UNIFIED TEACHING SERVICE

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CHAPTER 48:03

UNIFIED TEACHING SERVICE

An Act to provide for common terms and conditions of employment for qualified Gambian Teachers in Mission Schools with those in similar posts in the Government Service.

[24th March, 1972.]

1. This Act may be cited as the Unified Teaching Service Act. Short title.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
   “Board” means the Teachers’ Selection Board established under section 3 of this Act;
   “Head of Mission” means the person for the time being responsible for the administration of the Mission;
   “Minister” means the Minister charged with responsibility for Education;

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"Mission" means a religious organisation established in The Gambia;

"Mission School" means any school which is managed by a Mission and approved by Government.

3. There shall be, and is hereby established, a Board to be known as the Teachers Selection Board (hereinafter referred to in this Act as "the Board").

4. The Board shall consist of—

(a) a Chairman who shall be a member of the Public Service Commission and who shall be appointed as such by the Chairman of the Public Service Commission;

(b) the Chief Education Officer or his representative;

(c) the Permanent Secretary, Personnel Management Office, or his representative;

(d) one other member to be appointed by the Public Service Commission; and

(e) a representative to be appointed by the Head of a Mission when the case of a candidate for that Mission School is under consideration.

5. It shall be the duty of the Board—

(a) to interview candidates for appointment as teachers in the permanent and pensionable service of the Government;

(b) to advise the Public Service Commission on the appointment of teachers; and

(c) to advise the Public Service Commission on any other matter on which advice may be sought.

6. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 5 of this Act, all qualified Gambian teachers in Mission Schools shall be deemed to have been recommended by the Board and approved by the Public Service Commission with effect either from the date of their respective appointments or from the eleventh day of May, 1952, whichever is later.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall apply to those teachers who have retired before the commencement of this Act.
7. The holders of appointment under the provisions of this Act shall be subject to the authority of the Public Service Commission: Provided that the Public Service Commission shall, before dismissal of any teacher under the provisions of this section, hold consultation with the Head of the Mission to which the teacher belongs.

8. (1) It shall be the responsibility of the Head of the Mission, after consultation with the Education Authorities, to post a qualified teacher from one school to another within the Mission.

(2) The Chief Education Officer shall be responsible, after consultation with the Head of the Mission concerned, for the posting of a qualified teacher who desires to be posted from a Mission School to any other school, or from any other school to a Mission School.

9. (1) The provisions of the Pensions Act, 1950, shall apply to all teachers appointed or deemed to have been appointed under the provisions of this Act in the same manner and to the same extent as the said provisions would apply to qualified teachers in the permanent and pensionable service of the Government.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of the Pensions Act, 1950, the Pensions Authority is hereby granted power to award gratuity and pensions retrospectively to teachers in Mission Schools who have since retired, and who would have been eligible for such gratuity and pension if this Act had been in force at the date of their retirement.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2) of this section, the commencement date for the granting of full pension and gratuity shall be the eleventh day of May, 1952.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of this Act, the Pensions Authority may grant half pensions and half gratuity for qualified teaching service between the first day of January 1946 and the eleventh day of May 1952.