

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 2 FEBRUARY 2015

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 2 February 2015:

1. Contracts;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Sale of Land;
4. Reports to International Organisations;
5. Caribbean Green Economy Conference 2015;
6. Nomination of Mrs. Margarette May Macaulay for Election to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). 2016-2019; and
7. 39th Regular Meeting of the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Upgrade of Two BPS 3000 Sorting Machines

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to Giesecke and Devrient, GmbH (G&D) for the upgrade of two (2) BPS 3000 Sorting Machines in the sum of €275,436.00.

The Cash Centre at the Bank of Jamaica is equipped with 2 BPS 3000 Sorting Machines used to authenticate banknotes. The machines were purchased in 2006 and have been in operation for the past eight (8) years. Whilst the general operations of the machines have been successful, the Bank has been experiencing technical challenges such as high reject rates of fit notes as well as the premature destruction of some banknotes.

(ii) Security Services at the National Housing Trust

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a three-year contract to Quest Security Services Limited for the provision of security services at the corporate offices of the National Housing Trust (NHT) in the sum of \$120,381,752.91.

The NHT utilises a security firm to provide security services at its corporate offices, The Michael Manley Building, and multi-storey car park. The provision of these services is required to secure the operations of the NHT, including its operating systems, financial operations, property and customers.

(iii) K-Factor Tank and Pump Rehabilitation Programme

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to Florida Aquastore and Utility Construction Incorporated for the National Water Commission's (NWC) K-Factor-Tank and Pump Rehabilitation Programme – Bolted Steel Water Storage Tank – Supply and Erection, Contract Numbers KF-TP-01/BST/01 Lot Number 1 and KF-TP-01/BST/01 Lot

Number 3 in the sums of J\$132,927,405.00 for Lot Number 1 and J\$68,183,060.00 for Lot Number 3.

The NWC, through its K-Factor Programme, intends to improve the operational efficiency at water supply facilities throughout Jamaica. As part of this initiative, all defective storage tanks at NWC facilities will be inspected with a view to repairing or replacing them.

(iv) K-Factor Cascade Water Supply Mains Replacement and Upgrading Project

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to GEECHO Construction Limited for the NWC K-Factor–Cascade Water Supply Mains Replacement and Upgrading Project, Hanover Distribution System ‘A’ Contract Number KF01-04/P/04 in the sum of J\$41,237,130.00.

The Construction of Distribution Pipeline ‘A’ Contract Number KF01-04/P/04 will be carried out under the ongoing Cascade Water Supply Mains Replacement and Upgrading Project, currently being carried out by the NWC in the parish of Hanover, to upgrade the potable water supply to residents of Cascade and environs. The contract forms part of the K-Factor programme.

(v) Non Pariel Water Supply Mains Replacement and Upgrading Project

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to Frederick Rodrigues and Associates Limited for the NWC Non Pariel Water Supply Mains Replacement and Upgrading Project, Westmoreland Pipeline Replacement Contract Number KF01-02/P/03 in the sum of J\$75,959,433.00.

The Non Pariel Water Supply Mains Replacement and Upgrading Project, which forms a part of the K-Factor Programme, includes, among other things, the upgrading and installation of new transmission and distribution pipes of varying sizes, pumping stations and storage reservoirs.

(vi) Project Management and Consultancy Services

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to Rural Water Supply Limited for the provision of Project Management and Engineering Consultancy Services associated with the NWC’s Tank and Pump Operational Efficiency Improvement Programme – Phase 2 in the amount of \$51,035,975.00.

The NWC conceptualised the Tank and Pump Operational Efficiency Project in an effort to reduce and improve service delivery/reliability to customers and reduce the energy usage of the facilities of the NWC island-wide.

(vii) Essex Valley Water Supply and Upgrade, Phase 2

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to Deryck A. Gibson Limited for the procurement of pipes and associated fittings for the Essex Valley Water Supply and Upgrade Phase 2 in the amounts of J\$18,759,545.35 and US\$559,362.49.

