No. of 2023. Banking (Amendment) Saint Christopher

Bill, 2023 and Nevis.

**SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS**

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No. of 2023

**A BILL** to amend the Banking Act, Cap. 21.01.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the King’s Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the National Assembly of Saint Christopher and Nevis, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. **Short Title**

This Act may be cited as the Banking (Amendment) Act, 2023.

1. **Interpretation**

In this Act, “principal Act” means the Banking Act, Cap. 21.01.

1. **Amendment of section 2 - Interpretation**

Section 2 of the principal Act is amended—

1. in subsection (1):
2. in the definition of “affiliate” by deleting paragraph (e) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(e) a company which:

(i) has the same beneficial owner; or

(ii) shares common management,

and has any interlinked business with F,”;

1. in the definition of “banking business” by deleting “frequent” in sub-paragraph (a)(ii);
2. by inserting immediately after the definition of “borrower group” the following definition:

““branch” means “any office or place of business of a licensed financial institution, other than the principal office where a licensed financial institution carries on any banking business and which facilitates the -

* + 1. acceptance of deposits and other repayable funds; or
    2. issuing and administering means of payment including credit cards, travellers’ cheques, bankers’ drafts, and electronic money,

but does not include automatic banking machines and bureaus de exchange;”;

1. by inserting immediately after the definition of “business of a financial nature” the following definition:

“CARICOM national” means a national of a member state of the Caribbean Community including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy established by Article 2 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas signed at Nassau, The Bahamas on 5th July 2001;”;

1. by deleting the definition of “capital base”;
2. in the definition of “exposure”, in paragraph *(a)*, by inserting “or any other asset recognized by the Central Bank as an exposure” after the word “acceptance”;
3. in the definition of “financial group” by deleting “conduct” and substituting “carry on”;

(viii) in the definition of “large exposure” by deleting “the capital base” and substituting “tier 1 capital”;

(ix) in the definition of “licensed financial holding company” by inserting immediately after “Act” the following:

“and includes a former licensed financial holding company”;

(x) by deleting the definition of “licensed financial institution” and substituting the  
 following definition:

““licensed financial institution” means a person or incorporated entity licensed to carry on banking business and includes a former licensed financial institution;”;

(xi) in paragraph (a) of the definition of “officer” by inserting “branch manager, country manager” after “vice-president”;

(xii) in paragraph (b) of the definition of “officer” by deleting “by-laws” and substituting “bye-laws”;

(xiii) by inserting immediately after the definition of “officer” the following   
 definition:

““outsource” means to enter into a contractual arrangement with a third-party service provider, where the service provider manages functions, business activities, processes or products that are, or could be undertaken by the licensed financial institution;”;

(xiv) by deleting the definition of “place of business” and substituting the following  
 definition:

““place of business” means a physical location, site, structure, or other similar facility, through which a licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company transacts its affairs or carries on business;”;

(xv) by deleting the definition of “relative” and substituting the following definition:

““relative” means a spouse, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, adopted son, adopted daughter, brother, sister, father or mother;”;

1. by inserting immediately after the definition of “significant shareholder” the  
    following definition:

““spouse” includes:

1. a woman who, for a period of not less than five years, has cohabited with a man as if she were in law his wife; and
2. a man who, for a period of not less than five years, has cohabited with a woman as if he were in law her husband;”;
3. by inserting immediately after the definition of “subsidiary” the following definition:

““tier 1 capital” means the total of:

1. paid-up share capital, statutory reserve fund, share premium  
    account, retained earnings and any other capital account approved by the  
    Central Bank, in the case of local licensed financial institutions, or
2. such other capital account or similar measure as approved by the Central  
    Bank, in the case of a licensed branch of a foreign financial institution,

less any amount by which that total has been impaired in either case;”;

(b) in subsection (2):

(i) in sub-paragraph (a)(iv) by deleting “an employee or” and substituting “a business”; and

(ii) in sub-paragraph (b)(iii) by deleting “or employee”;

(c) by inserting the following subsection:

“(3) In this Act, for the purposes of the payment of licence fees, a reference to a local financial institution includes a foreign financial institution that is a CARICOM national.”.

