

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 26 OCTOBER 2015

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 26 October 2015:

1. Contracts;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Reports;
4. Board Appointment; and
5. Strategies and Actions in Response to the Outbreak of Bacteria involving Neonatals.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Security Guard Services – Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Cabinet gave approval for the award of a contract in the amount of \$170,992,642.00 to Shalk Electronic Security Limited for the provision of security guard services at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Head Office and outstations across the island.

The contract provides for the security for the personnel, equipment, materials and property of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and eleven of its outstations. The security guard services that will be provided under the contract include perimeter security, static security at entry and exit points, and parking regulation. The contract is for a period of two years.

(ii) Private Security Services – Post and Telecommunications Department

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$57,921,143.80 to Marksman Limited for the provision of static security guard services for the Post and Telecommunications Department.

The operations of the Post and Telecommunications Department require that various categories of security services are provided, including static security guard services. This procurement will provide for both armed and unarmed static guards at the Central Sorting Office as well as selected post offices for a period of two years.

(iii) Radio Monitoring and Direction Finding System – Spectrum Management Authority

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$1,203,351.27 to TCI International Inc. for the expansion of the Spectrum Management Authority's Radio Monitoring and Direction Finding System.

The contract will facilitate phase 3 of the expansion plan of the Spectrum Management Authority (SMA). The expansion of the Radio Monitoring and Direction Finding System

(RMDFS) will enable the SMA to monitor and measure radio signals, and identify the location of a transmitter source more accurately. Under the contract, the SMA will be provided with the tools to manage the radio spectrum efficiently and facilitate the provision of secure and high quality radio communication to radio spectrum users in Jamaica.

(iv) Consultancy Services – Ministry of Education

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$510,780.00 by the Ministry of Education to DPK Information Systems Limited to effect additional work to the National Assessment Programme for the Grades 2 and 9 Diagnostic Tests and the Primary Exit Profile.

The Ministry of Education is modifying the National Assessment Programme (NAP) based on the findings of a review of the Grade Six Achievement Test (GSAT). This new approach includes the development of a national curriculum from Grades 1-9 which will focus on greater thinking/learning skills and competencies of learners. The consultancy services being procured under this contract are necessary to effect the changes to the NAP.

(v) Diesel Electric Straddle Carriers – Kingston Container Terminal

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$9,612,312.00 by the Port Authority of Jamaica to Terex Port Solutions for the supply and commissioning of twelve diesel electric straddle carriers for the Kingston Container Terminal (KCT).

The Port Authority of Jamaica signed a Concession Agreement with the Terminal Link Consortium for a Concession to Finance, Expand, Operate, Maintain and Transfer the KCT. The contract is for the purchase of capital equipment to replace decommissioned ones at the KCT. The cost of the procurement will be borne by the Concessionaire.

(vi) Kalmar Empty Container Handlers – Kingston Container Terminal

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$1,113,332.00 by the Port Authority of Jamaica to Cargotec Finland OY for the supply and commissioning of four Kalmar 8-High Empty Container Handlers for the Kingston Container Terminal (KCT).

The contract is for the purchase of capital equipment to replace the decommissioned ones, and is necessary to maintain the operational performance standards at the KCT.

(vii) Clinical Chemistry Systems for the General Chemistry and Immunochemistry – Cornwall Regional Hospital

Cabinet approved the variation of a contract in the amount of US\$75,647.25 awarded for the supply of clinical chemistry systems for general chemical and immunochemistry at the Cornwall Regional Hospital.

The original contract amount of US\$458,468.20 was awarded to Facey Commodity Company Limited for a period of one year. The variation to the original contract amount is as a result of the requirement that all public sector entities pay GCT on imported goods and domestic taxable supplies which came into effect after the tender process had commenced.

(viii) Garbage Compactors – National Solid Waste Management Authority

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of €1,977,500.00 by the National Solid Waste Management Authority to Renault Trucks (France) for the supply of seventeen Renault Midlum Garbage Compactor Trucks.

The National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) is mandated to collect and dispose of domestic and commercial waste in an environmentally safe manner for the safeguarding of public health and for beautifying the environment. The emergency procurement of additional garbage trucks is necessary as there has been a severe backlog in the collection of waste which poses serious risks to the health and well-being of citizens.

2. Legislation – The Special Economic Zones Act, 2015

Cabinet gave approval for a Bill entitled “The Special Economic Zones Act, 2015” to be tabled in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to implement a comprehensive regulatory framework for the operation of Special Economic Zones and will replace the Export Free Zones Act, 1982. The Bill provides for the execution of the Special Economic Zone policy and strategy, the establishment of a Special Zone Authority, the establishment of a Special Economic Zone Fund, and the establishment of a single point of contact for developers, occupants and zone users in order to lodge applications and requests, and receive information from Government entities.

3. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports of the:

- (i) Government of Jamaica Audit Commission for the financial year 2014/2015;
- (ii) Jamaica International Free Zone Development Limited for the financial year 2014/2015;
- (iii) Milk River Bath for the financial years 2007/2008, 2008/2009 and 2009/2010;
- (iv) Pesticides Control Authority for the financial year 2011/2012;
- (v) Port Authority Management Services Limited for the financial year 2014/2015;
- (vi) Rural Electrification Programme Limited for the financial years 2009/2010, 2010/2011 and 2011/2012;
- (vii) Southern Regional Health Authority for the financial year 2012/2013; and
- (viii) University Council of Jamaica for the financial year 2014/2015.

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

4. Board Appointment – Protection of Plant Genetic Resources

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Protection of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Management Authority for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 26 October 2015 to 25 October 2018:

- 1) Mr. Don McGlashan – **Chairman**;
- 2) Ms. Gillian Guthrie;
- 3) Ms. Yvette Strong;
- 4) Mrs. Ann-Marie Smith;
- 5) Dr. Seymour Webster;
- 6) Professor Nouredine Benkeblia;
- 7) Mr. Keron Campbell;
- 8) Mrs. Yvonne Joy Crawford;
- 9) Ms. Lorna Green;
- 10) Ms. Jacqueline Binns; and
- 11) Mr. Reginald Burgess.

5. Strategies and Actions in Response to the Outbreak of Bacteria involving Neonatal

Cabinet noted information provided by the Ministry of Health on the strategies and actions taken in response to the spike in neonatal deaths at the University of the West Indies and the Cornwall Regional Hospital as a result of the outbreak of bacterial infections at those facilities.

Cabinet was presented with information on the specific actions taken during the outbreak of the Klebsiella and Serratia bacteria at the University Hospital of the West Indies and Klebsiella bacterial infection at the Cornwall Regional Hospital. The actions taken by the Ministry of Health included the isolation of infected babies, purchasing of additional equipment, increased infection-control measures and enhanced monitoring of the outbreak. Information was also provided on the follow-up strategies and actions that have subsequently been taken, as well as those being undertaken by the Ministry of Health. These actions include steps taken to create guidelines for case management; engagement of a medical microbiologist; international cooperation sought; and consultation meetings.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Portia Simpson Miller, MP
Prime Minister
20 November 2015