

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

Bill

further to amend the Diplomatic and Consular Officers (Oath and Fees) Act, 1948

WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Diplomatic and Consular Officer (Oath and Fees) Act, 1948 (Act No. XXI of 1948), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

1. Short title and commencement.— (1) This Bill shall be called the Diplomatic and Consular Officers (Oath and Fees) (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment in section 3, Act XXI of 1948.— In the Diplomatic and Consular Officers (Oath and Fees) Act, 1948 (XXI of 1948), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 3, in sub-section (1), after the word “administer”, the expression “either online or in physical form,” shall be inserted.

3. Addition of Section 9, Act XXI of 1948.— In the said Act, after section 8, the following new section shall be added, namely:-

“9. **Power to make rules.**— The Federal Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.”

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill seeks to enable and facilitate online services by saving time, reducing cost, and minimizing the difficulties to reach the Consulate and Mission. This Bill also seeks to empower Federal Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Act XXI of 1948.

2. The Bill has been designed to achieve the aforesaid objectives.

BILAWAL BHUTTO ZARDARI
Minister for Foreign Affairs