body corporate, an unincorporated association and a partnership;

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“development” and “development plan” have the meanings respectively assigned to those expressions under the Town and Country Planning Act;

Schedule.

“North-West Peninsula” means, subject to subsection (2), that part of Trinidad described in the Schedule;

“person” includes a company.

(2) The President may by Order from time to time amend the Schedule.

Establishment and constitution of Authority.

3. (1) There is hereby established a body corporate to be known as the Chaguaramas Development Authority, which shall consist of a Chairman and such number of other members as the President may from time to time determine.

(2) The President shall appoint as Chairman and Deputy Chairman and other members of the Authority persons who are fit and proper for carrying out the objectives of this Act by reason of their qualifications and experience.

(3) A member of the Authority shall hold office for such period as is specified in his instrument of appointment but shall be eligible for re-appointment.

(4) Where for any reason the Chairman is unable to carry out his functions under this Act, the Deputy Chairman may act in his place until the Chairman is again able to carry out such functions or until another person is appointed as Chairman.

(5) Where a member other than the Chairman is granted leave of absence in accordance with subsection (7) or is otherwise unable to perform the functions of his office, the President may appoint some other person to act as temporary member during such absence or inability.

(6) A member of the Authority may at any time resign his office by instrument in writing addressed to the Chairman who shall cause it to be forwarded to the Minister and the Chairman may resign his office by instrument in writing addressed to the

Minister. Resignation shall take effect on the date of the receipt of the instrument by the Chairman or the Minister as the case may be.

(7) The Minister may on the application of a member of the Authority grant such member leave of absence for a period not exceeding six months.

(8) Notwithstanding subsection (3) the President may in his absolute discretion revoke the appointment of a member.

(9) The name of all the members of the Authority as first constituted and every change in the membership thereof shall be published in the *Gazette*.

4. The Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and other members of the Authority shall be paid such remuneration and allowances as may be determined by the President. Remuneration of members.

5. (1) The Authority shall have a seal, which shall be kept in the custody either of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman or of the Secretary, as the Authority may determine, and may be affixed to instruments pursuant to its Standing Orders made by the Authority under section 6(6) or to a resolution of the Authority, in the presence of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman and of one other member, and the Secretary. Custody and use of seal.

(2) The seal of the Authority shall be attested by the signatures of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary.

(3) All documents other than those required by law to be under seal, made by, and all decisions of, the Authority may be signified under the hand of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman or the Secretary.

(4) Service upon the Authority of any notice, order or other document shall be effected by delivering the same or by sending it by registered post addressed to the Secretary at the office of the Authority.

6. (1) The Authority shall meet at least once in each month and at such other times as may be necessary for the efficient performance of its functions. Meetings.

(2) The Chairman may at any time call a special meeting of the Authority and shall call such a meeting within seven days of the receipt by him of a request in writing addressed to him by any member of the Authority.

(3) The quorum of the Authority shall consist of the Chairman or in his absence the Deputy Chairman and three other members.

(4) Subject to this section, the Authority may by Standing Orders regulate its own proceedings.

Members to
declare interest.

7. (1) A member of the Authority who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in a contract or proposed contract with the Authority or in any other matter whatsoever in which the Authority is concerned, shall declare the nature of his interest at the first meeting of the Authority at which he is present after the relevant facts have come to his knowledge.

(2) A member shall not take part in any deliberation or decision of the Authority with respect to any transaction with the Authority or any other matter with which the Authority is concerned in which he has whether directly or indirectly any interest.

(3) For the purposes of this Act a member of the Authority shall be deemed to have an interest in a transaction if he is a member of a company or is in the employment of or employed by a person or a company or is married to a person who transacts or proposes to transact or undertakes to execute or carry out any works or services which are the subject of consideration by the Authority.

(4) A member who fails to comply with this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two thousand dollars unless he proves that he did not know that a contract, proposed contract or other matter in which he had a pecuniary interest was the subject of consideration at the meeting.

(5) A disclosure under subsection (1) shall be recorded in the minutes of the Authority.

Power to
employ and
train.

8. (1) The Authority may appoint at such remuneration and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit a general manager, a secretary and such other officers and employees as it considers necessary or appropriate for the efficient performance of its functions.

(2) An annual salary in a sum which is equivalent to or exceeds eighteen thousand dollars shall not be assigned to any post in the Authority without the approval of the Minister.

(3) The Authority may provide out of its funds and make such arrangements for the training of any of its officers or

employees or other persons as it may consider expedient for the efficient conduct of the business of the Authority.

