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# **Report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission on a Review of the Boundaries of the Constituencies**

## **1.0 - Introduction**

- 1.1 The Electoral Boundaries Commission is established under Section 38 of the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius. Mr. Yusuf H. ABOOBAKER S.C, C.S.K. is the Chairman. The members are:-

Mr. Désiré BASSET, S.C  
Mrs. Narghis BUNDHUN  
Mr. Oograssen Devpal COWREEA  
Dr. Charles YIP TONG  
Mr. Pramahunse BISSESSUR  
Mr. Georges André ROBERT, S.A, O.B.E.

- 1.2 The Commission is required by Section 39(2) of the Constitution to review the boundaries of the constituencies as will enable it to present a report to the National Assembly, 10 years as near as may be, after 12 August 1966 and, thereafter, 10 years after presentation of its last report.
- 1.3 The last report of the Commission was presented to the Honourable Speaker on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1999, and was laid on the table of the National Assembly on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1999. The resolution for its approval was moved on 17<sup>th</sup> December 1999 and the motion was agreed on the same day. The next report is therefore due for presentation in the year 2009.

## **2.0 – The Constituencies of the Island of Mauritius**

- 2.1 Section 39 of the Constitution provides as follows:

39. *Constituencies*

(1) *There shall be 21 constituencies and accordingly –*

(a) *the Island of Mauritius shall be divided into 20 constituencies;*

(b) *Rodrigues shall form one constituency.*

- 2.2 As the Island of Rodrigues forms one constituency, no review is necessary.

- 2.3 In terms of Section 39(1) of the Constitution and pursuant to a resolution of the National Assembly, the island of Agalega was attached by the Electoral Boundaries Commission to Constituency No. 3 - Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East in 1998.
- 2.4 Section 111(1) of the Constitution describes Mauritius as including:
- a) *the islands of Mauritius, Rodrigues, Agalega, Tromelin, Cargados Carajos and the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia and any other island comprised in the State of Mauritius;*
  - b) *the territorial sea and the air space above the territorial sea and the islands specified in paragraph (a);*
  - c) *the continental shelf; and*
  - d) *such places or areas as may be designated by regulations made by the Prime Minister, rights over which are or may become exercisable by Mauritius.*
- 2.5 The Commission accordingly recommends that the National Assembly passes the necessary resolutions to include the remaining islands in such one of the constituencies as the Electoral Boundaries Commission may determine.

### **3.0 – Grouping of Electoral Districts into Constituencies**

- 3.1 The 20 constituencies of the Island of Mauritius for the purposes of the National Assembly Elections, have been defined by Section 7(1) of the Mauritius Independence Order 1968 as being the same as those prescribed by the Mauritius (Electoral Provisions) Regulations 1966. The names of these 20 constituencies are set out in the Schedule to these regulations (G.N. No. 82 of 1966).
- 3.2 Before the passing of these Regulations, Mauritius was in 1958 divided into 40 electoral districts (Proclamation No. 10 of 1958).
- 3.3 The Regulations of 1966 established 20 electoral constituencies by pairing the 40 electoral districts which existed.

3.4 **These 20 constituencies have since been as follows:-**

1. Grand River North West and Port Louis West
2. Port Louis South and Port Louis Central
3. Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East
4. Port Louis North and Montagne Longue
5. Pamplemousses and Triolet
6. Grand Baie and Poudre D'or
7. Piton and Rivière du Rempart
8. Quartier Militaire and Moka
9. Flacq and Bon Accueil
10. Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East
11. Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle
12. Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien
13. Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac
14. Savanne and Black River
15. La Caverne and Phoenix
16. Vacoas and Floreal
17. Curepipe and Midlands
18. Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes
19. Stanley and Rose Hill
20. Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière

3.5 We concur with the views expressed by the Electoral Boundaries Commission in the 1976 Report that it is not within the terms of reference of the Electoral Boundaries Commission 'to interfere' with the pairing of the electoral districts.

## 4.0 – Population of Mauritius by Constituency

- 4.1 For a better understanding of the factual and historical position as well as of the principles which will guide us in our recommendations, it is appropriate to set out the number of residents in respect of each constituency as per the population census of the years 1972 to 2000.

Constituency	1972	1983	1990	2000 *
1. Grand River North West and Port Louis West	39,979	40,016	48,153	56,255
2. Port Louis South and Port Louis Central	33,112	33,348	35,477	34,786
3. Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East	26,687	22,147	32,080	38,637
4. Port Louis North and Montagne Longue	48,203	57,165	55,927	58,787
5. Pamplemousses and Triolet	44,408	61,325	65,308	75,381
6. Grand Baie and Poudre D'or	44,459	55,687	55,322	64,274
7. Piton and Rivière du Rempart	35,809	41,451	48,986	52,805
8. Quartier Militaire and Moka	41,182	48,813	48,965	54,494
9. Flacq and Bon Accueil	50,156	61,597	59,837	67,551
10. Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East	41,375	49,725	56,455	63,641
11. Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle	38,837	44,654	46,670	51,989
12. Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien	37,614	43,560	45,056	48,958
13. Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac	37,378	40,563	41,229	44,205
14. Savanne and Black River	47,404	59,581	64,083	76,926
15. La Caverne and Phoenix	47,340	58,435	62,012	69,328
16. Vacoas and Floreal	43,464	51,028	54,796	56,976
17. Curepipe and Midlands	36,621	43,889	50,342	58,807
18. Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes	39,361	43,218	54,227	57,693
19. Stanley and Rose Hill	42,840	48,509	45,724	53,290
20. Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière	49,970	62,152	51,807	58,575

\* Figures according to boundaries delimitation gazetted in April 2000 (G.N. 552 of 2000)

- 4.2 It is apparent that constituencies Nos. 2 and 3 have historically been smallest in terms of residents as compared with other constituencies. In each exercise of the review of boundaries, this feature has been highlighted either by the Commission or by persons who deponed before it.

- 4.3 The density of population is, however, substantially higher in these two constituencies than in any other constituency with the exception of constituencies Nos. 18 and 19. We shall revert to this feature when we examine the factors that are spelt out under Section 39(3) of the Constitution.

