BANKING

THE BANKING ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

PART I. Preliminary

- 1. Short title.
- 2. Interpretation.

PART II. Licensing of Banks

- 3. Restriction on carrying on of banking business.
- 4. Licensing of banks.
- 5. Alteration of memorandum and articles of association.

PART III. Capital and Reserves

- 6. Minimum capital requirements.
- 7. Restriction on foreign government holdings in banks.
- 8. Reserve fund.
- 9. Maximum deposit liabilities.

PART IV. Restrictions on Banking Business

- 10. Limit on fixed assets of banks.
- 11. Persons debarred from bank management.
- 12. Restriction on use of title "bank".
- 13. Prohibited business.

PART V. Cash Reserves and Liquid Assets

- 14. Cash reserve.
- 15. Liquid assets.

PART VI. Returns and Accounts

- 16. Returns.
- 17. Loss reserves on credit facilities.

[The inclusion of this page is authorized by L.N. 88/2003]

- 18. Presentation and publication of balance sheet and profit and loss account.
- 19. Consolidated accounts of banks and affiliated companies.
- 19A. Duty of auditors to report to Supervisor on transactions, etc., affecting bank's financial viability.
- 19B. Expanded audit.

PART VII. Regulation and Control of Banks

- 20. Regulation of shareholding in banks.
- 21. Regulation of controlling interest in banks.
- 22. Power to obtain information re shareholding.
- 23. Power to restrict dealing in specified shares.
- 24. Appeal against restriction notice.

PART VIII. Regulation against Unsafe Practices

- 25. Actual or apprehended insolvency.
- 25A. Bank ceasing to be viable.
- 25B. Vesting of bank's shares, etc., in Minister.
- 25c. Effect of vesting order.
- 25D. Restructuring transactions.
- 25E. Winding up or Scheme of Arrangement.
- 25F. Notice re compensation.
- 25G. Application of sections 25A to 25F.
- 25_{H.} Determination of compensation.
- 251. Application to court.
- 25J. Revesting of shares and subordinated debt.
- 26. Winding up of foreign bank.
- 27. Obligation of manager to supply information.
- 28. Resignation, etc., of auditor.

PART IX. Supervision and Examination of Banks

- 29. Functions of Supervisory Department under this Act.
- 29A. Special audit or examination of bank.
- 29B. Supervisory Department to have access to books, etc., of holding company.

[[]The inclusion of this page is authorized by L.N. 88/2003]

BANKING

- 29c. Supervisor may require information.
- 29D. · Restructuring of ownership of bank.
- 29E. Ownership of subsidiaries etc., by banks, etc.
- 29F. Supervisor may issue directions to banks, etc., re risk.
- 29G. Management or investment of customers' funds.
- 30. Powers of inspection.
- 31. Protection of auditor.

PART X. Winding up of Local Banks

32. Restriction on voluntary winding up.

PART XI. Amalgamation and Transfers

- 33. Amalgamation and transfer.
- 34. Statements relating to amalgamation or transfer to be deposited with Minister.
- 35. Vesting of assets on sale of bank.
- 36. Transfer of trust business.
- 37. Effect of transfer and vesting order.

PART XII. General

- 38. Regulations.
- 39. Restrictions on loans on the security of land.
- 40. Unclaimed moneys.
- 41. Fraudulent inducement to invest.
- 42. Offences and penalties.
- 42A. Penalties.
- 43. Publication of orders.
- 44. Saving.
- 45. Secrecy of bank officials.
- 46. Transitional.

SCHEDULES.

THE BANKING ACT

PART I. Preliminary

1. This Act may be cited as the Banking Act.

2.--(1) In this Act---

"assigned capital" means such portion of the capital of a foreign bank, consisting of unencumbered assets, as is specifically assigned by the bank to the financing of its Jamaican operations;

"authorized officer" has the same meaning as in the Bank of Jamaica Act;

"bank" means any company licensed under this Act to carry on banking business;

"banking business" means the business of receiving from the public, on current account or deposit account, money which is repayable on demand by cheque or order and which may be invested by way of advances to customers or otherwise; and such other business of a like nature as the Minister may, by order, prescribe;

"capital base" in relation to a bank means—

26/1997 S. (2)(a)(i).

- (a) the amount of shareholder's equity and eligible reserves of the bank, calculated in such a manner and by such methods as may be prescribed from time to time by regulations made under section 38; and
- (b) the amount of special debentures which for the time being may be taken into account in the calculation of the bank's capital base pursuant to section 46 (7);
- (c) the retained earnings reserve;
- (d) the share premium account;

[The inclusion of this page is authorized by L.N. 111/2005]

Short title.

Acts

Interpretation.

BANKING

- (e) any other fund established by the bank and approved by the Bank of Jamaica as being part of the bank's capital base; and
- (f) the amount of special debentures which for the time being may be taken into account in the calculation of the bank's deposit liabilities pursuant to section 46 (5),

less any amount by which that total has become impaired;

"company" means a body corporate whether incorporated under the law of Jamaica or of any other country;

"competent authority" means a supervisory authority in a foreign country which has supervisory duties and responsibilities—

- (a) with respect to a company which is incorporated in and provides financial services in that country; and
- (b) which are similar to the duties and responsibilities of the Bank of Jamaica and the Financial Services Commission;

"connected person" shall be construed in accordance with subsection (2);

- "control" in relation to a bank or any other company, means the power of a person to secure by means of the holding of shares or the possession of voting power in or in relation to that bank or any other company, or by any agreement or by virtue of any other powers conferred by the articles of association or other document regulating the bank or any other company, that the affairs of the bank or other company are conducted in accordance with the wishes of that person;
- "credit facilities" includes loans, advances, comfort letters, standby and commercial letters of credit and any other arrangement whereby a customer of a bank has access to funds or financial guarantees of the bank or the bank undertakes on behalf of a customer financial liability to another person;

[The inclusion of this page is authorized by L.N. 111/2005]

28/2004 S. 2 (a).

6