

**PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF**   
**SRI LANKA**

**RATHANATISSA PEACE FOUNDATION (INCORPORATION)ACT, No. 5 OF 2023**

**[Certified on 23rd of May, 2023]**

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| *Rathanatissa Peace Foundation (Incorporation)* | 1 |

*Act, No. 5 of 2023*

[Certified on 23rd of May, 2023]

L.D.—O. (Inc.) 1/2021

AN ACTTOINCORPORATETHE RATHANATISSA PEACE FOUNDATION

WHEREAS a Foundation called and known as the Preamble“Rathanatissa Peace Foundation” has heretofore been   
established in Sri Lanka for the purpose of effectually carrying   
out its objects and transacting all matters connected with the   
said Foundation according to the rules agreed to, by its   
members.

AND WHEREAS the said Foundation has heretofore successfully carried out and transacted the several objects and matters for which it was established and has applied to be incorporated and it will be for the public advantage to grant such application.

BE it therefore enacted by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as follows :—

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| **1.** | This Act may be cited as the Rathanatissa Peace | Short title  Incorporation of the  Rathanatissa  Peace  Foundation |
| Foundation (Incorporation) Act, No. 5 of 2023. | |
| **2.** | (1) From and after the date of commencement of this |
| Act, such and so many persons as now are members of the“Rathanatissa Peace Foundation” (hereinafter referred to as the “Foundation”), and shall hereafter be admitted as members of the body corporate hereby constituted shall have perpetual | |

succession under the name and style of the “Rathanatissa Peace Foundation” (hereinafter referred to as the “body corporate”), and by that name may sue and be sued with full power and authority to have, and use a common seal and to alter the same at its pleasure.

(2) The body corporate shall be deemed to be a Voluntary Social Service Organization within the meaning and for the purpose of the Voluntary Social Services Organizations

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(Registration and Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980 and the provisions of that Act shall apply to and in relation to the management of the affairs of the body corporate.

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| General  objects of the  body  corporate | **3.** (1) Subject to the provisions of any other written law, the general objects for which the body corporate is constituted are hereby declared to be– | |
| (*a*) | to provide monetary or other assistance in the form |

of building materials, workmanship for the   
construction and improvement of religious places;

(*b*) to organize leadership programmes for children,   
 young persons and youth;

(*c*) to save and rescue cattle from slaughter; and

(*d*) to assist any Ministry or Department of the   
 Government or any Provincial Council pursuant to   
 a written request made by such Ministry or   
 Department of the Government or any Provincial   
 Council in the development of educational,   
 religious, cultural, aesthetic and sports facilities.

(2) In the implementation of the objects specified in subsection (1), the body corporate shall ensure that such implementation shall be carried out without any distinction based on race, religion, language, caste, gender, political opinion, place of birth or such other ground.

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| Body corporate to ensure no  conflict with  work of Ministry or Department of the Government or Provincial | **4.** | The objects of the body corporate shall be carried |
| out in such manner so as not to create any conflict between the work of the body corporate and any work being carried out simultaneously by any Ministry or Department of the Government or of any Provincial Council. | |

Council

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| **5.** (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, any other written law and the rules made under section 7, the management and administration of the affairs of the body | Management of the affairs of the body corporate |

corporate shall be carried out by a Management Council (hereinafter referred to as the “Council”) consisting of such number of office bearers as may be specified by the rules made under section 7.

(2) (*a*) The members of the Management Council of the Foundation holding office on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act shall, subject to the rules made under paragraph (*b*), function as an Interim Council of the body corporate until the first Council is appointed or elected within the period specified in paragraph (*d*) and in the manner provided for by rules made under section 7.

(*b*) Subject to the provisions of section 7, the Interim Council shall have the power to make rules for the interim administration of the body corporate and for election or appointment of the members of the first Council of the body corporate, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or any other written law:

Provided, the provisions of subsections (3) and (4) of section 7 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the rules made under subsection (1).

(*c*) Any decision of the Interim Council shall be taken by the majority of its members present at any meeting.

(*d*) The first Council of the body corporate shall be appointed or elected within one year of the date of commencement of this Act.

(3) (*a*) Every office bearer of the Council including the patrons and advisors, shall be appointed or elected for a period of three years and any such office bearer, patron or advisor shall be eligible for re-appointment or re-election after the lapse of the said period of three years.