(4) Nothing contained in the Pensions Extension Act shall apply or be held to apply to officers and employees appointed by the Authority under subsection (1). Ch. 23:53.

9. There shall be appointed by the President a technical advisory committee of public officers for the purpose of advising the Authority in matters relating to the performance of its functions and the exercise of its powers. President to appoint technical advisory committee.

10. The Authority shall within a period of three years of its establishment, by rules confirmed by the Minister, provide for the establishment and maintenance of a Pension Scheme for the benefit of the officers and employees of the Authority and officers transferred to it or transferred on secondment. Establishment of a Pension Scheme.

11. Without prejudice to the generality of section 10, the Pension Scheme may enable the Authority to— Content of Pension Scheme.

- (a) grant gratuities, pensions or superannuation allowances to, or to the widows, families or dependants of, their employees;
- (b) establish contributory superannuation schemes, and establish and contribute to superannuation funds for the benefit of their employees;
- (c) enter into and carry into effect agreements with any insurance company or other association or company for securing to any such employee, widow, family or dependant such gratuities, pensions or allowances as are by this section authorised to be granted;
- (d) give donations or subscriptions to charitable institutions, sick funds, benevolent funds and other objects calculated to benefit their employees.

12. (1) An officer in the public service may be transferred to the service of the Authority and upon such transfer shall participate in any superannuation scheme established by the Authority; and an officer in the service of the Authority may be transferred to the public service. Transfer of officers.

(2) A transfer described in subsection (1) shall be on such terms as may be acceptable to the President, the Authority and the officer concerned and the pension or superannuation rights

accruing to the officer at the time of his transfer shall be preserved in the manner provided by regulations made by the President in that behalf.

Transfer on
secondment.

13. (1) Subject to subsection (2) an officer in the public service may with the approval of the Minister and the appropriate Service Commission be transferred on secondment to the service of the Authority and an officer in the service of the Authority may with the like approval, be transferred on secondment to the public service.

(2) Where a transfer on secondment contemplated by subsection (1) is effected the President or the Authority as the case may be shall make such arrangements as may be necessary to preserve the rights of the officer so transferred to any pension, gratuity or other allowance for which he would have been eligible had he remained in the public service or the service of the Authority, as the case may be.

Functions and
powers of the
Authority.

14. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the principal function of the Authority shall be to undertake, or secure the undertaking of, the laying out and development of the North-West Peninsula in accordance with any development plan referred to in section 16 and any development order issued in relation thereto; and the Authority shall ensure that any such laying out and development is carried out in conformity with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning Act.

Ch. 35:01.

(2) The Authority shall have power—

- (a) in addition to the acquisition of land and other property by virtue of a Vesting Order under section 16, to acquire by purchase transfer, donation, exchange, demise, bequest, grant, gift, conveyance or howsoever otherwise, any real or personal property or any estate or interest therein;
- (b) to accept surrenders, assignments or reconveyances and to enter into contracts;
- (c) subject to any restraint, reservation, restriction or condition it may impose, to sell, exchange, demise, mortgage or otherwise dispose of and deal with all property that may for the time being be vested in or have been acquired by it.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions of this section the Authority may, in the North-West Peninsula—

- (a) lay out, construct and maintain roads, construct and maintain buildings, and carry out such other building and engineering operations as may be necessary or desirable;
- (b) provide and maintain car parks, piers, public parks or gardens and other public amenities;
- (c) carry on any business or other activity (whether alone or jointly with any other person or authority) that is conducive to the development thereof,

and in particular the Authority may enter into such arrangements incidental to the foregoing as are considered necessary or expedient for the discharge of its functions.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section but subject to section 16 nothing in this Act shall be construed so as to permit or empower the Authority with respect to any land in the North-West Peninsula (the subject matter of a Vesting Order) to alienate the freehold or grant leases for a term of more than thirty years with an option for a further term not exceeding thirty years, except with the consent of the President.

15. (1) In the performance of its functions and exercise of its powers the Authority shall act in accordance with any special or general directions of the Minister but save as herein provided shall be subject to the control of no other person or authority.

Policy directions and policy advisory committee.

(2) In the formulation of policy the Minister shall be assisted by a policy advisory committee appointed for the purpose by the President from other members of Cabinet and appropriate public officers.

16. (1) Where a development plan respecting the North-West Peninsula or any part thereof comes into force in accordance with the provisions of Part II of the Town and Country Planning Act, the President may make a Vesting Order transferring to and vesting in the Authority all or any part of the land to which such development plan relates, and thereupon—

Vesting Orders by the President.
Ch. 35:01.

