# Regulation of Parliament

Whereas Parliament in session on 2 and 3 September 1993 approved the following: Regulation of Parliament

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### **Final Provisions**

# Title I. The organisation of Parliament

# Chapter one. The constitutive session of Parliament

### Article 1

Parliament will be constituted at noon on the fifteenth day following the proclamation of the electoral results.

### Article 2

- 1. The constitutive session of Parliament will be presided over by the oldest Member of Parliament of the parish of Canillo, assisted by the secretary general of Parliament. The youngest Member will act as secretary.
- 2. The oldest MP of the parish of Canillo, as provisional chairman, will declare the session open, immediately followed by the election of the Speaker's Office, as established in this Regulation.

# Chapter two. The Members of Parliament

### Article 3

The Members of Parliament are chosen by public election. Full rights and duties as Member of Parliament are acquired after having presented the corresponding credential to the Parliamentary Secretariat and having given an oath or promise in the first session attended to respect the Constitution.

### Article 4

- 1. Members of Parliament have the right to attend all the sessions of Parliament, the right to vote in the plenum and in the committees of which they are part. They can speak, according to the provisions of this Regulation, after a request to the Speaker, this having been granted.
- 2. Members of Parliament have the right and the duty to belong to a committee.

They may attend, without voice or vote, at the sessions of those committees of which they are not members.

# Article 5

For compliance with their parliamentary activity, the Members of Parliament have the right to require the Public Authorities to deliver to them the data, reports or documents in their power. The request is made through the Speaker.

# Article 6

Members of Parliament have the duty to attend all the sessions of the plenum and the committees to which they belong, and to comply with the functions and obligations imposed on them by this Regulation.

Members of Parliament have the obligation to observe due courtesy and respect for the rules of order and discipline established in this Regulation. Their compliance is guaranteed by the Speaker, who will call to order the Member of Parliament who does not fulfil this duty. They are also obliged to keep secret such actions and resolutions as are of this nature, in accordance with the Constitution and this Regulation.

#### Article 8

Members of Parliament may not invoke or use their status for the exercise of trading, industrial or professional activities.

#### Article 9

- 1. Members of Parliament will receive remuneration, determined by Parliament and charged to its budget.
- 2. Any Member of Parliament who, without sufficient justification or without authorisation from the Speaker's Office, fails to attend three consecutive sessions of Parliament or five alternatives during a calendar year may be deprived of the right to receive the remuneration corresponding to two quarters.

## Article 10

- 1. Members of Parliament cannot be subjected to any legal or disciplinary procedure, nor can they be made responsible outside Parliament for the votes and opinions issued in the exercise of their position.
- 2. In the case of detention of a Member, or being held in custody, accused or on trial, the Speaker will immediately report this fact to Parliament.

### Article 11

Members of Parliament will lose their status for the following causes:

- a) extinction of the mandate on the dissolution of Parliament, except the members of the Permanent Committee, who will remain in office until the new Parliament is constituted.
- b) firm decision cancelling their election or proclamation.
- c) death.
- d) legally declared incapacity.
- e) the exercise of a public position incompatible with being a Member of Parliament.
- f) firm judgment disqualifying the Member from holding public office for a period longer than the remaining portion of the mandate.
- g) resignation, expressed in writing to the Speaker and personally ratified before the Speaker's Office.

# Article 12

The status of Member of Parliament will be suspended:

- a) by firm judgment disqualifying the Member from holding public office for a period shorter than the remaining portion of the mandate.
- b) through having been tried or condemned by firm judgment to a penalty other than that of disqualification from holding public office, when Parliament so agrees by a three fifths majority, in view of the nature of the penalty or the seriousness of the facts.
- c) when the plenum of Parliament so decides, in accordance with the previsions of chapter ten of this Regulation.

# Article 13

In the case that a Member should vacate the seat for any of the causes of art. 11, the vacancy will be filled in accordance with the law.

# Chapter three. The Speaker and the Speaker's Office

# Section one. The functions of the Speaker and the Speaker's Office

### Article 14

- 1. The Speaker's Office, as the governing organ of Parliament, is composed of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and two secretaries.
- 2. The Speaker's Office is presided over, directed and coordinated by the Speaker.
- 3. The Speaker's Office takes its resolutions by majority. In the case of a tie, the Speaker has a casting vote.
- 4. The positions of Speaker and Deputy Speaker are incompatible with any other public office or function.

#### Article 15

- 1. The Speaker represents Parliament, supervises its work, orders and directs impartially the debates in the chamber, and complies with and oversees compliance with the Regulation, which he will interpret in case of doubt.
- 2. The Speaker oversees the maintenance of order throughout the parliamentary premises. For this purposes, he is the maximum authority in Parliament and can take all measures considered pertinent.
- 3. He also exercises all the other functions that the Constitution, this Regulation and the laws attribute to the office.

### Article 16

- 1. The Deputy Speaker takes the Speaker's place in the case of vacancy, absence or impediment. In this case the occupant has the full rights, duties and attributions which correspond to the Speaker.
- 2. The Deputy Speaker, by delegation from the Speaker, can have the representation of Parliament.

### Article 17

The secretaries:

- a) authorise, by turns and with the approval of the Speaker, the records of the plenum, the Speaker's Office and the Board of Chairmen, and issue certificates;
- b) read out the documents which must be communicated to Parliament;
- c) collaborate, under the direction of the Speaker, in organising the work of Parliament;
- d) ensure the correct results of votes called out and votes counted.

# Article 18

- 1. The competences of the Speaker's Office are:
- a) applying the Regulation; supplementing it in the case of omission, having heard the Board of Chairmen;
- b) adopting the decisions necessary for the parliamentary work;
- c) implementing the parliamentary budget;
- d) in accordance with the Regulation, classifying letters and documents of a parliamentary nature, declaring their admissibility and deciding on their processing;
- e) everything else entrusted to it by this Regulation.
- 2. If a Member of Parliament disagrees with a decision by the Speaker's Office under section d) he may request its revision, in writing, before the Speaker's Office itself. The resulting resolution must be founded and is definitive.

# Article 19

The Speaker's Office meets when summoned by the Speaker. It is advised by the secretary general, who draws up the minutes and deals with the implementation of its resolutions, under the Speaker's direction. The secretary general is appointed by the Speaker, on a recommendation by the Speaker's Office, from among persons qualified in law.

# Section two. Election of the Speaker and the Speaker's Office

### Article 20

The plenum elects the Speaker and the other members of the Speaker's Office from among its members, in the constitutive session. Their mandate lasts for the whole legislature.

