

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 27 APRIL 2015

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27 April 2015:

1. Legislation;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Appointments;
4. Negril Marine Park Zoning Plan;
5. Green Paper – National Youth Policy;
6. Fourth International Road Federation Caribbean Regional Congress to be held in Montego Bay, Jamaica during the Period 4-8 May 2015; and
7. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Legislation

(i) Bill Entitled “The Weights and Measures (Amendment) Act, 2015”

Cabinet gave approval for the introduction of the Bill entitled “The Weights and Measures (Amendment) Act, 2015” into the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to amend the Weights and Measures Act so as to increase the fines imposed under the Act; and to empower the Minister, by order subject to affirmative resolution, to vary the monetary penalties specified in the Act.

(ii) Bill Entitled “The Fishing Industry (Amendment) Act, 2015”

Cabinet gave approval for the introduction of the Bill entitled “The Fishing Industry (Amendment) Act, 2015” into the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to amend the Fishing Industry Act so as to strengthen Jamaica’s fisheries enforcement operations through an increase in the monetary penalties under the Act and by including a provision to specifically deal with offences by a Body Corporate. The Bill is also seeking to amend the Act by inserting new definitions and amending existing definitions for the purpose of clarity.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports of the:

- (i) All-Island Jamaica Cane Farmers’ Association for the year ended 30 September 2014;
- (ii) Banana Board for the year ended 31 December 2013;
- (iii) Coffee Industry Board for the year ended 31 July 2013; and
- (iv) Registrar General’s Department for the year ended 31 March 2009.

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

3. Appointments

(i) Cannabis Licensing Authority

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Authority for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 27 April 2015 to 26 April 2017:

1) Dr. Andre Gordon – **Chairperson**;

2) Mr. Derron Spence;

3) Dr. Winston De La Haye;

4) Ms. Diane Edwards;

5) Dr. Eileen Boxill;

6) Major (Retired) Gregory Webster;

7) Professor Errol Morrison;

8) Ms. Shauna Trowers;

9) Ms. Michelle Walker;

10) Professor Wendel Abel;

11) Dr. Kathy-Ann Brown;

12) Professor Archibald McDonald;

13) Mr. Orville Silvera;

14) Mr. Verald Vassell;

15) Mr. R. Gregory Mogg; and

16) Mr. Jason Henzell.

(ii) Council for the Students' Loan Bureau

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Council for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 27 April 2015 to 26 April 2018:

1) Mr. Gladstone Lewars – **Chairperson**;

2) Mr. Kasey Bourne – **Deputy Chairperson**;

3) Ms. Monica Brown;

4) Mr. Gary Francis;

5) Mrs. Diane Tomlinson-Smith;

6) Mr. Louis Campbell;

7) Ms. Maureen Denton;

8) Mr. Gavin Goffe;

9) Mrs. Veronica Warmington;

10) Ms. Stacey Ann Campbell; and

11) Representative, Ministry of Education.

(iii) Council of the Institute of Jamaica

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to Council for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 27 April 2015 to 26 April 2018:

1) Ambassador the Hon. Burchell Whiteman, OJ – **Chairperson**;

2) Dr. Susan Francis Brown – **Deputy Chairperson**;

3) Professor Rupert Lewis – **Deputy Chairperson**;

4) Dr. Michael Witter;

5) Mr. Stephen Facey;

6) Dr. Deborah Hickling;

- 7) Mr. Peter Melhado;
- 8) Mr. Brian Morgan;
- 9) Dr. Dennis Howard;
- 10) Dr. Stephan Lenik;
- 11) Dr. Janice Lindsay;
- 12) Father Colin Henriques;
- 13) Mr. Jeffrey Hall;
- 14) Mr. Joseph Pereira;
- 15) Ms. Simone Pearson;
- 16) Ms. Cecile Clayton;
- 17) Ms. Judith Salmon;
- 18) Mr. Ainsley Henriques – ex-officio;
- 19) Ms. Anne Marie Bonner – ex-officio;
- 20) Chairman, Jamaica Cultural Development Commission – ex-officio;
- 21) Professor Sir Fitzroy Augier – Fellow;
- 22) Honourable Barbara Gloudon, OJ, OD – Fellow;
- 23) Professor Gerald Lalor – Fellow;
- 24) Professor George Lamming – Fellow; and
- 25) The Most Honourable Edward Seaga, ON, PC, – Fellow.

