



**REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL  
(QUEEN'S REPRESENTATIVE AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT  
SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES) ORDER 2007**

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Sir F. Goodwin, KBE

Queen's Representative

**ORDER IN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

At Avarua, Rarotonga, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April 2007

**Present:**

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

PURSUANT to section 4, 8 and 9 of the Civil List Act 2005 and section 15 of the Remuneration Tribunal Act 2005 His Excellency the Queen's Representative, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following Order:

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**ANALYSIS**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Title and commencement</li> <li>2. Interpretation</li> <li>3. Salaries</li> <li>4. Allowances</li> <li>5. Costs and expenses for constituency travel</li> <li>6. Boarding and Travel allowances for members traveling within the Cook Islands on Parliamentary business</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Travel allowances and expenses of members and spouses travelling within the Cook Islands on official business</li> <li>8. Proviso for the payment of travel allowances for travel within the Cook Islands</li> <li>9. Allowances and expenses for travel beyond the Cook Islands on official business</li> <li>10. Housing Allocations and Allowances</li> </ol> |
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Price \$4.50

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**ORDER**

1. Title and commencement - (1) This Order may be cited as the Remuneration Tribunal (Queen's Representative and Members of Parliament Salaries and Allowances) Order 2007.

(2) This Order shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2006.

2. Interpretation - In this Order unless the context requires the expressions used have the same meaning as they have in section 3 of the Civil List Act 2005 and in section 2 of the Remuneration Tribunal Act 2005 and

"usually resides" means where a person regularly lives, normally lives, customarily lives and where that person has a settled routine.

3. Salaries - The salaries payable under sections 4 and 8 of the Civil List Act 2005 to the Queen's Representative, Parliamentarians and the Speaker are those set out in Schedule 1 of this Order.

4. Allowances - The allowances payable under sections 4 and 9 of the Civil List Act 2005 to the Queen's Representative, Parliamentarians and the Speaker are those set out in Schedule 2 of this Order.

5. Costs and expenses for constituency travel - (1) Subject to subclause (6) of this clause, a member for a constituency other than a constituency in the island of Rarotonga, with the exception of the member for Avatiu-Ruatonga constituency (which includes the island of Palmerston) who resides in Rarotonga, shall be entitled to travel between Rarotonga and the constituency for which he is the member four times each year at Government's expense, for the purpose of conducting constituency business.

(2) Subject to subclause (6) of this clause a member who resides in a constituency other than a constituency in the island of Rarotonga, but including the member for the Avatiu-Ruatonga constituency (which includes the island of Palmerston) shall be entitled to travel between the constituency in which he resides and Rarotonga six times each year at Government expense, for the purpose of conducting constituency business and attending Parliament.

(3) Where subclause (1) or (2) of this clause applies to a member, he shall be entitled on each visit to receive an allowance specified in subclause (4) or (5) of this clause for a period commencing on the day he leaves Rarotonga or the constituency in which he is resident (as the case may be) of -

- (a) 10 days where the member's constituency is in the Southern Group; or
- (b) 20 days where the member's constituency is in the Northern Group, and includes the member for the Avatiu-Ruatonga constituency (which includes the island of Palmerston), and in the absence of available passage within that period, such further period to the date of the first available passage.

(4) Where a member travels in accordance with subclause (1) of this clause, he shall be entitled to actual travel costs and to a travel allowance of -

- (a) \$50 for each day he stays in private accommodation; or
- (b) the amount equal to the actual cost of accommodation and meals at a motel or hotel in Rarotonga, where that member stays at a motel or hotel to a maximum of \$160 per day;
- (c) and where a member's spouse travels in accordance with subsection (6) that spouse shall be entitled to travel in the same manner as that member and shall be entitled to receive the private accommodation allowances and expenses as that person, less the actual cost of the accommodation.

(5) Where a member travels in accordance with subclause (2) of this clause, he shall be entitled to actual travel costs and to a travel allowance of -

- (a) \$50 for each day he stays in private accommodation; or
- (b) the amount equal to the actual costs of accommodation and meals at a motel or hotel in Rarotonga, where that member stays at a motel or hotel; to a maximum of \$160 per day; and
- (c) where a member's spouse travels in accordance with subsection (6) that spouse shall be entitled to travel in the same manner as that member and shall be entitled to receive the private accommodation allowances and expenses as that member, less the actual cost of accommodation.

(6) A member to whom subclause (1) or (2) of this clause applies shall be entitled to be accompanied or joined by his spouse on two occasions each year and the actual cost of accommodation and their travel shall be paid out of the Civil List appropriation.

