

THE TRUSTS ORDINANCE 1998

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THE TRUSTS ORDINANCE 1998

An Ordinance to make provision for the law relating to trusts and trustees and related matters.

ENACTED by the Board of Governors of New Utopia.

1. Short title and Commencement

This Ordinance may be cited as:

The Trusts Ordinance 1998

and shall come into operation on the last day of the year 1998.

PART I Preliminary

2. Definitions

(1) In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires;

(a) "bankrupt", in relation to a corporation, includes a corporation which is insolvent, and "bankruptcy" shall be construed accordingly;

(b) "beneficiary", means a person entitled to benefit under a trust, or in whose favour a power to distribute trust property may be exercised;

(c) "breach of trust", means a breach of any duty imposed on a trustee by this Ordinance or by the terms of the trust or otherwise imposed on him as such by any rules of law or equity;

(d) "corporate trustee" means a trustee which is a corporation empowered by its constitution to undertake trust business and being a company registered under the Companies Ordinance, having share capital (in stock or share) for the time being paid up in cash of not less than an amount to be prescribed.

(e) For the purposes of this definition "trust business" means the business of acting as trustee under wills and settlements and as executor and administrator of deceased persons;

(f) "corporation" means a body corporate wherever incorporated;

(g) "Court" means the High Court of New Utopia or a Judge thereof or such other court or judge as the High Court shall appoint;

(h) "dispose" and "disposition" in relation to property means every form of conveyance, transfer, assignment, lease, mortgage, pledge or other transaction by which any legal or equitable interest in property is created, transferred or extinguished;

(i) "family" in relation to an individual means his father and mother, his spouse, the father and mother of his spouse, his brothers and sisters and the brothers and sisters of his spouse, his children and remoter issue and the spouses of such children and issue;

(j) "formalities" in relation to a disposition of property means any documentary or other actions required generally by the laws of a relevant jurisdiction for all dispositions of like form concerning property of like nature, without regard to -

(i) the fact that the particular disposition is made in trust;

(ii) the terms of the trust;

(iii) the circumstances of the parties to the disposition; or

(iv) any other particular circumstances,

but includes any special formalities required by reason that the party effecting the disposition is not of full age, is subject to a mental or bodily infirmity or is a corporation;

(k) "functions" includes rights, powers, discretions, obligations, liabilities and duties;

(l) "governing law" means the law governing a trust executed in The Principality of New Utopia or elsewhere;

(m) "he", "him" and "his", in relation to a corporation, include "it" and "its";

(n) "heirship right" means any right, claim or interest in, against or to property of a person arising or occurring in consequence of that person's death, other than any such right, claim or interest created by will or other voluntary disposition by such person or resulting from an express limitation in the disposition of the property of such person;

(o) "insolvency" includes the making of an administration order, the appointment of a receiver and the bankruptcy of any person;

(p) "insurance" includes assurance;

(q) "interest", in relation to a beneficiary, means his interest under a trust;

(r) "minor" means a person who has not attained full age under the law of his domicile;

(s) "personal relationship" includes every form of relationship by blood or marriage, including former marriage and in particular a personal relationship between two persons which exists if -

(i) one is the child of the other, natural or adopted (whether or not the adoption is recognised by law), legitimate or illegitimate;

(ii) one is married to the other, whether or not the marriage is recognised by law;

(iii) one cohabits with the other or so conducts himself or herself in relation to the other as to give rise in any relevant jurisdiction to any rights, obligations or responsibilities analogous to those of parents and child or husband and wife; or

(iv) personal relationships exist between each of them and a third person,

but no change in circumstances causes a personal relationship once established to terminate;

(t) "personal representative" means the executor or administrator of the estate of a deceased person;

(u) "profit" includes gain or advantage;

(v) "property";

(i) means property of any description, wherever situated, including any share therein,

(ii) in relation to rights and interests, includes rights and interests whether vested, contingent, defeasible or future;

(w) "protective or spendthrift trust" has the meaning ascribed to it by section 12;

(x) "protector" means a person appointed as such pursuant to the terms of a trust and capable of enforcing it, whether or not he has other functions conferred upon him in relation thereto;

(y) "provisions of this Ordinance" includes the provisions of any order made thereunder;

(z) "settlor" in relation to a trust means each person who directly or indirectly, on behalf of himself or on behalf of any other, as owner or as the holder of a power in that behalf, disposes of property to be held in such trust or declares or otherwise creates such trust;

(aa) "terms of a trust" means the written or oral terms of a trust, and any other terms applicable under its proper law;

(bb) "trust" includes;

(i) the trust property; and

(ii) the functions, interests and relationships under a trust;

(cc) "trustee" has the meaning given by section 3, and includes a corporate trustee;

(dd) "trust property" means property held on trust;

(ee) "unit trust" means a trust established for the purpose, or having the effect, of providing, for persons having funds available for investment, facilities for the participation by them as beneficiaries under the trust in any profits or income arising from the acquisition, holding, management or disposal of property.

(2) For the purposes of this Ordinance, a corporation is resident in the place in which it has its registered office.

(3) Any reference in this Ordinance to an enactment is, unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to that enactment as amended, extended, re-enacted, or applied by or under any other enactment, including this Ordinance.

3. Definition of trust

A trust exists where a person (known as a "trustee") holds or has vested in him, or is deemed to hold or have vested in him, property which does not form, or which has ceased to form, part of his own estate -

(a) for the benefit of any person (known as "a beneficiary") whether or not yet ascertained or in existence; or

(b) for any valid charitable or non-charitable purpose which is not for the benefit only of the trustee; or

(c) for such benefit as is mentioned in subparagraph (a) and also for any such purpose as is mentioned in subparagraph (b).

4. Validity

Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, a trust is valid and enforceable in The Principality of New Utopia.

5. Creation of a trust

(1) A trust must be created only by an instrument in writing (including a will or codicil).

(2) No formalities or technical expressions are required for the creation of a trust provided that the intention of the settlor to create a trust is clearly manifested and that the trust shall follow the general guidelines as laid down in this Ordinance.

(3) A trust written according to the laws of The Principality of New Utopia shall be unenforceable unless evidenced in writing.

6. Duration of a trust and of accumulation of income

(1) An instrument creating or varying a trust may provide for the duration and date of termination of the trust always provided that such duration shall not exceed one hundred (100) years from the date of execution of the trust, except in the case of a bona fide charitable trust which may provide for a duration of up to five hundred (500) years.

(2) The terms of a trust may direct or authorise the accumulation of all or part of the income of the trust for a period not exceeding the maximum duration of the trust, except in the case of a charitable trust, which must provide for disbursement of all accumulated income as of such time as the trust has been in existence for at least one hundred (100) years, and all income thereafter.

7. Restrictions upon validity of a trust

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance a trust shall be valid and enforceable in accordance with its terms.

(2) A trust shall be invalid and unenforceable

(a) to the extent that:

(i) it purports to do anything contrary to the law of The Principality of New Utopia; or

(ii) it purports to confer any right or power or impose any obligation the exercise of which or the carrying out of which is contrary to the law of The Principality of New Utopia; or

(iii) it has no beneficiary identifiable or ascertainable (unless the trust was created for a valid charitable or non-charitable purpose);

(b) to the extent that the Court declares that:

(i) the trust was established by duress, fraud, mistake, undue influence or misrepresentation; or

(ii) the trust is immoral or contrary to public policy; or

(iii) the terms of the trust are so uncertain that its performance is rendered impossible (provided that a charitable purpose shall be deemed always to be capable of performance); or

(iv) the settlor was, at the time of its creation, incapable under the law in force in The Principality of New Utopia of creating such a trust.

(3) Where a trust is created for two or more purposes of which some are lawful and others are not, or where some of the terms of a trust are invalid and others are not:

(a) if those purposes cannot be separated or the terms cannot be separated, the trust is invalid;

(b) if those purposes can be separated or the terms can be separated, the Court may declare that the trust is valid as to the terms which are valid and the purposes which are lawful.

(4) Where a trust is partially invalid the Court may declare what property is to be held subject to the trust.

(5) Property provided by a settlor and as to which a trust is invalid shall subject to any order of the Court, be held by the trustee in trust for the settlor absolutely or, if he is dead, as if it had formed part of his estate at his death.