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(*b*) In the event of a vacancy occurring due to the death, resignation, incapacity or removal from office of an office bearer, the Council shall, having regard to the rules of the body corporate, elect or appoint a person to fill such vacancy.

(*c*) The person elected or appointed under paragraph (*b*) shall hold office only for the unexpired portion of the term of office of the member whom he succeeds.

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| Powers of the  body corporate | **6.** | Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other |
| written law, the body corporate shall have the power to do, | |

perform and execute all such acts and matters as are necessary for the promotion or furtherance of the objects of the body corporate or any one of them, including the power–

(*a*) to purchase, rent, construct, renovate and otherwise   
 obtain lands or buildings which may by required   
 for the purposes of the body corporate and to deal   
 with or dispose of the same as may be deemed   
 expedient with a view to promoting the objects of   
 the body corporate;

(*b*) enter into and perform or carry out, whether directly   
 or through any officer or agent authorized in that   
 behalf by the body corporate, all such contracts or   
 agreements as may be necessary for the attainment   
 of the objects or the exercise of the powers of the   
 body corporate;

(*c*) to borrow or raise funds with or without securities   
 and to receive grants, gifts or donations from local   
 or foreign sources in cash or kind :

Provided that, the Council shall obtain the prior   
written approval of the Department of External   
Resources in respect of all foreign grants, gifts or   
donations made to the body corporate;

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(*d*) to make, draw, accept, discount, endorse, negotiate,   
 buy, sell and issue bills of exchange, cheques,   
 promissory notes and other negotiable instruments   
 and to open, operate, maintain and close accouts in   
 any bank;

(*e*) to invest any funds that are not immediately   
 required for the purposes of the body corporate, in   
 such manner as the Council may determine;

(*f*) to undertake, accept, execute, perform and   
 administer any lawful trust having objects similar   
 to the body corporate or any real or personal   
 property with a view to promoting the objects of   
 the body corporate;

(*g*) to appoint, employ, dismiss or terminate the services   
 of officers and other employees of the body   
 corporate and exercise disciplinary control over   
 them and to pay them such salaries, allowances and   
 gratuities as may be determined by the body   
 corporate;

(*h*) to liaise and co-ordinate with other local and   
 foreign institutions having similar objects to that   
 of the body corporate;

(*i*) to organise lectures, seminars and conferences with   
 a view to promoting the objectives of the body   
 corporate;

(*j*) to train personnel in Sri Lanka or abroad for the   
 purposes of the body corporate; and

(*k*) to do all other things as are authorised by this Act   
 to achieve objects of the body corporate.

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| Rules of the  body corporate | **7.** | (1) It shall be lawful for the body corporate, from |
| time to time, at any general meeting of the body corporate | |

and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting, to make rules, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or any other written law, for all or any of the following matters:—

(*a*) the classification of membership, admission,   
 withdrawal, expulsion or resignation of members   
 and fees payable by the members;

(*b*) the election of office bearers of the Council or   
 vacation of or removal from office of office bearers   
 and the powers, duties and functions of the office   
 bearers;

(*c*) the terms and conditions of appoinment, powers,   
 functions and duties of various officers, agents and   
 servants of the body corporate;

(*d*) the procedure to be followed for the summoning   
 and holding of meetings of the body corporate and   
 of the Council, notices and agenda of such   
 meetings, the quorum and the conduct of business   
 thereat;

(*e*) the qualifications and disqualifications to be a   
 member of the Council and the body corporate;

(*f*) the administration and management of the property   
 of the body corporate; and

(*g*) generally, the management of the affairs of the body   
 corporate and dissolution of the body corporate.

(2) Any rule made by the body corporate may be amended, altered, added to or rescinded at a like meeting and in like manner, as a rule made under subsection (1) of this section.

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(3) The rule made under subsection (1), shall be published in the *Gazette* within three months upon making of such rules and shall come into effect on the date thereof.

(4) Every rule made by the body corporate within three months after its publication in the *Gazette* be brought before Parliament for approval. Any rule which is not so approved shall be deemed to be rescinded as from the date of such disapproval but without prejudice to anything previously done thereunder.

(5) Notification of the date on which any rule is so disapproved shall be published in the *Gazette.*

(6) The members of the body corporate shall at all times be subject to the rules of the body corporate.

