

Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives

B.E. 2562 (2019)

By virtue of section 128 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand, B.E. 2562 (2019), the House of Representatives hereby issues the Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives as follows:

Rule 1 These rules are called the “Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives B.E. 2562 (2019)”

Rule 2 These rules shall come into force as from the day following the date of their publication in the Government Gazette.

Rule 3 In these rules:

“Speaker” means the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

“Deputy Speaker” means the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives;

“the House” means the House of Representatives;

“Presiding Officer” means the Presiding Officer of the Sitting of the House of Representatives;

“Member” means the Member of the House of Representatives;

“committee member” means a standing committee member or an ad hoc committee member of the House of Representatives;

“precinct of the House” means an area marking territory of the House of Representatives, office buildings of the House of Representatives including venues for temporary meeting of the House of Representatives and office building of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives;

“Secretary-General” means the Secretary-General of the House of Representatives;

“the sitting” means the sitting of the House of Representatives;

“at the sitting” means at the sitting of the House of Representatives including question rooms;

“the Court” means the Constitutional Court, the Court of Justice or the Administrative Court.

Rule 4 The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be in charge of and control of the execution of these Rules and shall have power to issue orders for execution of these Rules.

Chapter I

Election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives

Rule 5 In the first election of the Speaker and Deputy Speakers, the Secretary-General of the House of Representatives shall invite the most senior member present to act as the Presiding Officer *pro tempore* in order to have the sitting proceed to elect the Speaker and Deputy Speakers and to consider other matters in the case where the sitting has to deliberate on such matters at that sitting.

The election proceeded under paragraph one, if the Presiding Officer *pro tempore* is nominated as the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker, the next senior member order present shall act as the Presiding Officer *pro tempore*.

Rule 6 In the election of the Speaker, each member has the right to nominate one member as nominee. Such nomination must be seconded by not less than twenty members.

Before the commencing of the election of the Speaker, the nominee under paragraph one shall deliver a speech presenting vision on holding a position as the Speaker to the sitting within the period prescribed by the sitting without the debate.

If there is only one nominee, such nominee shall be deemed elected. If there are two or more nominees, the voting shall be taken by the secret ballot.

The Presiding Officer shall announce the election result to the sitting.

Rule 7 The election of the Deputy Speakers, the provisions of Rule 6 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

In case where the House resolves to have two Deputy Speakers, the First Deputy Speaker shall be elected prior to the Second Deputy Speaker.

Rule 8 After the Speaker and the Deputy Speakers have been elected, the Secretary-General shall inform the Prime Minister in writing for further presentation to the King for the Royal Command of appointment.

Upon the Royal Command of appointment of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker by the King, the Speaker shall send a copy of the Royal Command to the Senate for information.

Chapter II

**Duties and Powers of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Secretary-General
of the House of Representatives**



Rule 9 The Speaker has the following duties and powers;

- (1) To be the Presiding Officer of the sitting and be neutral in duties;
- (2) To control and carry out the activities of the House;
- (3) To maintain order of the sitting and its precincts;
- (4) To represent the House in respect of its external affairs;
- (5) To appoint a commission to perform any activities which have benefited the House affairs;
- (6) Other duties and powers as provided by law or as prescribed herein.

Rule 10 The Deputy Speaker has the duties and powers to assist the Speaker in the activities within the duties and powers of the Speaker or to do such act as entrusted by the Speaker.

In the case where the office of the Speaker becomes vacant or the Speaker is not present or is unable to perform his duties, if there are two Deputy Speakers, the First Deputy Speaker shall perform the duties on behalf of the Speaker. If the First Deputy Speaker is not present or is unable to perform his duties, the Second Deputy Speaker shall perform the duties on behalf of the Speaker.

Rule 11 The Secretary-General has the following duties:

- (1) To convene the sitting of the House and the first meeting of committees;
- (2) To invite the Presiding Officer *pro tempore* to preside over the sitting of the House and the meeting of committees;
- (3) To assist the Presiding Officer at the sitting;
- (4) To prepare the minutes of the sittings and record the voting;
- (5) To confirm the resolution of the House to the persons concerned
- (6) To keep all the archives, data and audio-visual materials of the House;
- (7) To control the operation of the House in accordance with orders issued by the Speaker;
- (8) To support the sitting and the performance of members;
- (9) To perform any other duties as provided by law or as prescribed herein;
- (10) To perform other activities as entrusted by the Speaker.

Chapter III

Coordinating Committee

Part 1

Joint Coordinating Committee of the House of Representatives

Rule 12 There shall be a committee called “Joint Coordinating Committee of the House of Representatives” consists of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker of the House assigned by the Speaker of the House as the Chairperson and not more than ten other members. The committee members are appointed from five members of the Government Whip and five members of the Opposition Whip in the House of Representatives according to the resolution of each coordinating committee.

Rules, procedures for the appointment and benefits of the House of Representatives Coordinating Committee in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Speaker of the House.

Rule 13 Member of the Joint Coordinating Committee of the House of Representatives is out of office when

- (1) Termination of the House or dissolution of the House;
- (2) Death;
- (3) Resignation;
- (4) Termination of membership;
- (5) Termination of being a member of the Government Whip or the Opposition Whip, as the case may be;
- (6) The appointment of a new Joint Coordinating Committee of the House of Representatives to replace the old one.

Rule 14 Joint Coordinating Committee of the House of Representatives has duties and powers as follows:

- (1) Implementing or coordinating matters related to the meetings and House affairs;
- (2) Other duties and powers assigned by the Speaker of the House.

Part 2

The Opposition Whip in the House of Representatives

Rule 15 There shall be a committee called “Opposition Whip in the House of Representatives” consists of the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives or members who is affiliated with the opposition political party, whereas, the Leader of the Opposition assigned to be the Chairman and not more than twenty-four other members proposed by the Leader of the Opposition to the Speaker of the House for an appointment from the members of the opposition political parties in the House of Representatives in proportion to the number of members of each party.

Rules, procedures for appointment and benefits of the Opposition Whip in the House of Representatives in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Speaker of the House.

Rule 16 The Opposition Whip in the House of Representatives shall be terminated its office when;

- (1) Termination of the House or dissolution of the House;
- (2) Death;
- (3) Resignation;
- (4) Termination of membership;
- (5) The appointment of a new Opposition Whip in House of Representatives to replace the old one.

Rule 17 The Opposition Whip in the House of Representatives has the duties and powers as follows:

- (1) Consider taking action or coordinating matters of opposition political parties in connection with meetings and House affairs;
- (2) Other duties and powers as assigned by the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives.

Chapter IV

The Sitting

Part 1

Procedure

Rule 18 The sitting shall be public except when the Council of Ministers or members of not less than one-fourth of the total number of the existing members make a request for a sitting in camera, the sitting in camera shall be held.

In the open sitting, the outsiders may attend the sitting in accordance with the order issued by the Speaker. The Speaker shall arrange the broadcasts of the proceedings on radio and television or other types of telecommunications that people can thoroughly access by providing a sign language interpreter as well. If there is a ground for hindrance, the sitting shall be notified.

In the case where the sitting cannot be broadcasted under paragraph two, the Speaker shall disclose the picture and sound of the sitting through appropriate media channel rapidly.

The sitting in camera, the outsiders shall be prohibited except those permitted by the Presiding Officer and the Presiding Officer shall take action in order not to record pictures, sound recordings, or act in any way that convey the meeting to outsiders without permission.

Rule 19 The first sitting shall be held within ten days from the opening day of the ordinary or extraordinary session of the Parliament.

The next succeeding sitting shall be held in accordance with the resolution of the House, but the Speaker may order the cancellation of any sitting when there is an appropriate cause by writing. The Speaker shall notify the cause of the cancellation in the next meeting, except the cancellation mentioned in the meeting by the Speaker.

In the case where the Speaker considers it expedient to convene a sitting in special case, the sitting shall be convened.

Rule 20 Convening notice shall be in writing, except when the notice thereof was given in the previous sitting or that it is urgent, the meeting can be arranged by any other method.

Convening notice shall be given in advance of not less than three days, but if the Speaker considers that is appropriate, if may give a shorter notice.

Rule 21 The agenda shall be sent together with the convening notice. The relevant documents will be published electronically.

In the case where the Speaker considers it expedient to add any matters in the agenda, such matter shall be added but not later than one day before the sitting date.

Rule 22 Convening notice under Rule 20 or dispatch of documents under Rule 21 may be sent by electronic mail or other types of telecommunications when the Speaker considers it expedient. But the dispatch of confidential documents shall be in accordance with orders issued by the Speaker.

Rule 23 The agenda shall be arranged in the following orders:

- (1) interpellation;
- (2) matters of which the Presiding Officer shall inform the sitting;
- (3) approval of minutes of the sitting;
- (4) matters of which the committees have finished the consideration;
- (5) matters pending consideration;
- (6) newly presented matters;
- (7) other matters.