(6) Where a trust is created under the law of The Principality of New Utopia, the Court shall not vary it or set it aside or recognise the validity of any claim against the trust property pursuant to the law of another jurisdiction or the order of a Court of another jurisdiction in respect of:

(a) the personal and proprietary consequences of marriage or the termination of marriage;

(b) succession rights (whether testate or intestate) including the fixed shares of spouses or relatives;

(c) the claims of creditors in an insolvency; or

(d) the imposition of any foreign tax or duty.

8. Property which may be held on trust

(1) Any property may be held by or vested in a trustee upon trust.

(2) A trustee may accept from any person property to be held on trust.

(3) A trustee shall not be bound to accept property to be held on trust, but where a trustee accepts property subject to the performance of an obligation the trustee shall be deemed to have given to the settlor of that property for good consideration an undertaking to perform that obligation.

(4) Where a settlor declares a trust respecting property he does not own at the time of the declaration, then-

(a) the trust is incompletely constituted at the time of the declaration and no rights or duties arise thereunder; but

(b) if the settlor subsequently receives property which was the intended subject matter of the declaration of trust, the Court shall at the instance of the beneficiary or the trustee (and whether the beneficiary has given consideration for the declaration of trust or not) compel the settlor to transfer that property to the trustee or to hold that property on the terms of the trust.

PART II The Settlor, Beneficiaries and Purposes of a Trust

9. Who may be the settlor of a trust

(1) Any person or body corporate who has under the law of The Principality of New Utopia the capacity to own and transfer property, whether a citizen of or registered in the Principality of New Utopia or not, may be the settlor of a trust.

(2) The settlor may also be a trustee or a beneficiary of the trust, but may not be both the trustee and the beneficiary.

10. Beneficiaries of a trust

(1) A beneficiary shall be identifiable by name or ascertainable by reference to a relationship to some person (whether or not living at the time of creation of the trust) or otherwise by reference to a description or to a class.

(2) The terms of a trust may;

(a) provide for the addition of a person as a beneficiary or the exclusion of a beneficiary or the exclusion of a beneficiary from benefit under the trust;

(b) impose an obligation on a beneficiary as a condition of benefit under the trust.

(3) Where a trust is in favour of a class of persons then, subject to the terms of the trust;

(a) the class closes when it is no longer possible for any other person to become a member of the class;

(b) a woman over the age of 65 years shall be deemed to be no longer capable of bearing a child; and

(c) where the interest of the class relates to income, and no member of the class exists, the income shall be accumulated and retained until a member of the class exists or the class closes.

(4) A beneficiary may;

(a) disclaim his whole interest under a trust; or

(b) subject to the terms of the trust, disclaim part of his interest under a trust (whether or not he has received some benefit from his interest).

(5) Subject to the terms of the trust, a disclaimer;

(a) shall be in writing;

(b) may be temporary; and

(c) may, if the disclaimer so provides, be revoked in the manner and under the circumstances specified therein.

(6) Where a beneficiary disclaims the whole or part of his interest under a trust the like consequences shall apply under section 7(5) as if the trust were invalid with respect to that interest or that part.

11. Nature of a beneficial interest

(1) The interest of a beneficiary is personal property.

(2) Subject to the terms of the trust, the interest of a beneficiary may be sold, pledged, charged, transferred or otherwise dealt with in any manner whatsoever.

12. Protective or spendthrift trusts

(1) The terms of a trust may make the interest of a beneficiary;

(a) subject to termination;

(b) subject to a restriction on alienation of or dealing in that interest or any part of that interest; or

(c) subject to diminution or termination in the event of the beneficiary becoming insolvent or any of his property becoming liable to seizure or sequestration for the benefit of his creditors,

and such a trust shall be known as a protective or a spendthrift trust.

(2) Where any property is directed to be held on protective or spendthrift trust for the benefit of a beneficiary, the trustee shall hold that property;

(a) in trust to pay the income to the beneficiary until the interest terminates in accordance with the terms of the trust or a determining event occurs; and

(b) if a determining event occurs, and while the interest of the beneficiary continues, in trust to pay the income to such of the following (and if more than one in such shares) as the trustee in his absolute discretion shall appoint -

(i) the beneficiary and any spouse or child of the beneficiary; or

(ii) if there is no such spouse or child the beneficiary and the persons who would be entitled to the estate of the beneficiary if he had then died intestate and domiciled in The Principality of New Utopia.

(3) In subsection (2) above, a "determining event" means the occurrence of any event or any act or omission on the part of the beneficiary (other than the giving of consent to an advancement of trust property) which would result in the whole or part of the income of the beneficiary from the trust becoming payable to any person other than the beneficiary.

(4) Any rule of law or public policy which prevents a settlor from establishing a protective or a spendthrift trust of which he is a beneficiary is hereby abolished.

13. Letters or memoranda of wishes

(1) The settlor of a trust may give to the trustee a letter of his wishes or the trustee may prepare a memorandum of the wishes of the settlor with regard to the exercise of any functions conferred on the trustee by the terms of the trust.

(2) A beneficiary of a trust may give to the trustee a letter of his wishes or the trustee may prepare a memorandum of the wishes of the beneficiary with regard to the exercise of any functions conferred on the trustee by the terms of the trust.

(3) Where a trust is in favour of a class of persons then a member of that class may give to the trustee a letter of his wishes or the trustee may prepare a memorandum of the wishes of that member with regard to the exercise of any functions conferred on the trustee by the terms of the trust.

(4) Where a letter of wishes or a memorandum of wishes is given to or prepared by the trustee of a trust then;

(a) the trustee may have regard to that letter or memorandum in exercising any functions conferred upon him by the terms of the trust; but

(b) the trustee shall not be bound to have regard to that letter or memorandum and shall not be accountable in any way for his failure or refusal to have regard to that letter or memorandum.

(5) No fiduciary duty or obligation shall be imposed on a trustee merely by the giving to him of a letter of wishes or the preparation by him of a memorandum of wishes.

14. Definition of charitable purpose

(1) For the purposes of this Ordinance, and subject to subsections (2) and (3), the following purposes shall be regarded as charitable;

- (a) the relief of poverty;
- (b) the advancement of education;
- (c) the advancement of religion;
- (d) the protection of the environment;
- (e) the advancement of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- (f) any other purposes which are beneficial to the community.

(2) A purpose shall not be regarded as charitable unless the fulfilment of that purpose is for the benefit of the community or a substantial section of the community having regard to the type and nature of the purpose.

(3) A purpose may be regarded as charitable whether it is to be carried out in The Principality of New Utopia or elsewhere and whether it is beneficial to the community in The Principality of New Utopia or elsewhere.

15. Trusts for non-charitable purposes

A trust may be created for commercial or other purpose that is non-charitable provided that the purpose is not unlawful according to the laws of The Principality of New Utopia or contrary to public policy.

PART III Protectors and Trustees

16. The Protector of a trust

(1) The terms of a trust may provide for the office of the protector of the trust.

(2) The protector shall have the following powers;

- (a) (unless the terms of the trust shall otherwise provide) the power to remove a trustee and to appoint a new or additional trustee;
- (b) the power to enforce the trust;

(c) such further powers as are conferred on the protector by the terms of the trust or the provisions of this Ordinance.

(3) The protector of a trust may also be a settlor a trustee of the trust.

(4) In the exercise of his office, the protector shall not be accounted or regarded as a trustee unless so named.

(5) Subject to the terms of the trust, in the exercise of his office a protector shall owe a fiduciary duty to the beneficiaries of the trust or to the purpose for which the trust is created.

(6) Where there is more than one protector of a trust then, subject to the terms of the trust, any functions conferred on the protectors may be exercised if more than one half of the protectors for the time being agree on its exercise.

(7) A protector who dissents from a decision of the majority of protectors may require his dissent to be recorded in writing.

17. Who may be the trustee of a trust

(1) Any person who has capacity other than a minor or has been declared insane or otherwise unfit under the law of The Principality of New Utopia may be the trustee of a trust.

(2) Any company incorporated in The Principality of New Utopia or elsewhere unless specifically excluded from so acting under its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

(3) The trustee may also be a settlor or a protector of the trust.

18. The number of trustees

(1) Unless the terms of the trust provide for a greater number, the minimum number of trustees shall be one.

(2) A trust shall not cease to be valid only on the ground that there is no trustee for the time being or fewer than the number of trustees required by the terms of the trust.

(3) Where there is no trustee or fewer than the number of trustees required by the terms of the trust, the necessary number of new or additional trustees shall be appointed and until the minimum number is reached the surviving trustee (if any) shall act only for the purpose of preserving the trust property.