#### Article 21

- 1. The joint election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker will take place first. One fifth of the Members of Parliament may present candidatures, up to twenty-four hours before the start of the session. Each candidature must contain the names and acceptance of the two people proposed. A Member of Parliament may only sign one candidature.
- 2. After reading out the names in each candidature presented, the vote will be taken, secret and by voting slip. Each Member of Parliament may only vote for one candidature, and the one obtaining an absolute majority of Parliament is elected. If there is no clear winner, a second round will take place between the two candidatures with most votes, and the one obtaining more votes is elected. If there is a tie, a new vote is taken and, if the tie persists, the candidature with the elder of the two proposed for Speaker will be elected.

Having announced the result of the joint vote for the Speaker and Deputy Speaker, Parliament next elects the secretaries of the Speaker's Office. Each Member of Parliament may vote for one name and the two who obtain most votes are elected. If there is a tie, the proceeding will be as in the case above, but if the tie persists, the younger candidate will be chosen as secretary.

#### Article 22

Having completed without interruption the voting and scrutiny for the posts of the Speaker's Office, the Speaker elect gives give an oath or promise to respect the Constitution and then takes possession of his place. Then the Deputy Speaker and the two secretaries give the oath or promise and take up their places. Finally, when the rest of the members of Parliament present have taken the oath or made the promise, the Speaker closes the constitutive session.

### Article 23

If during the legislature there should occur a vacancy in the post of Speaker or secretary, a new election will be held in accordance with the procedure of article 21. If the vacancy is in the position of Deputy Speaker, the Speaker will propose a candidate who must be elected by the plenum.

# Chapter four. Parliamentary groups and the Board of Chairmen

# Section one. Parliamentary groups

### Article 24

- 1. During the first five working days after the constitution of Parliament, a minimum of four Members of Parliament may constitute a parliamentary group, through a declaration signed by its members and giving the name of the parliamentary group, which is delivered to the Speaker.
- 2. Parliament makes available to the parliamentary groups the means and financial resources necessary to carry out their functions, in proportion to the number of members of each of them.

No Member of Parliament can be a member of more than one parliamentary group.

- 1. Members of Parliament who have not been integrated into any parliamentary group in the prescribed time can join one, on acceptance by its chairman, during the first six days of each period of sessions, with the same rights and duties as the Members of Parliament who constituted it.
- 2. Members of Parliament who are not part of any parliamentary group are independent Members. When there are more than two Members who are not part of any parliamentary group, all those who are in the same situation form a Mixed Group. The participation of the Mixed Group in the parliamentary activities is analogous to that of the other parliamentary groups.

Each parliamentary group sends the Speaker's Office a list of the Members of Parliament composing it and giving the names of the chairman and deputy chairman, and its internal Regulation. The chairman advises the Speaker's Office of the additions or resignations which may occur in the parliamentary group.

#### Article 27

Members of Parliament who take up their posts after the constitutive session must join a parliamentary group within five days after their oath or promise, with the acceptance of the group's chairman. If they do not join a group, they become independent members of Parliament, in which case they join the Mixed Group.

#### Article 28

Members of Parliament who leave a parliamentary group will also lose membership of the committees of which they were part.

### Article 29

If, as a result of resignations, a parliamentary group ends up with two Members of Parliament or less, the parliamentary group is automatically dissolved and its members become independent Members and, in that case, join the Mixed Group.

### Section two. The Board of Chairmen

#### Article 30

The chairmen of the parliamentary groups form the Board of Chairmen, presided over by the Speaker, assisted by a secretary of the Speaker's Office. The secretary general takes the minutes of the sessions. The chairmen of the parliamentary groups can be replaced by the deputy chairman. Other members of the Speaker's Office and a representative of the Government may attend, and for this purpose are informed of their meetings. The Speaker can, if necessary, call the chairmen of the committees to attend.

### Article 31

The Board of Chairmen is called by the Speaker on the request of two parliamentary groups or on his own initiative. The Board of Chairmen meets at least once a month during the periods of sessions.

### Article 32

In the case of a vote, the votes are computed by the weighted system and, therefore, each chairman of a parliamentary group has as many votes as there are Members of Parliament in his parliamentary group.

# Article 33

Without prejudice to the other attributions granted to them under this Regulation, the functions of the Board of Chairmen are:

- a) to establish the criteria in order to arrange and facilitate the debates and tasks of Parliament;
- b) to determine the competent committee to deal with the parliamentary initiatives;
- c) to fix the number of members of each parliamentary group on the committees;
- d) to assign the seats in the chamber corresponding to each parliamentary group.

# Chapter five. The plenum

# Article 34

The plenum is the supreme organ of Parliament. It is summoned by the Speaker on his own initiative or on request by the Prime Minister, two parliamentary groups or one fifth of the Members of Parliament.

# Article 35

1. Members of Parliament always sit in the same place in the Chamber. Members of the Government have a special area allocated to them and can participate in accordance with the present Regulation.

2. Only Members of Parliament, members of the Government, Parliament officials in the exercise of their functions and persons expressly authorised by the Speaker have access to the Chamber.

### Article 36

Parliament is assembled when the Members of Parliament meet, summoned by the Speaker, to deal with an agenda in accordance with the Constitution and this Regulation. The list of members of Parliament present is incorporated into the record of the session.

# Chapter six. The Permanent Committee

# Article 37

- 1. Parliament will appoint a Permanent Committee in charge of overseeing the powers of the chamber when it is dissolved or in the periods between sessions. The Permanent Committee is formed of the Speaker, three Members chosen by Members of Parliament elected in the national college and three chosen by Members of Parliament elected in parish colleges.
- 2. The Permanent Committee oversees compliance with the rules on incompatibilities affecting the members of Parliament. It requires the Members of Parliament to declare all the posts that they occupy and, as applicable, which of any incompatible posts they give up, and for this purpose may call for such documentation as is considered necessary.
- 3. The Permanent Committee exercises those competencies attributed to it by law.
- 4. The Permanent Committee accompanies the Speaker in hearing the oaths and in the taking of possession which is to be carried out before him.
- 5. The Permanent Committee is called by the Speaker on his own initiative or at the request of three Members of Parliament or the Prime Minister.
- 6. The Permanent Committee gives an account to Parliament of matters dealt with and decisions taken in the first parliamentary session held thereafter.

# Chapter seven. The committees

# Article 38

The parliamentary committees will be formed of the number of members of Parliament established by the Speaker's Office, in accordance with the Board of Chairmen, proportional to the number of Members of Parliament in each parliamentary group. The members are appointed by the parliamentary groups.