1. **Amendment of section 3 – Requirement for licence**

Section 3 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (5)(a) by deleting “financial institution” and substituting “corporation”.

1. **Amendment of section 4 - Examination of books of person carrying on banking  
    business without a licence**

Section 4 of the principal Act is amended—

1. in subsection (2), by deleting “conduct” and substituting “carrying on”; and
2. by deleting subsection (4) and substituting the following subsection:

“A police officer who accompanies an officer in whose name an order has been granted under subsection (2) may in the case of resistance break open a door and remove an impediment or obstruction to the entry, search or seizure.”.

1. **Amendment of section 5 – Appointment of receiver for failure to hold licence**

Section 5 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted -

“Notwithstanding subsection 3(5), if a person is found under subsection 4(2) to be carrying on banking business without a licence, the Central Bank may appoint a receiver for the person under paragraph 138(1)(b).”.

1. **Amendment of section 7 - Application for licence**

Section 7 of the principal Act is amended—

1. in paragraph (1)(e) by deleting “holding company” and  
   substituting “group”; and
2. in sub-section (2), by inserting “or subsidiary” after “branch”.
3. **Amendment of section 14 - Revocation of licence**

Section 14 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (1)(j) by deleting “conduct” and substituting “carry on”.

1. **Amendment of section 19 - Authorisation of location and approval of new business premises**

Section 19 of the principal Act is amended in subsections (7), (8) and (9) by deleting “electronic banking system” and substituting “automatic banking machine”.

1. **Amendment of section 42 – Revocation of licence of financial holding company**

Section 42 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (1)(f) by deleting “conduct” and substituting “carry on”.

1. **Amendment of Part V – FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS**

Part V of the principal Act is amended by inserting immediately before section 44, the following section-

**“43A. Definition of specified assets**

In this Part “specified assets” means freely transferable assets free from any charge, lien or encumbrance and includes:

(a) notes and coins which are legal tender in the Currency Union and such foreign notes and coins as the Central Bank may specify;

(b) balances at the Central Bank;

(c) net balances at licensed financial institutions in the Currency Union but where the balances are negative they will be subtracted from the specified assets;

(d) treasury bills and other securities issued or guaranteed by a Participating Government and securities issued by a statutory corporation wholly owned by a Participating Government and approved by the Central Bank;

(e) bills of exchange and promissory notes eligible for rediscount by the Central Bank and warehouse warrants or their equivalent securing possession of goods against which the Central Bank may grant advances, within the limits and in accordance with the evaluation fixed by the Central Bank;

(f) net balances at licensed financial institutions in the monetary areas as the Central Bank may approve and the Central Bank may provide for the treatment to be accorded the balance or any portion in respect of the head office of a licensed financial institution organised abroad, and where any balances are negative they will be subtracted from specified assets;

(g) money at call in monetary areas approved by the Central Bank under paragraph (f), bills of exchange bearing at least two good signatures drawn on and payable at any place in the approved monetary areas, and treasury bills issued by the government of a country in any approved monetary areas and maturing within one hundred and eighty days.”.

1. **Amendment of section 44 – Minimum paid-up or assigned capital**

Section 44 of the principal Act is amended by—

(a) deleting “Saint Christopher and Nevis” in subsections (1) and (2) and paragraph (3)(a) and substituting “the Currency Union”; and

(b) inserting after subsection (4) the following subsection:

“(5) The Central Bank may approve the holding of assigned capital in the form of specified assets.”.

1. **Amendment of section 45 – Maintenance of reserve fund**

Section 45 of the principal Act is amended by—

1. deleting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

“(2) A licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company shall   
 not declare, credit or pay any dividend or make any other transfer from  
 profits if the declaration, credit, payment or transfer would result in:

1. an impairment of the capital required under section 44;
2. inadequate and inappropriate forms of liquidity contrary to section 48; or
3. negative retained earnings or accumulated deficit.”; and
4. inserting after subsection (2) the following subsections:

“(3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), a licensed financial institution or licensed  
 financial holding company shall not, except with the prior written approval of  
 the Central Bank, declare, credit or pay any dividend or make any other  
 transfer from profits if the licensed financial institution or licensed financial  
 holding company realises a net loss for that financial year.