(4) Except in the case of a trust established for a charitable purpose;

(a) the number of trustees shall not be more than four; and

(b) if at any time there are more than four persons named as trustees, only the first four persons so named shall be the trustees of the trust.

19. Appointment of new or additional trustees

(1) Where the terms of a trust contain no provision for the appointment of a new or additional trustee, then;

(a) the protector (if any); or

(b) the trustees for the time being (but so that a trustee shall not be required to join in the appointment of his replacement); or

(c) the last remaining trustee; or

(d) the personal representative or liquidator of the last remaining trustee; or

(e) if there is no such person (or no such person willing to act), the Court may appoint a new or additional trustee.

(2) Subject to the terms of the trust, a trustee appointed under this section shall have the same functions and may act as if he had been originally appointed a trustee.

(3) On the appointment of a new or additional trustee, anything requisite for vesting the trust property in the trustees for the time being of the trust shall be done.

20. Appointment of trustee resident in The Principality of New Utopia

(1) Where there is no trustee resident in The Principality of New Utopia, a beneficiary so resident may apply to the Court for appointment of a person, resident in The Principality of New Utopia and nominated in the application, as an additional trustee.

(2) The Court;

(a) if satisfied that notice of the application has been served on the existing trustee;

(b) having heard any representations; and

(c) having ascertained that the person nominated is willing to act,

may appoint that person as an additional trustee.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 18, the power contained in this section may be exercised even it results in there being more than four trustees for the time being of the trust.

(4) The terms of a trust may expressly exclude the operation of subsections (1) and (2).

21. Renunciation of trusteeship

(1) No person shall be obliged to accept appointment as a trustee, but a person nominated as trustee who knowingly intermeddles with the trust property shall be deemed to have accepted appointment as a trustee.

(2) A person who has not accepted and is not deemed to have accepted appointment as a trustee of a trust may within a reasonable period of time after becoming aware of his nominations as trustee;

(a) disclaim his appointment by notice in writing to the other trustees of such trust (if any); or

(b) if there are no such other trustees or such other trustees cannot be contacted, apply to the Court for relief from his appointment and the Court may make such order as it thinks fit.

(3) A person nominated as a trustee who does not act under subsection (2) within a reasonable period of becoming aware of his nomination shall be deemed to have accepted appointment as a trustee.

22. Resignation or removal of trustees

(1) A trustee other than a sole trustee may resign by notice in writing to his co-trustees.

(2) A trustee shall cease to be a trustee immediately upon -

(a) the delivery of a notice of resignation under subsection (1);

(b) his removal from office by the Court;

(c) his removal from office by the protector of the trust;

(d) the coming into effect of or the exercise of a power under a provision in the terms of the trust under or by which he is removed from, or otherwise ceases to hold his office.

(3) A person who ceases to be a trustee or is a personal representative of a deceased trustee shall do everything necessary to vest the trust property in the new or continuing trustees.

(4) When a trustee resigns or is removed;

(a) he shall, subject to paragraph (b) duly surrender all trust property held by or vested in him or otherwise under his control;

(b) he may require that he be provided with reasonable security for liabilities (existing, future, contingent or other) before surrendering the trust property.

(5) A former trustee shall not be liable to any trustee or to any beneficiary or other person interested under the trust for any act or omission in relation to the trust property or to his functions as a trustee, except for any liability;

(a) arising from a breach of trust to which the trustee (or, in the case of a corporate trustee, any of its officers or employees) was a party or was privy during the term of his appointment;

(b) in respect of an action to recover from the trustee (or, in case of corporate trustee, any of its officers or employees) trust property or the proceeds thereof in his possession or under his control.

23. Nature of trustees' and protectors' interests

(1) Subject to subsection (2)-

(a) the interest of a trustee or protector in the trust property is limited to that which is necessary for the proper performance of the trust; and

(b) the trust property does not form part of the trustee's or protector's estate.

(3) Where a trustee or protector becomes insolvent, or upon his property becoming liable to distraint, seizure, sequestration or similar process of law, his creditors shall have no recourse against the trust property except to the extent that the trustee or protector himself has a claim against it or a beneficial interest in it.

24. Corporate trustee may act by resolution

A corporate trustee may;

(a) act in connection with a trust by a resolution of the corporate trustee or of its board of directors or other governing body; or

(b) appoint an officer or employee to act on its behalf in connection with the trust.

25. Trustees of more than one trust

(1) A trustee is not, in the absence of fraud, affected by notice of any instrument, matter, fact or thing in relation to a trust if he obtained notice of it by reason of his acting or having acted as trustee of another trust.

(2) A trustee of a trust shall disclose to his co-trustees any interest which he has as trustee of another trust if any transaction in relation to the first mentioned trust is to be entered into with the trustees of the other trust.

26. Dealings by trustees with third parties

(1) Where, in a transaction or matter affecting a trust, a trustee informs a third party that he is acting as trustee, a claim by the third party in respect of the transaction or matter shall (subject to subsection (3)) extend only to the trust property.

(2) If the trustee fails to inform the third party that he is acting as trustee;

(a) he incurs personal liability to the third party in respect of the transaction or matter; and

(b) he has a right of indemnity against the trust property in respect of his personal liability, unless he acted in breach of trust.

(3) Nothing in this section shall prejudice any claim for breach of warranty of authority.

(4) A bona fide purchaser for value without notice of a breach of trust;

(a) may deal with a trustee in relation to trust property as if the trustee were the beneficial owner thereof; and

(b) is not affected by the trusts on which the property is held.

(5) A third party paying or advancing money to a trustee is not concerned to see;

(a) that the money is needed in the proper exercise of the trust functions;

(b) that no more than is so needed is raised; or

(c) that the transaction or the application of the money is proper.

(6) In this section "third party" means a person other than a settlor, trustee, protector or beneficiary of the trust.

PART IV Duties and Powers of Trustees

27. General duties of trustees

(1) A trustee shall in the execution of his functions;

(a) act with due diligence; and

(b) observe utmost good faith; and

(c) act to the best of his skills and abilities; and

(d) exercise the standard of care of a reasonable and prudent man of business.

(2) A trustee shall carry out and administer the trust in accordance with this Ordinance and, subject thereto, in accordance with the terms of the trust.

(3) A trustee shall owe a fiduciary duty to the beneficiaries of the trust, the members of a class for whose benefit the trust was established, or the purpose for which the trust was established.

(4) Where a fiduciary duty is owed to a purpose for which a trust was established, that duty may be enforced by the protector of the trust or (in the case of a trust established for a charitable purpose) by the Attorney General.

(5) A trustee shall, subject to the terms of the trust and to the provisions of this Ordinance;

(a) ensure that the trust property is held by or vested in him or is otherwise under his control; and

(b) preserve and, so far as is reasonable, enhance the value of the trust property.

(6) The trustee of a trust shall keep accurate accounts and records of his trusteeship.

(7) A trustee shall keep trust property separate from his own property and separately identifiable from any other property of which he is a trustee.

28. Duty to supply information and duty of confidentiality

(1) A trustee shall so far as is reasonable and within a reasonable time of receiving a request in writing to that effect provide full and accurate information as to the state and amount of the trust property and the conduct of the trust administration to;

(a) the Court;

(b) the settlor or protector of the trust;

(c) in the case of a trust established for a charitable purpose, the Attorney General;

(d) subject to the terms of the trust, any beneficiary of the trust who is of full age and capacity; and

(e) subject to the terms of the trust, any charity for the benefit of which the trust was established.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance and to the terms of the trust, and except as is necessary for the proper administration of the trust or by reason of any other Ordinance or Act, the trustee of a trust shall keep confidential all information regarding the state and amount of the trust property or the conduct of the trust administration.

(3) A trustee is not (subject to the terms of the trust and to any order of the Court) obliged to disclose documents that reveal;

(a) his deliberations as to how he should exercise his functions as trustee;

(b) the reasons for any decision made in the exercise of those functions;

(c) any material upon which such a decision was or might have been made.

29. Duty of trustees to act together

(1) Subject to the terms of the trust, all the trustees of a trust shall join in execution of the trust.

(2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4) below, no functions conferred on trustees shall be exercised unless all the trustees agree on their exercise.

(3) Subject to the terms of the trust and to subsection (4), any functions conferred on trustees of a charitable trust shall be exercised if more than one half of the trustees for the time being of the trust agree on their exercise.

(4) The terms of a trust may empower the trustees to act individually or by a majority with respect to the exercise of some or all of the functions conferred on the trustees or to delegate the exercise of these functions to one or more trustees.

