

# GOVERNMENT OF FIJI GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT

---



---

No. 14

FRIDAY, 19th MAY

2023

---



---

[LEGAL NOTICE NO. 40]

ITAUKEI AFFAIRS ACT 1944

## **iTaukei Affairs (Great Council of Chiefs) Regulations 2023**

IN exercise of the powers conferred on it under section 6 of the iTaukei Affairs Act 1944, the iTaukei Affairs Board hereby makes the following regulations—

*Short title and commencement*

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the iTaukei Affairs (Great Council of Chiefs) Regulations 2023.

(2) These Regulations come into force on the date of publication in the Gazette.

*Interpretation*

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“chief” means the head of the *vanua* who has been traditionally recognised or installed, and recorded as such in the Register of iTaukei Landowners administered by the iTaukei Lands Commission;

“Council” means the Great Council of Chiefs;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for iTaukei affairs; and

“Permanent Secretary” means the Permanent Secretary responsible for iTaukei affairs.

*Membership*

3.—(1) This regulation establishes the Great Council of Chiefs.

(2) The Council consists of the following members—

(a) 3 *ex-officio* members—

- (i) the President;
- (ii) the Prime Minister; and
- (iii) the Minister;

(b) 6 members appointed by the Minister;

(c) 42 chiefs representing the 14 provinces with each province having 3 members; and

(d) 3 members appointed by the Council of Rotuma.

(3) The Minister may, before a meeting of the Council, cause the names of the members of the Council be published in the Gazette.

*Tenure*

4. A member of the Council under regulation 3(2)(b), (c) and (d) holds office for 6 months unless his or her appointment is earlier revoked or terminated.

*Nomination of representatives from the provinces*

5.—(1) The nomination of members representing the provinces is to be carried out by members of the provincial council for each province.

(2) The nomination of members representing the provinces will be held at a date, time and place as may be determined by the chairperson of each provincial council.

*Resignation of members*

6. A member other than an *ex-officio* member may resign from his or her membership of the Council by notice in writing and such resignation takes effect upon the receipt of the notice by the Secretary of the Council.

*Disqualification of members*

7. A person is not eligible to be a member of the Council if he or she—

- (a) is an undischarged bankrupt;
- (b) is an in-mate or extra-mural prisoner; or
- (c) is a person of unsound mind.

*Meetings*

8. The Council may make rules regulating its proceedings at any of its meetings and the mode of conducting its business.

*Quorum*

9. The quorum of the Council is not less than two third of the members of the Council.

*Attendance by invitation*

10. The Council may invite any person to attend any meeting, and such person may take part in the proceedings of the meeting but is not entitled to vote.

*Duties of the Council*

11.—(1) The duties of the Council are to—

- (a) deliberate, review, formulate and determine issues, policies and laws that relate to the rights, interests, health, welfare, order and governance of the iTaukei and Rotuman people respectively, as the Minister or the iTaukei Affairs Board or the Council of Rotuma may refer to the Council;
- (b) consider any proposal or report relating to the matters as set out under paragraph (a); and

(c) undertake any other duty or function imposed on it by any written law.

(2) Before making any recommendation on any matter, the Council may appoint a committee consisting of a chairperson and of such members of the Council or of co-opted members as it may deem suitable, to consider such matter and report to the Council.

*Secretary of the Council*

12. The Permanent Secretary or his or her nominee is the Secretary of the Council.

*Report of proceedings*

13. A report of each meeting of the Council is to be submitted by the Secretary to the Minister as soon as practicable after a meeting of the Council.

Made this 19th day of May 2023.

I. VASU  
Chairperson  
iTaukei Affairs Board