Upgrade works are being conducted by the NWC to improve potable water supply to residents of the Essex Valley community and its environs.

(viii) Cascade Water Supply Rehabilitation Project, Hanover

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract to Tank Weld Limited in relation to the Cascade Water Supply Rehabilitation Project, Hanover, Supply and Installation of Bolted Steel Tank Contract # KF01-04/ST/01, in the amount of \$48,056,939.32.

Upgrade works are being conducted by the NWC to improve potable water supply to residents of the Cascade community and its environs.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports of the:

- (i) Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Commission for the year ended 31 March 2014;
- (ii) Clarendon Alumina Production Limited for the year ended 31 March 2014;
- (iii) Jamaica National Heritage Trust for the year ended 31 March 2002;
- (iv) Jamaica Vacations Limited for the years ended 31 March 2011, 2012 and 2013;
- (v) Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica for the years ended 31 March 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013; and
- (vi) Students' Loan Bureau Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2013.

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

3. Sale of Land

Cabinet gave approval for the sale of 8.21 hectares of lands by SCJ Holdings Limited to Caribbean Tissue Company located at Innswood, St. Catherine which is registered at Duplicate Certificates of Title Volume 67 Folio 27 in the sum of J\$60,000,000.00.

The land is being sold to facilitate the start up of a viable tissue mill business venture, which is consistent with the SCJH's mandate to foster both social and financial benefits for the Government of Jamaica, as the project will create employment for approximately 1,000 persons and an additional 600 from another related venture.

4. Reports to International Organisations

(i) Follow-up Report to the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in Relation to Jamaica's Combined Sixth and Seventh Periodic Reports

Cabinet gave approval for:

- a) The Government of Jamaica Follow-up Report to the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in relation to Jamaica's combined sixth and seventh Periodic Reports presented at the Committee's fifty second session in July 2012; and
- b) The submission of the Report to the CEDAW.

The Follow-up Report provides information on implementation of measures taken subsequent to the issuance of the CEDAW Concluding Observations. It also speaks briefly to challenges/gaps and the strategies being pursued to address the same.

(ii) National Review Report on the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

Cabinet gave approval for:

- a) The Government of Jamaica National Review Report on the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 1995; and
- b) The submission of the Report to the United Nations-Women.

Since Jamaica adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995, significant progress has been made in the twelve (12) critical areas outlined. The Report elaborates on the aforementioned progress as well as examines the major achievements, challenges/gaps and the strategies being pursued to address the gaps.

5. Caribbean Green Economy Conference 2015

Cabinet approved the hosting of the Second Caribbean Green Economy Conference by the Government of Jamaica.

The Conference, which is scheduled to be held 23-25 February 2015 at the University of the West Indies Regional Headquarters, Mona, Kingston seeks to address the impact of policies and initiatives that Caribbean countries have taken for achieving their development goals through green economy; and creation of enabling conditions for scaling up economic measures; and the implementation of the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway through green economy.

6. Nomination of Mrs. Margarette May Macaulay for Election to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). 2016-2019

Cabinet approved Jamaica's nomination of Mrs. Margarette May Macaulay for election to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) for the period 2016-2019.

The IACHR is a principal and autonomous organ of the Organisation of American States (OAS) which seeks to promote and protect human rights in the American hemisphere.

7. 39th Regular Meeting of the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development N-20/15

Cabinet noted a report on the outcomes of the 39th Regular Meeting of the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) held in Georgetown, Guyana, from 6-7 November 2014.

The report provided information on, *inter alia*, developments related to free movement and facilitation of travel; negotiations for a CARICOM-Canada Trade and Development Agreement; the status of the 10th and 11th European Development Fund Programmes; and Ministerial Discussion on the strategic direction for the region's growth and development.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Portia Simpson Miller, MP
Prime Minister
12 February 2015