### Article 39

Members of committees can be replaced by Members of Parliament of the same parliamentary group, after communication by the chairman to the Speaker. When the replacement is for a single occasion, communication to the chairman of the committee at the start of the meeting is be sufficient, the replacements being admitted as committee members.

### Article 40

The committees can summon members of the Government to their meetings. Members of the Government can insist on attending them. In both cases they may speak, and have the right to obtain a copy of the minutes recording their appearance.

# Article 41

The committees must elect a chairman and vice-chairman. The vice-chairman takes the chairman's place in the case of absence. Both must be elected in the first ordinary meeting held by the committee after the vacancy occurs.

# Article 42

The chairmanships of the committees are distributed by the Speaker's Office in accordance with the Board of Chairmen among the parliamentary groups in proportion to the number of Members of Parliament in each of them.

The members of the Speaker's Office may not chair any committee, with the exception of the Speaker who is chairman ex officio of all of them.

#### Article 44

The chairman calls the committee meetings on his own initiative, or on request by two parliamentary groups or two fifths of the committee members, with an agenda. The committees may not meet at the same time as the plenum. To deal with matters relating to legislative procedure under emergency processing, the committees can be called in the periods between sessions.

#### Article 45

The committees participate in all those matters, public or private bills, which are assigned to them, under the Regulation, by the Speaker's Office in accordance with the Board of Chairmen. They must carry out their work within a maximum time of three months, except when the Speaker's Office authorises them to extend this period, in view of the special nature of the task or the volume of activity.

### Article 46

There are eight permanent legislative committees: 1) Interior, 2) Foreign Affairs, 3) Economy (Agriculture, Industry, Trade and Tourism), 4) Finance and Budget, 5) Town and Country Planning, 6) Health and Environment, 7) Social Affairs, 8) Education, Research, Culture and Sports.

Each permanent legislative committee has a minimum of five Members of Parliament. Every Member of Parliament can be a member of a maximum of three permanent legislative committees.

#### Article 47

The permanent legislative committees examine all the legislative proposals which correspond to them by reason of the material and which are assigned to them by the Speaker's Office in accordance with the Board of Chairmen. They also examine all the non-legislative proposals, information or matters assigned to them by the Speaker by reason of the content.

# Article 48

- 1. In each legislature Parliament can set up study and research committees on any question of public interest, on a proposal by the Speaker, two parliamentary groups or one third of the Members.
- 2. By the same procedure committees of a legislative nature or special type can be created.
- 3. The conclusions of the study and research committees are set out in a report to be debated by Parliament. The Speaker has the power to order the debate, grant the floor and set the time for the participations.

The conclusions approved by Parliament must be communicated to the Government, without prejudice to the Speaker being able to bring them to the attention of the Public Prosecutor's Office.

### Article 49

The committees, through the Speaker, may:

- a) require from the Government and any other authority or public official the information and documentation that they consider necessary to undertake their task, which must be delivered to them.
- b) require the presence before them of members of the Government, elected authorities, public officials under them, to report on those questions which correspond to the matters being dealt with. Members of the judiciary and the Constitutional Court are exempt. In accordance with the law, the committees can also require the presence of any member of the public.

# Title II. The functioning of Parliament

# Chapter one. Sessions

### Article 50

Parliament meets annually during two ordinary periods of sessions, between the first of March and 30 June, and

between the first of September and 31 December.

#### Article 51

- 1. The Speaker summons all the plenary sessions of Parliament, whether traditional, ordinary or extraordinary. The committee sessions are called by the chairman.
- 2. Extraordinary sessions can only be called: a) by resolution of the Permanent Committee; b) by petition of the Prime Minister, two parliamentary groups or one fourth of the Members of Parliament. The resolution or petition must include the agenda, which cannot be reduced or extended.

### Article 52

A session comprises all the meetings necessary to deal with an agenda. The Speaker opens and closes the sessions and determines the content of the meetings.

### Article 53

- 1. The sessions of Parliament are public. The committee sessions are not public when they are preparing reports to be raised to the plenum.
- 2. On the initiative of the Speaker's Office, two parliamentary groups or one fourth of the Members, Parliament can resolve by absolute majority of the Members to hold a plenary session in secret.

#### Article 54

- 1. A record is kept of all the plenary sessions and the committee meetings, containing a summary of the matters debated, the speakers, incidents occurring and the resolutions adopted.
- 2. The record is signed by the Speaker and one of the secretaries of the Speaker's Office or, as applicable, by the relevant chairman and vice-chairman, deposited in Parliament and sent to the Members. If no written claim is received during the eight days following the deposit, the record is taken to be approved. In the case of a written claim, the Speaker's Office decides whether to submit the final decision to the next ordinary session of the plenum or committee.

When a session has been secret, a single record is made and held in the Speaker's custody. Approval follows the same procedure as in the above section.

### Article 55

Members of the public attending the sessions of Parliament are obliged to keep silence and order, and may not make any kind of expression of approval or disapproval.

# Chapter two. The agenda

### Article 56

- 1. The agenda for Parliament is fixed by the Speaker, in accordance with the Board of Chairmen. The agenda can be amended or altered by resolution of the plenum of Parliament on a proposal by the Speaker, two parliamentary groups of one fifth of the Members.
- 2. The agendas for the committees are fixed by their chairman, and communicated to the Speaker. The agenda for a committee can be amended or altered by resolution of the committee on a proposal by its chairman or one fifth of its members.
- 3. If anyone wishes to introduce a new matter onto the agenda of the plenum or a committee, the regulation processes must be complied with.

# Article 57

The Government may insist that an item be included in a session as a matter of priority, provided it has completed the regulation processes. This must be communicated to the Speaker.

# Chapter three. Debates

### Article 58

Unless the Speaker's Office has agreed otherwise, no deliberation or debate may commence on a particular question unless the documentation relating to the question the subject of the deliberation or debate has been distributed to each Member of Parliament at least five days beforehand.

The same procedure will apply for the deliberations of the committees.

### Article 59

- 1. As established in this Regulation, Members of Parliament must request the Speaker for the opportunity to speak. If a Member is called on by the Speaker to speak but is not present, it will be understood that he waives the right. The Members speak from their seats.
- 2. In the same way, the Prime Minister and the ministers must request the Speaker for their turn to speak.

# Article 60

Members of Parliament, the Prime Minister and the ministers may not be interrupted while speaking. Only the Speaker may do so, to notify the speaker that he has used his allotted time, to tell the speaker to stop or to call the house to order. The Members will be called on to keep to the point, whenever they depart from it.

#### Article 61

If allusions are made in a parliamentary session to the person or conduct of a Member of Parliament or the Prime Minister or a minister, the Speaker may grant the floor to the person alluded to so that, without going into the merits of the point and for a brief moment, he may answer. Allusions may only be answered within the same session.