## 5.0 – Factors Governing the Review

- 5.1 The factors which should guide the Commission in its review of the boundaries of the constituencies are set out in Section 39(3) of the Constitution which reads as follows :-

*“The report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission shall make recommendations for any alterations to the boundaries of the constituencies as appear to the Commission to be required so that the number of inhabitants\* of each constituency is as nearly equal as is reasonably practicable to the population quota :*

*Provided that the number of inhabitants\* of a constituency may be greater or less than the population quota in order to take account of means of communication, geographical features, density of population and the boundaries of administrative areas”.*

- 5.2 In carrying out the present exercise, the Commission is therefore precluded from giving consideration to any other factors except for those set out above.

*\* The underlining is ours.*

- 5.3 The parameters within which the Commission has to carry its review exercise are set out both in Section 39 and in the Regulations of 1966 which have established the 20 constituencies by pairing the former 40 electoral districts. For this reason no doubt, the previous Electoral Boundaries Commissions in their past reviews have highlighted the difficulty of making a mechanical application of the dominant factor which is the “Population Quota”. The framers of the Constitution in their wisdom decided to add a proviso to Section 39(3) to allow for a number of factors which authorise a derogation from the strict application of the dominant factor of “Population Quota”.

- 5.4 Another difficulty the Commission has had to face in the review exercise is one of terminology. Whereas the Constitution refers to “inhabitants” of each constituency, the Population Census refers to “residents” and the electoral process is concerned with “registered electors”. Since Section 39(5) of the Constitution speaks of the “latest Population Census” we have used the figures of the census which speaks of “residents”.

## 6.0 – Population Quota

- 6.1 As outlined above, the dominant factor to be taken into consideration is the ‘Population Quota’. This is arrived at by dividing the number of the inhabitants of the Island of Mauritius, according to the latest official census of the population of Mauritius by 20.
- 6.2 The last Population Census in Mauritius was carried out in 2000. The table at **Appendix A** provides a picture of the data collected during this census in respect of each constituency as submitted by the Central Statistics Office and the Ministry of Housing and Lands.
- 6.3 The Population Census of 2000 recorded a total population of 1,143,358 residents for the Island of Mauritius, which figure divided by 20 equals to **57,167.90** which is deemed to be the Population Quota. Each constituency is required to reflect as far as is reasonably practicable this Population Quota.
- 6.4 An official letter from the Central Statistics Office concerning the Population Quota is included at **Appendix B**.
- 6.5 Other factors the Commission needs to take into account and as provided in Section 39(3) of the Constitution are:
- means of communication;
  - geographical features;
  - density of population; and
  - boundaries of administrative areas.
- 6.6 We shall now proceed to examine each one of them.

## 7.0 – Means of Communication

- 7.1 As far as “means of communication” is concerned, given our road network and present day transportation facilities, we believe that this factor may have lost some of the weight it no doubt carried in the 1960’s and 1970’s. Although a relevant consideration, we do not believe that it now constitutes such a major factor.

## 8.0 – Geographical Features

- 8.1 Over the years due to numerous residential and industrial developments as well as changes in climatic conditions, a number of “Geographical Features”, for example, feeder canals and some rivers have regrettably disappeared. Those remaining, however, still provide a useful tool in the delimitation of some constituencies and we propose to make use of them in our exercise.

## **9.0 – Density of Population**

- 9.1 “Density of population” is another factor established by the Constitution to recognize a departure from the Population Quota. The population density figure is obtained by dividing the number of inhabitants of each constituency by the area of the constituency.
- 9.2 We note that this factor was not referred to by any person or organization who deponed before us.
- 9.3 In this regard, we are very grateful to the Cartography Section of the Ministry of Housing and Lands for having provided us with a particularly useful map of all constituencies, their area and the population density per constituency. **(Appendix C)**

## **10.0 – Boundaries of Administrative Areas**

- 10.1 The towns, districts and villages are administered by the local authorities under Section 3(1)(2) of the Local Government Act 2003. The first Schedule of the Act sets out the boundaries of the five towns and of the districts. We propose to give such consideration to make voting in constituencies coincide as far as is reasonably possible with voting in Municipal wards and villages. However, in a number of instances, part of a constituency may fall into one of the administrative areas and part in another. We propose to give due consideration to this factor whenever it fits in with the general framework of our review.

## **11.0 – The Review**

- 11.1 The Commission by way of a press communiqué dated 18 November 2008 invited political parties and interested persons to communicate their views and suggestions in writing. The Commission reiterated this invitation in the press on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2009. **(Appendix D)**
- 11.2 No “major” political parties responded to these invitations.
- 11.3 In a further communiqué dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009, the Commission invited persons who had not made written representations but who wished to make oral representations to signify their intention to do so by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009. **(Appendix D1)**
- 11.4 The Commission conducted public hearings between 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> August 2009. The names of organizations and persons who deponed before the Commission are set out in **Appendix E**.

- 11.5 After obtaining the views of these persons and organizations, the Commission, very ably assisted by the Electoral Commissioner and his officers, visited all the constituencies. This was done to examine the practicalities or otherwise of giving effect to such proposals. It also considered the effect of the implementation of such proposals on other constituencies as any proposed change in any one constituency has of necessity an impact on other constituencies. In view of the above, visits to constituencies was an ongoing process.
- 11.6 A matter of particular concern both to the Commission and the Electoral Commissioner and which was looked into was to make voting as accessible and as convenient as possible.
- 11.7 The Commission took note of the various representations made to it. They covered a wide range of areas and issues raised by representatives of civil society, some political parties, organizations and individuals.
- 11.8 Such representations included inter alia:
- 11.8.1 the necessity to increase the number of constituencies of Mauritius;
  - 11.8.2 the reform or abolition of the “best loser” system;
  - 11.8.3 on the one hand the pertinence of representatives of the constituency of Rodrigues in the National Assembly following the devolution of certain powers to the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and on the other hand the desirability of an increase of the representatives of Rodrigues at the National Assembly from two to three.
  - 11.8.4 the need for proportional representation and;
  - 11.8.5 the necessity to make the system more responsive to the aspirations of certain components of our society.
- 11.9 For the purposes of the review, the Commission has examined the boundaries of each constituency. It has also considered such representations made as were within its remit, and has further given consideration to the suggestions offered by the Electoral Commissioner and his staff.
- 11.10 It accordingly makes the following recommendations.
- A table summarising such recommendations for each constituency is included at **Appendix F**.

