



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

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**SRI LANKA ASSOCIATION FOR FISHERIES AND  
AQUATIC RESOURCES (INCORPORATION)**

**A**

**BILL**

**to incorporate the Sri Lanka Association for Fisheries  
and Aquatic Resources**

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*Presented in Parliament by Hon.(Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa, M.P.  
for Gampaha District on 25th of April, 2024*

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**[Bill No. 252]**

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*Sri Lanka Association for Fisheries and  
Aquatic Resources (Incorporation)*

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE SRI LANKA ASSOCIATION FOR FISHERIES  
AND AQUATIC RESOURCES

WHEREAS an Association called and known as the Preamble  
“Sri Lanka Association for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources”  
has heretofore been formed in Sri Lanka for the purpose of  
effectually carrying out its objects and transacting all matters  
5 connected with the said association according to the rules  
agreed to by its members:

AND WHEREAS the said Association has heretofore  
successfully carried out and transacted the several objects  
and matters for which it was established, and has applied to  
10 be incorporated and it will be expedient to grant the said  
application:

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Sri Lanka Association Short title.  
15 for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Incorporation)  
Act, No. of 2024.

2. From and after the date of commencement of this Act, Incorporation  
such and so many persons as now are members of the Sri of the Sri  
Lanka Association for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Lanka  
20 (hereinafter referred to as the “Association”) or shall hereafter Association  
be admitted as members of the Association hereby for Fisheries  
constituted, shall be a body corporate with perpetual and Aquatic  
succession, under the name and style of the “Sri Lanka Resources  
Association for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources” (hereinafter  
25 referred to as the “body corporate” ) and by that name may  
sue and be sued, in all Courts with full power and authority  
to have and use a common seal and to alter the same at its  
pleasure.

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Aquatic Resources (Incorporation)*

3. The body corporate shall operate exclusively as a not- Body  
for-profit Organization and it is solely for the benefit of the corporate  
Association and its members. operates as a  
not-for-profit  
Organization

4. (1) The general objects for which the body corporate is The general  
5 constituted are hereby declared to be:— objects of the  
body  
corporate

(a) to promote effective interaction and co-operation  
among those involved in research and development  
activities in fisheries and aquatic resources in  
Sri Lanka;

10        (b) to liaise and co-operate with Government and Non-  
Government Organizations concerned in such  
activities in Sri Lanka;

15        (c) to create and propagate an awareness of the  
importance and the ways of sound utilization,  
cultivation, conservation and development of  
aquatic resources of Sri Lanka;

(d) to serve as a Forum for Scientists and other personnel  
to discuss issues and policies to development and  
conservation of aquatic resources;

20        (e) to establish liaison with other Scientific  
Organizations; and

(f) to facilitate training programmes on fisheries and  
aquatic resources.

(2) In the implementation of the objects specified in  
25 subsection (1) the corporate shall ensure that such  
implementation shall be carried out without any  
discrimination based on race, religion, language, caste, sex,  
political opinion, place of birth or any of such grounds.

5     **5.** 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 any Provincial Council.

Body corporate to ensure no conflict with work of Ministry or Department of the Government or Province

10     **6.** (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the body corporate shall be carried out by a Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee” consisting of such number of office bearers as may be specified by the rules made under Section 8.

Management of the Affairs of the body corporate

15     (2) (a) The Executive Committee of the Association that holds office on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act, shall function as the Interim Committee of the body corporate until the first Committee is appointed or elected in the manner provided for by rules made under Section 8.

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

20     (3) (a) Every office bearer of the Committee, shall be appointed or elected for a period of one year and any such office bearer shall be eligible for re-appointment or re-election after lapse of the said period of one year.