In the case where the Speaker is of the opinion that any matter is urgent, he may place such matter in any order of the agenda, but it should not be place before the matters of which the committees have finished the consideration.

Rule 24 Before considering the agenda, the Speaker shall permit members to consult matters concerning trouble of the people or any other problems which are in accordance with regulations or methods issued by the Speaker. These matters shall be sent to the Prime Minister or involved ministers or state organizations by the Speaker for their explanations within 30 days and members shall be informed.

Rule 25 Before attending each sitting, the members present shall sign a book provided or identify themselves in accordance with the order issued by the Speaker.

When there are signatures of the members of not less than one-half of the total number of the existing members of the House, the quorum is constituted, except in the case of considering the interpellation placed on the agenda under section 150 of the Constitution, the signatures of the members present of not less than one-fifth of the total number of the existing members of the House are required to constitute a quorum.

When the members present constitute a quorum and the signal for calling the sitting is given, the Presiding Officer shall commence the proceeding.

When the Presiding Officer is taking his bench, all those present at the sitting shall stand up until the Presiding Officer has taken his seat.

In the case of reading royal decrees or royal speech, persons who are in the meeting shall stand all the time during the reading.

Rule 26 If the quorum is not constituted after thirty minutes from the time of the sitting have elapsed, the Presiding Officer may adjourn the sitting.

Rule 27 If there is no Presiding Officer to preside over the sitting, the most senior member present shall act as the Presiding Officer *pro tempore* of the sitting in order to have the sitting proceeding to elect the Speaker and Deputy speaker under Rule 5, Rule 6 and Rule 7, or to elect the ad hoc Presiding Officer for that sitting in the case where the sitting has to deliberate on other matters.

In the electing the ad hoc Presiding Officer, the provisions of Rule 5 shall be applied *mutatis mutandis* except in the case of Rule 6 paragraph 2 shall not apply. Voting shall be done in disclosure in accordance with Rule 83.

Rule 28 At the sitting of the House, the sitting shall consider only the matters placed on the agenda, and must proceed to consider according to the order of the matters placed on the agenda, unless the sitting resolves otherwise.

Rule 29 Whoever desires to address in the sitting shall make a show of hand. Upon being permitted by the Presiding Officer, he may stand up to address, but only to the Presiding Officer.

Rule 30 If the Prime Minister or a Minister requests to give a statement or an explanation of any matter to the sitting, the Presiding Officer shall consider to give the permission.

A member may put questions for clarification of such statement or explanation, but the Prime Minister or the Minister may decline to answer when he is of the opinion that they should not yet be disclosed on the ground of safety or vital interest of the State.

Rule 31 In the case where the House has considered any matter concerning the Courts, Independent Organization, Prosecutor Organization, or other state agencies which the law prescribes that a report on the performance of duties must be submitted to the House, the representative of such organ shall have right to give a statement or an explanation thereof to the sitting upon being permitted by the Presiding Officer.

Rule 69, Rule 70, Rule 71 and Rule 72 shall be applied to give such statement or explanation *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 32 The Presiding Officer has the power to consult, determine the procedure for checking a quorum, suspend, adjourn or terminate the sitting as thinks fit.

If the Presiding Officer leaves his bench without giving any orders, and there is no Deputy Speaker to perform the duties on his behalf, the sitting shall be terminated.

Rule 33 After the Committee on the House of Representatives Affairs has examined the minutes of the sitting, before it is submitted to the House for the approval, it shall be reproduced in copies and placed at the precinct of the House for examination by members for not less than seven days. The members may request to review electronic mail or other types of telecommunications in accordance with the rules and procedures prescribed by the Speaker.

The minutes of each sitting must list the names of members present, on leave or absent, and their votes in each matter shall be recorded.

A member has the right to correct such minutes by submitting an application for correction to the Chairperson of the Committee on the House of Representatives Affairs. If such committee fails to correct as requested, such member has the right to insist on the application for correction so as to request the House to decide.

Rule 34 After the copy of any minutes has been placed for examination of Rule 33 by the members, if there is a subsequent correction either by the Committee on the House of Representatives Affairs itself or by request of a member, the committee must, in considering the approval of such minutes, inform the sitting of such correction.

Rule 35 After the House has approved any minutes, the Speaker shall sign as evidence thereon.

The minutes have been approved but the Speaker has not signed as evidence thereon, or the minutes pending for approval due to the expiration of the term of the House, or the dissolution of the House, Secretary-General shall record such cause and certify such minutes as correct.

Rule 36 The House may resolve not to draw up the minutes of any sittings in camera either totally or partially; provided that the proceedings shall be recorded.

Rule 37 The Committee on the House of Representatives Affairs shall consider and prepare opinions to be submitted to the House in order to pass a resolution whether or not the minutes of the sitting in camera is disclosed.

Rule 38 The House may resolve to prohibit the publication of any statement concerning security or vital interests of the State, made or occurred in the sitting.

Rule 39 In the case where a member expresses words at a sitting which is broadcasted through radio or television, or other types of telecommunications and the expression of such words may cause damage to the other person who is not the Prime Minister, a minister or a

member, such person can request to the Speaker within three months from the date the sitting to be held for publishing the explanations.

The submission of a complaint must be in writing together with obvious supporting explanations and such complaint is in the real issue which causes complainant damage.

Rule 40 It shall be the power of the Speaker to decide whether or not the complaint and explanations as requested is under Rule 39.

The Speaker shall finish his decision within thirty days as from the date of receipt of the complaint.

In the case where the Speaker decides that the complaint and supporting explanations are not under Rule 39, they shall not be considered and the complainant shall be informed.

The decision of the Speaker shall be deemed final.

Rule 41 In the case where the Speaker decides that the complaint and supporting explanations are under Rule 39, he shall carry out the publication of the explanations by notifying it at the precinct of the House in order to be inspected by the public within the period of seven days and also publish the explanations in other method as he thinks it is appropriate.

Rule 42 When the Speaker has finished carrying out the proceeding under Rule 41, the complainant, the member expressed words causing damage to other person and the sitting shall be informed at the first chance of the sitting.

Rule 43 In order to disclose to the general public which may be distributed electronically, except the minutes of the sitting in camera which the House has resolved not to disclose, the Secretary-General shall publish the minutes of the sitting.

Part 2

Submission of Motions

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Rule 44 A motion is any proposal intended for the House to vote or decide on how to perform or proceed.

Rule 45 All motions must be submitted in writing and to the Speaker in advance, and must be seconded by not less than five members, unless otherwise specifically prescribed by these Rules.

Rule 46 A motion requesting a sitting in camera under Section 127, a motion on a bill under Section 133, a motion for a general debate under Section 151, Section 152 of the Constitution, and a motion submitted by the Council of Ministers are not required to be seconded.

Rule 47 A motion for the House to pass a resolution requiring the Prime Minister or any Minister to attend a sitting must, if submitted by a member, be seconded by not less than twenty members.

Rule 48 A motion for the House to pass a resolution in the case where a problem arises as to the duties and powers of the House under Section 210 (2) of the Constitution must, if submitted by a member, be seconded by not less than twenty members.

Rule 49 A motion for the House to establish committees, or for any of the standing committee to carry out an activity, consider fact-finding or study any matters within the duties and powers of the House under Section 129 of the Constitution must, if submitted by a member, be seconded by not less than twenty members.

Rule 50 In the case concerning vital interest of the State, or where there is urgent necessity to maintain public order or good morals, or concerning security of the State whether in economic or any other aspects or in averting any causes adversely affecting the freedom of the people, an urgent motion may be submitted for urgent consideration of the House.

The urgent motion must not be of the same as an interpellation, and must have an objective for the House to take any action.

Rule 51 It shall be the power of the Speaker to decide whether or not any motions are urgent. When the decision is made, the mover of the motion shall be informed with reasons within five days from the date of receipt of the motion.

The Speaker shall place the urgent motion on the agenda as urgent matter at the first opportunity.

A motion which is not decided to be the urgent motion by the Speaker shall be further proceeded under Rule 53.

Rule 52 A motion which will cause the law enforcement must be submitted in the form of a bill and in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

Rule 53 Under Rule 51 and Rule 52, the Speaker shall place motions in the agenda within seven days from the date of receipt of such motions in order of submission. Such date shall mean the days in the session.

Rule 54 The followings are not required to be submitted in advance or in writing:

- (1) motion for deliberation of urgent matter;
- (2) motion for alteration of agenda;
- (3) motion for resolution under Rule 36 or Rule 38;
- (4) motion under Rule 55, Rule 80, Rule 84, Rule 120 or Rule 184;
- (5) motion permitted by the Presiding Officer as he thinks it is appropriate.