(4) A licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company shall  
 seek the approval of the Central Bank under subsection (3) at least fifteen  
 days before the intended declaration, credit, payment or transfer.

(5) The Central Bank may grant approval under subsection (3) on terms and  
 conditions the Central Bank deems fit.”.

1. **Amendment of section 49 – Limit on exposures**

Section 49 of the principal Act is amended by deleting “capital base” in subsections (1) and (6) and substituting “tier 1 capital”.

1. **Amendment of section 50 - Restrictions on exposures to related parties**

Section 50 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (4) by deleting “the capital base” and substituting “tier 1 capital”.

1. **Amendment of section 51 - Restrictions on lending to employees**

Section 51 of the principal Act is amended by—

1. deleting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsection:

“(3) A licensed financial institution shall not, except with the prior written approval  
 of the Central Bank, grant or permit to be outstanding to its employees any  
 unsecured advances or credit facilities which in the aggregate amount for any one  
 employee exceeds the annual remuneration of such employee.”; and

1. deleting subsection (4) and substituting the following subsection:

“(4) The Central Bank may grant approval under subsection (3) on terms and  
 conditions the Central Bank deems fit.”.

1. **Amendment of section 53 - Prohibition on engaging or investing in trade and  
    outsourcing**

Section 53 of the principal Act is amended—

1. in subsection (2) by deleting “conduct” and substituting “carry on”; and
2. by deleting “the capital base” wherever it appears and substituting “tier 1 capital”.
3. **Amendment of section 54 - Financial subsidiaries permitted**

Section 54 of the principal Act is amended by—

1. inserting after subsection (1) the following subsection:

“(1A) A licensed financial institution shall not own a subsidiary company that  
 does not engage solely in permissible activities.”

1. inserting after subsection (4) the following subsection:

“(5) For the purposes of this section “permissible activities” includes business of  
 a financial nature and any other activities that the Central Bank may  
 determine.”; and

1. deleting “the capital base” wherever it appears and substituting “tier 1 capital”.
2. **Amendment of section 55 - Restrictions on investments in real property**

Section 55 of the principal Act is amended by—

(a) deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following subsection:

“(1) A licensed financial institution shall not directly or indirectly, except with  
 the prior approval of the Central Bank, purchase, acquire or lease real or  
 immovable property unless it is necessary for the purpose of carrying on its  
 business as a licensed financial institution including provision for future  
 expansion and housing its officers and employees.”;

(b) deleting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

“(2) If a licensed financial institution holds any real or immovable property held  
 or leased by it before the commencement of this Act for purposes other than  
 for carrying on its business as a licensed financial institution, the licensed  
 financial institution shall comply with this section within a period of three  
 years or a further period as may be determined by the Central Bank.”; and

(c) inserting the following subsection:

“(4) The Central Bank may grant approval to a licensed financial institution under   
 subsection (1) on terms and conditions the Central Bank may deem fit.”.

1. **Amendment of section 57 – Maintenance of specified assets**

Section 57 of the principal Act is amended by repealing subsection (7).

1. **Amendment of section 60 - Appointment of external auditor**

Section 60 of the principal Act is amended—

1. in subsection (2) by:
2. deleting “six” and substituting “nine”; and
3. deleting “three” and substituting “six”; and
4. by deleting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsection:

“(3) A person who has served the maximum period under section 60(2) may not  
 be re-appointed as the external auditor until after a period of five years has  
 elapsed since the last appointment.”.

1. **Amendment of section 69 - Audited financial statements**

Section 69 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (5) and substituting the following subsection-

“(5) Subject to section 91, if a licensed financial institution or a licensed financial  
 holding company fails to comply with the requirements of:

1. subsection (1) within six months of the end of its financial year; or
2. subsections (2) to (4),

it is liable to a penalty of fifty thousand dollars and to a further penalty of three thousand dollars for every day of the default.”.

