

## Functions of the Commission

The People's Constitution Commission Act [Subsection(6(1) (a) (b)] establishes two main duties for the Commission:

- (1) To conduct a **comprehensive review of the Belize Constitution**; and
- (2) To prepare and submit to the Prime Minister, a **final report** on its findings.

## Scope of the Commission

The People's Constitution Commission Act also indicates that the Commission must consider the following while performing its duty:

- (1) Create and keep a **record of views and public opinions** and take them into account if these are considered appropriate;
- (2) **Adhere to national values & ethos**;
- (3) Safeguard and promote: the existence of **Belize as a sovereign independent State**, the **democratic system** and the **protection of fundamental rights and freedoms**; the separation of powers, the national unity, and the secularism of the country.
- (4) At the same time, the Commission must safeguard and promote the policies of the State that promote:
  - (a) Belizean **territory** and its **sovereignty**;
  - (b) **elimination** of economic and social **privilege** and disparity;
  - (c) **gender equality**;
  - (d) **protection** of **individual's liberties**;
  - (e) **preservation** of **cultural values** of citizens and indigenous peoples;
  - (f) **preservation** of **property rights**;
  - (g) **prohibition** of **exploitation** of man by man or by the state;
  - (h) **fundamental rights and freedoms, generally**;
  - (i) a just system of social security and welfare;
  - (j) the protection of the environment; and
  - (k) international cooperation.

**In summary: the Commission cannot amend nor repeal any existing legal framework of the Belize Constitution.**

## Time and Money

- The Commission must present its **final report within 18 months(May 2024)**.
- The Auditor General must audit the use of the public money.
- The Members shall be paid such allowances as may be determined by the Minister [Subsection 14(2)].
- The funds of the Commission shall consist of:
  - (i) monies appropriated to the Commission by the National Assembly; and
  - (ii) donations received from any lawful source approved by the Minister [Subsection 19(a)(b)]

