

✓ Sitting No. 11/63.

Cabinet Meeting held at the Auberge d'Aragon, Valletta, on Thursday, 28th February, 1963, at 5.30 pm.

Presents: The Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Planning + Finance.
The Hon. Minister of Industrial Development + Tourism.
The Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Power + Communications.
The Hon. Minister of Justice.
The Hon. Minister of Works and Housing.
The Hon. Minister of Labour and Social Welfare.
The Hon. Minister of Health.

Absent: The Hon. Minister of Education.

OPM. 191/63.

Adaptation Legislation (Demo. No. 128).
Prof. J. Azzopardo, Attorney General, + Mr. E. Cuschieri, Administrative Secretary, were in attendance.

It was explained that the proposed legislation was necessary so that certain references to the Governor made in the existing laws were altered to references to the appropriate Minister.

The legislation did not provide for the alteration of every single reference to the Governor. Those references to the Governor that were not adapted were, in the main, exercisable on the advice of the Cabinet. There were still some powers which were exercisable in the Governor's discretion.

Opportunity was being taken also to repeal the Baby-farming Ordinance (Cap. 28) in order to avoid a further adaptation of the Governor's power to repeal the said Ordinance under the Civil Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1962, which reformed the institution of adoption.

The structure of the Fees Ordinance (Cap. 58) was such that if the word "Governor" in section 2 were changed to any one Minister, such Minister would become empowered to fix the fees of all Government departments. This, and certain other consequential amendments, gave rise to the necessity of a Fees (Amendment) Act.

The Cabinet made a number of alterations both in the Schedule attached to the Adaptation Order, 1963, and in that of the powers of the Governor which were not affected by the proposed legislation, and agreed

a) that H.E. the Governor be advised to make the Adaptation of Laws (No. 2) Order, 1963,

as per ~~drafts~~ amended drafts at Red 17 in the relative file, and the Baby-farming (Repeal) Order, 1963;

b) That the Adaptation of Laws Bill and the Laws (Amendments) Bill be presented to the Legislative Assembly.

In the course of their discussion, Hon. Ministers agreed that the reference to the Governor in the Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Ordinance (Cap. 76) in sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 13 be retained and that the Cabinet should give the Minister of Justice general authority to deal with matters under this Ordinance with the Governor in the usual way, without the necessity of consulting the Cabinet as a whole.

It was also decided that Ministers who in virtue of the proposed legislation were empowered to make regulations should pass such ~~to~~ regulations in draft form to the Administrative Secretary at the Office of the Prime Minister before publication.

Hon. Ministers further agreed that the power of appointing Boards and Committees should remain vested in the Governor, which power was exercisable on the advice of the Cabinet.

New Power / Water Station (Memo. No. 5-A).

Mr. A. Silimone, Financial Secretary, Mr. A. Dalgan, Manager, W.E. Dept., and Mr. L. Ainter, Chief Engineer, were in attendance.

The Cabinet considered further developments in the light of certain suggestions made by Stalconsalt with regard to the proposed Power / Water Distillation project. It was agreed that the Financial Secretary and the Manager, W.E. Dept., should obtain the confirmation from the Consultants that the suggestions of the Stalconsalt had in fact been contemplated and adopted in the project as prepared by the Consultants.

Confirmation of written opinion.

The files mentioned hereunder was circulated to Home Ministers whose written decision was as follows:-

N.E.P.F. 215/62. H.E. the Governor was advised to authorise the refund to the testamentary executor of Mrs. Regina Buttgieg of part of the duty in terms of section 40 of the Succession and Donation Duties Ordinance.

Asmoufleura

Prime Minister

7.3.63

Cher

Secretary to Cabinet.

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