MINISTRY PAPER No. / - 2015

entitled

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES - 5 JANUARY 2015

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 5 January 2015:

- 1. Contract;
- 2. Annual Reports;
- 3. Board Appointment;
- 4. Land Matters;
- 5. Special Economic Zones Green Paper;
- 6. International Monetary Fund (IMF) Extended Fund Facility (EFF) Sixth Review; and
- 7. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contract

Provision of General and Property Insurance for Wigton Wind Farm Limited

Cabinet approved:

- (i) award of a contract to Allied Insurance Brokers Limited for the placement of insurance for Wigton Wind Farm Limited for the three-year period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2017;
- (ii) payment of \$54,671,991.00 to Allied Insurance Brokers Limited for the total net premium for the first contract year, 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015; and
- (iii) appointment of Guardian General Insurance Jamaica Limited as the insurers for Wigton Wind Farm Limited during the first year (2015) of the three-year contract.

Cabinet also agreed that Allied Insurance Brokers Limited would return to the market in the second and third years of the contract (2016 and 2017) to negotiate the best terms and rates available to allow for the required coverage for Wigton Wind Farm Limited.

The Wigton Wind Farm Limited is Jamaica's largest wind-powered electricity-generating facility, and has a fairly extensive risk portfolio. Insurance coverage is part of the risk management strategy of the company.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports of the:

- (i) Agro-Investment Corporation for the year ended 31 March 2014;
- (ii) Consumer Affairs Commission for the financial year 2013/2014;
- (iii) Housing Agency of Jamaica Limited for the financial year 2013/2014;
- (iv) Jamaica Cultural Development Commission for the financial year 2010/2011;
- (v) National Housing Trust for the financial year 2013/2014;
- (vi) Port Authority Management Services Limited for the financial year 2013/2014; and
- (vii) University Council of Jamaica for the financial year 2013/2014.

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

3. Board Appointment

Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Board of Directors of the Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission for a period of three years, with effect from 5 January 2015 to 4 January 2018:

- 1) Hon. R. Danny Williams, OJ, CD, JP Chair;
- 2) Rev. Dr. Patricia Holness, CD, JP Vice Chair;
- 3) Dr. Winston Isles;
- 4) Mr. Gary Peart;
- 5) Ms. Deborah Martin;
- 6) Hon. Dennis Lalor, OJ;
- 7) Dr. Thelma Nelson;
- 8) Mr. Anthony Lawrence;
- 9) Mrs. Carmen Tipling;
- 10) Rev. Dr. Devon Dick;
- 11) Mrs. Jacqueline Lynch-Stewart (ex officio); and
- 12) Mr. Carey Brown (ex officio).

The Board is being appointed under the new Anti-Doping in Sport Act which replaces the repealed Jamaica *Anti-Doping in Sport Act, 2008*, pursuant to which the Commissioners had been previously appointed. The new Act came into effect on 1 January 2015.

4. Land Matters

Cabinet gave approval for the payment of \$883,000.00, as the balance related to the acquisition of lands at Kilmarnock and Newfound River in Hanover, from funds obtained from the sale or lease of Government-owned lands.

The payment previously made in relation to acquisition of the lands represented 90 percent of the purchase price. The agreement for the remainder to be paid in land bonds did not materialize, and subsequent negotiations resulted in a new settlement for the payment of \$883,000.00 to complete the transaction.

5. Special Economic Zones Green Paper

Cabinet noted the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Policy and approved its tabling in Parliament as a Green Paper, subject to specified modifications.

The Policy was developed through a consultative process involving extensive dialogue with industry experts, government officials, international development partners and private sector interest groups. It explores major policy considerations pertinent to the SEZ regime and SEZ development, including market access, business regulation and facilitation, linkages, sustainable development, and incentives and taxation.

6. International Monetary Fund (IMF) Extended Fund Facility (EFF) Sixth Review

Cabinet gave approval for the tabling in Parliament as a Ministry Paper, the December 2014 Letter of Intent and Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies. The Letter and Memorandum outline Jamaica's performance under the IMF-supported Economic Reform Programme as well as the continued commitment to meeting the objectives and targets of the Programme.

The Letter of Intent also invites the Executive Board of the IMF to complete the sixth review of the extended arrangement under the EFF, approve new performance criteria for September 2015 and approve the seventh purchase, under the arrangement, of SDR 45.95 million.

7. Reports

(i) Fifth Summit of Heads of State And Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Cuba in Havana, Republic of Cuba, 7-8 December 2014

Cabinet noted a report on the Fifth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Cuba, held in Havana, Cuba from 7 to 8 December 2014.

The report provided information on the deliberations and outcome of the Summit; and advised that the Sixth CARICOM-Cuba Summit will be held in Antigua and Barbuda in December 2017.

(ii) Fourth CARICOM-Japan Ministerial Meeting Tokyo, Japan 14-15 November 2014 Cabinet noted a report on the Fourth CARICOM-Japan Ministerial Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan during the period 14 to 15 November 2014.

The Report provided information on deliberations at the Meeting which was held within the context of commemorative events to mark the CARICOM-Japan Friendship Year, as the year 2014 marks the 20th year of relations between CARICOM and Japan. It also informed of bilateral talks with the Foreign Minister of Japan and discussions with Jamaicans and friends of Jamaica in Japan.

(iii) Report on the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Ministerial Meeting and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Plenipotentiary 2014 Conference Held in Busan Korea, 19 October - 7 November 2014

Cabinet noted a report on the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Ministerial Meeting and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Plenipotentiary 2014 Conference held in Busan, Korea, during the period 19 October to 7 November 2014.

The report provided information on (i) the objectives of the Meeting and Conference, (ii) the Resolutions and Decisions adopted, and (iii) the results of elections for the ITU Council, the ITU Management Team and the Radio Regulations Board.

(iv) Mission Trip Report to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) In Geneva, Switzerland, 22-30 September 2014

Cabinet noted a report on the mission trip headed by the Minister of Industry, Investment and Commerce, to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland, during the period 22 to 30 September 2014.

The report provided information on the various engagements, including deliberations with regard to the Madrid Protocol and Patent Cooperation Treaty, the cultural and creative industries, and copyright. It also advised of the commitment of the WIPO to continue to provide assistance to Jamaica to enhance and implement intellectual property programmes nationally, regionally and internationally.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.

Portia Simpson Miller, MP

Prime Minister 21 January 2015