(7) For the purposes of this clause, "year" shall mean the financial year ending on the 30<sup>th</sup> June in each year.

6. Boarding and Travel allowances for members traveling within the Cook Islands on Parliamentary business - (1) Where a member resides beyond Rarotonga and that member is required to travel to Rarotonga to attend Parliament, a committee of Parliament or Government caucus, he shall receive -

- (a) actual travel costs; and
  - (b) rent free accommodation, where Government accommodation is available; or
  - (c) \$50 per day commencing on the day that he arrives in Rarotonga, where he resides in Rarotonga privately.
- (2) Such allowance shall cease -
- (a) if he resides in the Northern Group, 10 days from the adjournment of the meeting of Parliament, a committee of Parliament, Cabinet or Government caucus; or
  - (b) on the first available flight or boat to his constituency, whichever date is the sooner;
  - (c) if he resides in the Southern Group, 3 days from the adjournment of the meeting of Parliament, a committee of Parliament, Cabinet or Government caucus or on the day he leaves for his constituency on the first available flight or boat to his constituency, whichever is the sooner.

7. Travel allowances and expenses of members and spouses traveling within the Cook Islands on official business - Where a member who resides in Rarotonga travels from Rarotonga to another island, or a member who resides on any other island travels to another island within the Cook Islands on official business, and such travel is approved by Cabinet and the Minister responsible for the Legislative Service Vote, there shall be paid to him actual travel costs and an allowance of -

- (a) \$50 for each night he stays in private accommodation; or
- (b) the amount equal to the actual cost of accommodation; and
- (c) meals at a motel or hotel on the Island to which he has traveled to a maximum of \$160.

8. Proviso for the payment of travel allowances for travel within the Cook Islands - Where a member travels in accordance with sections 6 and 8 of this Order and is accommodated and hosted by -

- (a) the Government Representative, or
- (b) any public servant; or
- (c) the Island Council; or
- (d) any other person,

\$40 of that member's travel allowance shall be paid by the Clerk of Parliament directly to that host, who has or is accommodating that member and \$10 shall be paid directly to that member.

9. Allowances and expenses for travel beyond the Cook Islands on official business- (1) Where a member travels beyond the Cook Islands on official business, that member shall be entitled to the following allowances and expenses -

- (a) the Prime Minister shall be entitled to First Class air travel where such class is available otherwise Business class, and to be accommodated in a suite at a premium hotel and shall receive -
  - (i) a non-accountable meal allowance at the rate for the relevant country set out in the Third Schedule; and
  - (ii) a non-accountable incidentals allowance at the rate for the relevant country set out in the Third Schedule, multiplied by a factor of 2.5.
- (b) the Deputy Prime Minister, any Minister, the Speaker, and Leader of the Opposition shall be entitled to Business Class air travel and to be accommodated in a studio room at a 4 star hotel and shall receive -
  - (i) a non-accountable meal allowance at the rate for the relevant country set out in the Third Schedule; and
  - (ii) a non-accountable incidentals allowance at the rate for the relevant country set out in the Third Schedule, multiplied by a factor of 2.25.
- (c) a member of Parliament (other than a member of Parliament to whom paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section apply) shall be entitled to Economy Class air travel and to be accommodated in a standard room in a 4 star hotel and shall receive -
  - (i) a non-accountable meal allowance at the rate for the relevant country set out in the Third Schedule; and
  - (ii) a non-accountable incidental allowance at the rate for the relevant country set out in the Third Schedule, multiplied by a factor of 1.85.

(2) Where a member incurs any reasonable expenditure in relation to sending or receiving an official communication whilst overseas (whether by telephone call or otherwise), he shall be entitled to reimbursement for such reasonable expenditure only upon the production of receipts and identification of the person called, to the Clerk of Parliament.

(3) Where a member incurs any reasonable expenditure on transport while on official business, he shall be entitled to reimbursement for such reasonable expenditure only upon the production of receipts to the Clerk of Parliament.

(4) The Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Ministers, and the Leader of the Opposition shall be entitled to be accompanied by their spouse to any official state function to which they are invited to represent the Cook Islands and if so delegated by the Prime Minister.

(5) The Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Ministers and the Leader of the Opposition shall be entitled, subject to the approval of Cabinet, to be accompanied by their spouse on any overseas travel, once only in each financial year.

(6) Where a spouse of any member travels in accordance with subclauses (4) or (5) of this clause, that spouse shall be entitled to travel in the same manner as that member and shall be entitled to receive the same allowances and expenses as that member, less the actual costs of accommodation.

