

INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

CHAPTER NO. 1006.

*The British and Foreign Bible Society.*

GENERAL ANNOTATION.

ADMINISTRATION.

Since this Act is really of the nature of a private Act, and since, for example, no need was seen in the fairly comprehensive allocation of responsibilities for the administration of legislation published in National Gazette No. G15 of 13 February 1976 to allocate responsibility for this and similar Acts, there seems to be no point in attempting to discuss the administration of this Chapter. Under Section 148(2) of the Constitution, political responsibility would seem to be vested in the Prime Minister.

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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.

1. Interpretation—
  - "The British and Foreign Bible Society"
  - "the Charter"
  - "the corporation"
  - "the Secretary"
  - "Society"
  - "Society property".
2. Incorporation.
3. Holding of Society property.
4. Powers of corporation.
5. Rents, etc.
6. Seal of corporation.
7. Conditions of grant, etc.
8. Dealings with Secretary.

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*The British and Foreign Bible Society Act.*

Being an Act to incorporate the British and Foreign Bible Society in Papua New Guinea, and for related purposes.

**1. Interpretation.**

In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—

"The British and Foreign Bible Society" means the corporation constituted by the Charter by the name of "The British and Foreign Bible Society";

"the Charter" means the Royal Charter dated 27 November 1948, by which the governors and members from time to time of the voluntary Society known as "The British and Foreign Bible Society" were constituted one corporation and politic by the name of "The British and Foreign Bible Society";

"the corporation" means the corporation constituted by this Act;

"the Secretary" means the person for the time being holding the office of Secretary of the Society in Australia appointed by the General Committee of the Society and administering the affairs of the Society in the country and his successors in office, or a person acting for the time being in that office;

"Society" means "The British and Foreign Bible Society", whether called by that name or any other name;

"Society property" includes—

- (a) all dwellings and other buildings; and
- (b) all freehold and leasehold lands and premises; and
- (c) all personal property,

in the country belonging to or used in connexion with the Society and vested in any person as trustee, and all property acquired by the corporation under this Act.

**2. Incorporation.**

(1) The Secretary is a corporation by the name of "The British and Foreign Bible Society".

(2) The corporation—

- (a) has perpetual succession; and
- (b) shall have a seal; and
- (c) has power to acquire, hold, manage and control, and may grant, transfer, mortgage, demise, sell, dispose of, create or reserve easements in or over or otherwise deal with, property of any kind; and
- (d) may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

**3. Holding of Society property.**

The corporation shall hold all Society property on trust to use and appropriate it, or permit the use and appropriation of it, for the purposes of the Society as contained in the Charter, as amended from time to time.

**4. Powers of corporation.**

The corporation has power—

- (a) to purchase, take on lease, acquire by gift, devise, exchange or otherwise, property in the country; and
- (b) to sell the Society property or any part of it, together or in parcels, by public auction or private contract, for cash or on credit, on such terms and subject to such conditions as the corporation thinks proper; and
- (c) to exchange the property or any part of it for other property; and
- (d) to transfer and assure the property when sold or exchanged to the purchaser or to the person taking the exchange, freed and discharged from any trusts affecting it; and
- (e) for all or any of the purposes referred to in Paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d), to sign, seal and execute all such contracts, transfers and other deeds, documents and instruments as are necessary; and
- (f) to raise sums of money when and on such terms as the corporation thinks proper, by deposit of the deeds or by mortgage, with or without power of sale, of the Society property or any part of it, and to execute all proper assurances for that purpose; and
- (g) to demise and lease the Society property or any part of it for such periods, at such rents and on such terms and conditions as the corporation thinks proper; and
- (h) to appoint by instrument under the seal of the corporation any person as the attorney of the corporation, generally or in respect of specified matters, and to act in any place, and all deeds signed by the attorney on behalf of the corporation and under his seal are binding on the corporation and have the same effect as if they were under the seal of the corporation.

**5. Rents, etc.**

A lessee, mortgagee, purchaser, person taking on exchange or other person paying rent or other money to the corporation is not bound to see to the application of the rent or other money, and the receipt of the corporation or of the Secretary is a sufficient discharge.

**6. Seal of corporation.**

The Secretary shall provide for the safe custody of the seal of the corporation, and every instrument to which the seal is affixed shall be signed by the Secretary.

**7. Conditions of grant, etc.**

This Act does not affect—

- (a) the trusts, conditions or restrictions declared or imposed by the original grant, dedication or gift of any Society property; or
- (b) the provisions of any law under which any land forming part of the Society property has been granted or leased.

**8. Dealings with Secretary.**

(1) On the sale, mortgage, lease or other dealing by the Secretary of or with any property, a purchaser, mortgagee, lessee or other person dealing with the Secretary is not bound in any way to inquire into the necessity or propriety of the sale, mortgage, lease or other dealing or the purposes for which, or the circumstances in which, the Secretary proposes to enter into, make, give or execute a sale, mortgage, lease or other dealing.

(2) A purchaser, mortgagee, lessee or other person dealing with the Secretary is not bound in any way to inquire into the regularity of the sale, mortgage, lease or other dealing.

(3) Notwithstanding any irregularity or impropriety in a sale, mortgage, lease or other dealing, a sale, mortgage, lease or other dealing purporting to be made by the Secretary shall, as regards the purchaser, mortgagee, lessee or other person dealing with the Secretary, be deemed to be within the powers of the Secretary and is valid accordingly.

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