(5) A trustee who dissents from a decision of the majority of trustees or of a co-trustee or of the trustees to whom any functions have been delegated may require his dissent to be recorded in writing.

30. Duty to act impartially

(1) Subject to the terms of the trust, where a trust is established for one or more beneficiaries or purposes (whether concurrent or consecutive), a trustee shall act impartially as between these beneficiaries and purposes.

(2) Subject to the terms of the trust and to the provisions of this Ordinance, any rule of law which requires a trustee to buy, hold or sell certain investments or to apportion the capital or income of the trust fund between beneficiaries is hereby abolished.

31. General powers

(1) Subject to the terms of the trust and the provisions of this Ordinance, a trustee shall have in relation to the trust property all the powers of a beneficial owner.

(2) Subject to the terms of the trust and the provisions of this Ordinance, a trustee shall exercise his functions only in the interests of the beneficiaries or of the purpose for which the trust is established and in accordance with the terms of the trust.

(3) Where the terms of a trust provide that the trustee may add or remove beneficiaries or purposes for which the trust is established, then if such power is exercised properly and on the basis of valid considerations the exercise of the power shall not be regarded as a breach of the duty of the trustee under the trust.

(4) A trustee may sue and be sued as trustee.

(5) The terms of a trust may require a trustee to consult or obtain the consent of another person before exercising any functions under the trust.

(6) Where he considers it necessary or desirable in the interests of the good administration of the trust, a trustee may consult a lawyer, accountant, investment advisor or other person in relation to the affairs of the trust.

(7) A person shall not, merely by virtue of giving or refusing his consent to the exercise of any functions or being consulted in relation to the affairs of the trust, be deemed to be a trustee or to owe a fiduciary duty to the beneficiaries of the trust.

32. Powers of Investment

(1) Subject to the terms of the trust and to the provisions of this Ordinance, a trustee may invest any money requiring investment in any investment or property of whatsoever nature and wheresoever situated and whether producing income or not and whether involving any liability or not and upon such security (if any) as the trustee shall in his absolute discretion think fit as if the trustee were the absolute owner thereof.

(2) Where the terms of a trust or any other instrument provide that any money requiring investment shall only be invested in "authorised trustee investments" (or any similar expression) then the money shall be invested only in such investments as are specified in Schedule 1.

(3) The terms of a trust may provide that Schedule 1 shall apply to the trust with such modifications as are specified by the terms of the trust.

(4) The Board of Governors may by Order amend the list of authorised trustee investments in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1.

(5) A trustee shall not be liable for breach of trust by reason only of continuing to hold an investment which has ceased to be an investment authorised by the terms of the trust or by the general law.

(6) Subject to the terms of the trust, in selecting investments a trustee or (as the case may be) any investment advisor or other person to whom the trustee has delegated the management of the trust property, shall have regard to the suitability to the trust of the investments proposed.

(7) Subject to the terms of the trust, before investing money in any investment a trustee shall consider whether he should obtain appropriate advice as to whether the investment is suitable and satisfactory and (if he considers that the obtaining of such advice is necessary) shall obtain and consider such advice accordingly.

(8) Subject to the terms of the trust, a trustee shall determine whether and, if so, at what intervals he should obtain appropriate advice as to whether the existing investments of the trust are suitable and satisfactory and (if he considers that the

obtaining of such advice is necessary) shall obtain and consider such advice accordingly.

(9) For the purposes of the two foregoing subsections, advice is appropriate if it is the advice of a person who is reasonably believed by the trustee to be qualified to give such advice; and such advice may be given by a person notwithstanding that he gives it in the course of his employment (including employment with a trustee of the trust).

33. Powers of trustees

(1) Subject to the terms of the trust the powers contained in Schedule 2 shall apply to all trusts to which this section applies.

(2) The terms of a trust may provide that some or all of the powers contained in Schedule 2 shall be incorporated by reference and shall apply with or without modification and this section applies to any trust the terms of which so provide.

34. Delegation

(1) A trustee may not delegate the exercise of his functions unless permitted to do so by this Ordinance or by the terms of the trust.

(2) Except where the terms of the trust provide to the contrary, a trustee may;

(a) delegate the management of trust property to and appoint managers whom the trustee reasonably considers to be qualified to manage the investment of the trust property, the appointed manager may also be a settlor, a beneficiary or a protector of the trust;

(b) appoint and employ any lawyer, accountant or other person to act in relation to any of the affairs of the trust or to hold any of the trust property; and

(c) authorise any such manager or person to retain or receive any commission or other payment usually payable for services of the description rendered.

(d) any such manager may also be a settlor, a beneficiary or a protector of the trust.

(3) A trustee shall not be liable for any loss arising to the trust from a delegation or appointment under subsection (2) or from the default of any such delegate or appointee provided that the trustee exercised the standard of care of a reasonable and prudent man of business in;

- (a) the selection of the delegate or appointee; or
- (b) the supervision of the activities of the delegate or appointee.

35. Reimbursement of expenses

A trustee shall be entitled to be reimbursed out of the trust property all expenses properly incurred by him in connection with the trust.

36. Payment of trustees

(1) Subject to the terms of the trust, an individual trustee engaged in any profession or business shall be entitled to charge and be paid all usual professional or other charges for business transacted, time spent and acts done by him or any partner or employee of his or of his firm in connection with the trust including acts which a trustee not being engaged in any profession or business could have done personally.

(2) Subject to the terms of the trust, a corporate trustee shall be entitled to such remuneration as may from time to time be agreed in writing between such corporation and the settlor or protector or (in the absence of such agreement) in accordance with its standard terms and conditions as to the administration of trusts current from time to time.

(3) Where the terms of trust provide that a trustee shall not receive any payment for acting as such, payment may nevertheless be authorised;

- (a) by the Court; or
- (b) by some or all of the beneficiaries of the trust:

Provided that a beneficiary may not validly authorise such payment if the beneficiary;

- (i) is a minor or a person under legal disability;
- (ii) does not have full knowledge of all material facts; or
- (iii) is improperly induced by the trustee to authorise such payment.

(4) Where some only of the beneficiaries authorise payment to a trustee in accordance with subsection (3) the payment shall be made out of the share of the trust property which in the opinion of the trustee is referable to the interests of those beneficiaries who so authorise payment.

37. Power to appropriate

Subject to the terms of the trust, a trustee may, without the consent of any beneficiary, appropriate trust property in or towards satisfaction of the interest of a beneficiary in such manner and in accordance with such valuation as he considers appropriate.

38. Power and duty of maintenance

Subject to the terms of the trust and to any prior interest or charge affecting the trust property, where any property is held by a trustee in trust for any beneficiary for any interest whatsoever;

(a) while the beneficiary is a minor, the trustee;

(i) may, at his discretion, pay to the parent or guardian of the beneficiary or otherwise apply the whole or part of the income attributable to that interest for or towards the maintenance, education or benefit of the beneficiary; and

(ii) shall accumulate the residue of the income as an accretion to the trust property and as one fund with the trust property for all purposes:

Provided that the trustee may while the beneficiary is a minor apply those accumulations as if they were income of the then current year; and

(b) if the beneficiary is no longer a minor and his interest has not yet vested in possession, the trustee shall thenceforth pay the income attributable to the interest to the beneficiary until his interest vests in possession or terminates.

39. Power of advancement

Subject to the terms of the trust, a trustee may in his discretion pay or apply trust property for the advancement or benefit of any beneficiary whose interest in the trust has not yet vested in possession:

Provided that;

(a) any trust property so paid or applied shall be brought into account in determining the share of the beneficiary in the trust property;

(b) no such payment or application shall be made which prejudices any person entitled to any prior interest unless such person is of full age and consents to the payment or application or, if such person is not of full age, the Court consents; and

(c) the part of the trust property so paid or advanced shall not exceed the presumptive share of the beneficiary in the trust property.

40. Accumulation and maintenance settlements

Where any property is directed to be held on accumulation and maintenance trusts for the benefit of a beneficiary or a class of beneficiaries, the provisions of sections 38 and 39 shall (unless the terms of the trust otherwise provide) apply to the interest of such beneficiary or beneficiaries.

41. Receipts of parents or guardians

The receipt of a parent or guardian of a beneficiary who is a minor or is under legal disability shall be a sufficient discharge to the trustee for a payment made to or for the benefit of the beneficiary.