### Article 62

Parliament, on the initiative of the Speaker and without debate, may close a deliberation or debate when it is understood that the question has been duly dealt with. If a parliamentary group requests it, the Speaker may grant an opportunity to speak in favour and one against, for five minutes each, and submit the matter to an immediate vote.

# Article 63

Unless this Regulation provides otherwise, in each debate there is an opportunity to speak in favour and an opportunity to speak against. These speeches may not be longer than ten minutes. The right to use the opportunity to speak against is retained if a speech in favour has been made, even though the proposal has been withdrawn.

### Article 64

In the debates the total time allowed for speeches is fifteen minutes per parliamentary group. Independent Members of Parliament may speak for five minutes.

### Article 65

In each debate, every Member of Parliament or member of the Government who is contradicted by one or more speakers has the right to reply, once only, for a maximum of five minutes.

### Article 66

At any point in the debate, a Member of Parliament may call on the Speaker for the Regulation to be observed and must define precisely the article he claims should be applied. The Speaker settles the matter and his decision must be respected.

# Article 67

In every case, the Speaker has full powers to control the debate.

The chairman of a committee, in its sessions, has the same powers of control of the debate as the Speaker.

# Chapter four. Voting

### Article 69

If the moment for a vote arrives or the vote is taken when less than half the Members are present, the Speaker postpones the vote and announces a time during the same session for the vote to take place. If that time comes and there is still not sufficient quorum for the vote, it is adjourned to the next plenum, but the debate is not repeated.

### Article 70

- 1. Resolutions will be valid when approved by simple majority of the Members of Parliament present, without prejudice to the special majorities determined by the Constitution, the laws or this Regulation.
- 2. There is a simple majority when the positive votes exceed the negative. There is an absolute majority when the number of votes in favour exceeds half the total number of effective Members of Parliament.

#### Article 71

The vote is personal and cannot be delegated. Each Member of Parliament has a single vote. No one can take part in any vote which affects their personal status as a Member of Parliament.

### Article 72

Public voting can be: ordinary and by calling out. In accordance with the Regulation and on a proposal by the Speaker, the vote can be by assent. Secret votes are taken with voting slips.

#### Article 73

In the public vote by calling out, the Speaker's Office calls the Members of Parliament who answer yes, no or declare that they abstain. The election of the Prime Minister, the motion of censure and the question of confidence will always be oral voting by calling out.

### Article 74

In the ordinary public vote the Speaker calls for votes in favour from the Members of Parliament present, votes against and abstentions.

# Article 75

Proposals made by the Speaker will be considered approved by assent when, after having been announced, no objection or opposition is raised.

# Article 76

For a secret vote the Members of Parliament are called by name and voting slips are put into an urn. The vote is secret when this Regulation requires it or when Parliament resolves it, on the proposal of two parliamentary groups or one fifth of the Members.

# Article 77

If a vote results in a tie, it will be repeated, and if the tie persists the motion will be considered defeated.

# Article 78

In the case of the public vote, whether ordinary, by calling out or by assent, after the voting, announcement of the result and the corresponding point on the agenda being closed, the parliamentary groups may briefly explain their vote. Also a Member who has voted differently from his parliamentary group may do so and, in the event that they have not spoken in the debate, the independent Members. The Speaker may also grant this possibility when a debate is subdivided in various differentiated parts and one of these has finished.

# Chapter five. Times allowed

### Article 79

The calculation of times applicable not established in the Constitution and regulated by this Regulation is based on the working days comprised in the ordinary periods of sessions. Exceptionally, the Speaker's Office may declare the days of periods between sessions as working days for certain purposes, for reasons of urgency.

#### Article 80

The Speaker's Office on its own initiative, or that of one parliamentary group or one fifth of the Members of Parliament, can agree the extension of the times applicable established by this Regulation.

#### Article 81

The parliamentary documents directed to Parliament or to any organ of the chamber must be delivered to the Registry of the General Secretariat on the days and times specified by the Speaker, but in every case Registry must be guaranteed in such a way that the time allowed of days and hours established is available in full.

# Chapter six. Declaration of urgency

### Article 82

- 1. On request from the Government, two parliamentary groups or one fifth of the Members of Parliament, the Speaker's Office can agree that a question is dealt with by emergency procedure from the step following that in progress.
- 2. The declaration of emergency means a reduction in times allowed and priority processing. Unless the Speaker's Office indicates otherwise, the times allowed are reduced by half.

# Chapter seven. Expiry of parliamentary initiatives and processes

# Article 83

All parliamentary initiatives and processing of questions not concluded will expire at the end of the legislature.

# Chapter eight. Elections of individuals

### Article 84

For personal elections entrusted to Parliament by the Constitution or by laws and not envisaged expressly in this Regulation, the parliamentary groups can present to the Registry of the Secretariat General, up to four days before the plenum in which the vote is to take place, the candidatures which meet the requirements established in each case, together with a curriculum vitae of the candidates proposed. The Speaker informs the Members of Parliament on the following day, and they may put up objections in the following twenty-four hours. The day before the plenum the Speaker's Office announces the candidates.

# Chapter nine. Parliamentary resolution calling a referendum

# Article 85

When the Prime Minister, making use of the power granted to him in article 76 of the Constitution, wishes to call a referendum on a question of a political order, he must ask for the agreement of Parliament. To this end, he asks the Speaker's Office to call the plenum to hold a debate, which is on the entirety of the matter. At the end of the debate the motion is put to the vote, public and oral by calling out.

# Chapter ten. Parliamentary order

- 1. In all the parliamentary premises the Members of Parliament, Prime Minister, ministers and public are subject to the disciplinary powers of the Speaker, who will exercise them in accordance with this Regulation.
- 2. Anyone who promotes serious disorder while on the premises of Parliament will be immediately removed. Should this be a Member of Parliament, the Speaker's Office can suspend him temporarily for a maximum time of

one month, without prejudice to Parliament, on a proposal by the Speaker's Office, being able to extend the sanction.

3. On the initiative of the Speaker's Office, the plenum may sanction with temporary suspension any Member of Parliament involved in the case of the above paragraph or who continuously and seriously refuses to abide by a firm decision of the Speaker or the organs of Parliament.

### Article 87

The Speaker can suspend the parliamentary session in the case of disturbance or persistent disobedience by any Member of Parliament or member of the Government, without prejudice to applying the sanctions which may apply in law, whether in the same session or the next. Before suspension of the session, the Speaker will give a warning of the possibility of adopting these measures.