(7) Accommodation costs and travel costs paid pursuant to this section shall be accounted for by the member to the Clerk and members shall stay at a hotel approved by Cabinet.

(8) For audit purposes Parliament shall deduct the accountable portion of the member's travel and the accommodation cost if the member fails to account.

(9) A member's allowances shall be computed from the date of his departure from the Cook Islands to the date of his return to the Cook Islands and shall include days spent in transit. Where an allowance is paid to a member in respect of a day spent in transit, the amount of such allowance shall be the same as the meals and incidental allowances paid to that member for that country last visited.

(10) Where the Clerk is of the opinion that the member had not complied with clause (9) of this clause, he may withhold that portion of the allowance payable to the member.

10. Housing Allocations and Allowances - (1) The Government shall provide the Prime Minister with an official residence, furnished and free of rent, together with free services including electricity and such domestic and gardening staff as may be necessary. The Prime Minister, if he elects to reside in a private residence, shall in addition be entitled to receive for each year completed as Prime Minister a housing allowance of \$5,000 or a proportionate allowance for part of the year completed.

(2) The Government shall provide the Deputy Prime Minister with a Government residence free of rent, together with a person for domestic duties, and a groundsman. The Deputy Prime Minister if he elects to reside in a private residence shall in addition be entitled to receive for each year completed as Deputy Prime Minister a housing allowance of \$4,500 or proportionate payment for part of the year completed.

(3) The Speaker, Ministers and Leader of the Opposition shall be entitled to a Government residence where such a residence is available, free of rent together with free lawn mowing and hedge trimming services. The Speaker, Ministers and Leader of the Opposition, if he elects to reside in a private residence, is entitled to receive for each year completed as Speaker, Minister and Leader of the Opposition a housing allowance of \$4,000 or proportionate for part of the year completed.

Provided where the Speaker, Minister and Leader of the Opposition usual place of residence is on any island other than Rarotonga, the Speaker, Minister and Leader of the Opposition shall not be entitled to a Government residence on Rarotonga and where he is on Rarotonga pursuant to clauses (7) and (8), shall only be entitled to the allowances set out in those clauses.

(4) Every other member shall be entitled to a Government residence where such residence is available, free of rent. The member if he elects to reside in a private residence is entitled to receive for each year completed as a member a housing allowance of \$3,500 or proportionate for part of the year completed.

Provided where the member's usual place of residence is on any island other than Rarotonga, the member shall not be entitled to a Government residence on Rarotonga and where he is on Rarotonga pursuant to clauses (7) and (8), shall only be entitled to the allowances set out in those clauses.

11. Transport and Maintenance Allowance - (1) The Prime Minister and his or her spouse shall be entitled to the use of a Government vehicle with a driver at all times for both official and non-official purposes.

(2) During the absence of the Prime Minister from the Cook Islands, the Acting Prime Minister and his or her spouse shall be entitled to the use of a government vehicle with a driver at all times for both official and non-official purposes.

(3) The Deputy Prime Minister, Ministers are entitled to a car provided by their Office Support Office Budget and not covered as a cost to the Civil List.

(4) Subject to subclauses (1) and (2) of this clause, every other member is entitled to be paid a non-taxable transport allowance of \$3,000 per annum, or a proportionate payment for part of the year completed.

12. Telephones - (1) The Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, and the Leader of the Opposition shall be provided with a telephone, free of rental charges, at their residence and all calls, with the exception of private international calls to and from that telephone, shall be free of charge.

(2) The Ministers and the Speaker shall be provided with a telephone, free of rental charges, at their residence and all local and international calls shall be free of charge. Any other calls or services shall not be reimbursed.

(3) All other members shall be provided with a telephone free of rental charges, at their usual residence and all local and international calls shall be free of charge. Any other calls or services billed to that number shall not be reimbursed.

(4) Notwithstanding subclauses (1), and (2) and (3) of this clause, where a Member of Parliament wishes to use a cell phone for the purposes of this clause, he may do so by advising the Clerk of his preference and the Clerk shall pay for one account only and not both.

13. Select Committee Allowances - For each day a member who is appointed to a Parliamentary Select Committee actually attends a sitting of that committee, that member shall be entitled to a Select Committee allowance as follows -

- (a) \$100 for a chairperson;
- (b) \$75 for a member.

14. Office accommodation for Opposition - The Leader of the Opposition shall be provided with an office comparable to that provided to a Minister, together with furniture, electricity, telephone rental and the cost of official calls, computers, internet connection, secretarial staff, stationery and office supplies, at Government expense.

