

Disaster Risk Management Act 2007



ANALYSIS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p><u>PART I</u>
<u>PRELIMINARY</u>
Title</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Short Title and Commencement2. Objects3. Interpretation4. Act to bind Crown <p><u>PART 2</u>
<u>ADMINISTRATION</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Emergency Management Cook Islands6. Functions of the Director7. Powers of the Director8. Delegation by the Director9. National Disaster Risk Management Council10. Advisory Committee11. Response Executive12. National Controller13. Disaster Recovery Coordinator14. National Emergency Operations Centre <p><u>PART 3</u>
<u>RESPONSIBILITIES</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">15. Disaster Risk Management16. Safety Shelters | <ol style="list-style-type: none">17. Disaster Risk Management Plans of other agencies18. Audit and Finance <p><u>PART 4</u>
<u>STATE OF DISASTER</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">19. State of Disaster <p><u>PART 5</u>
<u>STATE OF EMERGENCY</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">20. State of Emergency21. Disaster or Emergency Area <p><u>PART 6</u>
<u>POWERS OF POLICE</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">22. Police Powers <p><u>PART 7</u>
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">23. Essential Services24. Offences25. Looting26. General Penalties27. Immunities28. Regulations29. Transitional and savings provision for National Disaster Management Office30. Repeal Schedule |
|--|--|

2007, No. 33

An Act to provide for Disaster Risk Management in the Cook Islands

(30th November 2007)

BE ENACTED by the Parliament of the Cook Islands, assembled in Session, and by the authority of the same as follows:

PART 1
PRELIMINARY

1. **Short Title and Commencement** - This Act may be cited as the Disaster Risk Management Act 2007.

(2) This Act shall come into force on a date to be appointed by the Queen's Representative, by Order in Executive Council.

2. **Objects** - The objects of this Act are to:-

(1) ensure Disaster Risk Management procedures are put in place and provided by Emergency Management Cook Islands by means of disaster risk reduction, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

(2) establish an efficient structure for the management of disasters and emergencies by promoting cooperation amongst agencies with a role in disaster risk management, and enhancing their capacities to maintain the provision of essential services during periods of disaster and emergency; and

(3) enhance the capacity of the government, relevant agencies and the community to effectively manage the impacts of disasters and emergencies and to take all necessary action to prevent or minimise threats to life, health and the environment from natural disasters, man made disasters and other emergencies.

3. **Interpretation** - In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, -

“Agency” means a government agency or non-government agency, Essential Services, Island Councils and includes all their employees, agents, consultants and contractors;

“Cabinet” means the Cabinet of the Government of the Cook Islands;

“Centre” means the National Emergency Operations Centre established in accordance with section 14;

“Council” means the National Disaster Risk Management Council established under section 9;

“Director” means the director of Emergency Management Cook Islands appointed by section 5(3)(a);

“Disaster” means an actual event, or a high probable risk, involving serious disruption to the functioning of a community causing widespread human, material, economic or environmental loss and which exceeds the ability of the affected community to cope using its own resources;

“Disaster Area” means a disaster area declared under section 21;

“Disaster Coordinator” means a Disaster Coordinator appointed under section 15 (4);

“Disaster Risk Management Committee for the Outer Islands” means any Committee established under section 15(1);

“Disaster Recovery Coordinator” means the person appointed by Section 11 (3) (b) to perform the functions referred to in Section 13;

“Disaster Risk Management” means performing and undertaking all activities including structural and non-structural measures to avoid or to limit risks and lessen the impacts of natural, man-made, environmental or technological Disasters or Emergencies;

“Disaster Risk Management Plan” means a plan approved by the Council under section 9(3)(b) for Disaster Risk Management;

“Disaster Risk Management Plan for the Outer Islands” means any plan prepared under section 15(5);

“Disaster Risk Management Report” means the report provided to Cabinet under section 9(3)(k);