If motion under (2) is proposed for consideration of a bill, after it has been resolved to approve by the sitting, it shall come into force in the next sitting.

Rule 55 When the sitting is deliberating on any motion, no other motion may be submitted except;

- (1) motion for an amendment to the motion only on such matter which is not a bill;
- (2) motion for concurrent consideration of various matters on the agenda which are of the same nature, similar or related to one another;

- (3) motion for sending a problem to a committee for consideration, or requesting any person to submit documents or to give statement of activities or opinion;
- (4) motion for concurrent or separate consideration of or resolution on the issues;
- (5) motion for adjourning the deliberation;
- (6) motion for closure of debate;
- (7) motion for raising other matter for deliberation or consideration.

After the sitting has resolved to approve the motion submitted under Rule 47(3), (5), (6) or (7), no other motion may be submitted thereunder.

Rule 56 No person shall submit a motion under Rule 55 (6) and (7) on the same occasion of his debate.

Rule 57 A motion under Rule 55 (7) shall not be submitted in the proceedings for consideration of a bill.

Rule 58 In the case where the sitting resolves to raise other matter for consultation or consideration, the former motion shall be lapsed.

Rule 59 A motion submitted in writing and in advance must bear signatures of the movers and seconders.

Rule 60 A motion which is not required to be submitted in advance and in writing shall be seconded by means of the seconders making the show of hands.

Rule 61 An amendment to a motion or withdrawal of a motion that the Speaker has placed in the agenda. This can be done only with the consent of the meeting.

Rule 62 Withdrawing the name from being a joint proposition or from being a certified person, it can be done only before the Speaker has placed such a motion into the agenda. In the event that the Speaker orders such motion to be included in the agenda, the name can be revoked only with consent.

Rule 63 An amendment to the motion may be withdrawn at any time, but any request for rectification of the amendment to the motion may be made only within the period of submission of an amendment to the motion.

Rule 64 When any motion comes under consideration of the sitting according to the agenda, the motion which has the same principle shall not be submitted.

If the mover of the motion or the amendment of the motion fails to give an explanation to the sitting or is not present without entrusting any person to explain on his behalf, the motion or the amendment to the motion shall be lapsed.

The entrustment must be in writing and submitted to the Speaker.

Rule 65 Any motion which has the same principle as the one lapsed shall not be submitted in the same session, except the motion which has not yet been resolved or the motion permitted by the Speaker upon considering that the situation has changed.

Part 3

Debates

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Rule 66 The mover of the motion or an amendment to the motion has the right to open the debate. But if there are several movers of the motion or amendment to the motion, the Presiding Officer shall permit only one of them to open the debate.

A committee member who has reserved his opinion or committee member entrusted by him, or member or committee member entrusted by the mover of an amendment to the motion who has reserved his amendment to the motion at the stage of the committee, shall have the status of a mover of an amendment to the motion.

Rule 67 After the first debater has opened the debate, the next succeeding debates shall be in alternation between members of the opposing and supporting sides, except in the time of any side there is no person to speak, the other side may debate in succession.

Debates supporting and objecting neither sides may be made without being in alternation and shall not be regarded as the time of debate of any side.

Rule 68 If several persons ask to speak, the Presiding Officer may call upon any one of them to speak; provided that the mover of the motion or amendment to the motion and those who have not yet been called upon to speak shall be taken into consideration.

Rule 69 A debate must be within the scope of or connected with the issue under deliberation, and must not be superfluous, complicated, repetitive, or overlapping with those of other persons. Unnecessary reading of any documents or showing any materials to the sitting shall be prohibited, unless permitted by the Presiding Officer.

A debater shall not make impolite gesture or remarks, insinuate or make sarcastic statement against any person, and shall not refer to the King's institution or mention names of a member or any person unnecessarily.

Rule 70 If the Presiding Officer is of the opinion that any person has debated a reasonable period of time, he may order him to stop.

Rule 71 Any member wishing to protest which there has been a violation of the rules, shall stand up and make a show of hand. The Presiding Officer must give him an opportunity to explain, and then decide whether the Rule has or has not been violated as protested. The decision of the Presiding Officer shall be deemed final.

The provisions of paragraph one shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the person against whom the debate is on his personal or other matter thereby causing him injury.

Rule 72 Upon protester under Rule 71, a debater may withdraw his words himself or under the order of the Presiding Officer.

If a debater leaves the sitting without withdrawing his words under the order of the Presiding Officer, the Presiding Officer shall record the violating of the decision in the minute of the sitting.

Rule 73 A debate ends upon:

- (1) the lack of debater;
- (2) the sitting resolving for closure of debate;
- (3) the sitting resolving to raise other matter for deliberation.

Rule 74 In the case where the Presiding Officer is of the opinion that the debate has continued for a reasonable period of time, he may ask the sitting to decide whether or not to end the debate.

Rule 75 When the debate ends, no one shall make a further debate except in the case where the sitting has to pass a resolution on such matter, then a person who has opened the debate shall have the right to sum up before the sitting passes a resolution.

Rule 76 The Presiding Officer may permit the Prime Minister or the Minister to entrust any person to give a statement of activities to the sitting for supplementing the debate of the Prime Minister or the Minister.

Rule 77 If the Presiding Officer gives a signal by the fall of the gavel or standing up, any person who is speaking shall stop and sit down immediately.

Part 4

Resolution

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Rule 78 In the case where the resolution of the House is required, the Presiding Officer shall give a signal informing the member present and examine the quorum accordingly before the resolution is passed.

The Presiding Officer has the power to order the issue to be considered or resolved concurrently or separately unless otherwise resolved by the sitting.

Rule 79 In respect of the majority votes under Section 120 paragraph 2 of the Constitution, if the sitting is divided over opinions into more than two sides, the opinion of the one securing most votes shall prevail.

In the case of an equality of votes, the Presiding Officer shall have an additional vote as a casting vote.

Rule 80 Voting shall be openly taken unless a motion for voting by secret ballot is submitted by a member seconded by not less than twenty members, the voting shall be secret ballot.

In the case where a member submits a motion for voting by secret ballot under paragraph one, if there is a protest by a member seconded by not less than one-third of the members present, it shall be deemed a privilege to vote openly.

Voting shall not be acted for each other.

Rule 81 The casting of votes to elect or give approval to a person for holding office under section 120 paragraph five of the Constitution shall be secret.

Rule 82 In casting of voting, the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers shall have no right to vote, except for the Prime Minister or Council of Ministers is a member.

Rule 83 The methods of open voting are as follows:

- (1) by using voting machine determined by the Speaker;
- (2) by roll-call from identification number order; members shall vote on each person in accordance with the method determined by the Presiding Officer;
- (3) by any other methods as the sitting considers expedient for a specific case.

In taking vote under (1), if the voting machine is out of order, the new method determined by the Presiding Officer shall be adopted.

The open voting shall be taken by the method under (1). The method under (2) or (3) may be adopted only upon motion submitted by a member and approved by the sitting or recounting of votes under Rule 85.

The open voting under (2) or paragraph two, the Presiding Officer shall invite not less than six members to count votes.

Rule 84 The methods of voting by secret ballot are as follows:

- (1) by using a voting machine as specified by the Presiding Officer,
- (2) by making a sign (X) on a ballot paper in the box given according to the voting issue,
- (3) by any other methods as the sitting considers expedient for a specific case.

In this regard, the actions under (1), (2) and (3) shall be carried out in accordance with the rules and procedures as prescribed by the meeting.

The motion under Rule 83 paragraph three and paragraph four shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 85 After the method of voting under Rule 83 (1) has been taken, if a member seconded by not less than twenty members makes a request for the recounting of votes, the votes shall be recounted and the method of voting under Rule 83 (2) shall be adopted except in case a difference of votes is more than twenty-five shall not be requested for a recounting of votes.

After the votes have been counted by the method under Rule 83 (2), the request for a recounting of votes shall not be adopted.

Rule 86 A member who enters the sitting during the time of casting vote may cast his vote before the Presiding Officer has ordered the votes to be counted.

Rule 87 After the votes have been counted, the Presiding Officer shall forthwith announce the resolution to the sitting. In case the minimum number of votes is required by the Constitution, the laws or the Rules for passing of resolutions on any matter, he shall also announce whether the majority votes satisfy the minimum requirement.

In the case of paragraph one, if the resolution was announced to the meeting based on the voting results in accordance with Rule 84, the Presiding Officer shall order the officer to destroy the voting card or delete the voting information as well.

Rule 88 In respect of any unopposed motion, the Presiding Officer shall ask the sitting whether there is any dissenting opinion. If there is none, it shall be deemed that the sitting resolved to approve such motion.

The provisions of paragraph one shall not apply to the motion which is in the nature of a bill or to any other matter which the Constitution or these Rules prescribed that the sitting shall decide by casting votes.

