VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 278 of 2016

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

National Skills Council (Establishment) Order 2016

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 131 of the Education Act, the Prime Minister has made the following Order:-

Citation.

1. The title of this Order is the National Skills Council (Establishment) Order, 2016.

Interpretation.

2. For the purposes of this Order, unless the context otherwise requires -

Cap. 327.

"the Act" means the Education Act;

"the Council" shall mean the National Skills Council established by virtue of this Order;

"lifelong learning" has the same meaning assigned to it by article 63 of the Act;

"the Minister" means the Minister responsible for education.

Objects.

3. The objects of this Order is to establish the National Skills Council.

National Skills Council.

4. There shall be a Council, to be known as the National Skills Council, which shall be autonomous and which shall carry out functions related to labour market preparation and skills and shall serve as a main driver in these fields.

Affairs and activities of the Council.

5. The affairs and activities of the Council shall be under the direction of the Board and shall be dealt with by the members of the Board and for this purpose shall be represented by the Chairperson who shall be able to speak and act on its behalf.

Functions of the Council.

6. The functions of the Council shall be to:

(a) involve representatives of the labour market in the planning of labour market preparation;

(b) study, propose and plan strategies and training to reduce shortages in labour skills, improve skills and meet market demands;

(c) involve stakeholders in the setting of strategic direction of relevant education and training;

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(d) liaise with educational institutions;

(e) perform any other function as may be assigned to it by the Minister.

Board.

7. (1) The Council shall be governed by a Board composed of not less than eleven and not more than thirteen members to be nominated by the Minister and appointed by the Prime Minister for a period of three years and the members shall be eligible to be re-appointed after their term of office expires.

(2) The Prime Minister, upon recommendation of the Minister, shall appoint from among the members a Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson.

(3) The members of the Board shall include the following members:

(a) a representative appointed by the University of Malta;

(b) a representative appointed by the Malta College for Arts, Science and Technology;

(c) a representative appointed by the Jobsplus Corporation;

(d) a representative appointed by the Institute for Tourism Studies;

(e) a representative appointed by the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry;

(f) a representative appointed by the Malta Enterprise;

(g) a representative of civil society;

(h) a representative from amongst lifelong learning specialists;

(i) the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry for Education;

(j) a maximum of four persons who, in the opinion of the Minister, possess leadership qualities, and have an understanding of education and the labour market within the context of an open, democratic, fair, prosperous and inclusive society.

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Experts.

8. (1) The Council may invite *ad hoc* experts to sit on the Council when discussing specific issues.

(2) These experts shall only attend upon request and shall not be considered as members of the Council.

Removal or resignation from office.

9. (1) A member of the Council may at any time be removed from office by the Prime Minister on the grounds of inability to perform the functions of his office as required, either because of mental or physical illness, or for any other reason due to which the member would no longer be fit to occupy such office or due to bad conduct.

(2) A member of the Board may resign from his office through a letter addressed to the Prime Minister. If any member tenders his resignation or is removed from his office by the Prime Minister or should the office of any member of the Board become in any manner vacant, the Prime Minister, upon recommendation of the Minister, may appoint a qualified person to take up this post and any person who is so appointed shall keep on occupying that post up to the termination of the term of office of the person being so substituted and such person shall be eligible to be reappointed.

(3) Any absence or vacancy among the members of the Board or any participation in its meetings by any person who is not entitled to such act, shall not invalidate the procedures of the Board, insofar as there is a quorum of not less than one-half of the number of members of the Board plus one.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Order and of any regulations made under the Act, the Board shall generally regulate its own procedures.

(5) The Minister may make regulations regarding the procedures to be adopted by the Board in the course of its operations.

Budget.

10. The Council shall have its own budget and shall regulate its own procedure.

Annual work plan.

11. The Council shall, two months before the start of the business year present the Minister with an annual work plan.

Annual report.

12. The Council shall compile and send to the Minister an annual report not later than six weeks from the start of the business year, on its activities during that year.

Meetings.

13. (1) The Council shall meet at least once every two months or as necessary.

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(2) Meetings shall be convened by the Chairperson.

14. The Minister shall appoint a secretary to keep minutes and a record of the meetings. Secretary.

VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

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