## **12.0 – Recommendations**

### **12.1 - Constituency No. 1 – Grand River North West and Port Louis West**

12.1.1 Constituency No.1 had a population of **56,255** residents according to the 2000 census and **40,572** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It is bounded by constituencies Nos. 2, 8 and 20 and on its western side by the sea. It covers an area of 31.22 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population density of **1,801.72** residents per km<sup>2</sup> which makes it the 5<sup>th</sup> most densely populated constituency.

12.1.2 After analysing constituency No. 1 in conjunction with the neighbouring constituencies and taking into consideration the population quota, we find that this constituency should be reviewed.

#### **12.1.3 Line Barracks Region**

12.1.3.1 Registration Area AL is bounded on one side by Orleans Street which, running parallel to the south eastern wall of Line Barracks, forms part of the boundary between constituencies Nos. 1 and 2. Hence, this registration area can conveniently be referred to as the Line Barracks region.

12.1.3.2 The inhabitants of Line Barracks region, on account of their daily activities are naturally and organically linked to the neighbouring regions of Boulevard Marie Reine de la Paix and Dr. A.G. Jeetoo Hospital in constituency No. 2.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.1.3.3 We consequently recommend that Registration Area AL, that is the Line Barracks region be distracted from constituency No. 1 and be included in constituency No. 2.  
This proposed change involves the movement of **1,334** electors.

#### **12.1.4 La Butte Region**

12.1.4.1 Registration Area AK which starts at Signal Mountain, stretches across Mgr. Leen Avenue and the Port Louis – Plaisance Dual Carriageway (M1) to meet the sea at Les Salines. This registration area covers La Butte, a region which has more affinity with Line Barracks region.  
In view of the above, we believe that La Butte region and Line Barracks region should be included in one constituency.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.1.4.2 Following our recommendation made at 12.1.3.3, namely that the inhabitants living in the neighbourhood of Line Barracks region should be moved to constituency No. 2 on account of their affinity with that constituency, we recommend that that part of Registration Area AK lying South of the Port Louis – Plaisance Dual Carriageway (M1) which comprises some **1,224** electors be distracted from constituency No.1 and attached to constituency No. 2.

It is noted that the uninhabited part of the registration area lying near the sea which forms part of Les Salines region remains unchanged.

### **12.1.5 Bell Village and Plaine Lauzun Regions**

- 12.1.5.1 Registration Area AH covers a large geographical area extending from Quoin Bluff to Montée Hussard. It thus comprises the regions of Bell Village and Plaine Lauzun and part of the locality of Cassis.

- 12.1.5.2 The inhabitants living East of the Port Louis – Plaisance Dual Carriageway (M1) at Bell Village, comprising residents of the Police Quarters and those residing generally South of the St. Louis CEB Power Station have more affinity with the southern part of Port Louis in constituency No. 2.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.1.5.3 We consequently recommend that that part of Registration Area AH lying East of the Port Louis – Plaisance Dual Carriageway (M1) and that part of Plaine Lauzun region situated South of the St. Louis CEB Power Station be distracted from constituency No.1 and added to constituency No. 2.

However to avoid splitting the region of Cassis, the agglomeration lying East of St. Joseph Street, West of the Port Louis – Plaisance Dual Carriageway (M1) and close to Residence Vallijee, should remain in constituency No. 1.

It is also to be noted that the Plaine Lauzun Industrial Zone remains unchanged.

This alteration would entail the movement of **2,494** electors.

### **12.1.6 Coromandel Industrial Zone**

- 12.1.6.1 Part of the western boundary of constituency No. 1 presently runs along the “trace” of the Midland Old Railway Line. However, with developmental works carried out in the area, the boundary has now become unclear and needs to be redefined.

## RECOMMENDATION

- 12.1.6.2 We recommend that part of the western boundary of this constituency at the level of the Coromandel Industrial Zone should be shifted from the “trace” of the Midland Old Railway Line to the entrance road of the Coromandel Industrial Zone.  
No elector would be concerned with this proposed change.

### 12.1.6.3 Summary of Recommendation

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>40,572</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	<b>5,052</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>35,520</b>

## **12.2 - Constituency No. 2 – Port Louis South and Port Louis Central**

12.2.1 Constituency No. 2 has a population of **34,786** residents according to the 2000 census and comprises **24,642** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It covers an area of 10.50 km<sup>2</sup> and is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> highest with regard to its population density of **3,312.24** residents per km<sup>2</sup>. It lies between constituencies Nos. 1 and 4 and is bounded on the North partly by the sea and partly by constituency No. 3.

### **12.2.2 Line Barracks Region**

12.2.2.1 Registration Area AL in constituency No. 1 comprises Line Barracks region and lies close to Boulevard Marie Reine de la Paix and Dr. A.G. Jeetoo Hospital. We have explained at 12.1.3.2 that the inhabitants of this region have more affinity with constituency No. 2.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.2.2.2 When dealing with constituency No. 1, we have already recommended at 12.1.3.3 that Registration Area AL be distracted from constituency No. 1 and added to constituency No. 2.  
This proposed change would result in a movement of **1,334** electors.

### **12.2.3 La Butte Region**

12.2.3.1 La Butte region is comprised in Registration Area AK in constituency No. 1. As explained at 12.1.4.1, this region is linked geographically and in other respects with Line Barracks region which itself borders constituency No. 2.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.2.3.2 As already proposed at 12.1.4.2 we recommend that part of Registration Area AK lying South of the Port Louis – Plaisance Dual Carriageway (M1) be removed from constituency No.1 and added to constituency No. 2.  
This proposed change would involve **1,224** electors.

### **12.2.4 Bell Village and Plaine Lauzun Regions**

12.2.4.1 Registration Area AH in constituency No. 1 covers mainly the regions of Bell Village and Plaine Lauzun and part of the region of Cassis. Except for the Plaine Lauzun Industrial Zone and the agglomeration adjacent to Residence Vallijee, the rest of the registration area has close links with the southern part of Port Louis in constituency No. 2.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.2.4.2 We therefore recommend in line with our proposal at 12.1.5.3 that that part of Registration Area AH lying East of the Port Louis – Plaisance Dual Carriageway (M1) and that part of Plaine Lauzun region situated South of the St. Louis CEB Power Station be distracted from constituency No. 1 and added to constituency No. 2. For the reasons already put forward when dealing with constituency No. 1, the Plaine Lauzun Industrial Zone and that part of the region of Cassis comprised in the registration area should remain in constituency No. 1.  
This proposed change would involve **2,494** electors.