Rule 89 The Secretary-General shall cause the voting of each member to be recorded and disclose such record at the parliamentary area including publish electronically or other types of telecommunications for the public, except in case of voting by secret ballot under Rule 84.

Chapter V

Committee

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Rule 90 The House shall establish the following thirty-five standing committees, each of which consist of fifteen members and has the duties and powers as follows:

(1) The Committee on Legal Affairs, Justice, and Human Rights shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning the implementation of policies on legal affairs, justice, human rights, community rights, rights in the justice system, and fairness in the transitional period;

(2) The Committee on the House of Representatives Affairs shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning the House affairs, Members and former Members, the system development and the performance of any acts of the House improvement, the complaints, the suggestions of

Members and people concerning the House affairs, including any matter being in the field of operations of the House and Inter-Parliamentary Organizations as well as the duties and powers to review the minutes of the proceeding and disclose the minutes of the sitting in camera and to follow-up the implementation of the resolutions of the House;

(3) The Committee on Judiciary, Independent Organs, State Attorney Organ, State Enterprises, Public Organizations and Funds shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning the performance of Court Organization, Independent Organs and State Attorney Organ, the performance of State Enterprise, the management of Public Organizations and Funds, and examine the reports in accordance with the Constitution and the legal affairs submitted to the House;

(4) The Committee on Sports shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning the promotion, supporting, solving problems and obstacles and the development of national sports, including national and international electronic sports.

(5) The Committee on Children, Youth, Women, Older Persons, Persons with Disabilities, Ethnic Groups and LGBTs shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning children, youth, women, older persons, persons with disabilities, ethnic groups, and LGBTs as well as to coordinate the internal and external organizations and international communities relating to the directions of cooperation to solve the problem, promote the protection of right and develop the quality of life for children, youth, women, older persons, persons with disabilities, ethnic groups, and LGBTs;

(6) The Committee on National Debt Solution shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning the problems in all level of debt such as national debt, business debt, industrial debt, public debt, government official debt and agriculturist debt;

(7) The Committee on Agriculture and Co-operatives shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning agricultural land use, the development of agriculture and cooperatives, the development of production and marketing;

(8) The Committee on Transport shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning land, water, air and space transportation, mass transit, product transportation, logistics system and maritime;

(9) The Committee on National Security, Border Affairs, National Strategies and National Reform shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter concerning national security, border trade, cross border trade, permanent border crossing, temporary border crossing, checkpoint for trade border, natural channel and customs channel, cross-country travel, the management and supervision of migrant workers, promoting relations with neighboring countries and any matters concerning the solution and development of border, national strategies and national reform, in particular, factors affecting security in terms of economy, society, culture, science and technology. Such duties and powers also to promote, support and solve problems concerning the territory and the stability of the people;

(10) The Committee on Consumer Protection shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning consumer protection and consumer's troubles;

(11) The Committee on Monetary Affairs, Finance, Financial Institutions and Financial Market shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning monetary affairs, finance, banking, financial market and national financial institutions;

(12) The Committee on Foreign Affairs shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning foreign affairs, international relations and national image as well as to perform any activities concerning Thai people who settle or earn a living in foreign countries;

(13) The Committee on Police Affairs shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning police affairs, act in compliance with the law, defense and national peace keeping;

(14) The Committee on Budgeting Study and Budget Administration Follow-up shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any

matters concerning the budget policies of government, budgeting, monitoring and evaluating the annual budget appropriations receiving and spending of the government organizations, state agencies and the state enterprise;

(15) The Committee on the Armed Forces shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the military affairs, defense, security and national development;

(16) The Committee on Tourism shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the promotion, supporting, solving problems and obstacles and the development of national tourism;

(17) The Committee on Land, Natural Resources and Environment shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the use of land, the management of national resources as well as the promotion, conservation and quality protection of the environment and animal protection;

(18) The Committee on Administration shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the central and provincial administration, the development of bureaucratic system and the performance of related officers;

(19) The Committee on Decentralization, Local Administration and Special Form of Administration shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the local administration and the performance of local officers as well as the promoting of decentralization on local government organization and special form of government administration;

(20) The Committee on Money Laundering and Narcotics Prevention and Suppression shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning money laundering and narcotics prevention and suppression;

(21) The Committee on Natural and Public Disasters Prevention and Mitigation shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the operation of government and private organizations relating to the process and measures on the prevention of natural and public disasters and natural disaster

warning, recovery after natural and public disasters, developing measures to prevent natural and public disasters including following up the assistance and taking care of people effected by natural and public disaster;

(22) The Committee on Corruption Prevention and Suppression shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the process and measures on corruption prevention and suppression;

(23) The Committee on Energy shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the management, development, searching, utilization and conservation of energy including the impact of the searching and utilizing the energy as well as the pursuit of renewable and alternative energy;

(24) The Committee on Political Development, Mass Communications and Public Participation shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding or study any matters concerning the political development, mass communication and public participation, the promotion and dissemination of democratic regime of government with the King as the Head of State, the democratic ways of thinking and practices including the problems and obstacles relating to the enforcement of constitution and organic law bills as well as the promoting of people's perception on information, freedom and responsibilities in expressing opinions of people and the press, the protection of aggrieved people on information dissemination, the promoting of people and community for participating in political determination and examining all levels of state power exercising;

(25) The Committee on Economic Development shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the impact of public economy, private business sector, people and the economic situation in the country and various regions in the world that affected national economy, policies and state economic development plan;

(26) The Committee on Commerce and Intellectual Property shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning trade, exportation, trade balance, copyright, printed matter register, inventing or creating for

new knowledge including the development of local and national wisdom as well as the protection of intellectual property;

(27) The Committee on Labor shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning all labor force in the country, Thai labors in foreign countries, the development of relations with foreign labor organizations as well as investments that affect the overall quality of life of the labor force;

(28) The Committee on Science, Technology, Research and Innovation shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning science, technology, research and innovation planning, promotion and development;

(29) The Committee on Agricultural Product Price Solution shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning agricultural product price promotion and solution in order to cover the expense of all types of agricultural production costs and can compete in trade market as well as the career sustainable security;

(30) The Committee on Religion, Arts and Culture shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the patronization, and protection of religions and historic sites, the conservation and promoting of arts, local custom and culture, democratic culture, local wisdom, identity, Thai ways of life including contemporary art and culture;

(31) The Committee on Education shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, study fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the national education management and development, democratic culture promotion and the process of knowledge base adjustment of the people toward globalization era;

(32) The Committee on Social Welfare shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the providing of social welfare not less than the basic right, social welfare services in order to develop the quality of life of the people thoroughly, especially the city and local miserable people including the disadvantages in the society;

(33) The Committee on Public Health shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning medication, Thai traditional medicine, alternative medicine and public health for well-being promotion, disease protection, medical services, rehabilitation and the treatment development for people to have access to efficient public health services thoroughly;

(34) The Committee on Communications, Telecommunications and Digital Economy and Society shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the promotion and development of communications, telecommunications and digital technology for economy and society;

(35) The Committee on Industry shall have the duties and powers to perform any activities, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matters concerning the promotion and development of large, medium and small industries including the study of the impact from industry and its solution;

A member may hold the position of committee member of not more than two standing committees.

Members of the standing committee appointed from members of the House must have a number that is in, or, approximate the ratio of the number of members of each political party existing in the House.

When the standing committee performs any acts, conducts fact-finding inquiry or studies any matters, the committee shall report the matters to the Speaker for information. In case there is the performance of any acts, the conducting of fact-finding inquiry or study such matter, it must not be a repeated matter. In case such matter is relevant to each other, it shall be the duties of the Speaker to consider each concerned standing committee to collaborate actively.

In conducting fact-finding inquiry, the committee may not delegate its authority or assign any person or group of persons to perform its duties instead.

The regulations and procedure under paragraph four shall be in accordance with the method prescribed by the Speaker.

Rule 91 In the election of the standing committee members, each member has the right to nominate not exceeding number of committee members. Such nomination must be seconded by not less than five members.

In the election of the ad-hoc committee members, not more than one-fourth of the total number of ad-hoc committee members shall be elected from the persons nominated by the Council of Ministers. The remaining ad-hoc committee members shall be elected from those nominated by members. The number of members must be in accordance with or be close to the proportion of the number of members of each political party in the House.

In casting of votes to elect the committee members, if the number of nominees is equal to the total number of committee members, such nomination shall be deemed elected. If the number of nominees is more than the total number of committee members, the method of voting by secret ballot shall be taken.

Rule 92 At a meeting of the committee, the presence of not less than one-third of the total number of the existing committee members is required to constitute a quorum, unless the resolution of the committee on any points, not less than one-half of the total number of the existing committee members, is required.