42. Power of appointment

The terms of a trust may confer on the trustee or any other person power to appoint all or any part of the trust property to, or to trustees for the benefit of, any person or valid charitable or non-charitable purpose (whether or not such person was a beneficiary of the trust or such purpose was an object of the trust prior to such appointment).

43. Power of revocation or variation

(1) A trust and any exercise of a power or discretion under a trust may be expressed to be capable of revocation (in whole or in part) or of variation.

(2) No such revocation or variation shall prejudice anything lawfully done by a trustee in relation to the trust before he receives notice of the revocation or variation.

(3) Subject to the terms of the trust, if a trust is revoked in whole or in part, the trustee shall hold the trust property, which is the subject of the revocation, in trust for the settlor absolutely or, if he is dead, as if it had formed part of his estate at death.

(4) In so far as the terms of a trust make no provision for revocation of the trust, then the trust shall be irrevocable.

PART V Termination or Failure of Trusts

44. Failure or lapse of interest

(1) Subject to the terms of the trust and to any order of the Court, where;

(a) an interest lapses;

(b) a trust terminates; or

(c) there is no beneficiary and no person (whether or not then living) who can become a beneficiary in accordance with the terms of the trust,

the interest or property concerned shall be held by the trustee in trust for the settlor absolutely, or if he is dead, as if it had formed part of his estate at death.

(2) Subsection (1) shall not apply to a trust established for a charitable purpose to which section 45 applies.

45. Application of property held on charitable trust

(1) Where trust property is held for a charitable purpose and;

(a) the purpose has been, as far as may be, fulfilled;

(b) the purpose cannot be carried out at all, or not according to the directions given and to the spirit of the gift;

(c) the purpose provides a use for part only of the property;

(d) the property, and other property applicable for a similar purpose, can be more effectively used in conjunction, and to that end can more suitably be applied to a common purpose;

(e) the purpose was laid down by reference to an area which was then, but has since ceased to be, a unit for some other purpose, or by reference to a class of persons or to an area which has for any reason since ceased to be suitable or to be practicable in administering the gift;

(f) the purpose has been adequately provided for by other means;

(g) the purpose has ceased to be charitable (by being useless or harmful to the community or otherwise); or

(h) the purpose has ceased in any other way to provide a suitable and effective method of using the property,

the property or the remainder of the property, as the case may be, shall be held for such other charitable purpose as the Court, on the application of the Attorney General or the trustee, may declare to be consistent with the original intention of the settlor.

(2) Where trust property is held for a charitable purpose, the Court, on the application of the Attorney General or the trustee, may approve any arrangement which varies or revokes the purposes or terms of the trust or enlarges or modifies the powers of management or administration of the trustee, if it is satisfied that the arrangement;

(a) is now suitable or expedient; and

(b) is consistent with the original intention of the settlor.

(3) The Court shall not make a declaration under subsection (1) or approve an arrangement under subsection (2) unless satisfied that any person with a material interest in the trust or in any fund subject to the terms of the trust has had an opportunity of being heard.

46. Termination of trusts

(1) On the termination of a trust, the trust property shall, subject to subsection (2), be distributed by the trustee within a reasonable time in accordance with the terms of the trust to the persons entitled thereto.

(2) The trustee may retain sufficient assets to make reasonable provision for liabilities (existing, future, contingent or other).

47. Termination by beneficiaries

(1) Without prejudice to any power of the Court and notwithstanding the terms of the trust, where all the beneficiaries are in existence and have been ascertained, and none is a person under legal disability or a minor, and all beneficiaries are in agreement so to do, they may subject to subsection (2) require the trustee to terminate the trust and distribute the trust property as the beneficiaries direct.

(2) A beneficiary of an interest under a protective or spendthrift trust may not enter into such an agreement as is referred to in subsection (1).

PART VI Variation of Trusts

48. Power to provide for variation of terms of trust

(1) The terms of a trust may be varied in any manner provided by its terms.

(2) This section is in addition to section 49 (which provides for the variation of the terms of a trust by the Court).

49. Variation of trusts by the Court

(1) The Court may, on the application of any beneficiary, the trustee, the settlor or his personal representative, or the protector of a trust, approve on behalf of;

(a) a minor or a person under legal disability having, directly or indirectly, an interest, vested or contingent, under the trust;

(b) any person unborn;

(c) any person who is presently unascertained but who may become entitled, directly or indirectly, to an interest under the trust, as being (at a future date or on the happening of a future event) a person of any specified description or a member of any specified class; or

(d) any person, in respect of an interest that may accrue to him by virtue of the exercise of a discretionary power on the failure or determination of an interest under a protective or spendthrift trust,

any arrangement which varies or revokes the terms of the trust or enlarges or modifies the powers of management or administration of the trustee, whether or not there is another person with a beneficial interest who is capable of assenting to the arrangement:

Provided that the Court shall not approve an arrangement on behalf of a person mentioned in paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) unless the arrangement appears to be for his benefit.

(2) Where, in the management or administration of a trust, any sale, lease, pledge, charge, surrender, release or other disposition, or any purchase, investment, acquisition, expenditure or other transaction is, in the opinion of the Court, expedient, but cannot be effected because the necessary power has not been conferred on the trustee by the terms of the trust or by law, the Court, on the application of the trustee -

(a) may confer upon the trustee, generally or in any particular circumstances, the necessary power, on such terms and subject to such conditions as the Court thinks fit; and

(b) may direct the manner in which, and the property from which, any monies authorised to be expended, and costs of any transaction, are to be paid or borne.

PART VII Breach of Trust

50. Liability for breach of trust

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance and to the terms of the trust, a trustee who commits or concurs in a breach of trust is liable for;

(a) any loss or depreciation in value of the trust property resulting from the breach; and

(b) any profit which would have accrued to the trust had there been no breach.

(2) A trustee may not set off a profit accruing from one breach of trust against a loss or depreciation in value resulting from another.

(3) A trustee is not liable for a breach of trust committed by another person prior to his appointment or for a breach of trust committed by a co-trustee unless;

(a) he becomes or ought to have become aware of the breach; and

(b) he actively conceals the breach, or fails within a reasonable time to take proper steps to protect or restore the trust property or to prevent the continuance of the breach.

(4) Where trustees are liable for a breach of trust, they are liable jointly and severally.

(5) A trustee who becomes aware of a breach of trust shall take all reasonable steps to have the breach remedied.

(6) Nothing in the terms of a trust shall relieve a trustee of liability for a breach of trust arising from his own fraud or wilful misconduct.

51. Constructive trusts

(1) A person who derives a profit from a breach of trust, or who obtains property in breach of trust, shall be deemed to be a trustee of the profit or property, unless he derives or obtains it in good faith and without actual, constructive or implied notice of the breach of trust.

(2) A person who becomes a trustee by virtue of subsection (1) shall deliver up the profit or property to the person properly entitled to it.

(3) This section does not exclude any other circumstances in which a constructive trust may arise.

52. Tracing trust property

Without prejudice to the personal liability of a trustee, trust property which has been charged or dealt with in breach of trust, or any property into which it has been converted, may be followed and recovered unless;

(a) it is no longer identifiable; or

(b) it is in the hands of a bona fide purchaser for value without actual, constructive or implied notice of the breach of trust.

53. Beneficiary may relieve or indemnify a trust

(1) A beneficiary may relieve a trustee of a liability to him for a breach of trust or indemnify a trustee against liability for a breach of trust.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the beneficiary;

(a) is a minor or a person under legal disability;

(b) does not have full knowledge of all material facts; or

(c) is improperly induced by the trustee to act under subsection (1).

54. Power to relieve trustee from personal liability

The Court may relieve a trustee wholly or partly of liability for a breach of trust where it appears to the Court that the trustee has acted honestly and reasonably and ought fairly to be excused for the breach of trust or for omitting to obtain the directions of the Court in the matter in which the breach arose.

55. Power to make beneficiaries indemnify

Where a trustee commits a breach of trust at the instigation, at the request or with the concurrence of a beneficiary, the Court (whether or not the beneficiary is a minor or a person under legal disability) may impound all or part of the interest of that beneficiary by way of indemnity to the trustee or any person claiming through him.

56. Limitation and prescription

(1) No period of limitation or prescription applies to an action brought against a trustee;

(a) in respect of any fraud to which the trustee was a party or was privy; or

(b) to recover from the trustee trust property or the proceeds thereof;

(i) held by or vested in him or otherwise in his possession or under his control; or

(ii) previously received by him and converted to his use.

