

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 5 MAY 2014

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 5 May 2014:

1. Contract;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Board Appointments;
4. Hosting by Jamaica of the Caribbean Regional Workshop on Biological Diversity Beyond National Jurisdiction; and
5. Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) Social Assistance Graduation Strategy.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contract

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for the Promotion and Development of Cost-Effective Small Hydro Projects

Cabinet approved the award of a contract to BA Energy Solutions (Argentina) in association with Hydrosience Consulting, LLC (USA), in the amount of US\$407,648.00, to provide technical assistance and capacity building for the promotion and development of cost-effective small hydro projects.

The National Energy Policy has established targets for renewable energy and the percentage of diversification of energy supply. The Policy aims to increase to 20% the country's overall energy mix from renewable energy by 2030. An Energy Security and Efficiency Enhancement Project (ESEEP) was subsequently launched by the Government of Jamaica, with the financial backing of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to forward this goal. The technical assistance and capacity building for the promotion of cost-effective small hydro-electric projects will be partially funded under the ESEEP. The main objective of this initiative is to improve the institutional capabilities of the Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining and the Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica in hydropower investment promotion, project evaluation and development.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports of the:

- (i) Bath Corporation (Bath Fountain Hotel and Spa) for the Financial Years 2004/2005, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007;
- (ii) Culture, Health, Arts, Sports and Education Fund for the Financial Year 2012/2013;
- (iii) Registrar General's Department for the Financial Year 2007/2008.

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

3. Board Appointments

Jamaica Reservation Services (JRS) Limited

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Board of Directors for the Jamaica Reservation Services Limited with effect from 5 May 2014, for a period of one year or until the company was fully wound up, whichever was shorter:

- 1) Mr. Kevin Hendrickson – Chairman;
- 2) Mrs. Sheryl Shirley-Haynes;
- 3) Mrs. Elecia Myers; and
- 4) Representative, Ministry of Finance and Planning.

4. Hosting by Jamaica of the Caribbean Regional Workshop on Biological Diversity Beyond National Jurisdiction

Cabinet gave approval for Jamaica's hosting of the Caribbean Regional Workshop on Biological Diversity Beyond National Jurisdiction during the period 20 to 21 May 2014.

The goal of the Regional Workshop is to build understanding and consensus on key components of a new international agreement which would improve the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction.

5. Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) Social Assistance Graduation Strategy

Cabinet approved the two-year phased implementation of the Social Assistance Graduation Strategy to enable the successful transition of beneficiary families from the Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education.

Social assistance graduation is a systematic method of reducing the number of persons on welfare through targeted interventions that increase socio-economic sustainable independence.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Portia Simpson Miller, MP  
Prime Minister  
14 May 2014