### Article 88

The Speaker can order the immediate expulsion of those members of the public who do not abide by the provisions of art. 55. If a member of the public commits a serious infringement, he will be brought before the competent authority. In the case of disorder the Speaker can order the removal of the public present in the assembly hall of Parliament.

# Chapter eleven. Publications

#### Article 89

The Official Parliamentary Journal reproduces all the speeches, incidents and resolutions adopted in the public sessions of Parliament.

### Article 90

The *Parliamentary Bulletin* publishes all the public and private bills for laws, amendments ordered by the rapporteur, reports submitted by the legislative committees, with the amendments and particular votes, to be debated in the plenum, the resolutions of the committees and the plenum, proposals for resolutions, questions and answers, communications and resolutions that the Government transmits to Parliament, and any other text or document required by this Regulation or ordered by the Speaker, in view of its interest for the parliamentary process.

# Article 91

For reasons of emergency and so that the documents referred to in the above paragraph may be debated and voted on, the Speaker can order their reproduction by other mechanical means and distribution to the members of the parliamentary organ which needs to consider them. In any event, they must be published in the *Parliamentary Bulletin*.

# Title III. Legislative procedure

# Chapter one. Common legislative procedure

### Section one. Public bills

### Article 92

- 1. Public bills approved by the Government will be sent to Parliament by the Prime Minister together with an exposé of reasons, and the documentation and background necessary for Parliament to pronounce on them.
- 2. The Speaker's Office will order their publication in the *Parliamentary Bulletin* and open a period of fifteen days for the submission of amendments. These can be presented by Members of Parliament and by parliamentary groups, through a document addressed to the Speaker's Office.

### Article 93

1. The amendments may be to the bill in its entirety or to the articles. Amendments to the entirety are those which postulate returning the draft bill to the Government and those in which an alternative text of articles is presented. They may only be presented by parliamentary groups or by one Member of Parliament with the

signature of two more.

2. Amendments to the articles can be for deletion, alteration or addition. In the last two cases, they must contain the proposed text.

# Article 94

In the case that amendments to the entirety are submitted, the Speaker will include them on the agenda of the next plenary session. The debate will be on the entirety and will develop in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation. At the end, the Speaker will submit the amendments to the entirety to a vote, starting with those which propose returning the bill to the Government.

#### Article 95

- 1. If the plenum resolves to return the draft bill, the Speaker will communicate this to the Government. Otherwise, having heard the Board of Chairmen, the bill will be transferred to the corresponding committee, jointly with the amendments to the articles, for processing.
- 2. If the plenum should approve an amendment to the entirety with an alternative text, the legislative procedure will continue and the Speaker will open a period for amendments to this new text, which can only be to the assembly of articles.

### Article 96

If the amendments presented only affect the assembly of articles, the Speaker will send them to the corresponding committee jointly with the text of the draft bill.

### Article 97

The committee stage starts with the election of a rapporteur who will arrange the amendments so that they can be examined by the committee within fifteen days.

### Article 98

- 1. After examination of the amendments and the text of the bill, the chairman will summon the committee and the proposers of the amendments in order to debate the amendments presented and vote on them and the text of the bill.
- 2. The voting will be article by article. The amendments corresponding to an article will be debated and voted on before voting on the whole article. For each amendment there will be an opportunity to speak in favour and an opportunity to speak against.

# Article 99

During the committee's debate, the chairman can admit to process transactional amendments presented by the members intended to achieve agreement between those already formulated and the text of the article. These presentations must involve the withdrawal of the amendments subject to the transactions.

# Article 100

- 1. The committee's resolutions constitute the report, to be signed by the committee chairman and vice-chairman, for submission to the plenum by the rapporteur. The Members of Parliament and the parliamentary groups, within forty-eight hours following completion of the committee's work, can reserve the amendments which have been presented and formulate particular votes in the plenum through a document addressed to the Speaker.
- 2. The Speaker will order immediate publication of the report in the *Parliamentary Bulletin*, together with the particular votes, the amendments and, where applicable, the Government's request under art. 62 of the Constitution.

- 1. The debate on the bill in the plenum will start with the rapporteur presenting the report produced by the committee. The presentation may not exceed fifteen minutes.
- 2. Voting will be article by article. Before proceeding to vote on the article, each amendment to it will be debated and the particular votes which have been maintained, with an opportunity to speak in favour and an opportunity

to speak against, and then each of them will be voted on in the same order. When the votes on one article are completed, they move on to the next. Having voted on all the articles, the schedules will be voted, the exposé of grounds and the title of the law.

3. If the characteristics of the text permit, the Speaker may propose that the votes are ordered by groups of articles or paragraphs.

### Section two. Private bills

#### Article 102

Private bills can be processed on the initiative of:

- a) one parliamentary group.
- b) three Members of Parliament.
- c) three Communes, jointly.
- d) a tenth of the national electoral roll, in accordance with the law.

### Article 103

- 1. Private bills will be presented in a document sent to the Speaker's Office, accompanied by an exposé of the grounds and the background necessary to be able to pronounce on it.
- 2. Following this initiative, the Speaker's Office will order publication of the bill and send it to the Government, which will be have fifteen days in which to make comments.

#### Article 104

- 1. Fifteen days after its publication, the bill can be included on the agenda of the plenum for consideration by Parliament, which will debate the bill as a whole, starting with a reading of the comments from the Government, if there be such. After the debate, the Speaker will ask whether or not Parliament will consider the bill.
- 2. In the affirmative case, the Speaker will send the bill to the corresponding committee and open the period for amendments, which cannot affect the bill as a whole. The private bill will follow the process provided for public bills.

# Section three. Request by the Government under art. 62.2 of the Constitution

### Article 105

The chairman of the legislative committee in charge of examining a public bill, through the Speaker, will process amendments to be presented to the Government, which will have ten days in which to request, in a document addressed to the Speaker's Office, that there should be no debate on those which involve increased expenses or a reduction of income in relation with those provided in the general budget Law. If the Government uses the request provided in art. 62.2 of the Constitution, the Speaker will communicate this to the chairman of the committee and order publication of the request in the *Parliamentary Bulletin*. In this case, the committee will refrain from dealing with the amendments in question.

### Article 106

If the Government has made the request mentioned in the above article, one parliamentary group or one Member of Parliament with the signature of two more may propose opposition to the request, through a document addressed to the Speaker and up to two days before the plenum, with a reasoned motion to be settled by absolute majority. Should the motion be passed, the amendment affected will be debated in the plenum.

# Article 107

In the same time allowed as set in art. 103, the Government may request that a private bill is not discussed if it could produce an increase of expense or reduction of income in relation with the provisions in the general budget Law. If the Government makes this request, the procedure will be the same as in art. 106.