“Disaster Risk Reduction” means minimising and reducing Disaster risks or vulnerabilities so as to avoid adverse impacts of hazards within the broad contexts of sustainable development;

“Emergency” means an actual or imminent event that endangers or threatens life, property or the environment and which requires a significant coordinated response;

“Emergency Activity” means an activity where -

- (a) an Agency performs a role or discharges a responsibility in accordance with the Disaster Risk Management Plan;
- (b) an Agency trains or practises for an activity referred to in paragraph (a) or being on active standby duty;
- (c) an Agency travels to or from a place where an activity referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) has occurred or is to occur; or
- (d) the Prime Minister exercises his or her powers under section 19 or 20.

“Emergency Area” means an emergency area declared under section 21;

“Emergency Management” means the organisation and management of resources for dealing with all aspects of an Emergency;

“Essential Services” means any entity referred to in Section 23 and listed in the Schedule or notified by the Director pursuant to Section 6(9);

“Event” means either a Disaster or an Emergency;

“Government Agency” means -

- (a) any body, corporate or unincorporated, constituted by or under an Act for a public purpose;
- (b) any member or officer of such a body; and
- (c) any person in the service of the Government of the Cook Islands upon whom any function, power, duty or responsibility is conferred by or under any Act.

“Island Council” means an Island Council established under the Outer Islands Local Government Act 1987;

“Mitigation” means regulatory and physical measures to ensure that Emergency or Disaster events are prevented or their effects mitigated;

“National Controller” means the National Controller being the Police Commissioner as provided under section 12;

“Preparedness” means having arrangements and systems in place to ensure that should an event occur the resources required for an affected community to cope are efficiently mobilised and deployed;

“Recovery” means the coordinated process of supporting communities affected by an event in reconstruction of physical infrastructure and restoring their social, economic, and physical wellbeing;

“Response” means activities undertaken in anticipation of, during and immediately after an event to ensure that its effects are minimised and that the people affected are given immediate relief and support;

“Response Executive” means the Response Executive established by section 11;

“Safety Shelter” means a place approved pursuant to Section 16;

“State of Disaster” means a state of disaster declared under section 19; and

“State of Emergency” means a state of emergency under section 20.

4. Act to bind Crown – This Act shall bind the Crown.

PART 2 - ADMINISTRATION

5. Emergency Management Cook Islands – (1) Emergency Management Cook Islands is hereby established.

- (2) The functions of Emergency Management Cook Islands are to-
- (a) coordinate the maintenance of the Disaster Risk Management Plan and all necessary sub-plans for approval by the Council;
 - (b) facilitate implementation of the Disaster Risk Management Plan including providing necessary guidelines for the development of the Disaster Risk Management Plans for the Outer Islands and other plans required under this Act;
 - (c) facilitate a coordinated village, district or island based system of Disaster Response teams, which shall, in consultation with the Response Executive implement the Disaster Risk Management Plan applying to that area;
 - (d) prepare, review and test the Disaster Risk Management Plan to ensure it properly protects life, property and essential infrastructure from the potential or actual impact of an Emergency or Disaster;
 - (e) coordinate any necessary improvements to the Disaster Risk Management Plan;
 - (f) provide Emergency Management and Disaster Response advice, secretarial and administrative support to the Council;
 - (g) make recommendations to the Council in relation to the establishment and constitution of any Advisory Committee convened under section 10 ;
 - (h) assist the National Coordinator in coordinating the effective management of the Centre;
 - (i) facilitate all necessary training exercises, post-disaster and post-exercise debriefs as required by the Director;
 - (j) prepare all necessary reports to the Council;
 - (k) facilitate the preparation of the Disaster Risk Management Report in accordance with section 9(3)(k) to be given to the Minister for presentation to Cabinet and tabling in Parliament;
 - (l) provide advice and regular reports to the Council on the activities of the committees established under section 10;
 - (m) report to the Council on the performance of all agencies on their preparedness for an Emergency or Disaster;
 - (n) coordinate the development of a database of Emergency Management information including but not limited to hazard maps, vulnerability assessment reports and resulting maps, training information, exercise reports, disaster management resources and emergency contact details;
 - (o) undertake education and awareness programs as may be considered necessary by the Council;
 - (p) prepare and submit an Annual Report to the Minister and Council;
 - (q) perform or undertake any other function as directed by the Council ; and