15. Clothing allowance - Every member of Parliament shall be entitled to a non-accountable clothing allowance of \$5,000 which shall be payable at the beginning of a member's term of Parliament when all electoral petitions have been dispensed with and the Member has been sworn in.

16. Transitional - Where any Member has commenced traveling, either within the Cook Islands or overseas upon the date of the coming into force of this Order, that Member shall be entitled to receive, until the completion of that journey, the expenses, allowances and other entitlements, to which that member would have been entitled immediately before the coming into force of this Order.

17. Revocation - The Civil List (Members of Parliament Allowances, Expenses and Other entitlements) Order 1996 and the Civil List (Members of Parliament Allowances, Expenses and Other Entitlements)(Amendment) Order 2000, the Civil List Order 2004 are hereby revoked.

G.L. Harmon  
Clerk of the Executive Council

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This Order is administered by the Office of the Legislative Service

**BY AUTHORITY:**  
Cook Islands Government – 2007



**SCHEDULE 1**  
**[Section 8]**

Queen's Representative	NZ\$30,000 (non-taxable)
Prime Minister	NZ\$105,000
Deputy Prime Minister	NZ\$ 95,000
Ministers	NZ\$ 85,000
Speaker who is MP	NZ\$ 85,000
Speaker who is not an MP	NZ\$ 35,000
Leader of the Opposition	NZ\$ 85,000
Ordinary member of Parliament	NZ\$ 50,000

All the above Salaries are exclusive of the 5% superannuation contribution payable by the Cook Island Government.

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**SCHEDULE 2**  
**[Section 9]**

Queen's Representative	NZ\$45,000
Deputy Leader of the Opposition	NZ\$5,000
Leader of the House	NZ\$5,000
Whips	NZ\$5,000
Associate Minister	NZ\$5,000

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**SCHEDULE 3****[Section 9]**

(Meals and Incidental allowances for travel beyond the Cook Islands)

<u>Country</u>	<u>Currency</u>	<u>Meal Allowance</u>	<u>Incidental Allowance</u>
<b>Pacific</b>			
Australia	AUS\$	85.00	20.00
New Zealand	NZ\$	85.00	25.00
Fiji (Sheraton & Fiji Resort)	F\$	95.00	20.00
Fiji (Others)	F\$	85.00	20.00
American Samoa	US\$	70.00	18.00
Western Samoa	Tala	80.00	20.00
Tonga	P	75.00	14.00
French Pacific	CFP	8,500	2,160
Solomon Islands	SI4	80,00	14.00
Hawaii	US\$	90.00	25.00
Niue	NZ\$	80.00	22.00
Papua New Guinea	Kina	80.00	23.00
Kiribati & Tuvalu	NZ\$	80.00	24.00
Vanuatu	Vatu	5,000	1,500
Pacific (elsewhere)	NZ\$	80.00	22.00
<b>Asia</b>			
Singapore	S\$	100.00	24.00
Thailand	B	1,200	215
Japan	Y	20,000	6,125
Hong Kong	HK\$	500.00	104.00
Bangladesh	US\$	40.00	8.00
China	Yuan	250.00	23.00
India	Rupee	1,400	129.00
Indonesia	Rupiah	90,000	15,250
Malaysia	Ringgits	120.00	26.00
Nepal	US\$	60.00	11.00
Pakistan	US\$	60.00	7.00
Philippines	Peso	1,200	313
Asia (elsewhere)	US\$	40.00	10.00

<b>America</b>			
United States	US\$	90.00	25.00
Canada	C\$	80.00	18.00
<b>Jamaica &amp; all Caribbean</b>			
	US\$	65.00	14.00
Argentina	US\$	65.00	16.00
Peru	US\$	65.00	12.00
<b>Latin America (elsewhere)</b>			
	US\$	65.00	12.00
<b>Europe</b>			
United Kingdom	PS	40.00	13.00
France	F	450.00	103.00
Italy	L	65,000	19,400
Switzerland	SF	115.00	51.00
Belgium	BL	2,500	625
Germany	DM	120.00	33.00
Europe (elsewhere)	US\$	85.00	13.00
<b><u>Africa</u></b>			
Kenya	US\$	85.00	12.00
Nigeria	US\$	85.00	22.00
Tanzania	US\$	85.00	22.00
Zambia	US\$	85.00	14.00
Zimbabwe	US\$	85.00	12.00
Africa (elsewhere)	US\$	85.00	16.00
<b>Middle East</b>			
Egypt	EPS	90.00	22.00
Bahrain	Dinar	33.00	8.00
Iran	Rials	15,000	2,612
Iraq	Dinar	20,000	5,000
Middle East (elsewhere)	US\$	80.00	19.00

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