Apart from the first meeting of the committee, the appointment of the meeting shall be made in writing signed by the secretary of the committee or the acting person on behalf of the secretary of the committee.

Rule 93 In a meeting of the committee, the specific Rules concerning the sitting shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Each committee shall elect a Chairperson, Vice-chairpersons, a Secretary, Spokesperson, and other positions from its committee members as necessary.

The Chairperson of each standing committee must have the number in accordance with or close to the proportion of the number of members of each political party existing in the House.

Each committee shall have one assistant secretary to the committee by appointing from the parliamentary officials according to the name proposed by the Secretary-General.

Rule 94 Upon there is no committee member to hold the position of the Chairperson of the committee or is not present or is unable to perform the duties, in the case where there are several Vice-Chairpersons, the first Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties on behalf of the Chairperson. If the first Vice-Chairperson is also not present or is unable to perform his duties, the next succeeding Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties on behalf of the Chairperson.

Rule 95 For the purpose of proceeding, the standing committee may appoint a qualified person to be Advisor, Expert, Academic and secretary to the committee in accordance with the Orders prescribed by the Speaker.

Rule 96 Each committee has the power to appoint a sub-committee to consider any matter within the scope of its authority as it may entrust except the duties and powers of conducting a fact-finding inquiry and shall report to the committee within the period determined by the committee.

In the case where the sub-committee cannot finish carrying out any acts or study within any period of time, the Chairperson of the sub-committee shall request the meeting to extend such period.

Each sub-committee shall consist of not more than ten members. The sub-committee members shall be elected from the persons being members in that committee of not less than one-fifth of the total number of the existing sub-committee members. The remaining members shall be elected from those nominated by the committee. The Chairperson of the sub-committee must be appointed from the person who is the member of that committee.

Rule 97 A summon to any person to submit documents or to give a statement of facts or opinions in connection with the act done or with the matter under investigation or study shall be issued in writing and signed by the Chairperson of the committee or person acting on behalf of the Chairperson.

In the case where the persons in paragraph one is a government officer, the Chairperson of the committee shall inform the Prime Minister or the Minister who commands or controls the State agency to which that person belongs for information and the Prime Minister or the

Minister who is in charge of such matter shall order that person to give statement of facts, submit documents or give statement of opinion in case the committee calls him.

A summon to any person to submit documents or to give statement of facts or opinions in paragraph one, shall not be enforced with the judge or judiciary who perform his duty or power on the adjudication of legal procedure or the human resource management in each court and shall not be enforced with the office holder in the independent organs according to the Constitution who directly perform their duties in each organization according to the provision of the constitution or the organic law bill as the case may be.

Rule 98 A member, Minister, and a person permitted by the Chairperson of the meeting shall have the right to attend the meeting of a committee.

In case of a meeting in camera, only person concerned in the meeting and permitted by the Chairperson of the meeting shall be attended.

Rule 99 Subject to Rule 90, the mover of a motion, Prime Minister, Minister and person entrusted by the Council of Ministers shall have the right to give explanations or opinions to the meeting of the committee on the entire matter, while the mover of an amendment to the motion has the right to give explanations or opinions only on the amendment.

In giving explanations or opinions under paragraph one, the mover of a motion or an amendment to the motion may in writing entrust another member or any committee member to act on his behalf.

Rule 100 The Secretary General shall notify the schedule of committee meeting at the precinct of the House, and serve a written notice of not later than three days in advance, calling on the mover of a motion or an amendment to the motion to give explanations to the motion or amendment as the case requires. If any matter will have the enforcement of law or be concerned with the administration of the state affairs, the council of Minister shall also be informed.

Rule 101 If the mover of an amendment to the motion or person entrusted by him fails to give explanations to the committee within thirty minutes from the time the committee has commenced the consideration of an amendment to the motion, such amendment shall lapse,

unless the committee has not yet finished the consideration of such matter or the meeting has permitted to postpone the explanation to another day.

Rule 102 If the mover of an amendment to the motion or person entrusted by him disagrees with the resolution of the committee on any point, he may reserve the amendment on that point for the decision of the House.

Rule 103 Any committee member who disagrees with the resolution of the committee on any point may reserve his opinion on such point for decision of the House.

Rule 104 After the committee has carried out an activity or investigation or study of any matter under its authorities or entrusted by the House, the committee shall report to the House under the time prescribed by the House.

In the sitting of the House, the committee has the right to give statement or explanations or make a modification concerning such acts in paragraph one. For this purpose, the committee may entrust any person to give statements or explanations on its behalf upon receive the permission of the Speaker.

Rule 105 In respect of the consideration of the committee, if the committee is of opinion that there is an observation which the Council of Ministers, the Courts, Independent Organs, State Attorney Organ or other agencies concerned should be informed or should act upon, such observation shall be recorded in the report of the committee for consideration of the House.

In consideration of the observation of the committee, the House shall make a resolution on the agreement or disagreement without any debate.

In case where the House agrees with the observation of the committee, the Speaker shall send the report and observation to the Council of Minister, the Courts, Independent Organs, State Attorney Organ or other agencies concerned.

After the period of sixty days from the date the Speaker has sent the observation of the committee to the Council of Minister, the Courts, Independent Organs, State Attorney Organ or other agencies concerned, the Speaker shall inform the sitting at first opportunity whether or not the Council of Minister, the Courts, Independent Organs, the Prosecution Organization or other agencies concerned has or has not acted upon such observation.

Rule 106 If under the resolution of the House, any committee is required to carry out any acts, conduct fact-finding inquiry or study any matter within any period of time and it is likely that such committee cannot finish within such period, the Chairperson of the committee must forthwith report to the Speaker for information urgently.

In such case under paragraph one, if it is during general ordinary session, the Speaker shall forthwith report the sitting and the sitting may resolve to extend such period or to establish a new committee to replace the former one or to proceed otherwise as the sitting considers expedient. But if it is out of session, the Speaker shall have the power to extend such period as he considers expedient and subsequently inform the sitting later.

The count of such period under paragraph one and paragraph two shall commence from the day following the date of the resolution of the House.

Rule 107 Minutes, the reports of performance, fact-finding inquiry reports or study reports, as the case may be, of the committee shall be disclosed to the public in accordance with the rules, procedures and conditions prescribed by the Speaker.

If case of not disclosing the minutes or the reports under paragraph one, the committee concerned shall submit opinions to the House so that the House passes a resolution not to disclose. If the House passes that resolution, the Secretariat of the House of Representatives shall keep such minutes or reports in accordance with the rules, procedures and conditions prescribed by the Secretary-General. If the House does not pass a resolution in line with the opinion of the mentioned committee, it shall be proceeded in accordance with paragraph one.

The verification of minutes shall be in accordance with the rules and procedures prescribed by the Speaker.

Rule 108 A committee member vacates office upon:

- (1) expiration of the term of office or the dissolution of the House;
- (2) death;
- (3) resignation;
- (4) establishment of a new committee to replace the former one;
- (5) the House passing a resolution to remove from office;

(6) having been absent from three consecutive committee meetings without justification and without giving notice in writing to the Chairperson of the committee for information.

Rule 109 In case where the committee member vacates office in any committee, the Chairperson of the committee shall inform the Speaker in order to ask the House to hold an election of committee member to fill the vacancy.

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CHAPTER VI

Introduction and Consideration of a Bill

Rule 110. A bill must be divided into sections and accompanied by a memorandum containing:

- (1) principles of the bill;
- (2) rationales for introducing the bill;
- (3) a summary analysis memorandum of the essence of the bill.

A summary of the results of the consultation and a report of analysis of any impacts which may occur from the bill shall be proposed together with the memorandum under paragraph one.

The principles of the bill shall be explicitly specified.

Prior to inclusion of the agenda on the bill which is introduced by the person under section 133(2) or (3) of the Constitution, the consideration of the necessity of consultation and analysis of any impacts, which may occur from the bill, shall be in accordance with rules and procedures, specified by the Speaker, which shall not be contrary to or inconsistent with the law on rules for the preparation of the bill and the evaluation of the outcomes of the law.

Rule 111. The bill introduced by the person under section 133 of the Constitution shall be examined by the Speaker, and if there are any defects, the Speaker shall inform such person within seven days as from the date of receipt.

Rule 112. In the case where there are any requests for an amendment to the bill before the Speaker orders to place such bill on the agenda, every original introducer who have signed shall jointly sign in such the request of amendment of the bill except for the request of few amendments.

Rule 113. The Secretary-General shall prepare and submit a report on the result of the procedure of drafting the bill introduced by the persons having the right to vote to the House.

In considering the bill under paragraph one, the representatives of the persons having the right to vote, who have introduced such bill, shall introduce and explain the bill to the sitting.

