

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 3 FEBRUARY 2014

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 3 February 2014:

1. Contracts;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Board Appointments;
4. Amendment to the Composition of the Caymanas Track Enterprise Team;
5. Strategic Framework for the Court Management Services;
6. Agreement of Bilateral Cooperation on Sporting Activities Between the Government of Jamaica and the Government of the Republic of Cuba;
7. Damage to the Road Network and Associated Structures Due to Flood Rains Associated with the Tropical Depression, 18-20 January 2014; and
8. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1) Contracts

(i) Balaclava Housing Development

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to M&M Jamaica Limited in the amount of \$117,541,574.00 for infrastructure works at the Balaclava Housing Development, St. Elizabeth.

The National Housing Trust, in its effort to provide lower cost housing solutions, has identified the Balaclava Housing Development in St Elizabeth in its 2012-2018 Housing Plan. The development comprises ninety-one (91) housing solutions: eighty-eight (88) serviced lots and three (3) agricultural lots. The development will take place on twenty-one (21) hectares of land at Castle Town, which is located approximately 2.2 km from the Balaclava Town Square in the parish of St. Elizabeth.

(ii) Improvement of Sewage Treatment

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to the Scientific Research Council in the amount of \$389,245,800.77 for the implementation of six (6) sewage treatment solutions for seven (7) locations across the island, in keeping with the endorsement of the National Contracts Commission.

The sewage treatment solution will utilise the biodigester septic tank technology.

(iii) Non Pariel Water Supply Mains Replacement and Upgrading Storage Tank Construction

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract in the amount of \$53,998,571.00 to Geecho Consultants and Construction Limited, for the construction of the Mount Airy 1.125 million litre reinforced concrete water tank which falls under the Non Pariel Water Supply and Mains Replacement and Upgrading Project.

The Non Pariel Water Supply Mains Replacement and Upgrading Project that is being carried out by the National Water Commission seeks to upgrade the potable water supply to the residents of Non Pariel, Sheffield, Orange Hill in the parish of Westmoreland.

(iv) Supply and Commissioning of Four (4) Diesel Hydraulic Straddle Carriers

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract in the amount of €3,123,686.00 to Cargotec, Finland Oy, for the supply and commissioning of four (4) diesel hydraulic straddle carriers for the Kingston Container Terminal.

The diesel hydraulic straddle carriers are being procured in order to maintain the number of straddle carriers required for operations at the Port.

2) Annual Reports

Cabinet considered and noted the Annual Reports of the:

- (i) Anti-Dumping and Subsidies Commission for the Financial Year 2009/2010;
- (ii) Cocoa Industry Board for the Year Ended 30 September 2010;
- (iii) Factories Corporation of Jamaica for the Financial Year 2012/2013;
- (iv) General Legal Council for the Financial Year 2012/2013; and
- (v) Kingston Container Terminal Services Limited for the Financial Year 2012/2013.

These Reports will be tabled in Parliament at a later date.

3) Board Appointments

(i) Southern Regional Health Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Michael Stewart as Chairman and Mr. Hopeton McCatty as a member of the Southern Regional Health Authority Board of Management, with effect from 3 February 2014 to 26 February 2015, when the tenure of the existing Board would expire.

(ii) Western Regional Health Authority Board of Management

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Garth Grant and Reverend Devere Nugent to the Western Regional Health Authority Board of Management of the Authority, with effect from 3 February 2013 to 26 February 2015, when the tenure of the existing Board would expire.

(iii) Jamaica Cultural Development Commission

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board of Directors of the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission, with effect from 3 February 2014 to 18 March 2015, when the tenure of the existing Board would expire:

- (1) Mr. Christopher Samuda – **Deputy Chairman**;
- (2) Ms. Delrose Campbell;
- (3) Mr. Peter Young;
- (4) Mr. Kevin Jones; and
- (5) Dr. Brian Heep.

(iv) Board of the Fisheries Management and Development Fund

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Norman Taylor to the Board of Directors of the Fisheries Management and Development Fund, with effect from 3 February 2014 to 31 March 2014, when the tenure of the existing Board would expire

(v) Public Sector Transformation Committee

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of members to the Public Sector Transformation Committee, with effect from 3 February 2014 to 2 February 2016, as under:

- (1) Mrs. Patricia Francis – **Chairperson**;
- (2) Professor Alvin Wint – **Deputy Chairman**;
- (3) Mr. Lloyd Goodleigh;
- (4) Mr. O'Neil Grant;
- (5) Mr. Tony Lewars;
- (6) Professor Edwin Jones;
- (7) Ms. Ayana Samuels;
- (8) Mrs. Veniece Pottinger-Scott – Ex-Officio;
- (9) Dr. Lois Parkes – Ex-Officio;
- (10) Mrs. Marjorie Johnson – Ex-Officio; and
- (11) Mr. Wayne Jones – Ex-Officio.