1. **Amendment of section 80 - Failure to comply with remedial actions**

Section 80 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“(80) (1) A licensed financial institution or an affiliate of a licensed financial  
 institution that fails to comply with a requirement or prohibition the  
 Central Bank imposes on the licensed financial institution under this  
 Part, is liable to a penalty of one hundred thousand dollars and to a further  
 penalty of ten thousand dollars for each day of the default.

(2) A director, officer, employee or significant shareholder of a licensed  
 financial institution who fails to comply with a requirement or  
 prohibition that the Central Bank imposes on the director, officer, employee or significant shareholder under this Part, is liable to a penalty of fifty  
 thousand dollars and to a further penalty of five thousand dollars for  
 each day of the default.”.

1. **Amendment of section 88 - Notification of removal of directors and officers**

Section 88 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“88 (1) If an action under this Part requires the removal of a director or officer of a licensed financial institution, the Central Bank shall serve on the  
 licensed financial institution and on the director or officer concerned  
 written notice of the intended removal.

* + - * 1. The licensed financial institution and the director or officer served with a notice under subsection (1) may, within fourteen days commencing from the day after which the notice is served, make written representations and a request for face-to-face representation to the Central Bank.
        2. If the Central Bank receives a request for a face-to-face representation under subsection (2), the face-to-face representation shall take place within fourteen days of receipt of the request.
        3. The Central Bank shall take the representations into account in deciding whether to remove the director or officer.
        4. If the Central Bank is of the opinion that the public interest may be prejudiced by the director or officer continuing to exercise the powers or carry out the duties and functions of that office during the period for making representations specified in subsections (2) and (3), the Central Bank may make an order suspending the director or officer and the suspension shall not extend beyond the period for making representations.
        5. If the Central Bank decides to remove the director or officer, the Central Bank shall, within seven days of the written or face-to-face representation, notify the director or officer and the licensed financial institution of the removal order made under this Part.
        6. The director or officer ceases to hold office on the date the removal order is made or a later date specified in the removal order.
        7. If the director, officer or licensed financial institution is aggrieved by the decision of the Central Bank under subsection (6), the director, officer or the licensed financial institution may, within fourteen days of the decision, appeal to the High Court but the appeal shall not operate as a stay of the decision under this section unless the High Court directs otherwise.”.

1. **Amendment of section 89 - Submission of returns and production of information as required by the Central Bank**

Section 89 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (3)(c) by deleting “the capital base” and substituting “tier 1 capital”.

1. **Amendment of section 92 - Disclosure of basis for charges and fees**

Section 92 of the principal Act is amended by inserting “to the Central Bank” after “made”.

1. **Amendment of section 97 - Minimum criteria for determining whether a person is fit and proper**

Section 97 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (2) by inserting the following paragraph-

“(i) whether the person is a director or officer of, or directly or indirectly concerned  
 in the management of a corporation locally or abroad, that is compounding with  
 or suspending payments to its creditors.”.

1. **Amendment of section 101 - Notification to Central Bank of appointment of officers and directors**

Section 101 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“101. (1) A licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company shall give  
 written notice to the Central Bank of the proposed appointment or election of a  
 director or officer at least sixty days prior to the appointment or election of the  
 director or officer.

1. On receipt of the notice under subsection (1), the Central Bank shall conduct an investigation to determine whether the proposed director or officer satisfies the fit and proper criteria in section 97.
2. On completion of its investigation, the Central Bank shall inform the licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company in writing that:
3. the requirements of section 97 have been satisfied and it has no objections to the proposed appointment or election of the director or officer; or
4. the requirements of section 97 have not been satisfied, the manner in which the requirements have not been met and that it objects to the appointment.
5. Despite subsection (1), if prior notification of the appointment or election of a director or officer of a licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company is not possible, the licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company:

(a) may appoint or elect the director or officer, conditional on the Central Bank’s confirmation under subsection (3) that the director or officer satisfies the requirements of section 97; and

(b) shall within five days of the appointment or election give written notice to the Central Bank of the conditional appointment or election of the director or officer specifying the reasons for the appointment or election of the director or officer without prior approval.