### **12.2.5 Lenepveu Street Region**

- 12.2.5.1 Registration Area BK lies between Frère Félix de Valois Street and Sir Edgar Laurent Street and is adjacent to constituency No. 3. Thus, this registration area comprises two clearly distinct regions namely Lenepveu Street region and Champ de Mars region.
- 12.2.5.2 However, unlike those inhabitants of the Champ de Mars region, the inhabitants of Lenepveu Street region have close affinity with the adjoining region of Plaine Verte. In fact, Lenepveu Street and the neighbouring area extending up to La Paix Street is considered as part of Plaine Verte region in constituency No. 3.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.2.5.3 We recommend that that part of Registration Area BK lying North East of La Paix Street, that is, Lenepveu Street region, be distracted from constituency No.2 and annexed to constituency No.3.

Presently, the **1,633** electors registered in that region vote at De la Salle RCA school. This change would bring their voting centre closer as in future they would vote at Notre Dame de la Paix RCA school which is nearer to their place of residence.

However, we are of the view that the electors residing in Champ de Mars region, on account of their affinity with constituency No. 2, should not be moved.

### **12.2.6 La Paix Region**

- 12.2.6.1 Registration Area BL is bounded by Mgr. Gonin Street on its South and by Sir Edgar Laurent Street on its North East at Plaine Verte. This registration area is adjacent to the Plaine Verte region in constituency No. 3. In fact, those inhabitants of the registration area residing North East of La Paix Street normally carry their usual daily activities in Plaine Verte region.
- 12.2.6.2 However, the rest of the inhabitants of Registration Area BL still have strong links with constituency No. 2.

## RECOMMENDATION

- 12.2.6.3 We therefore recommend that that part of Registration Area BL lying North East of La Paix Street be distracted from constituency No. 2 and added to constituency No. 3. The remaining part of the registration area should, however, stay in constituency No. 2.

This proposed change would cause a movement of **881** electors.

## 12.2.7 Corderie and Poudrière Streets Region

- 12.2.7.1 The area lying between Corderie Street and Poudrière Street and referred to as Registration Area CA forms part of constituency No. 3. This registration area comprises Government Administrative offices, major banks and the Supreme Court. It is, in fact, the central business district of Port Louis and ought logically to form part of "Port Louis Central" in constituency No. 2.

## RECOMMENDATION

- 12.2.7.2 We accordingly recommend that Registration Area CA in its entirety be distracted from constituency No. 3 and attached to constituency No. 2.

This exercise would concern some **246** electors who would continue to vote at Sir Abdool Razack Mohamed State Secondary School.

## 12.2.7.3 Summary of Recommendation

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>24,642</b>
Addition	:	<b>5,298</b>
Distracted	:	<b>2,514</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>27,426</b>

### **12.3 - Constituency No. 3 – Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East**

- 12.3.1 This constituency is bounded by constituencies Nos. 2, 4 and 5 and on its western side by the sea and includes the island of Agalega. According to the 2000 census, this constituency had a total population of **38,637** residents and **22,488** registered electors as at 16 August 2009.

Constituency No. 3 has an area of 6.10 km<sup>2</sup>, excluding the island of Agalega, which covers an area of 26 km<sup>2</sup>. Constituency No. 3 has a population density of **6,286.56** residents per km<sup>2</sup> after excluding Agalega.

It is therefore the smallest constituency of the country and is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> highest as regards its population density. In view of the low number of residents and electors in this constituency, it is expedient to effect changes to it in order to bring it as close to the population quota as is reasonably possible in the circumstances bearing in mind its high population density.

#### **12.3.2 Corderie and Poudrière Streets Region**

- 12.3.2.1 Registration Area CA which lies between Corderie Street and Poudrière Street is in all respects the central business district of Port Louis which is located in constituency No. 2.

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.3.2.2 We refer to our recommendations made at 12.2.7.2 namely that Registration Area CA be distracted from constituency No. 3 and annexed to Constituency No. 2.  
Some **246** registered electors would move to constituency No. 2 as a result of this recommendation.

#### **12.3.3 Lenepveu Street Region**

- 12.3.3.1 Registration Area BK in constituency No. 2 comprises inhabitants residing in Champ de Mars region on the one side and Lenepveu Street region on the other. We believe that those living in the Lenepveu Street region have strong links with Plaine Verte in constituency No. 3, as already pointed out at 12.2.5.2.

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.3.3.2 We refer to our recommendations at 12.2.5.3 namely that Lenepveu Street region, that is, that part of Registration Area BK lying North East of La Paix Street be distracted from constituency No. 2 and added to constituency No. 3.

The **1,633** electors concerned with this proposed change would in future vote at Notre Dame de la Paix RCA school not far from their place of residence.

That part of the registration area referred to as Champ de Mars region would remain unchanged.

### **12.3.4 La Paix Region**

- 12.3.4.1 The electors of Registration Area BL in constituency No. 2, residing North East of La Paix Street have close links with Plaine Verte region in constituency No. 3. However, the remaining part of the registration area remains part and parcel of constituency No. 2.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.3.4.2 As already recommended by us at 12.2.6.3, that part of Registration Area BL lying North East of La Paix Street should be distracted from constituency No. 2 and annexed to constituency No. 3.  
Some **881** electors would be concerned by this proposed change.

### **12.3.5 Dog Pound and Sophia Lane Region**

- 12.3.5.1 Registration Area DF in constituency No. 4 is bounded on the East partly by an imaginary line running from Priests Peak to the cremation ground at Vallée des Prêtres and on the West partly by the demarcation line between constituencies Nos. 3 and 4 at Batterie Dumas near the dog pound.
- 12.3.5.2 The area lying North of Julius Scoop Street and of Sophia Lane, comprised in Registration Area DF, has known a rapid increase in housing construction lately and the National Housing Development Co. Ltd (NHDC) has put up apartments near Croisée Vallée des Prêtres to accommodate the growing population.
- 12.3.5.3 The inhabitants who have moved to the abovementioned area were mostly residents of Plaine Verte region. They have all their links with Plaine Verte region and carry their daily activities there. Their affinity lies clearly with constituency No. 3.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.3.5.4 We recommend that that part of Registration Area DF lying North of Julius Scoop Street and of Sophia Lane be distracted from constituency No. 4 and included in constituency No. 3.  
The **1,484** electors who would move to constituency No. 3 as a result of our recommendation would in future vote at Medco Trinity Secondary school at Indian Street behind Military Road instead of Port Louis North State Secondary School.  
This proposed change would bring no hardship to electors.