- (r) undertake such other functions as the Minister may determine by notice in the Gazette.
- (3) Emergency Management Cook Islands shall consist of: -
 - (a) the Director appointed by the Prime Minister; and
 - (b) other staff as may be appointed by the Director from time to time.
- 6. Functions of the Director – The Director shall:-
 - (1) be responsible and report to the Prime Minister;
 - (2) ensure, subject to any directions from the Council or Prime Minister, that Emergency Management Cook Islands performs its functions stated in sub-section 5(2);
 - (3) convene an emergency meeting of the Council to consider a declaration of a State of Emergency by the Council or a declaration of a State of Disaster by the Prime Minister;
 - (4) prepare an annual works program for Emergency Management Cook Islands to assist in the development of its annual budget for submission to the Prime Minister;
 - (5) review the Disaster Risk Management Plan and related plans following an event and provide a report to the Council;
 - (6) undertake periodic Disaster Risk Management related audits of all Government Agencies;
 - (7) provide a report to the Council each year on the findings and recommendations of the audits which were undertaken;
 - (8) prepare a written notice of the list of Essential Services, based on those contained in the Schedule, being entities that provide services considered essential to the proper functioning of the community, including electricity supply, telecommunications services, public works (water and roads), transportation services, public broadcasting including either radio, television and internet services and emergency accommodation;
 - (9) undertake periodic audits of all Essential Services to ensure that -
 - (a) Essential Services listed in the Schedule have satisfactory Disaster Risk Management Plans relating to their operations;
 - (b) Essential Services have the ability to implement the Disaster Risk Management Plans relating to their area and operations; and
 - (c) the Disaster Risk Management Plans include disaster risk reduction, preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery measures.
 - (10) provide a report to the Council on the findings and recommendations of the audits which were undertaken in relation to Essential Services, and their ability to provide a service in accordance with section 23;
 - (11) assist Essential Services to develop Disaster Risk Response Plans; and
 - (12) such other functions as the Minister may determine by notice in the Gazette.
- 7. Powers of the Director – (1) The Director shall have all the powers reasonably necessary to perform his functions.
 - (2) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act, the Director shall, in exceptional circumstances, have the authority to report directly to the Prime Minister for the Prime Minister to consider whether to declare a State of Disaster.

(3) The Director may issue a written request to any person, Government Agency or Essential Service to provide any assistance and information that the Director reasonably requires to perform his functions and such assistance and information shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(4) A request made under subsection (4) shall be responded to in writing within one month from the date of service of that request.

8. Delegation by the Director – The Director may in writing delegate to any person or class of person employed or engaged in the administration of this Act, all or any of the Director's powers or functions except this power of delegation.

9. National Disaster Risk Management Council – (1) A National Disaster Risk Management Council shall be established.

(2) The Council shall consist of eight members being –

- (a) the Prime Minister, or his or her delegate, who will act as the Chair;
- (b) the Financial Secretary;
- (c) the Police Commissioner;
- (d) the Director;
- (e) the Public Service Commissioner;
- (f) the Chief Executive Officer of Office of the Minister of Island Administration; and
- (g) the Secretary of Ministry of Works; and
- (h) the Director of the Metrological Services.