1. If the Central Bank receives a notice under subsection (4) and is not satisfied that a director or officer meets the requirements of section 97, the Central Bank:

(a) shall direct the removal of the director or officer; and

(b) may notify in writing the person whose removal is required by serving on the person a copy of the direction under paragraph (a).”.

1. **Amendment of section 103 - Removal and disqualification of director or officer**

Section 103 of the principal Act is amended—

1. in paragraph (1)(a) by deleting “two-thirds of”;
2. by deleting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

“(2) Subject to subsection (2A) and prudential standards issued by the Central  
 Bank, a person who:

1. has been declared bankrupt;
2. has been sentenced for an offence involving, a term of imprisonment exceeding six months or sentenced to imprisonment in default of the payment of a fine;
3. has been a director or officer of a company which has been wound up by a court or has been placed in receivership;

(d)has been a director or officer of, or directly or indirectly concerned in  
 the management of a former licensed financial institution or body  
 corporate locally or abroad, the licence of which has been revoked

shall not, without the prior approval of the Central Bank, act or continue to act as a director or officer of, or be directly or indirectly concerned in any way in the management of any licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company;” and

1. by inserting the following subsection:

“(2A) Paragraph (2)(d) does not apply if the revocation of the licence was due to:

(a) its amalgamation with another licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company or other company; or

(b) its voluntary winding up.”.

1. **Amendment of section 104 - Right to make representation**

Section 104 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“104. (1) A licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company to which a direction is given and a person who is served a copy of the direction under subsection 101(5) or subsection 103(4) may, within fourteen days commencing from the day after which the direction is given, make written representations and a request for a face-to-face representation to the Central Bank.

(2) If the Central Bank receives a request for a face-to-face representation under subsection (1), the face to face representation shall take place within fourteen days of receipt of the request.

(3) The Central Bank shall take the representations into account in deciding whether to confirm the direction.”.

1. **Amendment of section 105 - Notice of confirmed removal**

Section 105 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“105. (1) If the Central Bank decides to confirm the direction it shall, with seven days of the written or face to face representation as the case may be, serve written notice of the confirmation on the licensed financial institution or the licensed financial holding company and the person whose removal is required.

(2) If the licensed financial institution, the licensed financial holding company or the person whose removal is required is aggrieved by the decision of the Central Bank under subsection (1), the licensed financial institution, the licensed financial holding company or the person whose removal is required may, within fourteen days of the decision, appeal to the High Court, but the appeal shall not operate as a stay of the decision under this section unless the High Court directs otherwise.”.

1. **Amendment of section 107 - Effective date of removal**

Section 107 of the principal Act is amended by deleting “subsection (2)” and substituting “subsection (5)”.

1. **Amendment of section 108 - Failure to comply with a direction**

Section 108 of the principal Act is amended by deleting “subsection (2)” and substituting “subsection (5)”.

1. **Amendment of section 109 - Failure to comply with section 103**

Section 109 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“109(1) A licensed financial institution which fails to comply with section 103 is  
 liable to a penalty of one hundred thousand dollars and to a further penalty of ten thousand dollars for each day of the default.

(2) A director or officer of a licensed financial institution who fails to comply  
 with section 103 is liable to a penalty of fifty thousand dollars and to a further penalty of five thousand dollars for each day of the default.”

1. **Amendment of section 131 - Capital increase by existing shareholders**

Section 131 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (1)(b) by deleting “three” and substituting “ten”.

1. **Amendment of section 137 - Termination of official administration**

Section 137 of the principal Act is amended by deleting paragraph (2)(b) and substituting the following paragraph-

“(b) the licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company cannot be rehabilitated and the Central Bank issues a decision to commence receivership and liquidation proceedings under Part X.”.