(iv) Management Institute for National Development

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Advisory Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 1 May 2015 to 30 April 2017:

- 1) Professor Neville Ying – **Chairperson**;
- 2) Dr. Lois Parkes;
- 3) Mr. Wayne Jones;
- 4) Mr. Michael Jones;
- 5) Mrs. Elaine Foster-Allen; and
- 6) Mr. Berome Edwards.

(v) National Solid Waste Management Authority

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 27 April 2015 to 26 April 2017:

- 1) Mr. Dennis Chung – **Chairperson**;
- 2) Mr. Conrad Douglas – **Deputy Chairperson**;
- 3) Mr. Omar Sweeney;
- 4) Ms. Bevon Morrison;
- 5) Mr. Gary “Butch” Hendrickson;
- 6) Mr. Burrell Scarlett;
- 7) Ms. Hazel Anderson;
- 8) Mr. Pershard Williams;
- 9) Professor Trevor Francis;
- 10) Ms. Camille Facey; and
- 11) Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government and Community Development – ex officio.

The Negril Marine Park was legally established under the Negril Marine Park Order by the Government of Jamaica in 1958. It was officially opened on 5 March 1998 and covers an area of approximately 160km². A zoning plan for the Park was developed in 1998 by the Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society. This plan was later revised by the National

Cabinet approved the Negril Marine Park Zoning Plan 2013 to 2018.

5. Negril Marine Park Zoning Plan

Preference would be given to applications from contributors who live and/ or work in the parish of St. Elizabeth.

well as the Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions.

(iv) Four (4) serviced lots each to members of the Jamaica Civil Service Association as bands for the purpose of meeting the affordability requirements; and

rate bands. These persons would be allowed to join with individuals within higher (iii) Six (6) serviced lots to persons whose income place them in the 1% and 3% interest

Constabulary Force, and the Jamaica Defence Force);

(iii) Eight (8) serviced lots to Public Sector Workers (two each to members of the Nurses Association of Jamaica, Jamaica Teachers Association, Jamaica

of the solution;

able, whether solely or in combination with a co-applicant, to afford the selling price contributed for at least 5 years, process their loan directly through the NHT, and are

40 years, satisfy the eligibility requirements for a Non-Homeowner's Loan, have (i) Six (6) service lots to young adult contributors who are between the ages of 25 and

to allocate housing solutions to the following contributors:

process, but are able to afford the mortgage. The Special Benefit Order will be promulgated are often not qualified for housing benefits under the Priority Entitlement Index selection The Special Benefit Order allows for the selection of a more diverse mix of contributors who

Development, St. Elizabeth, to contributors to the National Housing Trust.

facilitate the allocation of twenty-eight (28) housing solutions at the Balaclava Housing Cabinet approved the promulgation of a Special Benefit Order, effective 26 April 2015, to

4. Special Benefit Order – Balaclava Housing Development, St. Elizabeth

7) Mr. Everton McFarlane.

6) Dr. Joy Moncrieffe; and

5) Dr. Pauline Knight;

4) Mr. Robert Wynter;

3) Dr. Ike Johnson;

2) Professor Alvin Wint;

1) Mr. Colin Bullock – **Chairperson**;

period of three (3) years, with effect from 27 April 2015 to 26 April 2018:

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a

(vi) Planning Institute of Jamaica

Resource Conservation Authority in 2008. The revision exercise resulted in a five-year (2013-2018) zoning plan which seeks to realise three main objectives within the Park:

- (i) Ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources;
- (ii) Promoting the safety of users; and
- (iii) Encouraging compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

6. Green Paper – National Youth Policy

Cabinet approved the National Youth Policy for tabling in the Houses of Parliament as a Green Paper.