- (a) all land and other property of every kind, including things in action, vested or deemed to be vested immediately before the commencement of the Order in the State shall by virtue of this Act, and without further assurance be transferred to, and shall vest in, the Authority; and
- (b) all the rights, privileges and advantages and all the liabilities and obligations other than those of an

international nature that immediately before the commencement of the Order, the State was entitled or subject to, as the case may be, shall be transferred to, and conferred or imposed upon, the Authority for the purposes of this Act.

(2) No transfer or vesting effected by a Vesting Order shall—

- (a) give rise to any forfeiture; or
- (b) invalidate or discharge any contract or security.

(3) The President may by Order divest the Authority of any land vested in the Authority by virtue of a Vesting Order made under subsection (1) and thereupon the land to which the Order relates shall re-vest in the State subject to any rights or interests accruing to third parties from any disposition or other dealing in the land by the Authority.

(4) Any Order made under this section shall be published in the *Gazette*.

Supplementary provisions as to Vesting Orders.

17. (1) Without prejudice to the generality of section 16, the effect of a Vesting Order as regards the land thereby transferred shall be that on and from the commencement of the Order—

- (a) every existing contract or security to which the State was a party shall be construed and have effect as if—
 - (i) the Authority had been a party thereto instead of the State;
 - (ii) for any references (however worded whether express or implied) to the State there was substituted, as respects anything falling to be done on or after the commencement of the Order, a reference to the Authority;
- (b) any judgment or award obtained by or against the State not fully satisfied before the commencement of the Order is enforceable by or against the Authority.

Ch. 76:01.

(2) Nothing in the Stamp Duty Act shall apply in relation to any land on the occasion of its vesting in the Authority by virtue of a Vesting Order under section 16.

(3) In this section and in section 16 “security” includes a mortgage or charge (whether legal or equitable).

18. (1) Any disposition of land by the Authority shall be subject to the terms and conditions of any development plan and development order relating to such land. Conditions as to dispositions of land.

(2) Upon making a disposition of any land, the subject of a Vesting Order under section 16, the Authority may attach such terms and conditions as it thinks proper in order to ensure—

(a) the carrying out of the terms and conditions of the development plan and development order relating to such land;

(b) in addition to the requirements of any regulations relating thereto, the maintenance of such general standards of the whole or any part of such land as it thinks fit to impose.

(3) A purchaser of land, the subject of a Vesting Order under section 16, shall, in addition to any covenants or conditions imposed in the State grant or licence, conveyance, lease or other assurance by which he holds, be subject to any rules and regulations as to the maintenance of general standards of the whole or any part of such land.

(4) In subsection (3) “purchaser” means a person who holds an interest or a charge on any land, the subject of a Vesting Order under section 16 by way of a State grant or licence, conveyance, lease or other assurance before the Vesting Order was made.

19. (1) Where the removal or alteration of any works or apparatus belonging to any public utility on, under or over any land vested in the Authority or on, under or over any road running through, over or adjoining such land is, in the opinion of the Authority, necessary for the purpose of effecting the efficient performance of its functions, the Authority shall have the power to effect such removal or alteration subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this section. Removal or alteration of works of public utilities.

(2) The Authority shall serve on the public utility notice of its intention to remove or alter such works or apparatus with particulars of the operations it proposes to undertake in connection therewith and the manner in which such operations are to be executed and with plans thereof and shall not commence such operations until the expiration of twenty-eight days after the date of service of the notice.

(3) Within the period of twenty-eight days referred to in subsection (2) the public utility may in writing—

- (a) object to the execution of the proposed operations on the ground that they are not necessary or that the maintenance of the works or apparatus in its existing state is essential to the operations of the public utility; or
- (b) state requirements to which effect ought to be given as to the manner of the execution of the proposed operations or as to the undertaking of other operations for the protection of other works and apparatus of the public utility or as to the provision in a manner satisfactory to the public utility of substitute works or apparatus of comparable usefulness.

(4) The Authority shall have power with the prior approval of the Minister, to implement any requirement made by a public utility under subsection (3)(b) and to incur expenditure for that purpose. Where the Authority—

- (a) considers that notwithstanding any objection made under subsection (3)(a) that the proposed operations ought to be executed; or
- (b) refuses or is refused approval to implement any requirement made as aforesaid,

then the proposed operations shall not be executed but the matter shall be determined subject to subsection (5) between the Authority and the public utility.

(5) Where a public utility is established by statute, the determination referred to in subsection (4) shall be between the Authority and the member of the Cabinet responsible for the administration of the statute under which the public utility operates.