(3) The Council shall –

- (a) formulate policy for Disaster Risk Management affecting the community;
- (b) approve the Disaster Risk Management Plans and all sub-plans intended to apply to the Cook Islands;
- (c) direct the implementation of the national Disaster Risk Management Plan;
- (d) evaluate and monitor the direction and coordination of activities of Agencies by the Response Executive and National Controller relating to the mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from an event;
- (e) provide direction to and receive reports from the Director;
- (f) provide advice to the Prime Minister in relation to the declaration of the State of Disaster and its subsequent revocation;
- (g) provide advice and support to Cabinet in relation to Disaster Risk Management for national planning;
- (h) establish the Committees required under the Act ;
- (i) ensure that all required support is provided to the Centre;
- (j) issue notices to any party including members of the public relating to mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from an event; and
- (k) prepare an annual Disaster Risk Management Report to be presented to Cabinet by the Minister detailing the activities of the Council and the implementation of the Disaster Risk Management Plan.

- (4) Ordinary meetings of the Council shall occur every 3 months.
- (5) Emergency meetings of the Council may be convened as required by the Prime Minister or the Director.
- (6) The quorum for meetings of the Council is 4 members.

10. Advisory Committee - (1) The Council shall have the power to establish an Advisory Committee to assist the Council in performing its functions.

(2) The Advisory Committee has the function to advise the Council as required with respect to all issues relating to mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

(3) The Advisory Committee shall have members appointed by the Council for a term of 3 years.

(4) The Council shall from the Committee members appoint a Chairperson who may hold the position for a maximum of 3 terms.

(5) The Council shall establish terms of reference for the Advisory Committee and receive reports from the Advisory Committee.

11. Response Executive - (1) The Response Executive is hereby established.

(2) The Response Executive shall be convened when any of the following events occur -

- (a) there is a State of Disaster;
- (b) there is a State of Emergency;
- (c) a Disaster Risk Management Plan calls for the convening of the Response Executive; or
- (d) when requested by the Director.

(3) The Response Executive shall -

- (a) direct the response to an Emergency or Disaster;
- (b) appoint the Disaster Recovery Coordinator for the event; and
- (c) approve all contracts with any third parties engaged in providing services relating to an event.

(4) The Response Executive consists of -

- (a) the National Controller, who shall be Chairman;
- (b) the Police Commissioner;
- (c) the Financial Secretary;
- (d) the Secretary of Works;
- (e) the Chief Executive Officer of Ministry of Outer Islands Administration; and
- (g) the Director.

(5) The Council shall, in accordance with the national Disaster Risk Management Plan, appoint additional members to the Response Executive depending on the nature of the event and the experience and knowledge required to respond effectively to the event.

12. National Controller - (1) The position of a National Controller is established who shall be the Police Commissioner.

(2) In the event of a State of Disaster or a State of Emergency, the National Controller, in consultation with the Response Executive, has the following functions -

- (a) determine the priority of the Response roles of any Agencies;

- (b) direct and coordinate the activities of the various Agencies;
- (c) determine the priority, responsibility and roles of each of the Emergency Services Agencies;
- (d) work with the Disaster Recovery Coordinator appointed by the Response Executive and the Disaster Coordinator appointed for the affected area;
- (e) involve the Director, Disaster Recovery Coordinator and Disaster Coordinator in all relevant aspects before, during and following an event;
- (f) delegate any of his powers or functions with or without conditions to any person or class of persons employed or engaged in the administration of this Act, except this power of delegation;
- (g) allocate all available resources of the Government in order to respond effectively to an event;
- (h) take possession and make use of any person's property in order to respond effectively to an event;
- (i) control and restrict entry into, movement within and departure from the Disaster or Emergency Area or any part of it;
- (j) compel the evacuation of any or all persons from the Disaster or Emergency Area or any part of it;
- (k) perform any other activity required in order to respond effectively to the event and its effects; and
- (l) such other functions as the Minister may determine by notice in the Gazette.

(3) If a direction is given to a Government Agency by the National Controller then the Government Agency shall comply with that direction as soon as practicable.

