I assent.

(L.S.)

ANTON BUTTIGIEG
President

20th June, 1980

ACT No. XIX of 1980

AN ACT to provide for the relief of hardship caused by the floods of October 1979 by the distribution of moneys donated, or provided out of the Consolidated Fund, for that purpose, as well as other moneys derived from the winding up of certain public funds that have outlived their purpose, and to make provision for matters connected with or ancillary to any of the purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Floods Relief Act, 1980. Short title.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires — Interpretation.

"the Committee" means the Floods Relief Committee established by section 3 of this Act;

"fund" means any moneys, securities and other valuables given, donated or otherwise collected or obtained, and held or administered for the relief of hardship, or other charitable, philanthropic or similar purpose, and includes any trust for any of the above purposes;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for finance.

3. (1) There is hereby established a committee, to be known as the Floods Relief Committee, which shall consist of the President as Chairman and two other members appointed by the Minister of whom one shall be a public officer performing duties at the Ministry of Finance and the other shall be a person from among the members of the Board of Cooperatives. Floods Relief Committee.

(2) The Minister may also appoint a public officer to act as Secretary to the Committee.

(3) The functions of the Committee shall be —

(a) to receive the moneys payable to it in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and any other sum given or donated for the purposes of its functions under this Act;

(b) to wind up the funds to which this Act applies;

(c) to distribute, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the moneys so received and the proceeds derived from the said winding up,

and for any of the purposes aforesaid the Committee shall have such powers as may be necessary or expedient to carry out its functions in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(4) The Committee shall place all moneys received or derived by it into a special account with the Central Bank of Malta; and no moneys shall be withdrawn from that account except under the signature of two of the members of the Committee.

Winding up of the funds to which Act applies.

4. (1) The funds to which this Act applies shall be wound up by the Committee and all moneys and other assets comprised in or forming part of those funds shall be transferred to the Committee for that purpose.

(2) The funds to which this Act applies are —

(a) The Malta Relief Fund;

(b) The Maltese in Egypt Relief Fund;

(c) The Save the Children Account;

(d) The United World Colleges Fund for Local Students;

(e) The Eric Rice Charity; and

(f) The Cassar Cup Fund.

Moneys to be paid or transferred to Committee.

5. There shall be paid or transferred to the Committee —

(a) out of the Consolidated Fund, by virtue of this Act and without further authority, a sum equal to the proceeds derived from the winding up of the funds to which this Act applies;

(b) the sum donated by Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the relief of hardship caused by the floods which hit the Maltese Islands in October 1979.

Distribution of moneys in the special account.

6. (1) All moneys received or derived by the Committee shall be distributed by it among citizens of Malta who have suffered loss of, or damage to, property (except to the extent that in respect of such loss or damage compensation has been paid or is payable, whether under a contract of insurance or otherwise) as result or in consequence of the heavy rains and resulting floods which devestated large areas of the Maltese Islands in October 1979.

(2) In distributing the above sums, the Committee shall take into account the actual loss or damage sustained but may also, if the circumstances so warrant, particularly if the moneys available are not sufficient to meet all claims, take account of the financial condition of the claimants and other circumstances in order that the distribution may be as equitable as practicable.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Committee shall regulate its own procedure, the time and manner in which claims are to be submitted and proved, and all other matters that require to be regulated.

7. (1) As soon as practicable after it has distributed the moneys placed by this Act under its charge, the Committee shall draw up a report on its activities under this Act, together with an audited account of all income and expenditure, and a list of the persons between whom the moneys were distributed and the amounts paid to each of them, and shall forward such report with all its annexes to the Minister. **Report by Committee.**

(2) As soon as practicable after he has received it, the Minister shall lay a copy of the report and its annexes on the Table of the House.

Passed by the House of Representatives at Sitting No. 403 of the 17th June, 1980.

C. AGIUS
Speaker

C. MIFSUD
Clerk to the House of Representatives

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