

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 6 AND 8 FEBRUARY 2017

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meetings held on 6 and 8 February 2017:

1. Annual Report;
2. Board Appointments;
3. Appointment of Chairman to the Enterprise Team for the Privatization of the Jamaica Ship Registry;
4. The Takeover of Public Pharmacy Services;
5. The Operational Designation of the Ports Security Corps at the Ports of Entry and Approval for Interim Financing;
6. Revised Transaction Structure for the Norman Manley International Airport Public Private Partnership Project;
7. Management of Emissions in the Transportation Sector in Jamaica;
8. Creation and Operation of Jamaica House 2017 (London): 4-13 August 2017;
9. Amendment to the Operation of the CARICOM Development Fund;
10. Approval for a Special Envoy to Enhance the Lobbying Efforts for Jamaica's Candidature to the International Maritime Organization; and
11. Report on 43rd Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development held in Georgetown, Guyana.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Annual Report

Cabinet considered the Annual Report of the Public Broadcasting Corporation of Jamaica for the Financial Year 2006/2007.

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

2. Board Appointments

2.1. Banana Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Roger Turner as Chairman of the Board, with effect from 6 February 2017 to 17 April 2018, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

2.2. Jamaica Bauxite Institute

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Bindley Sangster as Chairman of the Board of Directors and the appointment of Ms. Julliet Mair to the Board, with effect from 6 February 2017 to 8 May 2018, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

2.3. Jamaica Dairy Development Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mrs. Angela Waite to the Board, with effect from 6 February 2017 to 15 May 2019, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

2.4. University of Technology, Jamaica

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons as ex officio members of the Council, with effect from 6 February 2017 to 8 May 2019, when the tenure of the Council will expire:

- 1) Professor Stephen Vasciannie – President; and
- 2) Professor Colin Gyles – Vice President.

3. Appointment of a Chairman to the Enterprise Team for the Privatization of the Jamaica Ship Registry

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. William Brown as Chairman of the Enterprise Team for the privatization of the Jamaica Ship Registry, with effect from 6 February 2017.

4. The Takeover of Public Pharmacy Services

Cabinet gave approval for:

- (i) The transfer of the management and delivery of pharmacy services from the portfolio of the Regional Health Authorities to the National Health Fund (NHF), with effect from 3 February 2014; and
- (ii) The takeover of pharmacies in public health facilities directly by the NHF through its Drug Serv Division.

This new policy direction is to facilitate a unified and effective approach to the management and delivery of pharmacy services and the procurement and distribution of pharmaceuticals for the public health system. The revised pharmacy services will be achieved through partnerships between the NHF and private pharmacies, as well as the outsourcing of the distribution of the drugs to private pharmacies for greater efficiency.

5. The Operational Designation of the Ports Security Corps at the Ports of Entry and Approval for Interim Financing

Cabinet gave approval for the Ports Security Corps (PSC) to be mandated the sole security provider to operate and provide security services in designated sensitive and restricted areas and zones in the aviation and maritime locations indicated below:

- 1) Norman Manley International Airport;
- 2) Sangster International Airport;
- 3) Ian Fleming International Airport;
- 4) Tinson Pen Aerodrome;
- 5) Negril Aerodrome;
- 6) Kingston Freeport Terminal Limited;
- 7) Falmouth Cruise Ship Pier; and
- 8) Port of Montego Bay.

The PSC, being a government-owned limited liability company, previously had no formal mandate to provide specialized services at critical screening points at ports of entry. That has made it difficult for the PSC to fully invest in human capital to the extent required, given the lack of security of tenure and the constant threat of replacement with private security providers.

6. Revised Transaction Structure for the Norman Manley International Airport Public Private Partnership Project

Cabinet approved:

- (i) the privatization of the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA); and
- (ii) the recommendation of the NMIA Enterprise Team, the Development Bank of Jamaica and the International Finance Corporation to proceed with the implementation of the tender process to identify a suitable private sector concessionaire for the NMIA.

The objectives of the privatization of the NMIA include enhancing the Airport's competitive positioning; introducing private sector management and expenditure to improve operational efficiency; and mobilizing additional private sector investment in airport infrastructure.

7. Management of Emissions in the Transportation Sector in Jamaica

Cabinet approved the development of a greenhouse emissions policy led by the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and Mining, the Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology and the Ministry of Tourism.

The need for a greenhouse gas emissions policy arises in the current context of a global focus on sustainable development and climate change mitigation.

8. The Creation and Operation of Jamaica House 2017 (London): 4-13 August 2017

Cabinet approved the creation of Jamaica House 2017 in London to leverage the 2017 IAAF World Athletics Championships to promote Brand Jamaica and generate excitement in relation to Destination Jamaica. Cabinet further approved Jamaica House 2017 (London) as a joint project of the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport and the Ministry of Tourism, through the Jamaica Tourist Board; and that Jamaica House 2017 (London) should be created at Indigo at the O2 in East London.

Jamaica House 2017 will be established in London to coincide with the 2017 IAAF World Athletics Championships, scheduled for 4 to 13 August 2017.

9. Amendment to Operation of the CARICOM Development Fund

Cabinet gave approval for Jamaica's signature and ratification of the Amendment to Annex III (7) of the Agreement relating to the operation of the CARICOM Development Fund (CDF) to be done at the Twenty-Eighth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM scheduled for 16 to 17 February 2017 in Georgetown, Guyana.

The CDF provides technical assistance to disadvantaged countries, regions and sectors in CARICOM. The Amendment to Annex III of the CDF Agreement is subject to ratification by all state parties and enters into force thirty (30) days after the deposit of the last instrument of ratification. As such, all CDF member states have to ratify the Amendment before it can come into force.

10. Approval for a Special Envoy to Enhance the Lobbying Efforts for Jamaica's Candidature to the International Maritime Organization

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of Rear Admiral Peter Brady as a Special Envoy to the International Maritime Organization to lobby for Jamaica's candidature to Category "C" of the Council of the Organization.

Rear Admiral Peter Brady currently serves as the Director General of the Maritime Authority of Jamaica. As the Special Envoy, he will be expected to pursue identified target States and individuals and engage them at the appropriate level to secure their support for Jamaica's candidature. Rear Admiral Brady was selected, given his keen awareness of IMO issues and his active participation in that institution over the years.

11. Report on 43rd Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) held in Georgetown, Guyana

The Cabinet considered a report from the Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries in connection with the 43rd Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) held in Georgetown, Guyana over the period 17 to 18 November 2016.

The report highlighted the deliberations and decisions of the Meeting, including issues of specific importance to Jamaica, such as the implementation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), trade in agriculture, external economic and trade relations, trade in goods, the Draft Regional Policy for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise, health, and the scheduling of the next regular meeting of COTED for May 2017.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP
Prime Minister
March 2017