Government Notice No. 229 of 2021

THE CONSUMER PROTECTION (PRICE AND SUPPLIES CONTROL) ACT

Regulations made by the Minister under section 35 of the Consumer Protection (Price and Supplies Control) Act

1. These regulations may be cited as the Consumer Protection (Price Observatory Committee) Regulations 2021.

2. In these regulations –
   “Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the Committee;
   “Committee” means the National Price Observatory Committee set up under regulation 3;
   “commodity” includes food and non-food products;
   “member” –
   (a) means a member of the Committee; and
   (b) includes the Chairperson.

3. (1) There is set up, for the purposes of these regulations, a Price Observatory Committee, which shall be responsible for the setting up of a basket of at least 100 commodities which are most widely used by consumers.

   (2) The Committee shall, in the discharge of its functions –
   (a) study the price evolution of the commodities and, where there is a rise in the price of any of the commodities, enquire into the reason thereof;
   (b) undertake research regarding prices of the commodities;
(c) publish, on a monthly basis, the price of commodities;

(d) submit to the Minister a monthly report on its activities;

(e) advise the Minister on policy decisions regarding the price of the commodities;

(f) do such other things as may be necessary for the purposes of these regulations.

4. (1) The Committee shall consist of –

(a) a Chairperson, to be appointed by the Minister;

(b) a representative of the Ministry;

(c) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of finance;

(d) a representative of Statistics Mauritius;

(e) a representative of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry;

(f) a representative of an association of consumer protection, to be appointed by the Minister;

(g) 2 members having experience in the field of price mechanism, to be appointed by the Minister.

(2) A member, other than a member referred to in paragraph (1)(b) to (e), shall hold office for a period of 2 years and may be eligible for reappointment.

(3) Every member shall be paid such allowance as the Minister may determine.

5. (1) The Committee shall meet as often as may be necessary but at least once every month.
(2) (a) Where the Chairperson is absent from a meeting of the Committee, the members present shall elect one of the members to chair the meeting.

(b) At any meeting of the Committee, 5 members shall constitute a quorum.

(3) The Committee may co-opt any other person who may be of assistance in relation to any matter before it and the co-opted member shall –

(a) not have the right to vote at a meeting of the Committee; and

(b) be paid the allowance paid to any member.

(4) Subject to this regulation, the Committee shall regulate its proceedings in such manner as it may determine.

6. The Permanent Secretary may designate such officers of the Ministry as may be necessary to assist the Committee in the discharge of its functions.

7. Every member shall sign a declaration of confidentiality in the form set out in the Schedule.

8. These regulations shall come into operation on 3 September 2021.

Made by the Minister on 3 September 2021.
SCHEDULE
[Regulation 7]

DECLARATION BY MEMBER OF PRICE OBSERVATORY COMMITTEE

I, ..................................................... (name), holder of National Identity Card number ....................................., being appointed/designated* as a member of the Price Observatory Committee, do declare that I shall not, during or after my tenure of office as a member of the Price Observatory Committee, disclose, on any account and, at any time, except for the purposes of the Consumer Protection (Price and Supplies Control) Act, any information received by me in the performance of my duties and in the exercise of my powers under that Act and the Consumer Protection (Price Observatory Committee) Regulations 2021.

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Signature of declarant Made before me

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Date

*Delete as appropriate