

MINISTRY PAPER

26/14

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2006/2007

The Ministry Paper on the Annual Report of the Registrar General's Department for the financial year 2006/2007 is being tabled for information in the Parliament.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Registrar General's Department (RGD) was established in 1879 and became an Executive Agency in 1999. There are two distinct arms of the RGD, the General Register Office and the Island Records Office. The General Register Office has sole responsibility for the registration of births, stillbirths, marriages, adoptions and deaths. The Island Record Office is responsible for safekeeping of historical and public documents.

- 1.2 To facilitate access to the public, the RGD which is located at Twickenham Park, St. Catherine operates nine (9) regional offices: Savanna-la-Mar, Westmoreland; Montego Bay, St. James; Port Antonio, Portland; Santa Cruz, St. Elizabeth; Mandeville, Manchester; St. Ann's Bay, St. Ann; Duke Street, Kingston; May Pen, Clarendon and Portmore, St. Catherine.

2. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

2.1 *General Register Office*

- A total of 349,262 applicants were received by the Agency, an increase of 20%. Of this figure, 320,783 applications were processed and delivered to customers during the financial year.

- During the review period, the number of registry weddings was 1,246, reflecting an increase of 15% over the previous year.

- During the period under review, the Agency implemented Bedside Registration in all hospitals and birthing centres in Jamaica. The RGD

also introduced the Free Birth Certification Initiative for each first free copy for all newborn effective January 1, 2007.

- For the period under review, the percentage of children named at the time of registration stood at 98%. The particulars of fathers added at the time of registration moved to 67% from 35%.
- The RGD opened two (2) new branch offices in Portmore, St. Catherine and May Pen, Clarendon.
- The Agency participated in a series of outreaches in the United States of America, Canada and the United Kingdom for the extension of services to members of the Diaspora. Locally, over 1,500 mobile outreach activities were conducted.

2.2 *Island Record Office*

- The Agency reported that 2,114 Deed Polls were prepared during the review, a decline of 4.7% when compared with the previous year.
- During the review period, genealogical research requests totaled 1,335, 42% when compared with the previous year.
- During the period, the Agency created the Authentication, Verification and Identity Department to strengthen its operation in an effort to reduce the number of fraudulent documents in circulation.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS

- 3.1 The compensation package paid to the members of the Advisory Board and Senior Management of the Agency for the period under review is included in the Annual Report.
- 3.2 The total income to the RDG amounted to \$500,161,147 which included Certificate Production at \$271,166,569, Express Fees at \$131,681,694 and

Island Records Office at \$59,858,334. Expenditure amounted to \$555,992,736, resulting in a deficit of \$55,831,589.

3.3 The Auditor, Auditor General's Department, concluded that the financial statements gave a true and fair view of the financial position of the Agency as at March 31, 2007.



Fenton Ferguson CD, DDS, MP
Minister of Health

March 10, 2014
File No. 346/11"