

Permanent Amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly

TITLE I THE ASSEMBLY

CHAPTER II ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF PROCEEDINGS

SECTION 6 ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

§ 6. – DEFERRED DIVISIONS

83. Deferred divisions – Every division that has been deferred to a future sitting day shall be taken during the Routine Proceedings. The division bells shall be rung throughout the Assembly five minutes before the end of oral question period.

SECTION 9 COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE

109.1. Decorum – Members in a committee of the whole shall not be required to occupy the places that the President has assigned them, save during an electronic division.

114.2. Vote – Subject to Standing Order 223, the provisions of Standing Orders 219 to 228 shall apply to votes held in committees of the whole.

Before any electronic division is held in a committee of the whole, the chairman thereof shall invite any persons present, not being Members, to withdraw from the Assembly Chamber until the sense of the committee has been declared.

CHAPTER III COMMITTEES

157.1. Divisions: how taken – During a recorded division, the committee clerk shall call the Members, each in turn, to communicate orally whether they vote yea, nay or wish to abstain.

When all Members have voted, the chairman declares the sense of the committee.

TITLE II
GENERAL PROCEDURE

CHAPTER IV
PUTTING THE QUESTION

220. Show of hands or electronic division –Voting shall be by a show of hands unless five Members demand an electronic division.

223. Deferral of divisions – The President may, at the request of the Government House Leader, defer any electronic division until later on the same sitting day. He may likewise defer such division until the Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day thereafter.

Provided that this Standing Order shall not apply to any motion for adjournment or for the previous question.

224. Division bells to be rung –Five minutes before an electronic division is to be taken, the division bells shall be rung throughout the Assembly. The proceedings of any committee then meeting shall thereupon be interrupted.

When he is of the opinion that sufficient time has elapsed, the President shall put the question.

225. Conduct of Members while dividing – When the Assembly is to hold an electronic division, no Member shall enter the Chamber after the question has been stated or leave it until the sense of the Assembly has been declared.

226. Divisions: how taken – The President shall direct the Members to record their electronic votes before the expiry of the time limit set.

The Secretary General shall report the numbers to the President, who shall thereupon declare the sense of the Assembly.

226.1. Alternative means of voting – In the event of a failure of the electronic vote, the President may allow a division to be held by another means he shall specify.