(4) If property of a person is taken or used under subsection (2)(h) that person shall be entitled to such compensation as determined by the Director, in consultation with the Council.

13. Disaster Recovery Coordinator – (1) The position of a Disaster Recovery Coordinator is established and is appointed by the Response Executive.

(2) The Disaster Recovery Coordinator is, as directed by the Director, responsible for:-

- (a) assisting in coordinating all resources and services available for recovery efforts before, during and following an event; and
- (b) the allocation and administration of financial and material aid.

(3) The Disaster Recovery Coordinator may by instrument delegate with or without conditions, to any person or class of persons employed or engaged in the administration of this Act, all or any of his powers or functions except this power of delegation.

14. National Emergency Operations Centre - (1) The Council is to establish the National Emergency Operations Centre and nominate a suitable location for the housing of the Centre.

(2) The Response Executive shall operate from the Centre which shall become operational leading up to a likely event and upon the declaration of a State of Emergency or Disaster.

(3) Emergency Management Cook Islands shall facilitate the maintenance and resourcing of the Centre.

(4) Members of the Police force and any other person appointed by the National Controller shall be responsible for the operation of the Centre under the supervision of the National Controller once the Centre becomes operational.

PART 3 RESPONSIBILITIES

15. Disaster Risk Management - (1) Each Island Council shall establish a Disaster Risk Management Committee.

(2) The Chair of the Island Council shall chair the Committee.

(3) Each Island Council shall, after consulting with the Director, appoint four other suitably experienced or qualified members to the Committee.

(4) Each Island Council shall, in consultation with the Director, appoint a Disaster Coordinator who shall, in his area of responsibility, be responsible to:

- (a) implement a Disaster Risk Management Plan;
- (b) assist the National Coordinator to coordinate resources to be used in response and recovery relating to an event; and
- (c) be responsible for the Safety Shelter in his area.

(5) The Committee will prepare and maintain a Disaster Risk Management Plan for its area of responsibility.

(6) Each Disaster Risk Management Plan shall -

- (a) specify the mitigation strategies to be adopted to reduce the risks of a Disaster and Emergency;
- (b) identify resources available for use for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management ; and
- (c) specify how such resources are to be used.

(7) The Committee shall cooperate with all other Committees established under this Act.

(8) If an event occurs in the Outer Islands and circumstances diminish or prevent the National Controller from effectively perform his functions, then the Disaster Coordinator can exercise the powers of the National Controller for that area of responsibility.

16. Safety Shelters - (1) The Director shall maintain an up-to-date list of:-

- (a) premises to be used as Safety Shelters in times of an event as approved by him;
- (b) persons approved by him as being responsible for those Safety Shelters, whom in the Outer Islands shall be the person referred to in Section 15 (4).

(2) The Director shall provide to the Council with the list referred to in subsection (1) prior to the annual cyclone season.

(3) The Ministry of Health, by its designated official, shall appoint and

resource a Health official to assist the person approved pursuant to section 16(3) or the Disaster Coordinator at each Safety Shelter before, during and following an event.

17. Disaster Risk Management Plans of other Agencies - (1) Disaster Risk Management Plans shall, when directed by the Director, be prepared in writing and kept current by all Agencies and Essential Services.

(2) A Disaster Risk Management Plan must -

- (a) establish an effective evacuation and a Disaster Risk Management plan for the entity and area of responsibility;
- (b) specify the mitigation strategies to be adopted to reduce the risks relating a Disaster or Emergency;
- (d) identify resources available for use for Disaster Risk Management;
- (e) specify how such resources are to be used; and
- (f) comply with all directions made by the Director.

(3) It shall be an offence to refuse or fail to comply with a direction made by the Director to provide a written Disaster Risk Management Plan.

18. Audit and Finance - (1) The Director shall ensure that regular audits are undertaken of all plans required under this Act.

(2) Should a plan be determined to be inadequate, then Director shall make recommendations to remedy the inadequacy to the entity concerned and to the Council.