Rule 114. In the case where the Speaker is of the opinion that a bill introduced by the persons under section 133 (2) and (3) of the Constitution is a money bill, the Speaker shall

inform the introducers thereof. In case the introducers fail to object to the Speaker's opinion within seven days as from the date of delivery of notice, it shall be deemed to have no case of doubt under section 134 of the Constitution and the Speaker shall submit such bill to the Prime Minister for endorsement.

Once the Prime Minister has received the bill under paragraph one, in case failing to endorse it within thirty days as from the date of receipt thereof, the Speaker shall inform the introducer of the difficulty.

In case the introducer submits the objection under paragraph one, it shall be the power of a joint sitting of the Speaker and Chairpersons of all its Standing Committees to make a decision thereon.

Rule 115. The Speaker shall hold a joint sitting of the Speaker and Chairpersons of all its Standing Committees to consider the case under Rule 114 paragraph three within fifteen days as from the date such case occurs.

The joint sitting of the Speaker and Chairpersons of all its Standing Committees for making a decision whether any bill is a money bill shall be in accordance with regulations specified by the Speaker and these rules in the part relevant to the sitting shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 116. Consideration of a bill shall be made in three readings, respectively.

Rule 117. In the first reading for consideration of a bill, the House shall consider and resolve whether to accept or reject the principle of such bill.

For the purpose of such decision under paragraph one, the House may entrust the committee to consider the bill prior to the acceptance of its principle, provided that the consideration must be finished within sixty days as of the day on which the resolution is passed by the House.

In the case where the House has a resolution to consider several bills having the similar principle jointly, the House may resolve to accept or to reject the principles of each bill or all the bills. Once the House has had a resolution to accept the principles, the House shall resolve which bill is the subject matter of the consideration in the second reading.

Rule 118. In considering the bill introduced by the person under section 133(2) and (3) of the Constitution, if the Council of Ministers requests to take such bill for consideration before the House will resolve under Rule 117, the reading of the bill shall be suspended upon the

approval of the sitting, but it must not be more than sixty days as of the day on which the resolution is passed by the House.

When the Speaker has received the bill from the Council of Ministers or the period of suspension under paragraph one has elapsed, such bill shall be placed on the agenda as a matter of urgency.

Rule 119. In the case where the House has a resolution to accept the principle of the bill at the first reading, the House shall consider it at the second reading, respectively.

At the second reading, the bill shall be considered by the committee.

Rule 120. In considering the bill at the committee stage, the House may entrust the Standing Committee or the Ad-hoc Committee to consider it.

A consideration by the Committee of the Whole House may be made upon the request of the Council of Ministers or motion submitted by a member and endorsed by not less than twenty members with the consent of the sitting.

The Committee may add a new section or delete or amend an existing section but it must not be contrary to the principles of such bill.

Rule 121. The election of an Ad-hoc Committee for the consideration of bills which contain the substance concerning children, youths, women, the elderly, the disabled or handicapped shall be proceeded as follows:

(1) The Ad-hoc Committee shall be appointed from the types of people mentioned in paragraph one or representatives from private organisations concerned directly with the respective types of persons, of not less than one-third of the total number of the Ad-hoc Committee members, provided that the selection or nomination method shall be in accordance with the regulations determined by the Speaker;

(2) The Ad-hoc Committee shall be appointed from the persons who are nominated by the Council of Ministers of not exceeding one-sixth of the total number of the Ad-hoc Committee members;

(3) The remaining committee members shall be selected, from the name list nominated by members, by the sitting, provided that the number of the remaining committee members shall be in proportion to or similar proportion to the number of members of each political group in the House.

In the election of the Ad-hoc Committee, the provisions of Rule 91 paragraph one and paragraph three shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 122. The Ad-hoc Committee for the consideration of bills which are submitted, with a petition, and introduced by persons having the right to vote shall be appointed from the representatives of persons having the right to vote who submit a petition to introduce such bill in the number of not less than one-third of the total number of the Ad-hoc Committee members and the provisions of Rule 121 (2) (3) and paragraph two shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 123. In the case where persons having the right to vote have submitted a petition to introduce a bill to the House, in case the Council of Ministers or its members introduce the bill having the same principle as such bill and the House has a resolution to accept the principle of such bill, the provisions of Rule 122 shall apply in the election of an Ad-hoc Committee *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 124. The Ad-hoc committee for the consideration of bills contain the substance concerning with children, youths, women, the elderly, the disabled, or handicapped which are submitted with a petition and introduced by persons having the right to vote, shall be appointed from the representatives of persons having the right to vote who submit a petition to introduce such bill in the number of not less than one-third of the total number of the Ad-hoc Committee members and the election shall be further proceeded under Rule 121.

Rule 125. In considering the bill at the committee stage established by the House, if any member considers it expedient to amend the bill, he or she shall submit an amendment to the motion in writing to the Chairperson of the Committee in advance within seven days as from the day following the date on which the House has accepted the principle of the bill, unless the House has otherwise prescribed the period of amendment to the motion for such bill.

The amendment to the motion shall usually be done section by section.

The amendment to the motion for adding a new section or deleting or amending an existing section shall not be contrary to the principle of such bill.

Rule 126. In considering the Annual Appropriations Bill, the Supplementary Appropriations Bill, and the Budget Expenditure Bill at the committee stage established by the House, in case the House is of the opinion that the appropriation budget is insufficient to the

administration, the application for an amendment to the motion shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the Committee.

Rule 127. After the Committee has completed the consideration of a bill, it shall submit such bill by showing the original draft and details of the amendment to the bill as well as a report to the Speaker of the House. Such report shall at least specify, whether or not, there is an amendment to any sections and any sections which are amended. If there is an amendment to the motion, the resolution of the Committee on such amendment to the motion or the reservation of the amendment to the motion by the mover of the motion or the reservation of opinion by committee members shall be specified in the report. In the case where the Committee conducts consultation and analyse any impacts that may occur from the bill, the result of the consultation and analysis shall also be specified in the report.

In the case where the Committee is of the opinion that there is an observation which the Council of Ministers should be informed of or act upon, such observation shall be recorded in the report of the Committee for consideration of the House sitting and the provisions of Rule 105 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 128. Any bill introduced by members or persons having the right to vote which, at the stage of the adoption of its principle, was not a money bill but at the second reading if the House passes a resolution to amend any section of such bill and, in the opinion of the Speaker or at the objection of members made to him or her and endorsed by not less than twenty members, such amendment has rendered it to exhibit the characteristic of a money bill, the Speaker shall order the suspension of passing of a resolution at the third reading and refer it to a joint sitting of the Speaker of the House and Chairpersons of all its Standing Committees to make a decision within fifteen days as from the date such case occurs and the provisions of Rule 114 and Rule 115 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 129. Once the Speaker of the House has been informed of the endorsement of the money bill by the Prime Minister under Rule 128, the House shall resolve to approve it at the third reading, but if the Prime Minister does not endorse it, the House shall amend it so as to prevent it from being a money bill.

Rule 130. In the case where the House resolves to have the bill considered by the Committee of the whole House, all the members who are present in the sitting shall constitute the Committee and the Presiding Officer shall also be the Chairperson of the Committee.

The consideration by the Committee of the whole House shall be both consideration at the committee stage and the second reading of the House section by section as a whole.

Rule 131. In considering the bill of which the Committee has finished the consideration, the House shall consider the title, the preamble, and all clauses, respectively. The bill shall be considered in order of the sections. The debate among members shall be made only upon the words or the statements which have been amended. The mover of an amendment to the motion who has reserved the amendment or the committee member who has reserved his opinion or has the right to conduct a debate unless otherwise resolved by the sitting.

The amendment bill to the existing bill shall be considered in order of the sections and the provisions under paragraph one shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 132. Once having finished the consideration of the bill under Rule 131 in its entirety, the House shall consider the entire bill in conclusion. For this purpose, members may propose a correction of words but no amendment to any statements of the bill shall be made except the statements which are contradictory with one another.

Rule 133. Once having finished the consideration of the bill at the second reading, the House shall resolve whether to approve or disapprove at the third reading without any debate.

Rule 134. In the case where the House resolves to reject the principle of the bill at the first reading or resolves to disapprove the bill at the third reading, such bill shall lapse.

Rule 135. In respect of any bills which are withheld under the provisions of section 137 of the Constitution, when the period of time under section 138 of the constitution has elapsed. A member may submit a motion endorsed by not less than twenty members to have such bill reconsidered for the resolution of the House to reaffirm the original bill or the bill considered by the joint committee. In the case where a bill is withheld under section 271 (1) or (2) of the constitution, the consideration of such bill shall be done by a joint sitting of the National Assembly.

Rule 136. In the case where the House resolves to approve any bill at the third reading, the Speaker shall proceed to submit such bill to the Senate.

The date on which the bill is submitted to the Senate and returned to the House shall be documented.

Rule 137. In the case where the Senate amends the bill which is submitted under Rule 136, the Speaker shall place the amended bill on the agenda as an urgent matter for the consideration of the House as to whether it approves or disapproves the amendment.