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

30     (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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Aquatic Resources (Incorporation)*

7. Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other Powers of the  
written law, the body corporate shall have the power to do, body  
perform and execute all such acts and matters as necessary or corporate  
desirable for the promotion or any one of them, including the  
5 power:-

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

(b) to raise funds and receive grants, gifts or donations,  
in cash or kind with or without security:

15            Provided that, the Committee shall obtain the  
prior written approval of the Department of External  
Resources of the Ministry of the Minister assigned  
the subject of Finance, in respect of all foreign grants,  
gifts or donations made to the body corporate;

20            (c) 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 and close accounts in any banks;

25            (d) to invest any funds not immediately required for the  
purposes of the body corporate in such manner as the  
Committee may determine;

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

- 5 (f) to appoint, employ, dismiss or terminate the services of officers and servants 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;
- (g) to do all other things as are necessary or expedient for the proper and effective carrying out the objects of the body corporate.

10 **8. (1)** It shall be lawful for the body corporate, from time to time, at any general meeting and by the votes 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:—

Rules of the  
Body  
corporate

- 15 (a) the classification of membership, admission, withdrawal, expulsion or resignation of members and fees payable by members ;
- 20 (b) the election of office bearers of the Committee 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 appointment, powers, functions and duties of the various officers, agents and servants of the body corporate;
- 25 (d) the procedure to be followed at the summoning and holding of meetings of the Committee, or any sub-committee thereof, notices and agenda of such meetings, the quorum and the conduct of business thereat;
- 30 (e) the qualification and disqualification to be members of the Committee and the body corporate;

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Aquatic Resources (Incorporation)*

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

(g) the management of the affairs of the body corporate  
and the accomplishment of its' objects and dissolution  
5            of the body corporate.

(2) The rules 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).

(3) The members of the body corporate shall at all time be  
10          subject to rules of the body corporate.

(4) The rules made under this section shall be published  
in the Government *Gazette*.

9.    The Committee shall maintain a register of members      Register of  
in which name, address and other essential details of the      members  
15          members be inscribed.

10.   (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 an account of  
the body corporate shall be deposited in one or more Banks  
20          approved by the Committee to the credit of the Association.

(3) There shall be paid out of the Fund all 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 the Act.

25    11.   (1) The financial year of the body corporate shall be      Accounts and  
the calendar year.    the Auditing

(2) The body corporate shall cause proper accounts to be  
kept of income and expenditure, assets and liabilities and all  
other transactions of the body corporate.

(3) The accounts of the body corporate shall be audited by a qualified auditor appointed by Auditor General in terms of Article 154 of the Constitution.

(4) For the purpose of this section “qualified auditor” means—

(a) an individual who being a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka, or 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 Accountant issued by the Council of such Institute.

**12.** (1) The Committee 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 to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

Annual  
Report

(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).

**13.** All debts and liabilities of the Association existing on the day preceding the date of commencement of this Act, shall be paid by the body corporate hereby constituted, and all debts due to, and subscriptions and contributions payable to the Association on that day shall be paid to the body corporate for the purpose of this Act.

Debts due by  
and payable  
to the  
Association



14. Subject to the provisions of this Act, 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, grants, gifts, testamentary dispositions or otherwise, and all such property shall be held by the body corporate for the purposes of this Act, and subject to the rules of the body corporate made under section 8, with power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of the same.
- 15                    15. 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 to the members of the body corporate.
16. (1) The seal of the body corporate shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever, except in the presence of two members of the Committee 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 Committee as may be decided by such Committee.
17. (1) If upon the dissolution of the body corporate there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, and 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.

Body  
corporate  
may hold  
property  
movable and  
immovable

Application  
of money  
and property

Seal of the  
body  
corporate

Property  
remaining on  
dissolution

(2) For the purpose of this subsection (1) the appropriate institution shall be determined by the members of the body corporate immediately before the dissolution at a general meeting by the majority of votes of the members present.

5      **18.** Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect the rights of the Republic or of anybody politic or corporate. Saving of the Rights of the Republic and others

**19.** In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil Texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail. Sinhala text to prevail in case of inconsistency