(3) The Council may order a variation of any Plan on the recommendation of the Director.

(4) All parties responsible for handling financial resources of any kind under this Act shall comply with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management Act 1995-96 and the Cook Islands Financial Policies and Procedures Manual issued pursuant to Section 63 of that Act.

PART 4 STATE OF DISASTER

19. State of Disaster - In the event of a Disaster, the Prime Minister may declare a State of Disaster to exist in the whole or any part of the Cook Islands and such declaration shall have immediate effect.

(2) Before declaring a State of Disaster, the Prime Minister shall -

- (a) where practicable consult with the Cabinet;
- (b) seek and obtain the recommendations of the Director,
- (c) be satisfied that the Disaster is an actual event, or a high probable risk, involving serious disruption to the functioning of a community causing widespread human, material, economic or environmental loss and which exceeds the ability of the affected community to cope using its own resources;
- (d) be satisfied that the nature and the type of Disaster to be confronted requires a coordinated response which cannot be dealt with as an Emergency; and
- (e) be satisfied that the declaration of a Disaster is in the best interests of the Cook Islands.

(3) The Prime Minister, on recommendation of the Director, may at any time revoke or vary a declaration under this section.

(4) Any declaration shall be notified immediately to the public by notice on the television and radio, be published in a daily newspaper and placed in the Government Gazette.

(5) Any declaration remains in force until revoked by the Prime Minister.

(6) The Prime Minister may, after consultation with Cabinet and the Council, if he reasonably believes compliance with an Act or subordinate instrument prescribing the functions, powers, duties or responsibility of a Government Agency would inhibit the response or recovery declare the operation of the whole or any part of that Act or subordinate instrument suspended until revived by the Prime Minister.

(7) A declaration shall be reported to the Parliament by the Prime Minister as soon as practicable.

(8) When a declaration is made, the Prime Minister shall convene the Council as he requires to receive reports and make decisions related to the Response and recovery relating to the Disaster.

PART 5 STATE OF EMERGENCY

20. State of Emergency – A State of Emergency exists when -
- (a) declared by the Prime Minister on recommendation from the Director;
 - (b) the Director, in exceptional circumstances, determines that an immediate, co-ordinated, multi-agency Response is required to deal with an emergency event;
 - (c) the Centre is mobilised for an event by the Council or Director; or
 - (d) an event occurs which the Disaster Risk Management Plan specifies is to be treated as a State of Emergency.

21. Disaster or Emergency Area – The National Controller, the Disaster Coordinator or the most senior police officer in attendance at event that can be classed as a State of Emergency may, declare the area to be an Disaster or Emergency Area.

(2) The Director shall be responsible to facilitate the formal declaration an Disaster or Emergency Area.

(3) The declaration of Disaster or Emergency Area shall be in written form and may be varied or revoked at any time.

(4) A declaration or a sign in the prescribed form carrying the words “Declared Disaster or Emergency Area” shall be posted at points of access to any Disaster or Emergency Areas that are closed under the declaration while the declaration is in force.

(5) The National Controller and the Disaster Coordinator may vary or revoke the declaration of the Disaster or Emergency Area.

(6) The Director shall publish a notice of the declaration, variation and revocation of the Disaster or Emergency Area in the Government Gazette.

(7) The officer in charge of an Disaster or Emergency Area may order the exclusion of persons from the area of the Emergency if of the opinion that because of the size or nature or location of an Emergency it is necessary in order to ensure -

- (a) public safety; or
- (b) security of evacuated premises; or
- (c) the safety of or prevention of obstruction, hindrance or interference to persons engaging in Emergency Activities,

PART 6
POWERS OF POLICE

22. Police Powers - (1) A police officer on duty in or near an event may exercise the following powers -

- (a) cause to be closed any road, footpath or open space otherwise providing access to the Area;
- (b) prohibit any person or vehicle from entering or passing through the Area;
- (c) direct any person on any road or footpath or in any other open space or any vehicle on any road or footpath or any open space within the Area to immediately leave the Area by the safest and shortest route;
- (d) authorise a person to enter or remain in the Area subject to such conditions as the police officer considers appropriate.