# Section four. Withdrawal of public and private bills

### Article 108

- 1. The Government can withdraw any public bill from Parliament, provided that discussion of the report has not been included on the agenda of the plenum.
- 2. Private bills may be withdrawn on the initiative of the proposer before the resolution is taken to consider it. Should this have taken place, the withdrawal can only be made effective if accepted by the plenum.

# Chapter two. Special procedures

# Section one. The general budget law

# Article 109

- 1. For examination and approval of the general budget public bill the common legislative procedure will apply except as established in this section.
- 2. The general budget public bill will take preference in processing with respect to other questions and work in the chamber.

#### Article 110

Amendments to the general budget bill which propose an increase of credit in any concept will only be admitted to consideration if at the same time a reduction of equal or greater amount is also proposed in another concept in the same section.

#### Article 111

- 1. The debate on the general budget bill as a whole will take place in the plenum before its processing in committee. The turns for speaking will be thirty minutes.
- 2. The turns for speaking on amendments to the articles and to the budgetary sections and services in their entirety will be twenty minutes.

# Section two. Qualified laws

# Article 112

- 1. Public or private bills of qualified laws, once the Speaker's Office has classified them as such in accordance with the Constitution, will be processed by the common legislative procedure. At the end there will be a final vote in the plenum on the text as a whole, which will be announced in advance by the Speaker. Approval will require the favourable vote of the absolute majority of Members of Parliament, with the exception of laws which, under art. 57.3 of the Constitution, require the absolute majority of Members elected by the parishes and the absolute majority of Members elected nationally. In this case the voting will be public and oral by calling out.
- 2. If the amendments proposed to a public or private bill of an ordinary law should relate to matters reserved to qualified law, the Speaker's Office may not admit them to process unless the bill itself has given qualified status.

# Section three. Legislation for extreme emergency and need

- 1. When the Government submits to Parliament the text of an assembly of articles to be approved as law under article 60.1 of the Constitution, the circumstances of extreme emergency and need must be indicated. The document having been so classified by the Speaker's Office, the Speaker shall summon the plenum directly, within forty-eight hours of receiving it. If the Speaker's Office does not accept the nature of extreme emergency and need, a third of the Members of Parliament can call for an incidental debate as regulated in section 3 of this article.
- 2. The debate will start with presentation of the text of the articles by a member of the Government and will be ordered as a debate on the question in its entirety. The entire text will be submitted to a single vote.
- 3. If one fifth of the Members of Parliament or one parliamentary group should disagree with the nature of extreme emergency and need attributed to the text by the Government, a motion in this sense may be presented before the start of the plenum. In this case, an incidental debate will take place with arguments for and against. After the

debate, the motion presented will be subject to a vote. If approved, the text of the articles will be processed by the common legislative procedure, unless the Government withdraws it. If not approved, the debate will proceed in accordance with paragraph two.

# Section four. Laws voted on a single reading

### Article 114

When the nature of a public or private bill makes it advisable, its simplicity of formulation allows, and no amendments to the text have been raised, Parliament, on a proposal by the Speaker, having heard the Board of Chairmen, may agree for the initiative to be processed directly before the plenum for deliberation and voting on a single reading. In this case the debate will be on the entirety of the bill and the whole of the text will be subject to a single vote.

#### Section five, Constitutional reform

### Article 115

- 1. The co-princes jointly or one third of the Members of Parliament can present proposals of constitutional reform. These will be sent to the Speaker's Office in writing and, once admitted, will be processed as bills subject to the common procedure.
- 2. If Parliament should take the proposition into consideration, a special committee will be set up, of which the chairmen of the parliamentary groups will always form part, to prepare the report to be debated in the plenum. After the debate and voting on the amendments, particular votes and text of the report, the Speaker will announce in advance the voting on the whole of the reform, which will be public and oral by calling out. The reform will be considered approved by Parliament if it obtains the favourable vote of two thirds of the Members of the chamber.

# Chapter three. International treaties

### Article 116

International treaties which have to be approved by Parliament are processed as public bills, with the special features of this chapter, and are considered approved in accordance with the provisions established in the Constitution.

### Article 117

The proposals presented by Members of Parliament and parliamentary groups will be considered as amendments for return of the entirety, when they refuse approval of the treaty or when they propose reservations or declarations not provided in it.

# Article 118

In cases of the repeal of treaties provided in art. 64.3 of the Constitution, the same procedure will apply as in article 117.

# Article 119

Parliament will suspend discussion on the approval of a treaty when it has been subject to a requirement for a prior report on unconstitutionality as provided in art. 101 of the Constitution, and the Constitutional Court has admitted it to process. A judgment upholding the unconstitutionality will put an end to its processing.

# Title IV. Promotion and control of political action of the Government

# Chapter one. Election of the Prime Minister

### Article 120

After each renewal of Parliament or in the circumstances that the post of Prime Minister is vacant, the election will take place in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

- 1. Proposals of candidates as Prime Minister must be presented to the Speaker's Office within five days following the constitutive session. The document of proposal must give the name and acceptance of the candidate, and the signatures of the sponsoring Members of Parliament. The proposals which meet the requirements being admitted to process, the Speaker's Office will announce the candidates for the post of Prime Minister.
- 2. Within eight days following the constitutive session, a plenary session will be held to elect the Prime Minister, to which those candidates who are not Members of Parliament will be called.
- 3. In the event that a vacancy should occur in the post of Prime Minister, the above times will be counted from the day on which the vacancy occurred.

#### Article 122

- 1. The session will start with a secretary reading the list of declared candidates and the Members of Parliament sponsoring them.
- 2. Next, each candidate in turn will present his programme, without a time limit. The speeches will be ordered according to the number of Members presenting the candidate, from greater to lesser. In the case of equal numbers, the order will be according to the time of presentation of the candidature. After all the candidates have made their presentations, the parliamentary groups will speak, in order from lesser to greater number of Members, for thirty minutes. Then the independent Members may speak, for a maximum time of five minutes each.
- 3. The candidates, if they request so, can speak again for fifteen minutes and, in this case, a new turn of ten minutes will open for each parliamentary group.

### Article 123

- 1. The voting on the candidates for Prime Minister will take place within twenty-four hours following the end of the debate. The Speaker will announce in the plenum, after the last speech, the time at which the vote will be taken.
- 2. The voting will be public and oral by calling out, and each Member of Parliament will give the name of the candidate for whom he votes or express his abstention. The scrutiny being complete, the candidate who has obtained the absolute majority of Parliament will be proclaimed Prime Minister by the Speaker, who will communicate the name of the candidate elected to the co-princes.

