



MONTSERRAT

CHAPTER 6.08

VOLCANO RELIEF FUND ACT

Revised Edition

showing the law as at 1 January 2025

This is a revised edition of the law, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Revised Edition of the Laws Act.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws—

VOLCANO RELIEF FUND ACT

Act 4 of 1997 .. in force 5 December 1997

Amended by Act: 9 of 2011 .. in force 27 September 2011 (S.R.O. 40/2011)
2 of 2021 .. in force 14 March 2021

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CHAPTER 6.08
VOLCANO RELIEF FUND ACT
ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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CHAPTER 6.08
VOLCANO RELIEF FUND ACT

(Acts 4 of 1997, 9 of 2011 and 2 of 2021)

AN ACT TO CREATE A FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF PERSONS AFFECTED BY
VOLCANIC ACTIVITY AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Commencement

[5 December 1997]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Volcanic Relief Fund Act.

Creation of Relief Fund

2. There is hereby established a Volcano Relief Fund, hereinafter called **“the Fund”** for the purpose of assisting communities affected by volcanic activity. *(Amended by Act 2 of 2021)*

Fund

3. There shall be paid into the Fund all financial contributions made by persons and organisations for the purpose of rendering assistance to Montserrat and to persons affected by volcanic activity.

Establishment of the Committee

4. There is hereby established a Volcano Relief Committee, hereinafter called “**the Committee**” which subject to the provisions of this Act, shall be responsible for administering the Fund.

Composition of the Committee

5. (1) The Committee shall be constituted in accordance with the Schedule.

(2) The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly shall be the Chairman of the Committee. *(Amended by Act 9 of 2011)*

Funds and Accounts

6. The Committee shall have power to—

- (a) make payments out of the Fund in the form of grants or loans on such terms as the Committee thinks fit, for the purpose of rendering assistance to;
- (b) apply the income of the Fund to the establishment or maintenance of any project or scheme for the benefit of;
- (c) entrust the income of the Fund to such organisations or persons as the Committee thinks appropriate for the purpose of rendering assistance to,

communities in which persons who have been displaced by volcanic activity reside through the direct funding of projects or grants to community associations, government approved associations and established outreach groups. *(Amended by Act 2 of 2021)*

Funds to be deposited with financial institutions

7. (1) The income of the Fund shall be deposited with such Banks or other financial institutions as the Committee thinks appropriate.

(2) All payments out of the Fund shall be made by the Chairman on the direction of the Committee.

Accounts to be audited

8. (1) The Committee shall keep proper accounts of the Fund.

(2) The Accounts of the Fund shall be audited every six months by an auditor approved by the Governor, acting on the advice of the Cabinet. *(Amended by Act 9 of 2011)*

(3) The auditor approved under subsection (2) shall, not later than two months after the accounts have been submitted for audit send to the Chairman of the Committee an audited statement of accounts and an auditor's report in respect of the accounts.

Audited report to be submitted to Legislative Assembly

9. (1) Within fourteen days of receipt of a statement under section 8(3) the Committee shall forward to the Minister of Finance a copy of the audited statement of accounts, the auditor's report and a report of the activities of the Committee during the period, and shall afford him facility for verifying the information contained in such reports and statements.

(2) The Minister of Finance shall lay the audited statement of accounts, the auditor's report and the report of the activities of the Committee before the Legislative Assembly within three months of receiving them. (*Amended by Act 9 of 2011*)

Meetings

10. The Committee shall meet from time to time as it shall be considered appropriate and it shall determine the rules of procedure by which its meetings shall be governed.

Amendment of Schedule

11. The Governor, acting on the advice of the Cabinet, may by Order amend the Schedule. (*Amended by Act 9 of 2011*)

SCHEDULE*(Section 5)***VOLCANO RELIEF COMMITTEE**

- (a) The Minister for Education, Health and Community Services;
 - (b) An elected member of the Legislative Assembly who is not a member of the Cabinet (member in opposition) appointed by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly; *(Amended by Act 9 of 2011)*
 - (c) The First Nominated Member;
 - (d) The Accountant General;
 - (e) A representative of the Montserrat Christian Council appointed by the Governor, acting on the advice of the Cabinet;
 - (f) A representative of the Montserrat Chamber of Commerce and Industry appointed by the Governor, acting on the advice of the Cabinet;
 - (g) A representative of the Trade Union Movement appointed by the Governor, acting on the advice of the Cabinet.
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