THE SECRETARIAT OF THE INDEPENDENT ADVISORY (INTERIM) PANEL BILL
(No. XX of 2026)

Explanatory Memorandum

The object of this Bill is to provide for the establishment of the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory (Interim) Panel, which will discharge such functions and exercise such powers as may be necessary or desirable to enable and facilitate the coming into operation of the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory Panel Act 2026 on its commencement.

DR. N. RAMGOOLAM, G.C.S.K., F.R.C.P.
Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister of Finance, Minister for Rodrigues and Outer Islands

16 October 2026

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(No. XX of 2026)

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

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A BILL

To provide for the establishment of the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory (Interim) Panel

ENACTED by the Parliament of Mauritius, as follows –

PART I – PRELIMINARY

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory (Interim) Panel Act 2026.

2. Interpretation

In this Act –

"Chief Executive Officer" means the Chief Executive Officer of the Interim Secretariat;

"Director-General of FCC" includes, where the office of the Director-General of the FCC is vacant, the person acting as Director-General of the FCC;

"FCC" means the Financial Crimes Commission established under the Financial Crimes Commission Act 2023;

"Independent Advisory Panel" means the Independent Advisory Panel to be established under section 95A of the Constitution;

"Interim Secretariat" means the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory (Interim) Panel established under section 3;

"Minister" means the Minister to whom responsibility for the Independent Advisory (Interim) Panel is assigned;

"Secretariat" means the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory Panel to be established under the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory Panel Act 2026.

PART II – SECRETARIAT OF INDEPENDENT ADVISORY (INTERIM) PANEL

3. Establishment of Interim Secretariat

(1) There is established, for the purposes of this Act, the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory (Interim) Panel.

(2) The Interim Secretariat shall discharge such functions and exercise such powers as may be necessary or desirable to enable and facilitate the coming into operation of the Secretariat of the Independent Advisory Panel Act 2026 on its commencement.

(3) The Interim Secretariat shall be a body corporate.

4. Chief Executive Officer

(1) There shall be a Chief Executive Officer of the Interim Secretariat, who shall be responsible for the administration of the Interim Secretariat.

(2) The Chief Executive Officer shall be appointed by the President acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister after consultation with the Leader of the Opposition.

(3) The Chief Executive Officer shall be appointed on such terms and conditions as the Prime Minister may determine.

(4) Notwithstanding section 21 of the Finance and Audit Act, the Chief Executive Officer shall be the accounting officer of the Interim Secretariat and he shall be charged with the duty of controlling expenditure on any service in respect of which public funds have been appropriated for the Interim Secretariat.

(5) The Chief Executive Officer shall not be subject to the direction or control of any person or authority.

5. Officers of Interim Secretariat

The Interim Secretariat may, for the purpose of exercising its powers under this Act –

(a) employ such officers as may be necessary or desirable; and

(b) make use of the services of such public officers, or officers of the FCC, as the Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service or the Director-General of the FCC, as the case may be, may designate.

PART III – STAFF OF SECRETARIAT

6. Recruitment of staff of Secretariat

(1) The Chief Executive Officer shall carry out a selection exercise to recruit the staff of the Secretariat, including the Secretary to the Independent Advisory Panel.

(2) The staff of the Secretariat shall be persons who have proven expertise in administration, accountancy, law, finance or inspection in law enforcement bodies.

(3) The Chief Executive Officer shall, with regard to the staff of the Secretariat –

(a) establish their pay structures and conditions of service; and

(b) establish their grading structures.

7. Organisational structure of Secretariat

The Interim Secretariat shall establish the organisational structure of the Secretariat.

PART IV – FINANCIAL PROVISIONS AND ACCOUNTS

8. Interim Secretariat Fund

There shall be an Interim Secretariat Fund –

(a) into which shall be paid all sums received from the Consolidated Fund; and

(b) out of which all payments required to be made by the Interim Secretariat and all charges on the Interim Secretariat shall be effected.

9. Estimate of income and expenditure

(1) The Interim Secretariat shall submit to the Minister, not later than 31 March in every year, an estimate of its income and expenditure in respect of the following financial year for his approval.

(2) The Minister may –

(a) give his approval under subsection (1); or

(b) approve only part of the estimate and direct the Interim Secretariat to amend the estimate.

10. Annual report

(1) The Interim Secretariat shall, in accordance with the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act, prepare an annual report and submit it to the Minister, together with an audited statement of accounts on the operations of the Interim Secretariat, in respect of every financial year.

(2) The Minister shall, at the earliest available opportunity, lay a copy of the annual report and the audited statement of accounts of the Interim Secretariat before the Assembly.

11. Audit report

(1) The auditor of the Interim Secretariat shall be the Director of Audit.

(2) For the purpose of this section, the first financial year of the Interim Secretariat shall be the period starting on the commencement of this Act and ending on 30 June of the following year.

(3) Section 7(1) of the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act shall not apply in relation to the first financial year of the Interim Secretariat.

PART V – MISCELLANEOUS

12. Confidentiality

Every officer of the Interim Secretariat shall maintain the confidentiality and secrecy of any matter, document, report and other information relating to the administration of this Act that becomes known to him, or comes in his possession or under his control.

13. Consequential amendment

The Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act is amended, in the Schedule, by inserting, in the appropriate alphabetical order, the following new item and its corresponding entry –

Secretariat of the Independent Advisory (Interim) Panel	Secretariat of the Independent Advisory (Interim) Panel Act 2026

14. Commencement

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

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