# Article 124

- 1. In the case that no candidate has obtained the absolute majority, the Speaker will set the date for the second vote, which must be within the following seven days. For this purpose he will declare as candidates the two who obtained the best results in the first vote.
- 2. The two candidates declared will present their programme to the plenum without time limits. Then the parliamentary groups will expound their positions for fifteen minutes. At the end of the debate, the vote will be held, which will be public and oral by calling out. The candidate obtaining most votes will be proclaimed Prime Minister. The Speaker will communicate the name of the elected candidate to the co-princes.

# Chapter two. Motion of censure

### Article 125

- 1. A motion of censure must be presented by at least one fifth of the Members of Parliament in a document sent to the Speaker's Office and setting out the causes of the motion.
- 2. The Speaker's Office, having checked that the proposal meets the essential requirements, will admit it, communicate it to the Prime Minister and the parliamentary groups and to the Members within twenty-four hours, and between the third and fifth day following its presentation, will call a session of Parliament for which the only point on the agenda will be the debate and vote on the motion of censure.

# Article 126

1. The debate on the motion will begin with its presentation by one of its signatories in an explanation for thirty minutes, followed by a response by the Prime Minister, also of thirty minutes. The Speaker may suspend the session for a period of not more than twenty-four hours before allowing the participations of the parliamentary

groups, which may not exceed fifteen minutes. The Speaker will grant time to the independent Members who ask for it, for a maximum of five minutes.

2. At the end of the debate, the vote will be taken, which will be public and oral by calling out. For the motion of censure to be passed requires the favourable vote of the absolute majority of Parliament.

# Chapter three. Question of confidence

### Article 127

A question of confidence must be presented by the Prime Minister through a reasoned document addressed to the Speaker's Office accompanied by the programme and a declaration of general policy or the decision of special importance to be submitted to Parliament. Once admitted to process, the Speaker will communicate it to the parliamentary groups and the Members of Parliament. The plenum for its deliberation and voting will take place between the third and fifth day following the communication.

# Article 128

- 1. The debate on the question of confidence will begin with an explanation by the Prime Minister without a time limit, after which the Speaker may resolve the suspension of the session for a period of not more than twenty-four hours. The debate will continue with the participations of the parliamentary groups, for a time of fifteen minutes. The Speaker will grant time to the independent Members who request it, for a maximum of five minutes.
- 2. At the end of the debate, the question of confidence will be put to the vote. The vote will be public and oral by calling out. The confidence will be understood as given when a simple majority is obtained.

# Chapter four. Questions

### Article 129

- 1. The Members of Parliament can address questions to the Government on themes of general policy or related to a fact, situation or specific information, in order to know if the Government is aware of it, and what position it takes in this respect.
- 2. The questions must be presented in a document sent to the Speaker's Office, indicating whether an oral or written response is required. It will be understood that the response must be written unless specified to the contrary. The Government must deliver the written response within thirty days from its publication. If an oral response is requested it will be understood that this must be given before the plenum.
- 3. In no case will questions be admitted in the exclusively private interests of the person formulating them or of any individual.
- 4. The questions must be admitted by the Speaker's Office, which will order their immediate publication.

### Article 130

- 1. Questions which require an oral response may be included on the agenda of the plenum from the seventh day after their publication.
- 2. In each ordinary session, Parliament will reserve one hour for questions to the Government. The Speaker can extend this time when he deems it necessary. The order of questions will be the same as the order of their presentation.
- 3. In question time, the Member of Parliament will put the question which will be answered by a member of the Government. The Member will have an opportunity to speak in reply and in that case the member of the Government will have an opportunity to speak again in counter. In no case can the total time for a question exceed eight minutes, divided into equal parts. At the end of the response by the member of the Government, if a Member asks for it, the Speaker may grant one minute in order to put a further question strictly on the same matter. The member of the Government will have the same time to respond.
- 4. At the end of a speech, the Speaker will immediately call whoever must speak next, or move on to the next question.

### Article 131

In each period of sessions each of the parliamentary groups has the right to obtain a declaration of urgency for as

many questions requiring oral response in the plenum as there are Members of Parliament in the group. The same right corresponds to the independent Member, if there is no Mixed Group. Questions for which a declaration of urgency is required may be presented up to twenty-four hours before the opening of the plenum. Circulation is ensured by distribution at the start of the session, without prejudice to later publication in the *Parliamentary Bulletin*.

#### Article 132

- 1. Questions with oral response can lead to a motion in which Parliament declares its position. In no case will this motion be one of censure of the Government.
- 2. The motion will be presented before the Speaker's Office by the Member of Parliament who has put the question and two more Members, or a parliamentary group, on the day following when the question was asked, and will be included on the agenda of the next session. The debate and vote will be as established for the proposals of resolution.

# Chapter five. Debates on the political orientation of the Government

#### Article 133

- 1. Each year, Parliament will hold a debate on the overall political orientation of the Government. The debate will start with a speech by the Prime Minister, who will present the relevant report to the plenum.
- 2. After the Prime Minister's speech the Speaker may suspend the session for not more than twenty-four hours. Then the parliamentary groups will have the opportunity to speak, in turns and for not more than fifteen minutes each. The Prime Minister and the ministers may speak as often as they request it. Each speech will bring the opportunity to speak in reply for a proportional time.
- 3. After the debate, the Speaker will set a time of not more than twenty-four hours so that the parliamentary groups can present proposals for resolutions, which must be congruent with the matter under debate and may not include a motion of censure.
- 4. The proposals admitted will be discussed according to their order of presentation. They can be presented for a time of not more than ten minutes per parliamentary group. After the turns, each parliamentary group can indicate its position on the other proposals presented and define the text to be submitted to the vote.

At the end of the discussion, the proposals will be voted on in the same order as they were put forward. A proposal being approved, all the others are voted on only insofar as they refer to points which are not identical and not contradictory to the first.

### Article 134

- 1. On request from the Prime Minister debates can be held on the political action and on the government. These debates can also be requested by a fourth of the Members of Parliament, each of whom can only promote one in each period of sessions. The Speaker will call the plenum for this purpose in the fifteen days following. Also these debates can take place if the Speaker's Office so decides, in accordance with the Board of Chairmen, on the initiative of a parliamentary group.
- 2. The debate will start in every case with a speech by a member of the Government and will continue in accordance with the provisions of the above article.