### **12.3.6 Paul Toureau and Latanier Regions**

12.3.6.1 Registration Area DB in constituency No. 4 is bounded on the North partly by Rivulet Terre Rouge, on the East by Pamplémousses Road and on the South by Military Road which is the delimitation line between constituencies Nos.3 and 4.

12.3.6.2 The area lying South of the Latanier River and comprised in Registration Area DB, was until recently bare land. This region has witnessed the construction of a large number of buildings, including housing complexes which are occupied mostly by former residents of Plaine Verte which is a natural extension of the Latanier region. The inhabitants of this new agglomeration have strong ties with Plaine Verte region.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.3.6.3 It is our recommendation that that part of Registration Area DB lying South of Latanier River be distracted from constituency No. 4 and included in constituency No. 3.

Some **930** electors would be concerned by this exercise. These electors would henceforth vote at Abdool Rahman Abdool Government School which is nearer to their place of residence.

12.3.6.4 Summary of Recommendation

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>22,488</b>
Addition	:	<b>4,928</b>
Distracted	:	<b>246</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>27,170</b>

## **12.4 - Constituency No. 4 – Port Louis North and Montagne Longue**

12.4.1 Constituency No. 4 is bounded by constituencies Nos. 2, 3, 5, 7 and 8 and comprises the villages of Le Hochet, Notre Dame, Long Mountain, Crève Coeur and Congomah. The constituency has a total population of **58,787** residents according to the 2000 census and some **46,179** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It covers an area of 55.64 km<sup>2</sup> and is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> highest as per its population density of **1,056.52** residents per km<sup>2</sup>.

### **12.4.2 Dog Pound and Sophia Lane Regions**

12.4.2.1 The residents of Registration Area DF living North of Julius Scoop Street and of Sophia Lane have more affinity with Plaine Verte region in many respects as we have stated previously when dealing with constituency No. 3.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.4.2.2 In line with our recommendation at 12.3.5.4 we recommend that that part of Registration Area DF lying North of Julius Scoop Street and of Sophia Lane be distracted from constituency No. 4 and annexed to constituency No. 3.

The **1,484** registered electors in this area would vote at Medco Trinity Secondary School near Military Road.

It is to be noted that the remaining part of this registration area which comprises Carreau Lalo remains in constituency No. 4.

### **12.4.3 Paul Toureau and Latanier Regions**

12.4.3.1 Those inhabitants of Registration Area DB living South of Latanier River have closer links with Plaine Verte region. They normally carry their daily activities in Plaine Verte region.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.4.3.2 When dealing with constituency No. 3, we have already recommended at 12.3.6.3 that that part of Registration Area DB lying South of Latanier River be distracted from constituency No. 4 and included in constituency No. 3.

Some **930** electors would be concerned by this proposed change. In future they would vote at Abdool Rahman Abdool Government School which is close to their locality.

However, that part of the registration area lying North of the Latanier River would remain unchanged.

#### **12.4.4 Terre Rouge**

- 12.4.4.1 Registration Area EJ constitutes the village of Terre Rouge in constituency No. 5. This village, which is developing at a fast pace, lies adjacent to and has strong affinities with the village of Le Hochet. In view of its proximity with Port Louis North, Terre Rouge has become closely knit with Le Hochet especially as both villages share common features and similar topography. In fact, Terre Rouge is but a natural extension of Le Hochet.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.4.4.2 We accordingly recommend that Terre Rouge be detached from constituency No. 5 to join Le Hochet in constituency No. 4. This exercise would result in a movement of **6,308** electors from constituency No. 5 to constituency No. 4.

#### **12.4.4.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>46,179</b>
Addition	:	<b>6,308</b>
Distraction	:	<b>2,414</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>50,073</b>

## **12.5 – Constituency No 5 – Pamplémousses and Triolet**

12.5.1 Constituency No. 5 is bounded by constituencies Nos. 3, 4, 6 and 7 and on its western side by the sea. It has a population of **75,381** residents according to the 2000 census, comprising some **56,620** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. This constituency covers an area of 90.56 km<sup>2</sup> and ranks 9<sup>th</sup> highest according to its population density of **832.39** residents per km<sup>2</sup>.

### **12.5.2 Terre Rouge**

12.5.2.1 Registration Area EJ, that is the village of Terre Rouge, has with time developed close affinity with the neighbouring village of Le Hochet in constituency No. 4 as already pointed out at 12.4.4.1 when we reviewed the boundaries of constituency No. 4.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.5.2.2 As already proposed at 12.4.4.2, Registration Area EJ that is the village of Terre Rouge has been recommended to be distracted from constituency No. 5 and included in constituency No. 4. This exercise would concern **6,308** electors.

### **12.5.3 Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden Region**

12.5.3.1 Under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme, the Beau Plan Sugar Estate, has allotted plots of land near Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden at Pamplémousses to its employees. The land in question is comprised in Registration Area GP and lies in constituency No. 7 but adjacent to the boundary of constituency No. 5. However, all these Sugar Estate employees were former residents of Bois Rouge and Pamplémousses, and consequently have more affinity with Pamplémousses than with Mapou which is more than 3 kms away.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.5.3.2 We therefore recommend that part of the eastern boundary of constituency No. 5 be amended so as to include in that constituency, the area lying between the Mapou – Goodlands Road (A5) and the Pamplémousses – Grand Bay Road (A13) near Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden. This would result in a movement of some **90** electors from constituency No. 7 to constituency No. 5.

### **12.5.4 Mon Piton**

12.5.4.1 Part of the eastern boundary of constituency No. 5 presently runs along an irrigation distributory channel at Mon Piton. However, following development works carried out in the region, that distributory channel no longer exists. A new description of that boundary is therefore necessary.