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| **8.** | The Council shall maintain a register of members in | Register of  members |
| which name, address and other essential details of the | |

members shall be inscribed.

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| **9.** | (1) The body corporate shall have its own Fund. | Fund of the |
| body corporate |

(2) All moneys received by way of gifts, bequests, donations, subscriptions, contributions, fees or grants for and on account of the body corporate shall be deposited in one or more banks approved by the Council to the credit of the body corporate subject to the provisions of section 6(*c*):

Provided, for the purposes of this section, “bank” means a bank licensed as a “licensed commercial bank” under Part I of the Banking Act, No. 30 of 1988.

(3) There shall be paid out of the Fund, all such sums of money as are required to defray any expenditure incurred by the body corporate in the exercise, performance and discharge of its powers, duties and functions under this Act.

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| Accounts and Auditing | **10.** | (1) The financial year of the body corporate shall be |
| the calendar year. | |

(2) The body corporate shall cause proper accounts to be

kept of its income and expenditure, assets and liabilities and

all other transactions of the body corporate.

(3) The accounts of the body corporate shall be audited

annually by a qualified auditor.

(4) For the purposes of this section “a qualified auditor”

means–

(*a*) an individual who, being a member of the Institute

of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka or of any

other Institute established by law, possesses a

certificate to practice as an Accountant, issued by

the Council of such Institute; or

(*b*) a firm of Accountants, each of the resident partners   
 of which, being a member of the Institute of Chartered   
 Accountants of Sri Lanka or of any other Institute   
 established by law, possesses a certificate to practice   
 as an Accountant, issued by the Council of such   
 Institute.

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| Annual Report | **11.** | (1) The Council shall prepare a report of the activities |

of the body corporate for each financial year and submit such report together with the audited statement of accounts certified by a qualified auditor and details of all contracts and agreements entered into by the body corporate in terms of the rules made under section 7 to the Secretary of the Ministry of the Minister assigned the subject of Education and to the Registrar of Voluntary Social Services Organizations appointed under the Voluntary Social Services Organization (Registration and Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980, before the expiration of six months of the year succeeding the year to which such report relates.

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(2) A separate Account relating to the foreign and local moneys received by the body corporate during the financial year shall be attached to the report referred to in subsection (1).

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| **12.** | All debts and liabilities of the Foundation existing | Debts due by  and payable to the Foundation |
| on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act, shall be paid by the body corporate hereby | |

constituted and all debts due to, subscriptions and contributions payable to the Foundation on that day shall be paid to the body corporate for the purposes of this Act.

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| **13.** | Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other | Body corporate may hold  property  movable and  immovable |
| written law, the body corporate shall be able and capable in law to take and hold any property, movable or immovable, which may become vested in it by virtue of any purchase, | |

grant, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise, and all such property shall be held by the body corporate for the purpose of this Act and subject to the rules of the body corporate made under section 7, with power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of the same.

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| **14.** | Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other | Application of moneys and  property |
| written law, the moneys and property of the body corporate however derived shall be applied solely towards the | |

promotion of the objects of the body corporate and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or profit or otherwise howsoever to the members of the body corporate.

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| **15.** | (1) The Seal of the body corporate shall not be | Seal of the body corporate |
| affixed to any instrument whatsoever, except in the presence | |

of two members of the Council, who shall sign their names to the instrument in token of their presence and such signing shall be independent of the signing of any person as a witness.

(2) The Seal of the body corporate shall be in the custody of an office bearer of the Council as may be decided by the

Council.

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| Property  remaining on  dissolution | **16.** (1) If upon the dissolution of the body corporate there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, such property shall not be |

distributed among the members of the body corporate, but shall be given or transferred to any other institution having objects similar to those of the body corporate, and which is by the rules thereof, prohibited from distributing any income or property among its members.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the appropriate institution to which the property remains after the satisfaction of all the debts and liabilities of the body corporate to be given or transferred shall be determined by the members of the body corporate with the approval of the Registrar of Voluntary Social Services Organizations appointed under the Voluntary Social Services Organizations (Registration and Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980 immediately before the dissolution at a general meeting by the majority of votes of the members present.

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| Saving of the  rights of the  Republic  Sinhala text to  prevail in case of inconsistency | **17.** | Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or |
| affect the rights of the Republic or of any body politic or any other body corporate. | |
| **18.** | In the event of any inconsistency between the |
| Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail. | |

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