STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1964 No. 915

AFRICA

The Bechuanaland (Electoral Provisions) Order 1964

Made - - - -	23*rd June* 1964
Laid before Parliament	29*th June* 1964
Coming into Operation	30*th June* 1964

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 23rd day of June 1964

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas it is proposed that in due course, in place of the existing Legislative Council, there should be established for the Bechuanaland Protectorate a legislative body to be called " the Legislative Assembly " (in this Order referred to as " the proposed Legislative Assembly ") :

Now therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in that behalf by the Foreign Jurisdiction Act 1890(a) or otherwise in Her Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

Citation and commencement.

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Bechuanaland (Electoral Provisions) Order 1964.

(2) This Order shall come into operation on 30th June 1964.

Interpretation.

2. The provisions of section 1 of the Bechuanaland Protectorate (Constitution) Order in Council 1960(b) as amended by the Bechuanaland Protectorate (Constitution) (Amendment) Order 1963(c) shall apply for the purpose of interpreting this Order as they apply for the purpose of interpreting the first mentioned Order.

Delimitation Commission.

3.—(1) There shall be a Delimitation Commission (hereinafter referred to as " the Commission ") which shall consist of a Chairman and not more than four other members appointed by the Commissioner.

(2) A person shall not be qualified to hold the office of a member of the Commission if he is a member of the Legislative Council.

(3) The office of a member of the Commission shall become vacant—

(*a*) if he resigns his office by writing under his hand addressed to the Commissioner ; or

(*b*) if he becomes a member of the Legislative Council.

(4) If, after the appointment of the Commission and before a Proclamation of constituencies has been made under subsection (5) of section 4 of this Order, the office of Chairman or any other member of the Commission falls vacant or the holder of the office becomes unable for any reason to discharge his functions as a member of the Commission, the Commissioner may appoint another person, being a person who is not a member of the Legislative Council, to be a member of the Commission.

(a) 53 & 54 Vict. c. 37. (b) S.I. 1960/2416 (1960 I, p. 327).
(c) S.I. 1963/1628 (1963 III, p. 3027).

Constituencies.

4.—(1) The Commission shall within eight weeks of the commencement of this Order submit to the Commissioner a report showing the boundaries of the constituencies of Bechuanaland created for the purpose of the election of members to the proposed Legislative Assembly.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section Bechuanaland shall be divided into thirty-two constituencies:

Provided that if the Commission should consider that Bechuanaland cannot satisfactorily be divided into thirty-two constituencies the Commission may increase or reduce that number, but so that there are not substantially more nor substantially less than thirty-two constituencies.

(3) In the discharge of its duties under this Order the Commission shall ensure that the boundaries of each constituency shall be such that the number of inhabitants thereof is as nearly equal to the population quota as is reasonably practicable:

Provided that the number of inhabitants of a constituency may be greater or less than the population quota in order to take account of natural community of interest, means of communication, geographical features, density of population, and the boundaries of Tribal Territories and administrative districts.

(4) In this section " population quota " means the number obtained by dividing the number of inhabitants of Bechuanaland by the number of constituencies into which Bechuanaland is divided under this section.

(5) The Commissioner shall as soon as practicable after the submission of the report of the Commission, by Proclamation published in the Gazette, declare the boundaries of the constituencies as delimited by the Commission.

(6) A Proclamation made under subsection (5) of this section shall come into force at the next dissolution of the Legislative Council after it is made.

Electoral regulations.

5. The Commissioner may by regulation published in the Gazette make provision, for the purposes of the election of members to the proposed Legislative Assembly, for—

(*a*) the qualifications and disqualifications of voters ;

(*b*) the registration of voters ; and

(*c*) any matter that appears to him to be incidental thereto or consequential thereon.

W. G. Agnew.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Order enables Her Majesty's Commissioner for Bechuanaland to make provision under which preparations may be made for the election of members to the new Legislative Assembly that it is proposed in due course to establish for Bechuanaland. The Order also establishes a Delimitation Commission for the purpose of delimiting the boundaries of constituencies for the return of members to the proposed Legislative Assembly.