

THE MAURITIUS INSTITUTE OF HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL
(No. XVII of 2017)

Explanatory Memorandum

The object of this Bill is to amend the Mauritius Institute of Health Act to revamp its role and provide for related matters.

DR. M. A. HUSNOO
Minister of Health and Quality of Life

17 November 2017

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ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Section 4 of principal Act amended
4. New section 8A inserted in principal Act
5. Section 10 of principal Act repealed and replaced
6. Commencement

A BILL

To amend the Mauritius Institute of Health Act

ENACTED by the Parliament of Mauritius, as follows –

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Mauritius Institute of Health (Amendment) Act 2017.

2. Interpretation

In this Act –

“principal Act” means the Mauritius Institute of Health Act.

3. Section 4 of principal Act amended

Section 4 of the principal Act is amended by repealing subsection (1) and replacing it by the following subsection –

(1) The Institute shall –

- (a) be the focal point for training in the healthcare sector and be the awarding body in respect of training provided by it;
- (b) organise the training of local health personnel, as well as overseas participants, in accordance with such programme as the Board may approve;
- (c) run refresher courses for continuous professional development for, inter alia, medical and dental personnel;
- (d) coordinate, oversee and evaluate training of pre-registration medical officers and other health professionals and nursing officers;
- (e) coordinate all continuous professional development activities in the healthcare sector;
- (f) build capacity for medical and healthcare research, including clinical trials and clinical audit;
- (g) undertake research on health policies and framework;
- (h) act as focal point and resource centre for the production, exchange and promotion of health learning and health information in general;
- (i) administer a virtual health library in order to improve access to documentation for public and private health professionals;

- (j) prepare, write, compile, archive, publish and disseminate works or reference in medical and healthcare, including the history of medical and healthcare in Mauritius;
- (k) provide advisory services in matters of healthcare;
- (l) cooperate with other similar institutions and regional and international organisations in order to promote the objects specified in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (i) and (j);
- (m) discharge such other functions as the Minister may determine.

4. New section 8A inserted in principal Act

The principal Act is amended by inserting, after section 8, the following new section –

8A. Protection from liability

(1) No liability, civil or criminal, shall be incurred by the Institute or any member or employee in respect of any act done or omitted in good faith in the execution of the functions, or exercise of the powers, conferred under this Act.

(2) This section shall be in addition to, and not in derogation from, the Public Officers' Protection Act, and for the purposes of that Act, every member or employee shall be deemed to be a public officer or a person lawfully engaged, authorised or employed in the performance of a public duty.

5. Section 10 of principal Act repealed and replaced

Section 10 of the principal Act is repealed and replaced by the following section –

10. Powers of Minister

(1) The Minister may give such directions of a general character to the Board, not inconsistent with this Act, as may be necessary in the public interest, and the Board shall comply with those directions.

(2) The Minister may require the Board to furnish such information, in such manner and at such time as the Minister may determine, in respect of its activities and the Board shall supply such information.

6. Commencement

This Act shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by Proclamation.