## RECOMMENDATION

12.5.4.2 We accordingly recommend that that part of the eastern boundary of the constituency at the level of Mon Piton should in future run along estate roads and River des Pamplemousses to meet the bridge at Grande Rosalie.

No elector would be concerned by this proposed change.

12.5.4.3 Summary of Recommendation

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>56,620</b>
Addition	:	<b>90</b>
Distraction	:	<b>6,308</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>50,402</b>

## **12.6 – Constituency No. 6 – Grand Baie and Poudre D’Or**

12.6.1 Constituency No. 6 had a total population of **64,274** residents according to the 2000 census and **48,379** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It covers an area of 94.85 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population density of **677.61** residents per km<sup>2</sup> which makes it the 11<sup>th</sup> most densely populated constituency. The constituency is bordered on the North by the sea and on the South by the northern boundaries of constituencies Nos. 5 and 7.

12.6.2 Taking into consideration the geographical features of this constituency including its relationship with the neighbouring constituencies and the strong links between the localities of Grand Baie and Poudre D’Or, we do not propose to alter its boundaries.

12.6.3 Summary of Recommendation

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>48,379</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.7 – Constituency No. 7 – Piton and Rivière du Rempart**

12.7.1 This constituency has a population of **52,805** residents according to the 2000 census, which comprises some **40,624** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It is bordered by constituencies Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 9 and on the East by the sea. It covers an area of 107 km<sup>2</sup> with a population density of **493.52** residents per km<sup>2</sup>. It is the 13<sup>th</sup> most densely populated constituency.

### **12.7.2 Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden Region.**

12.7.2.1 Former employees of the Beau Plan Sugar Estate have built houses on plots of land offered to them at Pamplémousses near the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden. These houses lie in Registration Area GP but close to the boundary of constituency No. 5 and their owners were, until recently, residents of Bois Rouge and Pamplémousses. Consequently they have more affinity with Pamplémousses in constituency No. 5.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.7.2.2 Given that the inhabitants of the plots of land near Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden have more affinity with constituency No. 5 and as recommended at 12.5.3.2, part of the western boundary of constituency No. 7 ought to be altered from Mapou – Goodlands Road (A5) to Pamplémousses – Grand Bay Road (A13) so as to include the agglomeration near the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden in constituency No. 5.

Some **90** electors would be concerned with this exercise.

### **12.7.3 Mon Piton**

12.7.3.1 As already explained at 12.5.4.1 the demarcation line between constituencies Nos. 5 and 7 is ill-defined at Mon Piton and requires a new description.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.7.3.2 As proposed at 12.5.4.2 we recommend that the common boundary between constituencies Nos. 5 and 7 at Mon Piton should in future run along estate roads and River des Pamplémousses to meet the bridge at Grande Rosalie.

There would be no movement of electors as a result of this proposed change.

### **12.7.3.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>40,624</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	<b>90</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>40,534</b>

## **12.8 – Constituency No. 8 – Quartier Militaire and Moka**

12.8.1 The total population of constituency No. 8 amounts to **54,494** residents according to the 2000 census, which comprises some **41,342** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. Its area is 118.47 km<sup>2</sup> and it is ranked 14<sup>th</sup> highest as per its population density of **459.97** residents per km<sup>2</sup>. As a landlocked constituency it is surrounded by not less than 10 constituencies; namely constituencies Nos. 1, 4, 7, 9, 10, 15, 17, 18, 19 and 20.

12.8.2 This constituency has no links with the various villages and localities of the adjoining constituencies that would necessitate a review of its boundaries. Consequently, we are not recommending any change to the boundaries of constituency No. 8.

12.8.3 Summary of Recommendation

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>41,342</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.9 – Constituency No. 9 – Flacq and Bon Accueil**

12.9.1 Constituency No. 9 is bounded on the North by constituency No. 7, on the East by the sea, on the South by constituency No. 10 and on the West by constituency No. 8. It has a total population of **67,551** residents according to the 2000 census and **50,883** registered electors as at 16 August 2009.

12.9.2 The constituency covers an area of 151.17 km<sup>2</sup> and its population density is **446.85** residents per km<sup>2</sup>. It ranks 16<sup>th</sup> highest in respect of its population density.

12.9.3 In spite of the high number of electors registered in this constituency, we have not been able to alter its boundaries as it has no sufficiently strong links with the other neighbouring constituencies.

12.9.4 Summary of Recommendation

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>50,883</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.10 – Constituency No.10 – Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East**

12.10.1 Constituency No. 10 is bordered by constituencies Nos. 8, 9, 11 and 17 and on the eastern side by the sea. It has a population of **63,641** residents according to the 2000 census and some **47,296** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It has an area of 154.27 km<sup>2</sup> and is ranked 17<sup>th</sup> highest in respect of its population density of **412.53** residents per km<sup>2</sup>.

12.10.2 Constituency No. 10 is bordered on the South by the Grand Port range and on the East partly by Rivière Françoise. As this constituency is demarcated mostly by natural boundaries and taking into consideration its topography and geographical features, we are of the view that its present boundaries should be maintained.

### **12.10.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>47,296</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.11 – Constituency No. 11 – Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle**

12.11.1 This constituency is bounded by constituencies Nos. 10, 12, 13, 16, 17 and on the East by the sea. It has a total population of **51,989** residents according to the 2000 census, comprising **39,432** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It covers an area of 173.07 km<sup>2</sup> and is ranked 18<sup>th</sup> highest in regard to its population density of **300.40** residents per km<sup>2</sup>.

12.11.2 Constituency No. 11 is bordered on the North by the Grand Port range, on the West partly by Rivière Tabac and Rivière du Poste and on the East by the sea. As it can be observed, this constituency is demarcated mostly by natural boundaries. Consequently, any amendment to its boundaries would result in the splitting of certain homogenous localities. Hence our recommendation is that its present boundaries should remain unaltered.

### **12.11.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>39,432</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.12 – Constituency No. 12 – Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien**

12.12.1 This Constituency lies between constituencies Nos. 11 and 13 and is bordered on the third side by the sea. It has a population of **48,958** residents according to the 2000 census, comprising of some **36,242** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It has an area of 83.37 km<sup>2</sup> and as per its population density of **587.25** residents per km<sup>2</sup>, is ranked the 12<sup>th</sup> most densely populated constituency.