1. **Amendment of section 138 - Grounds of receivership**

Section 138 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following subsection-

“(1) The Central Bank may appoint a receiver for:

1. a licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company if:
2. it is insolvent;
3. it is not viable;
4. its capital is impaired or its condition is otherwise unsound;
5. it has experienced substantial dissipation of assets or earnings due to any of the grounds for action by the Central Bank under subsection 75(1);
6. it or its directors, officers, employees, or significant shareholders wilfully violate or fail to comply with an order or direction of the Central Bank under sections 75 to 87;
7. its business is being conducted in an unlawful or imprudent manner;
8. the continuation of its activities is detrimental to the interests of its depositors;
9. it conceals or refuses to submit any of its records or its operations for examination as provided for in section 74, or has otherwise obstructed such examination;
10. its licence has been revoked in accordance with sections 14 or 76;
11. official administration is terminated pursuant to paragraph 137(2)(b);
12. it is a bridge financial institution and its designation as a bridge financial institution terminates pursuant to sub-paragraph 186(3)(a) or the Central Bank initiates receivership pursuant to subsection 186(5); or
    1. a person who is found under subsection 4(2) to be carrying on banking business without a licence.”.
13. **Insertion of Section 138A**

The principal Act is amended by inserting the following section, immediately following section 138-

“**Receivership and compulsory liquidation in respect of a person under section  
 138(1)(b)**

**“138A** The provisions of subsection 138(2) and section 139 to section 157 shall apply to a person under paragraph 138(1)(b) with the necessary modifications.”.

1. **Amendment of section 140 - Commencement and notice of receivership**

Section 140 of the principal Act is amended—

* + 1. in subsection (1), by deleting “and revocation of licence”.
    2. in subsection (3), by deleting “revocation of the licence and”; and
    3. by deleting subsection (4) and substituting the following subsection:

“(4) The notice shall also specify that:

1. authorisations of persons to engage the financial responsibility of the licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company have been cancelled; and
2. persons who previously had authorisation to give instructions on behalf of the licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company with respect to payment or transfer of the licensed financial institution’s or licensed financial holding company’s assets or assets managed by the licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company are no longer so authorised.”.
3. **Amendment of section 147 - Avoidance of pre-receivership transfers**

Section 147 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (1)(g) by deleting “one hundred” and substituting “two hundred”.

1. **Amendment of section 168 - Report, publication and disposal of abandoned property**

Section 168 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by deleting “ninety days” and substituting “three months”.

1. **Amendment of section 169 - Abandoned property to vest in the Crown**

Section 169 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“(1) Any abandoned property paid into the custody of the Central Bank under  
 subsection 168(1) shall vest in the Crown fifteen years  
 from the date on which it was paid into the custody of the Central Bank.

(2) Any abandoned property paid into the custody of the Central Bank prior to  
 the commencement of this Act shall vest in the Crown fifteen years  
 from the date of commencement of this Act.”.

1. **Amendment of section 174 - Failure to file report or to pay property**

Section 174 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“174. A licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company which fails to comply with subsections 168(1) and 168(4) and subsection 170(2) is liable to a penalty of five thousand dollars and to a further penalty of one thousand dollars for each day of default.”.

1. **Amendment of section 178 – Secrecy of information**

Section 178 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subparagraph (2)(b) and substituting the following paragraph-

“(b) a licensed financial institution or a director, officer, secretary, employee, agent, auditor, receiver, official administrator or official liquidator of the licensed financial institution, from providing access to confidential information of the licensed financial institution that is necessary to conduct due diligence in connection with a potential acquisition of assets and liabilities of the licensed financial institution, whether through direct transfer or through a merger or similar corporate transaction.”.

1. **Amendment of section 180 - Administrative penalties to be placed to the credit of   
    Central Bank**

Section 180 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following subsection-

“(1) The penalties imposed under sections 9(3), 19(9), 19(10), 44(4),  
 56(2), 57(8), 68, 69(5), 80, 96, 109 and 174 shall be paid to the  
 Central Bank.”.

