

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 20 JULY 2015

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20 July 2015:

1. Contracts;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Reports;
4. Board Appointments;
5. Closure of Small Schools;
6. Renaming Islington High School "Horace Clarke High School"; and
7. Report on the 45th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of the American States Washington D.C., United States of America.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) High Density Manual Mobile Filing System

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of J\$47,480,798.00 to Keith Ryan and Company Limited for the supply, installation and commissioning of a high density manual mobile filing system at the Supreme Court, Public Building North, 52-54 King Street, Kingston.

The Supreme Court is required to retain records of all documents filed as part of lawsuits in the Court. However, the existing filing arrangements in the Registry at the Court are inadequate. The new location for the Registry at Public Building North was completed and handed over to the Chief Justice in September 2014. The new filing system will provide storage space for the files currently held at the Supreme Court, as well as for the projected growth.

(ii) Supply of Pipes and Fittings, Mason River/Kellits/Sandy River Water Supply Upgrading Project

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of J\$65,239,313.80 to Selga International Corporation, for the supply of approximately 100m of 200mm D.I. pipeline, 10.15km of 200mm PVC pipeline, 2.61km of 150mm PVC pipeline, 11.72km of 100mm PVC pipeline, 5.05km of 50mm PVC pipeline and numerous appurtenances of stated contract specifications.

The upgrade of the Kellits Water Supply System in the parish of Clarendon will provide existing customers of the National Water Commission with a more reliable supply of potable water. The upgrade will also provide a water source for the projected growth in the requirements of other areas such as Sandy River, Mason River, Douglas Castle, Macknie Shooter, Rhoden Hall, Elbow Corner and Stacyville.

(iii) Port Community System

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$6,975,439.90 to the joint venture consortium of SOGET S.A. – Bureau Veritas B.I.V.A.C. BV, with the main ICT provider being Microsoft Corporation, for the design, development and implementation and maintenance of a Port Community System for Jamaica.

The Port Community System (PCS) is a critical component of Jamaica's Global Logistics Hub Initiative and trade facilitation framework and a key deliverable under the Medium Term Economic Framework (MTEF) and fiscal arrangement with the International Monetary Fund. The PCS Project includes predominantly Business to Business and Shipping Business to Government transactions and it will be integrated with the Jamaica Customs' Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA World) to provide a trade and logistics solution for Jamaica.

2. Legislation

(i) The Local Government (Financing and Financial Management) Act, 2015

Cabinet gave approval for a Bill entitled "The Local Government (Financing and Financial Management) Act, 2015" to be tabled in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to provide a comprehensive framework for the financing and financial management of local government authorities. The framework is expected to facilitate efficient local governance by identifying sources of revenue from which Local Authorities will be financed, and providing guidelines and oversight to ensure prudent financial management, accountability and transparency of Local Authorities.

(ii) The Transport Authority (Amendment) Act, 2015

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled "The Transport Authority (Amendment) Act, 2015" to be tabled in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to amend the Transport Authority Act to provide for the classification for public passenger vehicles, which would include an increase in the seating capacity of hackney carriages from "not more than four persons" to "not more than five persons, including the driver".

3. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports of the:

- (i) Anti-Dumping and Subsidies Commission for the financial year 2011/2012; and
- (ii) Financial Institutions Services Limited for the financial years 2012/2013 and 2013/2014.

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

4. Board Appointments

(i) National Education Trust

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 20 July 2015 to 19 July 2018:

- 1) Mr. Courtney Campbell – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mrs. Scarlett Gillings;
- 3) Reverend Ron Burgess;
- 4) Mrs. Kathy McClure;
- 5) Mr. Rezworth Burcheson;
- 6) Ms. Jean Hastings;
- 7) Mrs. Yvonne Clarke;
- 8) Mr. Milverton Reynolds; and
- 9) Ms. Patricia Scott.

(ii) Port Royal Brotherhood

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 20 July 2015 to 19 July 2017:

- 1) Mr. Laurie Garth Soares – **Chairman**;
- 2) Ms. Angela Lim Tom;
- 3) Mr. Ainsley Henry;
- 4) Lieutenant Commander Evon Clarke;
- 5) Ms. Lorraine Dobson, JP;
- 6) Mr. Raymond Villiers; and
- 7) Mr. Roderick Francis, Jnr.

(iii) Aeronautical Telecommunications Limited

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of Mr. Kevin Powell to the Board, with effect from 20 July 2015 to 15 March 2018, when the tenure of the existing Board will expire.

(iv) Jamaica Business Development Corporation, Micro Investment Development Agency and Self Start Fund

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following additional members to the single Board of Directors for the Jamaica Business Development Corporation, Micro Investment Development Agency and Self Start Fund, with effect from 20 July 2015 to 30 June 2017, when the tenure of the existing Board will expire:

- 1) Mr. William Willis; and
- 2) Mr. Wayne Lawrence.

(v) Sugar Industry Authority

Cabinet noted the nomination of Mr. Khurt Fletcher to serve as the representative of the National Workers Union (NWU) on the Board of Directors of the Sugar Industry Authority.

Cabinet had previously appointed the Board of Directors of the Sugar Industry Authority for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 9 February 2015 to 8 February 2017, including a representative of the NWU.

(vi) College of Agriculture, Science and Education

Cabinet noted the nomination of Dr. Ian Thompson to serve as the representative of the University of the West Indies (UWI) on the Board of Management of the College of Agriculture, Science and Education.

Cabinet had previously appointed the Board of Management of the College of Agriculture, Science and Education for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 1 June 2015 to 31 May 2018, including a representative of the UWI.

(vii) Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts

Cabinet noted the nomination of Dr. Sonjah Stanley Niaah to serve as the representative of the University of the West Indies (UWI) on the Board of Management of Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts.

Cabinet had previously appointed the Board of Management of Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 1 June 2015 to 31 May 2018, including a representative of the UWI.

5. Closure of Small Schools

Cabinet gave approval for the closure of 18 schools with small populations ranging from 8 to 70 students.

The schools are being closed with a view to achieving greater efficiency in the school system. In February 2014, the Ministry of Education noted that there were 212 public schools offering primary level education that are underutilized with 100 or less students. For 49 of the schools identified, the cost to educate a child was almost twice the national average for Primary education. The students will be transferred to schools within a 3 mile proximity with the Ministry providing transportation, as necessary.

6. Renaming Islington High School "Horace Clarke High School"

Cabinet gave approval for the renaming of Islington High School in the Parish of St. Mary, "Horace Clarke High School", effective September 2015.

The school is being renamed in honour of the now deceased Honourable Horace Clarke, OJ, former Member of Parliament for the constituencies of Northern, West Central and Central St. Mary, who also served as a Minister of Government for over thirty (30) years. The renaming is based on recommendations from citizens of the parish of St. Mary for the school to be so renamed. The Ministry of Education is in support of the proposal and consultations were held on the matter.

7. Report on the 45th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of the American States, Washington, DC, United States of America

Cabinet noted a report on the outcome of the 45th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of the American States held in Washington, D.C., United States of America over the period 15-16 June 2015.

The report advised of the two resolutions that were adopted by the General Assembly. The first was with regard to the sovereignty dispute of the Malvinas Islands between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; the second was the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons.

The report also advised on the election of members of Organs, Agencies and Entities of the Organization of the American States including, Mrs. Margarette May Macaulay, Jamaica's candidate to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Summary information was also provided on Jamaica's bilateral meetings.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Portia Simpson Miller, MP
Prime Minister
12 August 2015