4) Amendment to the Composition of the Caymanas Track Enterprise Team

Cabinet gave approval for the composition of the Enterprise Team as under:

- (i) Mr. Keith Duncan – **Chairman**;
- (ii) Mr. Patrick Ellis;
- (iii) Mr. Joseph A. Matalon;
- (iv) Chairman, Jamaica Racing Commission;
- (v) Chairman, Caymanas Track Limited;
- (vi) Chairman, Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Commission;
- (vii) Chairman, Casino Gaming Commission;
- (viii) Representative, Ministry of Finance and Planning;
- (ix) Representative, Attorney General's Chamber; and
- (x) Representative, Development Bank of Jamaica.

The composition of the Caymanas Track Enterprise Team was amended to ensure that the Chairmen of all the gaming regulators were included.

5) Strategic Framework for the Court Management Services

Cabinet approved the:

- (i) strategic framework for the administrative Arm of the Courts;
- (ii) establishment of the Court Administration Division of the Office of the Chief Justice, to take over the functions of the Court Management Services;
- (iii) establishment of the Office of Chief Resident Magistrate; and
- (iv) issue of drafting instructions to the Chief Parliamentary Counsel for preparation of the legislation necessary for the implementation of the above.

The Court Management Services was established in 2010 to further secure the independence of the Judiciary and provide the overall court system with adequate administrative support.

6) Agreement of Bilateral Cooperation on Sporting Activities Between the Government of Jamaica and the Government of the Republic of Cuba

Cabinet approved the execution of an Agreement on Bilateral Cooperation between the Government of Jamaica and the Government of the Republic of Cuba on Sporting Activities.

In May 1997, the Government of Jamaica and the Government of the Republic of Cuba signed an agreement of Bilateral Cooperation on Sporting Activities. During a courtesy call on 28 February 2012, the Minister without Portfolio (Sports) in the Office of the Prime Minister and the former Cuban Ambassador to Jamaica discussed further collaboration in sport. It was decided that the 1997 Bilateral Agreement should be revised to include areas such as aquatics, boxing, baseball, field events, sports manufacturing, sports management, sports medicine, sports psychology and physiotherapy.

7) Damage to the Road Network and Associated Structures Due to Flood Rains Associated with the Tropical Depression, January 18-20, 2014

Cabinet gave approval for the:

- (i) Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing to access from the Road Maintenance Contingency Fund the sum of \$147 million to finance the cost of the works occasioned by the heavy rains during the period 18 to 20 January 2014;
- (ii) Tourism Enhancement Fund to allocate to the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing the sum of \$50 million to finance the cost of the said works; and
- (iii) use of the Emergency Procurement Methodology, as outlined in the Government of Jamaica Handbook of Public Sector Procurement Guidelines, to procure the services of Contractors to carry out the temporary and permanent works required.

The parishes of St Mary and Portland were badly affected by flood rains during the period 18-20 January. The torrential rains caused blocked drains, fallen trees, flooding, landslides and breakaways.

8) Reports

(i) Implementation of Major Infrastructure Development Programme

Cabinet noted a report on the implementation of the Major Infrastructure Development Programme (MIDP) during the 2013/2014 financial year. The MIDP is being implemented by the Government through the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing to rehabilitate and upgrade key arterial, secondary and tertiary roads of the network over a three-year period at a cost of US\$352,941,765.00, with the National Works Agency (NWA) as the implementing agency.

(ii) The Review of the Development Approvals Process to Reduce the Time Taken for Assessment and Decision-Making on Applications

Cabinet noted a report on interventions to reduce the timelines for assessment and decision-making by the relevant agencies with respect to development applications. The report further advised of the progress made by the Government, mainly through the implementation of the Development Approvals Master Plan prepared by the Office of the Cabinet. It informed that a committee of private and public sector stakeholders was established in December 2013, chaired by the Chief Executive Officer of the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)/Government Town Planner, to present strategies to address the problem while being in synchronicity with the Development Approvals Master Plan.

(iii) Report on the Findings of the 2012-2013 Jamaica National Crime Victimization Survey (JNCVS) Report

Cabinet noted a report on the “Findings of the 2012-2013 Jamaica National Crime Victimization Survey (JNCVS).” The report informed that the objectives of the JNCVS were to measure the extent of the exposure of the Jamaican public to crime as reported by victims; provide data on crimes not reported to the police; provide uniform data on specific types of crime; develop information on criminal victimisation; and generate comparative data on the outcome of targeted social interventions in specific communities. It further informed that the findings of the 2012-2013 Survey were intended to assist various stakeholders with programme development, and the provision of assessments on a comparative level (parish, national and international).

(iv) Update on Jamaica’s Hosting of the VI Regional Meeting on Mechanisms for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Latin America and the Caribbean

Cabinet noted a report on Jamaica’s hosting of the VI Regional Meeting on Mechanisms for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Latin America and the Caribbean on 18 to 21 June 2013 in Kingston. The report provided information on the Kingston Declaration signed by the participants; and the schedule of activities. Information was also provided on the deliberations and decisions on disaster management and humanitarian action in Latin America and the Caribbean, the importance of coordination and collaboration with respect to disaster management and the humanitarian response, new tools and initiatives, the planned establishment of a regional logistics centre for humanitarian activities in Panama, and the establishment of a sub-regional humanitarian hub in Kingston to act as support for humanitarian action in the Caribbean region.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Portia Simpson Miller, MP
Prime Minister
13 February 2014