

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 10 OCTOBER 2017

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 10 October 2017:

1. Contracts;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Report;
4. Board Appointment;
5. National Organic Agriculture Policy and Implementation Plan;
6. Updating of the National Quality Policy and Development of the Implementation Plan;
7. Proposed Candidature to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), 2020-2023; and
8. Jamaica's Hosting of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) Executive Development Programme on Energy Efficiency (EDPEE) Onsite.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Secure Facility at the Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine (IFSLM)

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the sum of \$161,071,180.18 to the West Indies Home Contractors Limited for the construction of a secure storage facility at the Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine (IFSLM).

There is an urgent need to expand the IFSLM facility in order to have more storage areas established, as increased criminal investigations and requests for service from neighbouring jurisdictions have increased the demands on the facility.

(ii) Variation to Contraction for the Restoration of Mechanical and Electrical Facilities – PETROJAM Limited's Main and Esso Kingston Terminal Docks

Cabinet approved a cumulative variation in the amount of US\$2,542,809.17, which was incurred on a contract awarded in the original amount of US\$3,405,728.43 to Quality Plus Contracting Company Limited, for the restoration of mechanical and electrical facilities at PETROJAM Limited's main dock and the Esso Kingston Terminal Dock.

The need for restoration was caused by an accident where an oil tanker collided with PETROJAM's main docking facility in Kingston causing significant damage in June 2009. The need for variations has been caused by issues including delays in working windows, as well as changes in the scope of works due to unforeseen miscellaneous works.

(iii) Provision of Consulting Services Towards the Development of a National Health Insurance Plan

Cabinet approved of the award of a contract in the amount of US\$722,673.75, excluding local taxes, to Sanigest Internacional, for the provision of consulting services towards the development of a national health insurance plan for a period of six months.

The National Health Insurance Plan will expand the role of the National Health Fund by creating a broader national insurance scheme that will provide more than just access to pharmaceutical benefits.

(iv) Supply and Delivery of Two Pilot Boats for Service to Public and Private Port Facilities in and around the Port of Kingston

Cabinet approved of the award of a contract in the amount of US\$3,000,000.00 to Damen Shipyards Gorinchem, for the supply and delivery of two pilot boats for service to public and private port facilities in and around the Port of Kingston.

The boats that are currently utilized for piloting and tug services by the Port Authority of Jamaica are owned by a private company and have become unsatisfactory for use for this purpose due to age and disrepair, necessitating this current procurement.

(v) Tourism Resort Maintenance Project

Cabinet approved of the award of a contract in the sum of \$340,744,529.38 to the National Solid Waste Management Authority for provision of tools, labour and planting material to implement the Tourism Resort Maintenance Project for a period of six months.

The objective of the project is the provision of a clean and aesthetically-pleasing environment which will attract visitors and investment to resort areas whilst improving the quality of life for local citizens.

2. Annual Report

Cabinet considered Annual Report of the Jamaica Information Service for the Financial Year 2014/2015

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

3. Legislation

(i) The Justice of the Peace Act, 2017 and The Re-naming of the Courts of Petty Sessions (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 2017

Cabinet gave approval for the Bills entitled "The Justice of the Peace Act, 2017" and "The Re-naming of the Courts of Petty Sessions (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 2017" to be tabled in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bills seek to strengthen legislative provisions for the selection, appointment, jurisdiction, training and discipline of Justices of the Peace; increase the monetary jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace when exercising summary jurisdiction in a Parish Court; and re-name the Courts of Petty Sessions as Lay Magistrates' Courts, pursuant to a recommendation of the Justice Reform Task Force.

(ii) The National Heroes and Other Freedom Fighters (Absolution from Criminal Liability in Respect of Specified Events) Act, 2017

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled "The National Heroes and Other Freedom Fighters (Absolution from Criminal Liability in Respect of Specified Events) Act, 2017" to be tabled in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to absolve of criminal wrongdoing, National Heroes, supporters and sympathizers and participants by association, who were considered rebels against the Crown, following the 1831/1832 Christmas Rebellion, the 1865 Morant Bay Rebellion, and the 1929 campaign of the People's Political Party. The Bill also seeks to absolve Tacky and the participants in the 1760 Tacky/St. Mary Rebellion of criminal wrongdoing.

4. Board Appointment

Clarendon Alumina Production Limited (CAP)

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Dennis Morgan as Chairman of the Board, and the addition of Mr. Joseph Shoucair as a member of the Board, with effect from 10 October 2017 and up to 15 May 2018 when the tenure of the Board will expire.

5. National Organic Agriculture Policy and Implementation Plan

Cabinet approved the development of the National Organic Agriculture Policy and Implementation Plan.

This Policy is being pursued in view of its potential for significant contribution to economic growth through increased production and trade. Given the expanding demand for organic products in industrialized countries, there is also potential with respect to organic products for niche markets.

6. Updating of the National Quality Policy and Development of the Implementation Plan

Cabinet approved the updating of the National Quality Policy and the development of the Implementation Plan.

Jamaica's first National Quality Policy (NQP) was promulgated in October 2001, to facilitate the production and export of quality goods and services through the establishment and use of the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) to ensure compliance with global market requirements. Since that time, there have been significant changes in the global trading environment that require an updated NQP to drive further development of the NQI.

7. Proposed Candidature to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), 2020-2023

Cabinet approved the submission of Jamaica's candidature to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), to fill a vacancy for the period 2020 to 2023.

CND is the central United Nations (UN) policy-making body for addressing drug-related matters, and candidature will enable Jamaica to actively participate in decision-making at the international level on matters that influenced action at the domestic level, including the current lobby for revisions in the treatment of marijuana in the international legal drug framework.

8. Jamaica's Hosting of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) Executive Development Programme on Energy Efficiency (EDPEE) Onsite Workshop

Cabinet approved Jamaica's hosting of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) Executive Development Programme on Energy Efficiency (EDPEE) Onsite Workshop during the period 22-24 November 2017.

The general objective of this training programme is to raise the awareness for the creation of favourable institutional conditions which will enable the implementation of sustainable national energy efficiency programmes in participating countries.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Holness', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Holness, MP

Prime Minister

30 November 2017