(2) Subject to subsection (1), the period within which an action founded on breach of trust may be brought against a trustee is;

(a) three years from delivery of the final accounts of the trust; or

(b) three years from the date on which the plaintiff first has knowledge of the breach of trust,

whichever period first begins to run.

(3) Where the plaintiff is a minor or a person under legal disability, the period referred to in subsection (2) does not begin to run until his minority or disability, as the case may be, ceases.

PART VIII Powers of the Court

57. Jurisdiction of the Court

The Court has jurisdiction in respect of any matters concerning a trust where;

(a) the proper law of the trust is the law of The Principality of New Utopia;

- (b) a trustee of the trust is resident in The Principality of New Utopia;
- (c) any property of the trust is situated in The Principality of New Utopia;
- (d) any part of the administration of the trust is carried on in The Principality of New Utopia; or
- (e) where, in any other case, the Court thinks it appropriate.

58. General powers of the Court

(1) On the application of a trustee, a beneficiary, a settlor or his personal representatives, a protector, (in the case of a trust established for a charitable purpose) the Attorney General or, with the leave of the Court, any other person the Court may;

- (a) make an order in respect of;
 - (i) the execution, administration or enforcement of a trust;
 - (ii) a trustee, including an order as to the exercise by a trustee, of his functions, the removal of a trustee, the appointment, remuneration or conduct of a trustee, the keeping and submission of accounts, and the making of payments, whether into Court or otherwise;
 - (iii) a protector, including an order appointing a protector;
 - (iv) a beneficiary, or any person connected with a trust;
 - (v) any trust property, including an order as to the vesting, preservation, application, surrender or recovery thereof;
- (b) make a declaration as to the validity or enforceability of a trust;
- (c) direct the trustee to distribute, or not to distribute, the trust property;
- (d) make such order in respect of the termination of the trust and the distribution of the property as it thinks fit;
- (e) rescind or vary an order or declaration under this Ordinance, or make a new or further order or declaration.

(2) Where the Court appoints or removes a trustee under this section;

(a) it may impose such requirements and conditions as it thinks fit, including provisions as to remuneration and requirements or conditions as to the vesting of trust property;

(b) subject to the Court's order, a trustee appointed by the Court has the same functions, and may act in all respects, as if he had been originally appointed a trustee.

(3) If a person does not comply with an order of the Court under this Ordinance requiring him to do any thing, the Court may, on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, order that the thing be done by another person, nominated for the purpose by the Court, at the expense of the person in default (or otherwise, as the Court directs) and a thing so done has effect in all respects as if done by the person in default.

59. Applications for directions

A trustee may apply to the Court for directions as to how he should or might act in any of the affairs of the trust, and the Court may make such order as it thinks fit.

60. Payment of costs

The Court may order the costs and expenses of and incidental to an application to the Court under this Ordinance to be paid from the trust property or in such manner and by such persons as it thinks fit.

PART IX Choice of Governing Law

61. Governing law

(1) In determining the governing law of a trust regard is first to be had to the terms of the trust and to any evidence therein as to the intention of the settlor; and the other circumstances of the trust are to be taken into account only if the terms of the trust fail to provide such evidence.

(2) A term of the trust expressly selecting the laws of The Principality of New Utopia to govern the trust is valid, effective and conclusive regardless of any other circumstances.

(3) A term of the trust that the laws of The Principality of New Utopia are to govern a particular aspect of the trust or that The Principality of New Utopia or the courts of The Principality of New Utopia are the forum for the administration of the trust, or any like provision, is conclusive evidence, subject to any contrary term of the

trust, that the parties intended the laws of The Principality of New Utopia to be the governing law of the trust and is valid and effective accordingly.

(4) If the terms of a trust so provide, the governing law of the trust may be changed to or from the laws of The Principality of New Utopia provided that;

(a) in the case of a change to the law of The Principality of New Utopia, such change is recognised by the governing law of the trust previously in effect;

(b) in the case of a change from the law of The Principality of New Utopia, the new governing law would recognise the validity of the trust and the respective interests of the beneficiaries.

(5) A change in governing law shall not affect the legality or validity of, or render any person liable for, any thing done before the change.

62. Matters determined by governing law

(1) All questions arising in regard to a trust which is for the time being governed by the laws of The Principality of New Utopia or in regard to any disposition of property upon the trusts thereof including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, questions as to -

(a) the capacity of any settlor;

(b) any aspect of the validity of the trust or disposition or the interpretation or effect thereof;

(c) the administration of the trust, whether the administration be conducted in The Principality of New Utopia or elsewhere, including questions as to the powers, obligations, liabilities and rights of trustees and their appointment and removal; or

(d) the existence and extent of powers, conferred or retained, including powers of variation or revocation of the trust and powers of appointment, and the validity of any exercise thereof,

are to be determined according to the laws of The Principality of New Utopia, without reference to the laws of any other jurisdictions with which the trust or disposition may be connected.

(2) This section;

(a) shall not validate;

- (i) any disposition of property which is neither owned by the settlor nor the subject of a power in that behalf vested in the settlor;
 - (ii) any trust or disposition of immovable property situate in a jurisdiction other than The Principality of New Utopia in which such trust or disposition is invalid according to the laws of such jurisdiction;
 - (iii) any testamentary trust or disposition which is invalid according to the laws of the testator's domicile;
- (b) shall not affect the recognition of foreign laws in determining whether the settlor is the owner of the settled property or is the holder of a power to dispose of such property;
- (c) shall take effect subject to any express term of a trust or disposition to the contrary;
- (d) as regards the capacity of a corporation, shall not affect the recognition of the laws of its place of incorporation; and
- (e) shall not affect the recognition of foreign laws prescribing generally, without reference to the existence or terms of the trust, the formalities for the disposition of property.

63. Exclusion of foreign law

Without limiting the generality of section 62, it is expressly declared that no trust governed by the laws of The Principality of New Utopia and no disposition of property to be held upon the trusts thereof is void, voidable, liable to be set aside or defective in any fashion, nor is the capacity of any settlor to be questioned by reason that;

- (a) the laws of any foreign jurisdiction prohibit or do not recognise the concept of a trust; or
- (b) the trust or disposition avoids or defeats rights, claims or interests conferred by foreign law upon any person by reason of a personal relationship to the settlor or by way of heirship rights, or contravenes any rule of foreign law or any foreign judicial or administrative order or action intended to recognise, protect, enforce or give effect to any such rights, claims or interests.

PART X Provisions Applicable to a Foreign Trust

64. Application of Part X

(1) This Part applies only to a foreign trust.

(2) For the purposes of this part, a foreign trust includes every trust not governed by the laws of The Principality of New Utopia.

65. Enforceability of a foreign trust

(1) Subject to subsection (2), a foreign trust or a severable aspect thereof shall be governed by the foreign law applicable to the validity, construction and administration thereof.

(2) A foreign trust shall be enforceable in The Principality of New Utopia except to the extent that it purports to do anything the doing of which is contrary to the law of The Principality of New Utopia or to confer any right or power or impose any obligation the exercise or carrying out of which is contrary to the law of The Principality of New Utopia.

PART XI Variant Types of Trust

66. Variant types of trust

(1) A settlor may create a trust (in whatever form and by whatever name it is known) of a type recognised by the law or rules of his religion or nationality or which is customarily used by his community, provided that;

(a) there is a recital to that effect in the instrument creating the trust; and

(b) the trust is of a type approved by the Attorney General.

(2) The instrument creating a trust may be written in a language other than English, provided that a version in the English language certified by the original trustee to be a true translation is appended to the instrument.

67. Provisions of variant types of trust

A trust of a type approved under subsection (1) of section 66 may provide that the trustee shall hold the trust property -

(a) for such term as is provided in the trust, to pay or apply the income and capital thereof for the maintenance, education, advancement or benefit of the family of the

settlor, and/or for the purposes of performing acts or services in honour of the settlor or the ancestors of the settlor; and

(b) thereafter for the advancement of the settlor's religion, or for such other charitable purpose as the settlor may specify or, if the settlor has not specified a charitable purpose, for such charitable purpose as the trustee shall determine.

PART XII Optional Registration of trusts and exemption from Taxes

68. Facility to register trusts

(1) The Registrar of Companies (in this section called "the Registrar") shall maintain a register of trusts (in this section called "the Register").

(2) The settlor or a trustee of a trust may apply but (subject to the terms of the trust) shall not be obliged to apply to the Registrar to enter the trust on the Register.