(2) A direction, prohibition or authorisation under subsection (1) may be broadcast in an announcement authorised by the Director.

(3) If a police officer on duty or in or near the Area has reason to suspect that an offence against this Act is being, or is about to be committed, the officer may order a person to leave the Area and may use such force as is reasonably necessary to remove the person from the Area or to prevent the person from entering the Area.

PART 7
MISCELLANEOUS

23. Essential Services - An Essential Service shall develop a Disaster Risk Management Plan to ensure a continuity plan which enables it to continue to provide an effective service to the community before, during and after an event.

24. Offences - (1) A person commits an offence who fails to comply with any declaration, notice, request, recommendation or order made under this Act.

(2) A person commits an offence who assaults or threatens harm, or otherwise interferes with a person authorised to be engaged in an Emergency Activity.

(3) A person commits an offence who assaults or threatens a person authorised to be engaged in an Emergency Activity.

(4) A person commits an offence who by words or conduct falsely represents that he is a person authorised to be engaged in Emergency Activity or who otherwise impersonates such a person.

25. Looting - Notwithstanding the provisions of the Crimes Act 1969, a person commits the offence of looting under this Act where before, during or after an event the person -

- (1) takes any property of another that has been left exposed or unprotected;
- (2) takes any property of another from the body of a person who is dead or from a person who has been injured; or

- (3) takes any vehicle, equipment, stores or property of another which have been abandoned by reason of the event.

26. General penalties – (1) A person who commits an offence (whether or not an offence against a provision of this Part of this Act) for which no other penalty is provided by this Act shall be liable -

- (a) in the case of a body corporate to a fine not exceeding \$100,000, and if the offence is a continuing one to a further fine of \$10,000 for each day or part of a day that the offence shall continue;
- (b) in the case of an individual to a fine not exceeding \$10,000, and if the offence is a continuing one to a further fine of \$250 for each day or part of a day that the offence shall continue, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both the fine and the imprisonment.

(2) In addition to or instead of such fine and imprisonment, the Court may order that individual or body corporate to do all or any of the following -

- (a) under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a person nominated by the Court, to clear up and remedy any damage caused as a consequence of the offence within such period and upon such conditions as may be specified in the order;
- (b) to pay such amount as the Court may assess in respect of the expenses and costs that have been or are likely to be incurred remedying the damage caused to which the offence relates.

27. Immunities – No action or proceedings shall be brought against the Crown, the Director, the National Controller, Disaster Coordinator, Disaster Recovery Coordinator or any officer or servant of them, or against any other person authorised to be engaged in Emergency Activity to recover damages for loss or damage to property or to the person in the exercise or performance of powers, duties, or obligations under this Act provided they were exercised in good faith.

(2) No person shall be personally liable for any Emergency Activity done negligently or otherwise or neglected to be done in accordance with this Act.

28. Regulations – The Queen's Representative may from time to time by Order in Executive Council make such regulations as are contemplated by any provision of this Act or are necessary for giving full effect to the provisions of this Act and for the due administration thereof.

29. Transitional – Unless the context otherwise requires, every reference to the former National Disaster Management Office before this Act comes into force is a reference to Emergency Management Cook Islands.

30. Repeal – The Hurricane Safety Act 1973 is hereby repealed.

SCHEDULE

Section 6 (9) (a)

Essential Services

All Ministries and offices of Government
All State owned Enterprises and Authorities
Cook Islands Red Cross
Telecom Cook Islands
Banking Institutions
Island Councils
Significant Private Sector enterprises (as notified by the Director pursuant to
Section 6(8))
All schools and tertiary institutions