(6) Where a public utility suffers loss by reason of any operations executed by the Authority under this section (including loss attributable either to an increase in the cost of operating any works or apparatus or to any loss of income arising during or as a result of the execution of any such operations) and such loss is not made good by the provision of substitute works or apparatus, the Authority shall pay adequate compensation to the public utility.

(7) Reference in this section to the alteration of works or apparatus shall include reference to the alteration of the siting or position, or to the diversion of such works or apparatus.

(8) In this section "public utility" means a statutory authority performing services to the public for which any compensation or payment whatever is required and includes the Trinidad and Tobago Telephone Company Limited.

20. (1) For the purpose of enabling the efficient performance by the Authority of its functions under this Act, the Minister may, subject to the provisions of this section, by Order extinguish any public or private rights of way or any easement over any land vested in the Authority under section 16.

Rights of way or easement vested in Authority may be extinguished.

(2) A draft of every order proposed to be made under this section shall be published in the *Gazette* and for a period of seven days in a daily newspaper circulating in Trinidad and Tobago.

(3) Any person may make objection in writing to the making of any order under subsection (1) before the expiration of twenty-eight days from the date of the first publication of the draft thereof and the Minister shall consider every such objection before making the Order.

(4) Where an Order under subsection (1) is made, all public and private rights of way over and all easements over any land vested in the Authority under section 16, the subject of the Order, shall thereupon be extinguished; and subject to section 30, in the case of private rights of way or easements, the Authority shall pay adequate compensation therefor to the person who was entitled to those rights or easements.

21. (1) A person who is in possession or occupation of any land the subject of a Vesting Order under this Act, otherwise than with the consent of the Authority, is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for two years.

Squatting.

(2) Upon the recording of a conviction under this section the magistrate shall make an Order for putting the person convicted out of possession of the land and for the delivery of the possession thereof to the Authority and the Authority may by its servants or agents take possession thereof without further process.

22. The funds and resources of the Authority shall consist of—

Funds and resources of the Authority.

- (a) such amounts as may be appropriated therefor by Parliament;
- (b) all sums from time to time received by the Authority in respect of purchase price, premiums and rents and

other rates and charges for the use of property; income on investments, fees, commissions and interest;

- (c) sums borrowed by the Authority for the purpose of meeting any of its obligations or discharging any of its functions; and
- (d) all other sums or property that may in any manner become payable to or vested in the Authority in respect of any matter incidental to its powers and duties.

Initial expenditure and advances.

23. (1) The initial expenditure incurred in the performance of any of the functions of the Authority before the making of a Vesting Order under section 16 shall be defrayed out of moneys appropriated by Parliament.

(2) Temporary insufficiency in the assets of the fund shall be met from moneys appropriated by Parliament.

(3) All moneys appropriated by Parliament shall be repaid by the Authority as soon as may be practicable.

Execution of documents.

24. (1) Any document requiring to be executed by the Authority shall be deemed to be duly executed—

- (a) if signed by the Chairman and the Secretary; or
- (b) if signed, whether within or outside Trinidad and Tobago by a person or persons authorised by resolution of the Authority so to sign, but in such case an extract of the resolution certified by the Chairman and the Secretary shall be attached to and form part of the document.

(2) Any cheque, bill of exchange or order for the payment of money required to be executed by the Authority shall be deemed to be duly executed if signed by a person or persons authorised by this Act or by resolution of the Authority.

Annual report of Authority.

25. The Authority shall make an annual report of its proceedings to the Minister which shall be laid before Parliament.

Power to borrow or raise capital.

26. (1) The Authority may from time to time with the approval of the President borrow, secure or raise money by the issue of debentures or debenture stock or other security on the security of its assets for all or any of the following purposes:

- (a) the performance of its functions and exercise of its powers under this Act;
- (b) the redemption of any debenture or debenture stock or other security that the Authority is required or entitled to redeem;
- (c) any other expenses properly chargeable to capital account.

(2) The Authority may from time to time borrow by way of overdraft or unsecured borrowings for periods not exceeding twelve months such sums as may be required for meeting its obligations and the discharge of its functions under this Act, provided that the Authority shall not exceed any limits of borrowing under this subsection that are imposed from time to time by the Minister of Finance.

27. (1) The Authority shall so perform its functions and exercise its powers, so as to generate surpluses and ensure that its revenues are not less than sufficient to defray the following charges:

Application of revenue.

