

THE ISLAND OF NAURU.

No. 3 of 1956.

A N O R D I N A N C E

To provide for the Establishment of a Nauru
Lands Committee, and for other purposes.

BE it ordained by the Administrator of the Island
of Nauru, acting in pursuance of the powers conferred
by Article 1 of the Agreement dated the second day of
July, 1919, between the Government of the United Kingdom,
the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia and the
Government of the Dominion of New Zealand, as follows:-

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Nauru Lands
Committee Ordinance 1956.

Definitions.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the contrary intention
appears -

"Nauruan" and "Pacific Islanders" have, respectively,
the same meanings as those expressions have in the
Nauruan Community Ordinance 1956;

"the Committee" means the Nauru Lands Committee
established under this Ordinance;

"the Council" means the Nauru Local Government Council
established by the Nauru Local Government Council
Ordinance 1951-1955.

Establishment
of Nauru Lands
Committee.

3.-(1.) The Administrator may, by notice in the
Gazette, establish a Committee, to be called the Nauru
Lands Committee.

(2.) The Committee shall consist of not less than
five, or more than nine, members, all of whom shall be
Nauruans.

(3.) The members of the Committee -

(a) shall be appointed by the Administrator from
persons recommended by the Council; and

(b) hold office during the pleasure of the Administrator.

Procedure, etc.,
of Committee.

4. Subject to the last preceding section, the constitution and procedure of the Committee shall be as determined by the Administrator after consultation with the Council.

Allowances
to members
of Committee.

5. Members of the Committee shall be paid, out of the Nauru Local Government Council Fund, such allowances as the Administrator, on the recommendation of the Council, approves.

Powers of
Committee.

6.-(1.) The Committee has power to determine questions as to the ownership of, or rights in respect of, land, being questions which arise -

- (a) between Nauruans or Pacific Islanders; or
- (b) between Nauruans and Pacific Islanders.

(2.) Subject to the next succeeding section, the decision of the Committee is final.

Appeals from
decisions of
Committee.

7.-(1.) A person who is dissatisfied with a decision of the Committee may, within twenty-one days after the decision is given, appeal to the Central Court against the decision.

(2.) The Central Court has jurisdiction to hear and determine an appeal under this section and may make such order on the hearing of the appeal (including, if it thinks fit, an order for the payment of costs by a party) as it thinks just.

(3.) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law, a judgment of the Central Court given on an appeal under this section is final.

Validation of
decisions of
Central Court
and
Administrator.

8. The Central Court shall be deemed to have had at all times jurisdiction to determine appeals from the Lands Committee constituted in accordance with the customs and usages of the aboriginal natives of Nauru, and decisions of that Court given before the date of commencement of this Ordinance on appeal from that Committee, and decisions of the Administrator given

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before that date on further appeal from that Court, shall be deemed to have been validly given.

Dated this twenty-third day of August, 1956.



Administrator of the
Island of Nauru.