

**First Meeting**  
**Select Committee to Consider Petitions of Concerned Citizens**  
**A Bill for, Goods and Services Tax Act, 2021**

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2021

Start Time 11:34am

The Committee met virtually using the Microsoft Team Application

Present

Hon Member for SIWED, Mr. Kyle Hodge  
Hon Member for SIWED, Mr. Kenneth Hodge  
Hon Member SIWED, Mrs. Quincia Gumbs-Marie  
Hon Member for Valley South, Ms. Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers  
Hon Member for Road North, Mr. Merrick Richardson

In Attendance

Mr. Lenox Proctor, Clerk of the Assembly  
Ms. Vanisha Proctor. Clerk of Committees

1. Election of Chair

The committee elected Hon Member for Road North, Mr. Merrick Richardson as chair of Committee.

2. Review of Terms of Reference and Other Related Documents

The committee:

Reviewed the following documents:

- a. Resolutions establishing the Committee
- b. The Petitions of the Concerned Citizens

Noted that based on the responses received to date from the Concerned Citizens, it was reasonable to conclude that a recommendation for Specialist Advisors to serve on the Committee will not be forthcoming from the organisers of the petition.

Considered strategies to directly involve members of the public in the work of the Committee and resolved that the National Youth Ambassador Corps be asked to recommend a young person to serve as a specialist advisor to the Committee.

Decided that individuals in the community be approached by Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May to ascertain interest and that a list of interested persons be brought to the Committee at its next meeting for a decision.

Agreed on a list of persons in the community be approached to ascertain interest.

### 3. Communications

The Committee resolved as follows:

- a. A Whatsapp Group will be utilised to obtain quick responses from members and to request followup
- b. Documents for the Committee are to be forwarded by email.
- c. Decisions in Committee are to be made generally by consensus. Though particularly difficult decisions may be put to the vote.
- d. Minutes and other Committee documents must be approved prior to publication. This can be done via email.
- e. The Committee to utilize similar strategy as used by the Assembly for Communicating with the Media
- f. The Committee is to meet weekly on Thursday at 2pm.
- g. Meetings are to be In person with the option for Members to Join virtually.

### 4. Forward Work Planning

The committee:

Noted an initial list of documents for review as follows:

- a. May 2020 MOU between Government of Anguilla and UK Government
- b. 2009 Letter to Chief Minister Osbourne Fleming from UK Overseas Territories Minister
- c. Framework for Fiscal Sustainability
- d. Documents Related to CDB Loans stipulating as a condition the implementation of GST
- e. Open Source documents related to the implantation of GST in Anguilla.
- f. Reports from other Overseas Territories and similar sized jurisdictions on the implementation of GST or similar tax.

Requested that a list of persons to be generated containing, the names and contact information of persons who would have served within the Ministry of Finance as Permanent Secretary, Principal Assistant Secretary, Heads of Departments, Units or Sections from 2011 to the present.

Ordered that correspondence be sent to the Ministry of Finance requesting copies of all correspondence between the GOA and the FCO, FCDO, related to the implementation of GST and taxation in general from from 2011 to the present and any reports produced by, for or on behalf of the GOA on the same.

Expressed an interest in receiving evidence from:

- a. Business owners
- b. Private citizens
- c. CDB
- d. FCDO
- e. Ministry of Finance
- f. Dr. Aidan Harrigan

Agreed that the business of the next meeting will include:

- a. The approval of a Work Programme for the Committee
- b. Approval of a list of documents for review
- c. Confirm the persons to serves as expert advisors to the Committee.

## 5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52pm until Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2:00pm