- (a) the remuneration, fees and allowances of the members of the Authority or of any committee thereof;
- (b) the salaries, fees and remuneration of the officers and employees and technical and other advisers of the Authority;
- (c) working and establishment expenses and expenditure on or provision for the development of the North-West Peninsula, the maintenance of the property and works of the Authority, and the discharge of any functions of the Authority properly chargeable to revenue account;
- (d) compensation payable by the Authority;
- (e) interest on any debenture, debenture stock or other security issued, and on any loan raised, by the Authority;
- (f) any other expenditure authorised by the Authority and properly chargeable to revenue account.

(2) The balance of the revenue of the Authority shall subject to subsection (1) be deposited in the Central Bank and become part of the Consolidated Fund.

28. The Minister may make regulations for the purpose of carrying this Act into effect and may by such regulations—

Regulations by Minister.

- (a) specify requirements for the laying out and development of any area in the North-West Peninsula;
- (b) impose restrictions on the use of any land the subject of a Vesting Order under section 16;
- (c) prescribe anything required or authorised to be prescribed.

Accounting of
Authority.

29. (1) All decisions, orders and rules relating to the financial operations of the Authority shall be made by resolution of the Authority at a meeting thereof and shall be recorded in the minutes of the Authority.

Ch. 69:01.

(2) The accounts of the Authority shall be audited by the Auditor General in accordance with the provisions of the Exchequer and Audit Act.

(3) After the end of each financial year the Authority shall as soon as its accounts have been audited cause a copy of the statement of accounts to be submitted to the Minister together with a copy of any report made by the Auditor General on that statement or on the accounts of the Authority.

(4) The Minister shall cause a copy of every such statement and report to be laid before Parliament.

Rules by
Authority.

30. For the purpose of regulating and controlling its financial operations the Authority may with the approval of the Minister make rules in respect of—

- (a) the manner in which and the officers by whom payments are to be approved;
- (b) the bank into which moneys of the Authority are to be paid, the designation of any account with such bank;
- (c) the appointment of a member of the Authority or an officer of the Authority to countersign cheques on behalf of the Chairman or in the absence of the Chairman;
- (d) the sum to be retained by the accounts officer to meet petty disbursements and immediate payments and the maximum sum that may be so disbursed for any one payment;

- (e) the method to be adopted in making payments out of the funds of the Authority; and
- (f) generally as to all matters necessary for the proper keeping and control of the finances of the Authority.

31. Any question as to the right of any person to receive compensation under this Act or to the amount thereof shall, failing agreement between the Authority and such person, be determined by the High Court upon application being made to that Court for the purpose.

High Court to determine compensation.

SCHEDULE

Section 2.

THE NORTH-WEST PENINSULA

1. (1) All that land situate in the north-western part of Trinidad in the Ward of Diego Martin in the County of St. George and bounded as follows:

- North* by the Caribbean Sea, from the point whose co-ordinates are North 1188 097 m. and East 653 395 m., approximately two miles East of Macqueripe Bay, to Entrada Point, at the entrance of the Boca de Monos (commonly known as the First Boca);
- West* by the Boca de Monos, from Entrada Point, to Delgada Point, sometimes known as Canning's Point;
- South* by the Gulf of Paria, from Delgada Point, to the point whose co-ordinates are North 1181 332 m. and East 653 405 m., approximately 15 feet West of the pier of the Bauxite Transfer Station at Carenage;
- East* by a line starting at the above mentioned point North 1181 332 m. and East 653 405 m. and continuing for a distance of approximately 6.1 miles in more or less a northerly direction along the ridge that separates the Diego Martin Valley from the Tucker Valley and through the peaks known as Morne Distree, Morne Jean and Morne Pierre back to the point whose co-ordinates are North 1188 097 m. East 653 395 m.,

save and except those areas therein occupied by the Trinidad Omega Station and the Associated Monitor Site and the area extending northward and westward from Piers 1 and 2 in Carenage Bay, more particularly shown as N1, N2, and N3 respectively in the plan referred to hereunder.

(2) This area is more particularly shown as delineated on a plan filed in the vault of the Surveys Department, Red House, as PG 97.

2. The off-shore Islands of Gaspar Grande, Gasparillo, Monos, Huevos and Chacachacare.

3. The waters of all bays along the coasts of the area up to baselines connecting the furthestmost points of the projection of land encircling the bays.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

69/1975.

VESTING ORDER

made under section 16(1)

The President has ordered that all the land to which the Development Plan described in the Appendix below relates and which before the commencement of this Order (that is, 9th October 1974) was vested in the Government of Trinidad and Tobago now vests in the Chaguaramas Development Authority subject to the limitations laid down in section 16(1)(b) of the Act.

APPENDIX

The Development Plan referred to above is the development plan respecting the North-West Peninsula, as defined in the Schedule to the Act, in force on the said 9th October 1974.