If the House disapproves such amendment, the Speaker shall proceed to have the House determine the number of joint-committee members and appoint such members. After the House has determined the number of joint-committee members and appointed such members, the Speaker shall inform the Senate of the determination and appointment.

Once having finished the consideration of the amended bill, the joint committee shall submit the bill and a report thereon to the Speaker for the resolution of the House whether to approve or disapprove it.

In the case where the joint committee is of the opinion that there is an observation which the Council of Ministers should be informed or should act upon, such observation shall be recorded in the report of the joint committee for the consideration of the sitting of the House and the provisions of Rule 105 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 138. In the case where the bill approved by the National Assembly has any defect or provision during the consideration of the House, the Speaker may consult the sitting about or a member may submit a motion endorsed by not less than twenty members for bringing the bill back to reconsider. If the sitting of the House resolves to approve it by the vote of not less than one-half of the total number of existing members of the House, the proceeding shall be taken.

Consultation or the motion under paragraph one shall be specified the issue of which the reconsideration is made and shall clearly state the reasons thereof.

The amendment of the bill shall be considered in so far as it is necessary and by the sitting of the House.

Once having finished the proceeding under paragraph three, the Speaker shall inform the Senate thereof for further proceeding under section 81 of the Constitution.

Rule 139. Before submitting any bill approved by the National Assembly to the Prime Minister for proceeding under section 81 of the Constitution, the Speaker shall retard it for three days in order to give a chance to the members, not less than one-tenth of the total number of existing members of both Houses, for referring the opinion to the Speaker that the provisions of such bill are contrary to or inconsistent with the Constitution or it is enacted contrary to the provisions of the Constitution and shall refer the opinion to the Constitution Court for decision.

Rule 140. For the purpose of participation of and consultation with people and stakeholders, the House or the Committee may conduct additional consultation about the bill.

Chapter VII

Consideration of Bills Which the National Assembly Resolves to Approve for Further Consideration

Rule 141. Once the National Assembly has resolved to approved for the further consideration of the bill under section 156 (9) in conjunction with section 147 of the Constitution, if such bill is pending at any reading, it shall be further considered at that reading and the Speaker shall place it on the agenda as an urgent matter.

In considering the bill under paragraph one, if it is at the committee stage, the House shall establish a new committee to continue the consideration thereof.

Rule 142. If such bill is under consideration of the joint committee, the House shall appoint new joint-committee members of the House and then the Speaker shall inform the Senate of the appointment.

Rule 143. The consideration of the pending law shall be continued with the proceedings prescribed in Chapter VI on Introduction and Consideration of a Bill.

Chapter VIII

Interpellations

Part I

General Provision

Rule 144. An interpellation is a question on any matter within the scope of the Prime Minister's or Ministers' authority which is given to him or her by a member verbally or in writing under section 150 of the Constitution.

Rule 145. There are three types of interpellations:

- (1) verbal interpellations;

- (2) ordinary interpellations:
- (3) specialised interpellations.

Rule 146. In making an interpellation, the interpellant shall be free from any mandate, commitment, or control.

Each interpellation shall be interpellated and interrogated by only one person.

Rule 147. An interpellation must not fall under any of the descriptions as follows:

- (1) being sarcastic, ironic, or calumnious;
- (2) being ambiguous or elusive;
- (3) a matter having been answered or refused to answer;
- (4) a matter having a question which repeats the prior interpellation;
- (5) a matter requesting an opinion;
- (6) a legal issue;
- (7) a matter being immaterial;
- (8) a private matter of any person except in so far as it is concerned with official duties.

Rule 148. Interpellations under Rule 147(3) and (4) may be reinterpellated only when they are materially different, or circumstances at the time of making such interpellations have changed from those at time of making previous interpellations.

Rule 149. Interpellation of a member shall be examined by the Speaker. If there is a defect in such interpellation, the Speaker shall inform the member of such defect.

Rule 150. Not more than three verbal interpellations and not more than three ordinary interpellations shall be placed in each meeting but if there are numerous ordinary interpellations or some ordinary interpellations that postponed from the previous meeting, the Speaker may place more than three ordinary interpellations on the agenda.

In respect of the order of interpellations of the sitting, the verbal interpellations and the ordinary interpellations shall be placed, respectively.

Rule 151. The Prime Minister or Ministers interpellated shall attend the sitting of the House in order to answer such interpellation by himself or herself, except there is an unavoidable necessity which result in them inability to answer such interpellation. Such necessity shall be informed in writing to the Speaker prior to or on the date of the sitting of the House and the time when the answer will be given shall be specified.

In case of the appointment of other relevant Ministers to answer the interpellation, the appointment shall be informed in writing to the Speaker prior to the agenda on interpellation.

The Prime Minister or Ministers have the right to refuse to answer the interpellation if the Council of Ministers is of the opinion that the matter should not yet be disclosed on the ground of safety or vital interest of the State.

Rule 152. Interpellation must be cleared and must not be redundant, complicated, repetitive, or in the nature of debate.

The provisions of paragraph one shall apply to answering an interpellation of the Prime Minister or Ministers *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 153. The interpellant has the right to withdraw his or her interpellation at any time.

Rule 154. If the Speaker considers that circumstances of any interpellation have been changed, the Speaker may order removing such interpellation from the agenda when he receives permission from the interpellant.

Rule 155. An interpellation shall be lapsed if;

- (1) the interpellant fails to make an interpellation or be absent at the sitting when the interpellant is called to interpellate;
- (2) the membership of the interpellant is terminated;
- (3) the Council of Ministers vacates office en masse;
- (4) the term of the House expires or the House is dissolved.

Part II

Oral Interpellation

Rule 156. Each member has the right to make an oral interpellation each time on the date of the sitting on which the agenda on the interpellation is placed without prior notification.

The interpellation must fall under any of the descriptions as follows:

- (1) an important matter of public concerns;
- (2) a matter affecting national and public interests;
- (3) an urgent matter

It shall be the authority of the Speaker to decide whether or not any interpellations are oral interpellations.

Rule 157. In any sitting, there are more than three oral interpellations which are decided by the Speaker, the Speaker shall draw lots to make only three of them left. If these three interpellation or some of them were found that have the same nature, the subsequent interpellation shall be lapsed.

Rule 158. Oral interpellations decided by the Speaker under Rule 156 or proceeded under Rule 157 shall be placed on the agenda on oral interpellations.

Rule 159. In each sitting, the period of questions and answers of the oral interpellations shall not exceed ninety minutes.

Any matters which the Speaker decides that their descriptions do not fall under the scope of those oral interpellations under Rule 156 or which the Speaker does not permit to be placed on the agenda or which are not interpellated or answered for any other reasons except the request for postponement of the Prime Minister's or Ministers' answering shall be lapsed. In case a member intends to raise such matter as an oral interpellation, he or she shall introduce such matter for consideration in the next sitting.

Rule 160. Each oral interpellation shall be proceeded not more than three questions and must be finished within thirty minutes except that there are less than three oral interpellations placed on the agenda in any sitting, the proportional period of time shall be extended within sixty minutes.

Rule 161. During oral interpellation, in case any question is decided to be a prohibited question under Rule 147 by the Speaker, the Speaker has the authority to order the interpellant to change such question.

Part 3

Ordinary Interpellation

Rule 162. An ordinary interpellation shall be submitted to the Speaker in writing in advance. Its statements shall be the questions of facts or policies and it shall specifies whether an answer is given in the sitting of the House or published in the Government Gazette.

The facts alleged to support the ordinary interpellation must be certified by the interpellant as the correct matters of fact even if it is not affirmatively certified in the ordinary interpellation and if it is necessary to have a supplement statement, it shall be separately specified.

Rule 163. The Speaker shall decide whether any interpellation is under the prohibitions under Rule 147 or falls under Rule 148. Such decision shall be informed to the interpellant within seven days.

The interpellation decided as the interpellation by the Speaker shall be delivered to the Prime Minister or Ministers, interpellated.

Rule 164. In case where the interpellation must be answered in the sitting of the House, the Speaker shall put it on the agenda within fifteen days as from the date of delivery to the Prime Minister or Ministers under Rule 163 paragraph two.

Rule 165. In case where the interpellation must be published in the Government Gazette, the Speaker shall inform the Prime Minister or Ministers interpellated in order to answer the interpellation within thirty days as from the date of delivery to the Prime Minister or Ministers under Rule 163 paragraph two.

After the Prime Minister or Ministers have answered it, they shall submit the Government Gazette containing the answer of interpellation to the Speaker and the latter shall inform the interpellant thereof.

In case the Prime Minister or Ministers cannot answer the interpellation within the period of time under paragraph one, they shall inform the Speaker of their difficulty in writing and of the time when their answers will be given and the Speaker shall inform the interpellant thereof.