The National Youth Policy aims to facilitate the positive development of young people in Jamaica, enabling them to achieve their optimal potential whilst contributing to national development and growth. The Policy seeks to establish a common vision and framework for youth development, whilst it articulates the inclusive nature of the youth as a stakeholder. It further provides for the collaborative involvement of Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

The Goals of the Policy are:

- (i) Increased educational access and benefits to all young people to improve capacity and capability to enter the world of work;
- (ii) Improved health access and services to ensure the holistic wellbeing of young people;
- (iii) Improved employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for youth;
- (iv) Establishment of safe, nurturing and secure environments for youths to thrive;
- (v) Promotion of youth mainstreaming and participation in nation building;
- (vi) Support of equitable provisions for young people in special circumstances; and
- (vii) Strengthened capacity and partnership in the youth sector.

7. Fourth International Road Federation Caribbean Regional Congress to be Held in Montego Bay, Jamaica During the Period 4-8 May 2015

Cabinet approved the hosting by the Government of Jamaica, through the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing, of the Fourth International Road Federation Caribbean Regional Congress to be held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, during the period 4 to 8 May 2015.

The International Road Federation (IRF), founded in 1948, is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation with the mission to encourage and promote development and maintenance of better, safer and more sustainable roads and road networks. Jamaica is committed to the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020), which is now at its mid-term point. In this regard, the Government has endeavoured to adopt and implement comprehensive national road safety legislation on the major risk and protective factors in order to reach a target of 50% by 2010. Jamaica's hosting of the 4th IRF Caribbean Regional Congress is timely, as it gives added impetus to the Decade of Action for Road Safety campaign.

8. Reports

(i) Hope Gardens Research and Development Institution

Cabinet noted a report advising that the National Commission on Science and Technology secured partial funding for the procurement of consultancy services to audit the Hope Gardens and Government Chemist laboratories, with a view to establishing a detailed implementation plan for the rationalisation of the scientific research facilities to optimise the use of space, equipment and personnel.

The report advised that the role of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for social and economic development is emphasised in the *Vision 2030 Jamaica: National Development Plan*. An efficient and effective infrastructure was required, as currently, the STI and research and development (R&D) framework was fragmented, with inadequate synergies amongst the various STI related entities in the public sector resulting in an inefficient use of R&D resources. The rationalisation of these facilities is part of the planned transformation of the public sector.

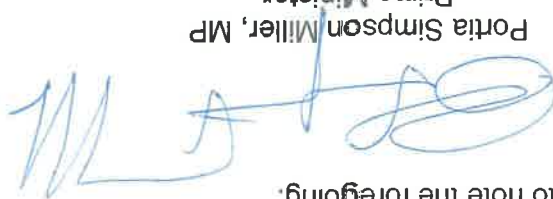
(ii) Twenty-Sixth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Nassau, The Bahamas 26-27 February 2015

Cabinet noted a report on the Twenty-Sixth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) held in Nassau, The Bahamas during the period 26 to 27 February 2015.

The report advised of the outcomes and decisions of the Seventh Special Meeting of the Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR) and the discussions on agenda items at the Inter-Sessional meeting, including:

- a presentation on "Leveraging CARICOM's Human, Cultural and Natural Assets for the Economic Development of the Community";
- the financing of the CARICOM Secretariat and the Community Institutions;
- the establishment of a Permanent Committee of CARICOM Ambassadors (PCCA);
- the composition of the CARICOM Marijuana Commission;
- the work of the CARICOM Reparations Commission; and
- enhancing co-operation to counter security threats to the region.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Portia Simpson Miller, MP
Prime Minister
8 May 2015