(3) An application for entry on the Register shall be accompanied by;

(a) a certified copy of the instrument creating the trust (if any); and

(b) the fee prescribed by regulations made under section 70.

(4) The Registrar shall, on receipt of an application for registration, a certified copy of the instrument creating the trust (if any) and the required fee;

(a) enter on the Register the name of the trust (if any), the name of the settlor and the name of the beneficiary or the purpose for which the trust is established; and

(b) issue to the trustee a certificate of registration.

(5) Where the terms of a trust which has been registered are varied, the trustee shall send to the Registrar a notification of such variation together with the appropriate fee prescribed by regulations under section 70 and the Registrar shall amend the entry on the Register accordingly and issue an amended certificate of registration.

(6) Where a trust which has been registered terminates, the trustee shall notify the Registrar and return the certificate of registration and the Registrar shall then cancel the entry on the Register and the certificate of registration.

(7) The Register shall not be open for public inspection except that the trustee of a trust may in writing authorise a named person to inspect the entry of that trust on the Register.

69. Exemption from taxes

(1) For the purposes of this Ordinance a trust created in or registered in The principality of New Utopia shall not be subject to any income tax, withholding tax, asset tax, gift tax, profits tax, capital gains tax, distributions tax, inheritance tax, estate duty or other like taxes based upon or measured by assets or income originating within or outside of The Principality of New Utopia or in connection with matters of administration which may occur in or outside The Principality of New Utopia, except as provided in section 68.

PART XIII Supplemental

70. Regulations and Orders

(1) The Board of Governors may make regulations for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Ordinance and for prescribing anything that needs to be prescribed.

(2) The Board of Governors may by Order published in the Gazette add to delete from or amend any provision of Schedule I.

71. Application of this Ordinance

(1) This Ordinance shall apply only to trusts created on or after the commencement date.

(2) For the purposes of this Ordinance a trust shall be regarded as created at the time at which property is first received by or vested in the trustee to be held by him in accordance with the terms of the trust.

(3) Sections 1 to 4, 7, 52, 56, and Parts VIII, IX, X, XII, and XIII shall apply to all trusts; the other sections of this Ordinance shall apply only to trusts the proper law of which is the law of The Principality of New Utopia.

(4) Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as affecting the validity of any act done or omission occurring prior to the commencement date.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE

1. Trust for Sale

(a) The Trustee shall stand possessed of any real property from time to time comprised in the Trust Fund Upon Trust to sell the same with power to postpone the sale thereof or of any part thereof for such period as it shall in its absolute discretion think fit and shall stand possessed of all other investments comprised in the Trust Fund Upon Trust at such discretion either to retain the same in the existing state thereof for such period as it shall think fit or at any time or times to sell the same or any part thereof.

(b) The Trustee shall hold the net proceeds of any sale of investments comprised in the Trust Fund and all other monies held or received by it as capital monies Upon Trust to invest the same at its discretion in or upon any of the investments by this instrument authorized with power to vary or transpose such investments for or into any others of a like nature.

2. Powers of Investment

TRUST moneys to be invested under the trusts of this instrument may be applied or invested in any currency and in any part of the world in the purchase of or upon the security of such common or preferred stocks shares mutual fund shares unit trust units or other securities or commodities (including precious metals) bonds, notes, debentures, certificates of deposit or time deposits land or other investments or property of whatever nature and whether or not income producing or paying dividends or interest) and whether involving liabilities or not or upon such personal credit with or without security as the Trustee in its absolute discretion thinks fit without being restricted to trustee investments prescribed under the Law governing this instrument and to the intent that the Trustees shall have the same powers in all respects as if they were absolute owners beneficially entitled And in addition (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) the Trustee may invest the Trust Fund in the shares or debentures of any company whatsoever and wheresoever incorporated without the need for diversification and without being liable for any loss occasioned thereby.

3. Power With Regard to Mode of Application of Capital and Income

ANY power by this instrument or by law conferred on the Trustee to pay transfer appropriate or apply the Trust Fund or any part thereof, or any income thereof for the benefit of any beneficiary may at the discretion of the Trustee be validly exercised (without prejudice to the generality of such power or to any other mode of application) -

(a) by paying or transferring the same to the trustees of any settlement (whether or not such trustees are resident in the Principality of New Utopia and whether or not the Law of such settlement is the law of the Principality of New Utopia) the provisions of which are in the opinion of the Trustee for the benefit of such beneficiary notwithstanding that such settlement may also contain trusts powers or provisions (discretionary or otherwise) in favour of other persons or objects Provided however that no such payment or transfer shall be made so as to infringe the rule against perpetuities as applicable to the trusts created by this instrument; or

(b) (in the case of any such person who is a minor) by paying or transferring the same to such minor's parent or guardian or some other person for the time being having the care or custody of such minor upon the recipient undertaking to apply the same for the benefit of the minor;

And the Trustee shall not thereafter be under any obligation to see to the further application of the capital or income so paid or transferred and the receipt of such trustees parent guardian or other person shall be a full sufficient and complete discharge to the Trustee.

4. Additional Powers

THE Trustee shall have the following powers in addition to those conferred by law:

(a) power to receive any property from any person as an addition to the Trust Fund either by gift *inter vivos* or by will or under the provisions of any other settlement or trust or otherwise;

(b) power to borrow on the security of the Trust Fund and for such of the Trust Fund or the income thereof and to enter into such contracts mortgages charges or undertakings relating thereto as the Trustee may in its absolute discretion think fit;

(c) power to lend any part of the Trust Fund to any beneficiary upon such terms (if any) as to security repayment rate of interest and otherwise as the Trustee in its absolute discretion may determine;

(d) with respect to any property comprised in the Trust Fund power to exercise all powers relating thereto as if beneficially entitled thereto and without being restricted in any way by the office of trustee including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power):-

(i) power to vote upon or in respect of any shares securities bonds notes or other evidence of interest in or obligations of any corporation trust association or concern whether or not the exercise of such power affects

the security or the apparent security of the Trust Fund or the purchase or sale or lease of the assets of any such corporation trust association or concern,

(ii) power to deposit any such shares securities or property in any voting trust or with any depository designated thereby,

(iii) power to give proxies or powers of attorney with or without power of subscription for voting or acting on behalf of the Trustee as the owner of any such property, and

(iv) power to omit to register bonds or securities;

(e) power (at the expense of the Trust Fund) to incorporate or register or to procure the incorporation or registration of any company (with limited or unlimited liability) in any part of the world for any purpose including the acquisition of the Trust Fund or any part thereof and so that (if thought fit) the consideration on the sale of the Trust Fund to any such company may consist wholly or partly of fully paid shares debentures, debenture stock or other securities of the company credited as fully paid which shall be allotted to or otherwise vested in the Trustee and be capital moneys in the Trustee's hands;

(f) power at any time to apply any part of the Trust Fund or the income thereof in effecting or otherwise acquiring any policy of assurance on the life of any beneficiary or of any other person or any endowment or other policy to maintain, surrender, exchange, exercise any option thereunder or otherwise deal with such policies as if the Trustee were absolutely entitled thereto;

(g) power to pay out at any time, any part of the Trust Fund in purchasing or acquiring or making improvements in or repairs to or on any chattels for the use of any beneficiary or to or on any land or building (whether freehold, leasehold or of any other tenure or interest and of whatsoever description and situate in any part of the world) in the occupation of or intended for occupation by any beneficiary and power to occupy until sale any land or building purchased or acquired as aforesaid or otherwise comprised in the Trust Fund upon such terms (as to payment or non-payment of rent outgoings repairs or otherwise) as the Trustee may think fit;

(h) power at any time to lay out any part of the Trust Fund in the purchase or other acquisition of any yachts, boats, motor vehicles, works of art, household furniture, plate, linen, china, cutlery, other articles of household use, ornament or equipment and other chattels for the use of any beneficiary whether occupying a building purchased or acquired by the Trustee as aforesaid or otherwise forming part of the Trust Fund upon and subject to

such terms and conditions (if any) as to insurance preservation, maintaining inventories and otherwise as the Trustee thinks fit;

(i) power to grant options for such consideration and exercisable at such time or times or within such period as the Trustee thinks fit for the purchase of any property subject to the trusts of this instrument or the acquisition of any interest therein;

(j) power to keep the Trust Fund either in or out of the Principality of New Utopia and if the Trustee thinks fit to hold in any part of the world all or any securities or other property in bearer form or registered in the name of the Trustee or nominees without disclosing the fiduciary relationship;