Rule 166. With respect to ordinary interpellation under Rule 162, the first interpellation of a member shall be respectively placed on the agenda in order of interpellations submitted to the Speaker.

After the interpellation has been answered under paragraph one, the next interpellation of each member shall be respectively placed on the agenda in order of interpellations submitted to the Speaker.

When a session ends, the Speaker shall accumulate interpellations to be replied in the sitting of the House which are place on the agenda and not placed on the agenda in each term and inform the Prime Minister or relevant ministers to answer them in the Government Gazette within thirty days.

Rule 167. After the Prime Minister or Ministers have answered the interpellations to be answered in the sitting of the House, the interpellant has the right to ask one more question

unless he or she requests to ask further questions because the answer leaves the issues and the Presiding Office has given permission.

Part 4

Specialised Interpellation

Rule 168. An interpellation exhibiting the particular matter, the specific area, or the individual matter or specified to be answered in an interpellation room by a member is deemed to be the specialised interpellation and the Speaker may stipulate to interpellate and answer the interpellation in the interpellation room.

The specialised interpellation shall be submitted to the Speaker in writing in advance. The facts alleged to support the specialised interpellation must be certified by the interpellant as the correct matters of fact even if it is not affirmatively certified in the specialised interpellation and if it is necessary to have a supplement statement, it shall be separately specified. The provisions of Rule 163 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 169. The Speaker shall provide an interpellation room in the precinct of the House in order to interpellate and answer the specialised interpellation conveniently.

Rule 170. The Speaker shall inform the Prime Minister or Ministers interpellated to enable them to answer the interpellation within fifteen days as from the date of delivery to the Prime Minister or Ministers under Rule 163 paragraph two.

In case the Prime Minister or Ministers cannot answer the interpellation within the period of time specified under paragraph one, they shall inform the Speaker of their difficulty in writing and of the time when their answers will be given and the Speaker shall inform the interpellant thereof.

Rule 171. The Speaker shall put a specialised interpellation on the agenda within fifteen days as from the date of delivery to the Prime Minister or Ministers under Rule 163 paragraph two and in order of interpellations submitted to the Speaker.

When a session ends, the Speaker shall accumulate interpellations which are not answered and not placed on the agenda in each term and inform the Prime Minister or relevant ministers to answer them in the Government Gazette within thirty days.

Rule 172. During the period of interpellation, the Speaker shall order to ask and answer the specialised interpellation in the interpellation room.

The Speaker or Deputy Speaker whom is entrusted by the Speaker shall act as the Presiding Officer in the interpellation room and the provisions of Rule 167 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 173. There shall be specialised interpellations up to the number as stipulated by the Speaker in a sitting.

Interpellation and answer of each specialised interpellation must be finished within twenty minutes.

Rule 174. The provisions of Rule 18 paragraph two and three shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the publication of interpellation and answer of specialised interpellations.

Chapter IX General Debate

Part I

General Debate for Passing a Vote of No-confidence

Rule 175. In case a member intends to submit a motion for a general debate under section 151 of the Constitution, he or she shall submit it to the Speaker in writing indicating that on what matters the general debate and in an individual minister or the Council of Ministers *en masse*.

Rule 176. Upon receipt of the motion under Rule 175, the Speaker shall inspect the accuracy of the motion. If there are any defaults, he shall inform the mover of the motion within seven days as from the date of receipt of the motion.

After having finished the inspection of the accuracy of the motion, the Speaker shall place it on the agenda as an urgent matter and shall inform the Prime Minister thereof.

Rule 177. Only the Prime Minister or Ministers have the right to debate.

The debate under paragraph one may be done against each member, respectively or several members at a time.

Rule 178. In the debate and passing a vote of no-confidence, a member shall be free from his or her political party, any mandate, commitment, or control.

In the debate under paragraph one, apart from the rules prescribed in this chapter, the provisions of Chapter IV part 3 on the Debates shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, but Rule 67 and 69 on unnecessary of reading of any documents and showing any materials to the sitting of the Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives shall not apply.

In case of presentation of any documents or materials during the debate to the sitting under paragraph one that causes annihilation or /and violation to another person who is not the Prime Minister, a Minister or a member or violates or contravenes the ethical standards, the member who shows them shall assume responsibility for any liabilities arising from such act.

Part II

General Debate under Section 152 of the Constitution

Rule 179. A motion for a general debate under section 152 of the Constitution shall be submitted to the Speaker in writing. The statements of fact which will be inquired or the issues which will be recommended to the Council of Ministers shall be specified in the motion.

Once the Speaker has received the motion under paragraph one, the provisions of Rule 176 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

The provisions of Chapter IV part 3 on the Debates shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the debate.

Chapter X

Maintenance of the Rules and Orders

Rule 181. The sitting venue of the House shall be revered and is a restricted area. People who enter the sitting place of the House must behave in an orderly, respectful manner, and dress in such manner as determined by the Speaker. A person other than members of the House of Representatives or officials must leave the sitting venue of the House when his or her official activities are over.

In respect of dress code, a member shall wear a uniform of the members of the National Assembly, universal attire, royally bestowed dress or shirt or dress as the regulation determined by the Speaker.

Using any communication tool causing nuisance in the sitting shall be prohibited.

Rule 182. If a person violates the Rules, the Presiding Officer has the power to warn, prohibit, order him or her to withdraw his or her words, forbid him or her to speak on the matter on deliberation, order him or her to make an apology in the sitting or expel him or her from the sitting with or without time limit in such sitting.

In the case where the Presiding Officer has expelled anyone from the sitting, if such person disobeys the order, the Presiding Officer has the power to order the Sergeant-at-Arms to take him or her out of the sitting or the precinct of the House. Procedures or steps for taking the person whom the Presiding Officer has expelled shall be in accordance with the regulation determined by the Speaker.

The Sergeant-at-Arms who performs duties as assigned by the Presiding Officer shall be protected.

The order of the Presiding Officer under this Rule is undisputable.

Rule 183. Maintenance of the rules and orders in so far as they are related to outsiders entering the sitting or the precinct of the House or attending the sitting, as well as the etiquette of such person and the publication of any statement concerning the deliberation, shall be in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Speaker.

Chapter XI

Final Rules

Rule 184. If the Presiding Officer consults the sitting, or a member submits a motions endorsed by not less than twenty members, for a temporary suspension of any Rule either totally or partially in a specific case, and the sitting approves by votes of not less than two-third of the total number of members present, its application shall be suspended.

Rule 185. Subject to section 149 of the Constitution, if there is a problem which requires an interpretation of these Rules, it shall be the power of the House to decide the problem. After the sitting has resolved to decide by votes of not less than one-half of the total number of members of the House, such decision shall be deemed final.

An application for the sitting to decide under paragraph one may be made by consultation which is requested by the Presiding Officer, or by a motion submitted by a member and endorsed by not less than twenty members.

Rule 186. An application to amend these Rules must be submitted by a motion endorsed by not less than twenty members.

In submitting and considering the motion under paragraph one, the Rules on introduction and consideration of bills shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 187. In the case where the House has to consider whether to permit the arrest, detention or summons by a warrant of a member for inquiry as an alleged offender in a criminal case during a session under section 125 paragraph one of the Constitution, the Speaker shall place it on the agenda as an urgent matter.

The permission under paragraph one, if the Speaker considers that the circumstances have been changed, he may order to remove it from the agenda and inform the sitting.

Rule 188. In the case where the Speaker has already proceeded in accordance with section 125 paragraph two or three of the Constitution, the Speaker shall inform the sitting at the first opportunity when the House holds its sitting.

Transitory Rules

Rule 189. These rules shall not prejudice any acts which have been carried out before these Rules come into force. Any pending act shall further proceed under the Rules which are in force prior to the date of the enforcement of these rules.

Rule 190. The Code of Ethics of Members and Committee Members, B.E.2553 (2010) shall apply to members and committee members *mutatis mutandis* until proclamation of the Code of Ethics under section 128 paragraph one in conjunction with section 219 paragraph two of the Constitution shall be made.

In order to be carried out in accordance with paragraph one, the House shall establish the Ad-hoc committee for drafting the Code of Ethics of Members and Committee Members under section 128 paragraph one in conjunction with section 219 paragraph two of the Constitution within thirty days as from the date of promulgation of these rules.

Rule 191. An Ad-hoc committee established by the House prior to the date these Rules comes into force shall hold its office until it has finished its performance of duties.

Rule 192. All rules, regulations, notifications, or orders issued under the Rules of Procedure of the House which are in force on the date of the enforcement of these Rules shall apply in so far as they are not contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of these Rules until the rules, regulations, notifications, or orders issued under these Rules come into force.

Given on 27th August B.E.2562 (2019)

Mr.Chuan Leekpai

Speaker of the House of Representatives

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