# Chapter six. Government programmes, plans and communiqués

- 1. If the Government sends Parliament a programme, plan or communication in relation with which it wishes Parliament to pronounce, the Speaker's Office will order its publication and distribution among the Members of Parliament and will include it on the relevant agenda to be debated in the plenum.
- 2. The debate will start with a speech by a member of the Government. Thereafter, the parliamentary groups may speak for a time of fifteen minutes.
- 3. Following the debate, the parliamentary groups may present proposals of resolution which will be dealt with in accordance with the rules of chapter nine of this title.

# Chapter seven. Informative sessions

### Article 136

- 1. On request by Parliament or a committee, or on their own initiative, the Prime Minister or any of the ministers may appear before Parliament or a committee for an informative session, after inclusion of the matter on the agenda.
- 2. The session will consist of an oral explanation by the Prime Minister or one of the ministers. On resuming the session, the Members of Parliament may put questions or make observations. The session will close with the reply from the Prime Minister or the minister.

# Chapter eight. Control of delegated legislation

### Article 137

- 1. When, pursuant to art. 59 of the Constitution, the Government approves a legislative decree, this will be transmitted to the Speaker's Office, which will order its publication in the *Parliamentary Bulletin*.
- 2. If during the following month no Member of Parliament or parliamentary group has raised objections, it will be understood that the Government has correctly exercised the legislative function delegated to it by Parliament. If, on the other hand, a Member of Parliament or a parliamentary group should raise an objection, this will be sent to the Speaker's Office, which will deliver it to the competent legislative committee for the issue of a report. This will be debated and voted on in the plenum.
- 3. This control procedure will not apply when the law of delegation provides another procedure.

# Chapter nine. Proposals of resolution

### Article 138

1. One parliamentary group or one Member of Parliament with the signature of two other Members, can present to the plenum proposals of resolution on matters not legislative.

The proposals will be sent in writing to the Speaker's Office which, once they are admitted to process, will order their publication and send a copy to the Government. After publication, a period of fifteen days will open during which the parliamentary groups can present amendments. After this period, the matter will be included on the agenda of the plenum.

2. The debate on the proposals of resolution will begin with an presentation by one of the proposers for a maximum of ten minutes. Then there will be an opportunity to speak for the parliamentary groups which have presented amendments and another for those which did not. After these speeches the parliamentary group or the Members of Parliament proposing will indicate which amendments they accept and the final text to be put to the vote.

# Transitional provision

Until publication can be made in the *Parliamentary Bulletin* as provided in this Regulation, publication made by the traditional procedure of edicts will have the same effect, this for a maximum term of six months counting from the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

# Final provisions

# One

Reform of this Regulation will be carried out exclusively on the initiative of Parliament, on the proposal by two parliamentary groups or one fifth of the Members of Parliament, with presentation to the Speaker's Office of a text of articles with the modifications intended.

The reform of the Regulation will be handled as a private bill, with no possibility of intervention by the Government.

If the plenum takes it into consideration, a special committee will be created of which the chairmen of the parliamentary groups will always be part.

Approval of the reform will require the absolute majority of the Members of Parliament in a vote on its entirety.

# Two

Parliament will be governed exclusively by the rules of the Constitution, those of this Regulation and those contained in the laws.

# Three

This Regulation will be published in the Parliamentary Bulletin and in the Official Journal of the Principality of Andorra. It will come into force on 1 January 1994.

Casa de la Vall, 3 September 1993

# **Jordi Farràs Forné** Speaker

We the co-princes sanction and promulgate it and order publication in the Official Journal of the Principality of Andorra.

François Mitterrand	Joan Martí Alanis
President of the French Republic	Bishop of Urgell
Co-prince of Andorra	Co-prince of Andorra

# Amendments to the Regulation of Parliament

# Resolution supplementary to the provisions of article 5 of the Regulation, BCG (Parliamentary Bulletin) 1/2003 of 10/01/2003

- 1. The requests for details, reports and documents referred to in article 5 must be presented in a document addressed to the Speaker's Office.
- 2. The required Authority will have a period of thirty days allowed to deliver the documentation requested or to allow the Member of Parliament direct access to the documentation, or otherwise set out the fundamental reasons in law which impede such delivery.
- 3. The term having expired, the Speaker, at the request of the applicant Member of Parliament, will require the Authority to comply with the obligation arising from article 5.
- 4. When the characteristics of the documentation requested so require, the required Authority will permit the requesting Member of Parliament direct access to the documents in order to study them and make such notes as are considered necessary. In such case, the Member of Parliament may access the documentation accompanied by advisers of the parliamentary group, previously accredited to Parliament.
- 5. The advisers of parliamentary groups, for the purposes determined in the above paragraph, must be accredited through a communication by the chairman of the parliamentary group to the Speaker, who will pass this to the required Authority.

# Resolution supplementary to the previsions of article 24.2 of the Regulation, BCG 23/1995 of 14/06/1995

Parliament will make available to the independent Members of Parliament the financial means and resources to carry out their functions.

# Criteria for interpretation of article 29, Minutes of the Speaker's Office no. 36/2003

Having constituted the parliamentary groups in the period expressly envisaged in article 24.1, no new parliamentary groups may be created during the legislature.

# Resolution supplementary to the previsions of article 110 of the Regulation, BCG 1/2003 of 10/01/2003

Budget section is understood to mean each of the ministries into which the political and administrative management of the Government can be divided.

# Resolution supplementary to the previsions of article 132 of the Regulation, BCG 15/2003 of 10/04/2003

The motion must be congruent with the question.

The parliamentary groups may present their amendments up to 24 hours before the time fixed to commence the following session.

# Resolution supplementary to the previsions of article 133 of the Regulation, BCG 23/1995 of 14/06/1995

- 1. The independent Members of Parliament may take part in the debate provided in article 133.2, for a maximum time of five minutes each.
- 2. The proposals of resolution provided in article 133.3 may also be presented by one Member of Parliament with the signature of two more.
- 3. The independent Members of Parliament may propose, for a time of not more than five minutes each, the proposals of resolution admitted. This time being finished, they may indicate their position on the other proposals presented and specify the text to be submitted to the vote.

# Resolution supplementary to the previsions of article 135 of the Regulation, BCG 26/1997 of 04/12/1997

When a law establishes that an appointment made by the Government is subject to ratification by Parliament, the Speaker's Office will order its publication and distribution among the Members of Parliament and include it on the agenda of the corresponding plenum.

The list subject to ratification will be submitted to a vote on its entirety.

Resolution supplementary to the previsions of article 135 of the Regulation, Resolution of the Speaker's Office of 07/11/1994 (Not published)

When a law establishes that an administrative action by the Government is subject to a prior resolution by Parliament, the subsequent proposal will be processed before the plenum in accordance with the rules of the common legislative procedure.