### **12.12.2 La Barraque**

12.12.2.1 Part of the western boundary of this constituency at La Barraque has now become ill-defined and needs to be revisited.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.12.2.2 We recommend, therefore, that part of the western boundary of constituency No. 12 should in future run as from Rivière Tabac, then along secondary roads to meet Rivière du Poste.  
No elector would be concerned by this proposed change.

#### **12.12.2.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>36,242</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.13 – Constituency No. 13 – Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac**

12.13.1 Constituency No. 13 is surrounded by constituencies Nos. 11, 12, 14 and 16 and by the sea on the South. This constituency has a total population of **44,205** residents according to the 2000 census, and **33,169** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It spreads over an area of 147.32 km<sup>2</sup> and is ranked 19<sup>th</sup> highest with regard to its population density of **300.06** residents per km<sup>2</sup>.

### **12.13.2 La Barraque**

12.13.2.1 As already pointed out when dealing with constituency No. 12, the demarcation line between constituencies Nos. 12 and 13 at La Barraque needs to be redefined.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.13.2.2 As already recommended at 12.12.2.2, the common boundary between constituencies Nos. 12 and 13 has been amended to run along secondary roads from Rivière Tabac before joining Rivière du Poste.

This proposed amendment to the constituency boundary would not cause any movement of electors.

### **12.13.2.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>33,169</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.14 – Constituency No. 14 – Savanne and Black River**

12.14.1 Constituency No. 14, which is bordered, by constituencies Nos. 13, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 20 stretches from Bambous to Surinam. This constituency covers a very large area of some 320.34 km<sup>2</sup>. It has a total population of **76,926** residents according to the 2000 census, with a population density of **240.14** residents per km<sup>2</sup>. It is the least densely populated constituency of Mauritius and has **58,341** registered electors as at 16 August 2009.

### **12.14.2 Bambous**

12.14.2.1 Registration Areas PW and PWA within which the whole region of Bambous forms part lies closer to Canot and Albion in constituency No. 20. The inhabitants of Bambous are separated from the rest of the constituency by a large expanse of sugar cane fields up to Flic en Flac, the nearest village. It is therefore more appropriate for the village of Bambous to be included in constituency No. 20 which is adjacent to it.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.14.2.2 Taking into consideration the fact that the region of Bambous lies close to constituency No. 20 and that it is isolated from the rest of the constituency by large uninhabited areas, we recommend that Registration Areas PW and PWA, be distracted from constituency No. 14 and annexed to constituency No. 20.  
Pursuant to this exercise, some **9,316** electors would move to constituency No. 20.

### **12.14.2.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>58,341</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	<b>9,316</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>49,025</b>

## **12.15 – Constituency No. 15 – La Caverne and Phoenix**

12.15.1 This constituency is surrounded by constituencies Nos. 8, 14, 16, 17 and 18. Constituency No. 15 has an area of 38.60 km<sup>2</sup> and a population density of **1,796.27** residents per km<sup>2</sup>, making it the 6<sup>th</sup> most densely populated constituency. It has a total population of **69,328** residents according to the 2000 census, which comprises **53,548** registered electors as at 16 August 2009.

12.15.2 Constituency No. 15 is bordered on the East by Rivulet Françoise and on the West by Trois Mamelles Mountain. Taking into consideration its topography and natural boundaries, we recommend that the present boundaries of this constituency be maintained.

### **12.15.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>53,548</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.16 – Constituency No. 16 – Vacoas and Floreal**

12.16.1 Constituency No. 16 is bounded by constituencies Nos. 11, 13, 14, 15 and 17. It has a population of **56,976** residents according to the 2000 census, comprising of **44,053** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. The constituency is spread over an area of 73.26 km<sup>2</sup> and is ranked 10<sup>th</sup> highest according to its population density of **777.70** residents per km<sup>2</sup>.

12.16.2 This constituency is bounded on the West partly by the Black River Range, on the South partly by River du Poste and on the other sides by Vacoas, Phoenix and Curepipe. Hence, it is impossible to review the boundaries of this constituency without splitting certain well knit regions in the neighbouring constituencies. We therefore recommend that its boundaries remain unchanged.

### **12.16.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>44,053</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.17 – Constituency No. 17 – Curepipe and Midlands**

- 12.17.1 This constituency is bounded by constituencies Nos. 8, 10, 11, 15 and 16 and has a population of **58,807** residents according to the 2000 census, comprising of **45,346** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It has an area of 130.84 km<sup>2</sup> and a population density of **449.47** residents per km<sup>2</sup>. It ranks 15<sup>th</sup> highest in regard to its population density.
- 12.17.2 Constituency No. 17 is bordered on the South partly by the Grand Port Range and on the other sides by villages and localities which by reason of their affinities with their respective constituencies cannot be moved.  
In the circumstances, we do not propose to alter the boundaries of this constituency.

### **12.17.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>45,346</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	Nil

## **12.18 – Constituency No. 18 – Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes**

- 12.18.1 Constituency No. 18 is bordered by constituencies Nos. 8, 14, 15 and 19 and has a population of **57,693** residents according to the 2000 census, comprising of some **42,173** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It spreads over an area of 14.70 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population density of **3,923.42** residents per km<sup>2</sup> making it the 3<sup>rd</sup> most densely populated constituency.

### **12.18.2 Remy Ollier Avenue Region**

- 12.18.2.1 Registration Area VL, lying West of Boundary Road at Rose Hill logically forms part of Rose Hill on account of its location. Further, according to the local government administration, it forms part of Ward 1 of the Town of Beau Bassin – Rose Hill and consequently its inhabitants have close affinity with Rose Hill.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 12.18.2.2 We recommend that Registration Area VL be distracted from constituency No. 18 and annexed to constituency No. 19 inasmuch as its residents have more affinity with Rose Hill. This proposed change would concern **1,457** electors who would continue to vote at Remy Ollier “B” Government School.

#### **12.18.2.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>42,173</b>
Addition	:	Nil
Distraction	:	<b>1,457</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>40,716</b>

## **12.19 – Constituency No. 19 – Stanley and Rose Hill**

12.19.1 This constituency is bounded by constituencies Nos. 8, 14, 18 and 20. It has a population of **53,290** residents according to the 2000 census, comprising of **38,982** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It has an area of 8.45 km<sup>2</sup> and a population density of **6,306.02** residents per km<sup>2</sup>. It is the most densely populated constituency of Mauritius.

