



# PARLIAMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

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## PARLIAMENT PAPER NO. 46

Rarotonga.

Sir,

In terms of Section 3 of the Commission of Inquiry Act 1966, the Regulations Act 1971-72 and the Legislative Service Act 1968-69, I have the honour to submit the Commission of Inquiry (Commission of Political Review) Order 1998, Serial No. 1998/09

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

I. Short  
Chairman of the Commission of Political  
Review Committee

PRICE-\$1.50



**COMMISSION OF INQUIRY (COMMISSION OF POLITICAL REVIEW)  
ORDER 1998**

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**A. P. Short**

Queen's Representative

**ORDER IN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

At Avarua, Rarotonga, this **6th** day of **August** 1998

**Present:**

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE QUEEN'S REPRESENTATIVE  
IN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**PURSUANT** to Section 3 of the Commission of Inquiry Act 1966, His Excellency the Queen's Representative, acting on the advice of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following Order:

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**ANALYSIS**

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|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Title                  | 3. Terms of Reference   |
| 2. Commission constituted | 4. Procedure            |
| 3. Terms of Reference     | 5. Report of Commission |

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**ORDER**

1. Title – This Order may be cited as the Commission of Inquiry (Commission of Political Review) Order 1998.

2. Commission constituted - There is hereby established a Commission of Inquiry to be known as the Commission of Political Review, the membership of which shall comprise:

- (a) Hon. Iaveta Short LLB, O.B.E., as Chairperson;
- (b) Professor Ron Crocombe Emeritus, BA PhD - member; and
- (c) Mr John Herman, BA MA - member.

3. Terms of Reference - (1) The terms of reference of the Commission shall be to inquire into and report upon the current political system of the Cook Islands established in 1965, and in particular:

- (a) examine and evaluate its effectiveness and appropriateness;
- (b) its strengths and weaknesses;
- (c) through public consultation, identify such changes to be made if any; and
- (d) make such recommendations as are appropriate for the developing needs of the people of the Cook Islands in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

(2) In making its recommendations, the Commission shall endeavour to propose a system of Government that:

- (a) is founded upon the principles of good governance;
- (b) enshrines fundamental democratic principles;
- (c) is cost effective; and
- (d) is appropriate to the unique conditions of the Cook Islands.

4. Procedure - The Commission is authorised and empowered to make and conduct any inquiry or investigation under this Order in such manner and at such time and place as the Commission thinks expedient, with power to adjourn from time to time and place to place as the Commission thinks fit.

5. Report of Commission - (1) The Commission shall disclose the contents of any report made by it to the Prime Minister not later than 20 December 1998, or at such later time as may be determined by the Chairperson of the Commission.

- (2) The Prime Minister shall upon receiving the Report:
- (a) publish the contents of the Report; and
  - (b) where Parliament is in session, table the Report in Parliament within 7 days of receiving the Report; and
  - (c) if Parliament is not in session, table the Report forthwith upon the commencement of the next ensuing session.

**P. Puna**  
**Clerk of the Executive Council**

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This Order shall be administered by the Prime Minister's Office

**BY AUTHORITY:**  
Cook Islands Government – 1998