(k) in the event of any duties, fees or taxes whatsoever becoming payable in any part of the world in respect of the Trust Fund or any part thereof in any circumstances whatsoever power to pay all such duties fees or taxes out of the Trust Fund or the income thereof with discretion as to the time and manner in which the said duties, fees or taxes shall be paid and the Trustee may pay such duties, fees, or taxes notwithstanding that the same shall not be recoverable from the Trustee or from any persons interested under the trusts of this instrument or that the payment shall not be to the advantage of such persons;

(l) power to make such reserves out of the Trust Fund or the income thereof as the Trustee deems proper for expenses taxes and other liabilities and to pay from capital or income or to apportion between capital and income any expenses of making or changing investments and selling exchanging or leasing (including brokers, commissions and charges) and generally to determine what part of the expenses of administering the trusts of this instrument shall be charged to capital and what part to income;

(m) power to make, execute and deliver deeds assignments, transfers, leases, mortgages, instruments of pledge, creating liens contracts and other instruments sealed and unsealed;

(n) power to institute, prosecute and defend any suits or actions or other proceedings affecting the Trustee or the Trust Fund and to compromise any matter of difference or to submit such matter to arbitration and to compromise or compound any debt owing to the Trustee or any other claims against it as Trustee upon evidence that the Trustee shall deem sufficient and to make partition upon such terms (including if thought fit the payment or receipt of equality money) as the Trustee shall deem desirable with co-owners or joint tenants besides the Trustee having any interest in any property in which the Trustee is interested and to make partition either by sale or by set-off or by agreement or otherwise;

(o) power to make any distribution of the Trust Fund pursuant to the trusts of this instrument in cash or in kind or partly in cash and partly in kind and in the case of a distribution to more than one person not strictly ratably but on the basis of equal or other proportionate value (as the case may require) according to the judgment of the Trustee which shall be binding on all persons interested under this instrument;

(p) power to take at the expense of the Trust Fund or the income thereof the opinion of legal counsel concerning any question arising under this instrument or on any matter in any way relating to the Trust Fund or the duties of the Trustee in connection with this instrument and the Trustee shall not be liable for any action taken in good faith pursuant to or otherwise in accordance with the opinion or advice of such counsel;

(q) power:-

(i) to engage the services of such investment counsel adviser or manager ("the Investment Adviser") as the Trustee may from time to time think fit (including the settlor or any Trustee of this instrument or any corporate Trustee or any parent subsidiary or affiliate of such corporate Trustee) in order to obtain advice on the investment and reinvestment of the Trust Fund AND to delegate to the Investment Adviser without being liable for any consequential loss discretion to manage the portfolio or any part thereof within the limits and for the period stipulated by the Trustee and the Trustee:-

(aa) shall settle the terms and conditions for the remuneration of the Investment Adviser and the reimbursement of the Investment Adviser's expenses as in its uncontrolled discretion it deems proper and such remuneration and expenses may be paid by the Trustee from and out of the Trust Fund, and

(bb) shall not be liable for any action taken in good faith pursuant to or otherwise in accordance with the advice of the Investment Adviser,

(ii) to employ and pay at the expense of the capital or income of the Trust Fund any agent or agents in any part of the world whether solicitors, bankers, accountants, stockbrokers, managers, or other person (including the settlor or any trustee of this instrument or any corporate trustee) to transact any business or to do any act requiring to be transacted or done in execution of the trusts of this instrument including the receipt and payment of money and the execution of documents and in any such event the trustee, the corporate trustee or the parent subsidiary or the affiliate to such corporate trustee is entitled to

charge and be paid and to retain for his or its own account all usual professional and other fees and commission normally paid for such services including fees and commissions shared with other agents and the Trustee shall not be liable for any action or default of any agent as aforesaid so employed if such agent was employed in good faith;

(r) power for any Trustee:-

(i) to exercise or join or concur in exercising all or any of the powers and discretions by this instrument or by law given to the Trustee notwithstanding that such Trustee may have a personal interest in the mode or result of exercising any such power or discretion or may be interested therein in some other fiduciary capacity but any Trustee may abstain from acting except as a merely formal party in any matter in which it may be so interested as aforesaid and may allow its co-trustees to act alone in the exercise of such powers and discretions in relation to such matter, and

(ii) to purchase or sell any property notwithstanding that the vendor or purchaser is the same as or includes the Trustee or any of them provided that the price payable on any such purchase or sale is certified as fair and reasonable by an independent valuer employed for the purpose by the Trustee;

(s) power to effect any transaction concerning or affecting the Trust Fund or any other property whatsoever and to do all other acts and things which the Trustee may in its absolute discretion think expedient in the interest of the Trust Fund or any beneficiary and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph "transaction" includes any sale exchange assurance conveyance grant lease surrender reconveyance release reservation or other acquisition and any convenient contract license option right or preemption and any compromise or partition and any company reconstruction or amalgamation and any other dealing or arrangement and "effect" has the meaning appropriate to the particular transaction and references to property include references to restrictions and burdens affecting the property.

(t) all the powers of sale (by public auction or private contract) exchange mortgaging leasing or other disposition management repair building and improvement and all other powers of an absolute beneficial owner in respect of any property for the time being comprised in the Trust Fund including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) the power of borrowing on the security of the Trust Fund and for such purpose to make any outlay out of the income or capital of the Trust Fund and to make such contracts and to enter into such undertakings relating thereto as the Trustee in its absolute discretion shall think fit;

(u) power at any time in the Trustee's discretion and on such terms as it deems fit to appropriate or to apply the capital or income of the Trust Fund or any part thereof in order to secure the payment of money owed by any beneficiary or the performance of any obligations of any beneficiary and to give any guarantee or to become surety for any beneficiary and for such purposes to mortgage or charge any investments or property for the time being forming part of the Trust Fund or to deposit or transfer any such investments or property with or to any person by way of security; and

(v) power from time to time by deed revocable or irrevocable wholly or partially to release, extinguish or restrict any power by this instrument or by law conferred on the Trustee notwithstanding the fiduciary nature of such power (but not so as to invalidate any prior exercise thereof).

5. Exclusion of Appointments

UNLESS the Trustee in its absolute discretion shall otherwise determine all dividends and other income received shall be treated for all purposes as income accruing at the due date of payment whether or not such dividends or income may have been earned and accrued wholly or partially in respect of a period prior to such date.

6. Protection of Third Parties in Dealing With Trustee

(a) NO person or corporation dealing with the Trustee and no purchaser on any sale made by the Trustee shall be concerned to inquire into the propriety or validity of any act of the Trustee or to see to the application of any money paid or property transferred to or upon the order of the Trustee.

(b) NO firm association or corporation any of whose securities are comprised in the Trust Fund and no purchaser or person dealing with any Trustee purporting to act under any delegation of authority from any other trustee shall be required to ascertain or inquire whether a case exists in which such delegation is permitted or whether such delegated authority is still subsisting.

(c) WHEN anything is dependent upon the value of any property or the existence of any fact a certificate of the Trustee as to such value or fact shall be conclusive in favour of anyone thereon in good faith.

7. Power in Relation to Underlying Company

ANY Trustee of this instrument and director officer or employee of a corporate Trustee or of a parent subsidiary or affiliate of such corporate Trustee may act as a director officer manager or employee of any company whose shares or debentures

may be comprised in the Trust Fund or as a director officer manager or employee of any subsidiary or holding company of any such company and may retain for himself or itself any remuneration which he or it may receive as such director, officer, manager, or employee notwithstanding that any votes or other rights attaching to such shares or debentures may have been instrumental either alone or in conjunction with other matters or by reason of their non-exercise in procuring or continuing for him or it his or its position as such director, officer, manager or employee or that his or its qualifications for any such position may be constituted in part or in whole by any such shares or debenture.

8. Trustee Bound Not to Interfere With Company Management

THE Trustee shall not be bound or required to interfere in the management or conduct of the affairs or business of any company in which the Trust Fund may be invested (and whether or not the Trustee has the control of such company) And so long as no Trustee of this instrument has notice of any willful negligence, willful default or fraud or dishonesty on the part of the directors having the management of such company they may leave the same (including the payment or non-payment of dividends) wholly to such directors And no beneficiary is entitled as such beneficiary in any way to compel control or forbid the exercise (including in any particular manner) of any voting or other rights at any time vested in the Trustee with regard to such company including without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing any powers the Trustee may have (even if also directors of such company) of compelling such company to distribute any dividend.