### **12.19.2 Mont Roches Region**

12.19.2.1 Registration Area YC in constituency No. 20 comprises Mont Roches region and lies adjacent to Roches Brunes region in constituency No. 19. With the development of housing projects, both regions presently share close affinities and consequently should be included in the same constituency.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.19.2.2 We accordingly recommend that Registration Area YC be distracted from constituency No. 20 and included in constituency No. 19.

This would result in a movement of some **4,148** electors from constituency No. 20 to constituency No. 19.

### **12.19.3 Remy Ollier Avenue Region**

12.19.3.1 Registration Area VL in constituency No. 18 is separated from constituency No. 19 by Boundary Road at Rose Hill near the Sir Gaetan Duval Stadium. As this registration area is closely linked to Rose Hill, it should therefore be attached to constituency No. 19 as already explained when reviewing constituency No. 18.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.19.3.2 As already stated at 12.18.2.2, we recommend that Registration Area VL be distracted from constituency No. 18 and annexed to constituency No. 19.

This proposed change would result in a shift of **1,457** electors.

#### **12.19.3.3 Summary of Recommendation**

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>38,982</b>
Addition	:	<b>5,605</b>
Distraction	:	Nil
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>44,587</b>

## **12.20 – Constituency No. 20 – Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière**

12.20.1 Constituency No. 20 is surrounded by constituencies Nos. 1, 8, 14, 19 and on the west by the sea. It has a total population of **58,575** residents according to the 2000 census, comprising of **42,656** registered electors as at 16 August 2009. It covers an area of 49 km<sup>2</sup> and is ranked 7<sup>th</sup> highest in regard to its population density of **1,195.29** residents per km<sup>2</sup>.

### **12.20.2 Mont Roches Region**

12.20.2.1 Registration Area YC, that is Mont Roches region, lies on the boundary of this constituency and borders on Roches Brunes region in constituency No. 19. As a result of development in the area, the two regions have now become closely interrelated. It is therefore logical that both regions should form part of the same constituency.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.20.2.2 We accordingly recommend that Registration Area YC be detached from constituency No. 20 and annexed to constituency No. 19. Some **4,148** electors would be concerned with this change.

### **12.20.3 Bambous**

12.20.3.1 Registration Areas PW and PWA in constituency No. 14, within which the whole region of Bambous, form part lies close to Canot region in constituency No. 20. The region of Bambous is, however, separated from the rest of constituency No. 14 by large extents of sugar cane cultivation. On account of its proximity to constituency No. 20 and as explained when dealing with constituency No. 14, we are of the view that this region should be annexed to constituency No. 20.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

12.20.3.2 In view of the above, we recommend that Registration Areas PW and PWA be distracted from constituency No. 14 and added to constituency No. 20. Some **9,316** electors would be concerned with this change.

### **12.20.4 Coromandel Industrial Zone**

12.20.4.1 As already pointed out when dealing with constituency No. 1 the demarcation line between constituencies Nos. 1 and 20 which runs along the Midland Old Railway Line, has now become ill-defined and needs to be re-defined.

## RECOMMENDATION

12.20.4.2 We refer to our recommendation at 12.1.6.2 namely that the demarcation line between constituencies Nos. 1 and 20 at the level of the Coromandel Industrial Zone should in future run along the entrance road of the Coromandel Industrial Zone.  
No elector would be affected by this proposed change.

### 12.20.4.3 Summary of Recommendation

Present No. of Electors	:	<b>42,656</b>
Addition	:	<b>9,316</b>
Distraction	:	<b>4,148</b>
<b>Proposed No. of Electors</b>	:	<b>47,824</b>

### 13.0 – Consequential Implications of the adoption of the Report

- 13.1 The Commission wishes to draw attention to the fact that in the event that its recommendations are approved, they will only take effect as from the next dissolution of the National Assembly. This could have consequential repercussions affecting the voting rights of electors in view of the existing legislation.
- 13.1.1 Section 39(4) of the Constitution provides :
- “The Assembly may, by resolution, approve or reject the recommendations of the Electoral Boundaries Commission but may not vary them; and, if so approved, the recommendations shall have effect as from the next dissolution of Parliament.”*
- 13.1.2 Section 42(2) of the Constitution provides :
- “No person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector –*
- (a) in more than one constituency; or*
- (b) in any constituency in which he is not resident on the prescribed date.*
- 13.1.3 Section 44(2) of the Constitution provides :
- “No person shall vote at any election for any constituency who is not registered as an elector in that constituency.”*
- 13.1.4 The Representation of the People Act in Section 4A provides for the residence qualification of electors. Subsection (1) provides :
- “Subject to subsection (2), for the purposes of section 42(1) (b) and (2) (b) of the Constitution, section C (1) of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly Act 2001, the qualifying date for the purpose of determining the residence of any person shall, in respect of the register to be compiled in any year, be 1<sup>st</sup> January in that year.”*
- 13.1.5 Section 25 of the Representation of the People Act provides in sub-section (1):
- “The Electoral Commissioner or the registration officer, as the case may be, shall, as soon as practicable after 15 July, and not later than 14 August, publish the registers by making a copy of them available for inspection by the public at his office and causing a notice to be affixed outside his office informing the public that it is so available.”*
- 13.2 In view of the foregoing provisions and considering that the next register of electors will only come into force on 16 August 2010, a number of electors runs the risk of being disenfranchised because they would not have the right to vote in the constituency in which they did not reside on the prescribed date should the National Assembly be dissolved prior to the coming into force of the 2010 register of electors. The issue may be addressed by appropriate legislative amendments.

## 14.0 –Acknowledgements

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Mr. Yusuf H. ABOOBAKER, S.C., C.S.K.  
Chairman

.....  
Mr. Désiré BASSET, S.C.  
Member

.....  
Mrs. Narghis BUNDHUN  
Member

.....  
Mr. Oograssen Devpal COWREEA  
Member

.....  
Mr Pramahunse BISSESSUR  
Member

*(Absent from Mauritius)*

.....  
Mr Georges André ROBERT, S.A, O.B.E.  
Member

.....  
Dr. Charles YIP TONG  
Member