1. **Amendment of section 186 – Bridge financial institutions and asset management vehicles**

Section 186 of the principal Act is deleted and the following section is substituted-

“(1) A Participating Government may establish a bridge financial institution for the purpose of acquiring and managing the assets and liabilities of a licensed financial institution that is subject to official administration or receivership under Part IX or Part X for a period of up to twelve months.

(2) The Central Bank may grant an extension of the period referred to in subsection (1) for up to four consecutive periods of twelve months each.

(3) The designation of a licensed financial institution as a bridge financial institution shall terminate if:

(a) the period under subsection (1) and any subsequent extensions under subsection (2) expire;

(b) the bridge financial institution:

(i) is sold to another person, or licensed financial institution or licensed financial holding company, that is not a bridge financial institution; or

(ii) amalgamates with another licensed financial institution that is not a bridge financial institution; or

(c) satisfies the capital requirements of sections 44 and 46.

(4) Where the designation of a licensed financial institution as a bridge financial institution terminates pursuant to subparagraph (3)(a) the bridge financial institution shall be placed into receivership and liquidated.

(5) The Central Bank may initiate receivership of a bridge financial institution in accordance with Part X, prior to the expiration period identified in subparagraph (3)(a).

(6) A bridge financial institution established under subsection (1) shall be licensed under this Act and shall be subject to all of the provisions of this Act, except the capital requirements of sections 44 and 46.

(7) A Participating Government may establish an asset management company for the purpose of acquiring, managing, and disposing of problem assets of a financial institution pursuant to Part IX or Part X.”.

1. **Amendment of section 192 – Savings**

Section 192 of the principalAct is amended in paragraph 2(a) by inserting “or continued in force” after “made”.

1. **Amendment of First Schedule**

The First Schedule of the principal Act is deleted and the following schedule is substituted-

“**FIRST SCHEDULE**

**Fees for Licensed Financial Institution**

Sections 7(1), 8(5), 9(1), 36(1), 38(2)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Non Refundable Application Fee** | **Initial Licence Fee** | **Annual Licence Fee** |
| Branch - Foreign Financial Institution | $20 000 | $120 000 | $120 000 |
| Local Licensed Financial Institution | $20 000 | $80 000 | $80 000 |
| Licensed Financial Holding Company - Foreign | $20 000 | $60 000 | $60 000 |
| Licensed Financial Holding Company - Local | $20 000 | $40 000 | $40 000 |
| Branch – Local Licensed Financial Institution | - | - | $20 000 |
| Additional Branch – Foreign Financial Institution | - | - | $30 000 |

”.

1. **Amendment of Third Schedule**

The Third Schedule of the principal Act is deleted and the following schedule is substituted-

**“THIRD SCHEDULE III**

**Section 181**

***Offences in respect of which liability to conviction may be discharged by payment of a fixed penalty***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | **Offence** | **Section** | **Fixed penalty** | | --- | --- | --- | | **Carrying on banking business without a licence** | **3(5)** | **$250 000** | | **Refusal to make relevant documents available for examination** | **4(5)** | **$2 500** | | **Use of restricted words, names and practices** | **16(5)** | **$125 000** | | **Failure to disclose transfer** | **31(1)** | **$1 000** | | **Failure to disclose acquisition of interest** | **31(2)** | **$2 500** | | **Failure to disclose and allow access to books and records** | **74(3)** | **$25 000** | | **Providing information that is false in any material particular** | **74(4)** | **$25 000** | | **Restriction on advertising likely to mislead the public** | **93(2)** | **$25 000** | | **Failure to declare related interest** | **110** | **$5000** | | **Deceiving statements and obstruction of audit or authorised examination** | **111** | **$15 000** | | **Failure of management to comply with the law** | **112** | **$7 500** | | **Failure to assist the official administrator** | **129(5)** | **$7 500** | | **Interference with receivers access to or control over office, books of accounts and other records** | **145(4)** | **$7 500** | |

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***Lanein K. Blanchette***

*Speaker*

Passed by the National Assembly this day of , 2023.

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***Trevlyn Stapleton***

*Clerk of the National Assembly*