

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 25 SEPTEMBER 2017

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 25 September 2017:

1. Contracts;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Board Appointments;
4. Replenishment of the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB);
5. Agreement Between the Government of Jamaica and the Government of the Argentine Republic on Cooperation in the Fields of Arts and Culture;
6. Establishment of an Urban Development Corporation (UDC) Enterprise Team; and
7. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Streetscape Improvements to Tharpe Street, Falmouth, Trelawny

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$106,868,425.14 to M&M Jamaica Limited to undertake streetscape improvements to Tharpe Street in Falmouth, Trelawny.

The objectives of the Falmouth Streetscape Improvement Project include the improvement of the town's environs; the improvement of the ambiance of the town to facilitate the movement of cruise passengers from the Terminal into the town centre and the creation of commercial opportunities along those corridors.

(ii) Greater Black River Water Supply Project (Phase 1A) Sandy Ground to Exchange Drive Main Replacement and Upgrade – National Water Commission

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$67,872,650.00 to Turbo Construction Company Limited, for the Greater Black River Water Supply Project (Phase 1A) – Sandy Ground to Exchange Drive) Main Replacement and Upgrade.

This project is a part of the National Water Commission's continuing rehabilitation and upgrading works on the potable domestic water supply for customers in St. Elizabeth who are served by the Greater Black River Water Supply Scheme.

(iii) Essex Valley Water Supply and Upgrade Phase 3A (Development of Nain Re-Lift Station) – National Water Commission

Cabinet approved the award of a contract comprising J\$36,630,856.24 and US\$238,353.68, to Champion Industrial Equipment and Supplies, for the supply and installation of two re-lift pumps at the Nain Re-Lift Station.

The project is a part of the development of the Nain Re-Lift Station which is a phase of the Essex Valley Water Supply and Upgrade Project and will aid in transmitting the water supply from Long Hill to Junction, St. Elizabeth.

(iv) Maintenance and Capital Dredging in the Ports of Kingston, Montego Bay, Falmouth, Ocho Rios and Port Antonio

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$13,652,782.00 to Sodracco International SAS for maintenance dredging in the ports of Kingston, Montego Bay, Falmouth, Ocho Rios and Port Antonio and capital dredging in the ports of Montego Bay and Falmouth.

Dredging at the ports reduces the negative effects of the inflow of debris and sedimentation from nearby rivers and gullies. These inflows have the potential to reduce the depth of the water in the ship channel and berthing areas which could diminish business at these ports by restricting the types of ships that can be accommodated.

(v) Variation to Contract for the Maintenance of Vehicle and Cargo Inspection Security (VACIS) Machines Deployed at the Ports of Kingston and Montego Bay and Bonded Warehouses in Kingston

Cabinet approved a variation in the amount of US\$1,320,000.00, excluding General Consumption Tax (GCT), to a contract which was awarded to Leidos, Inc., for the maintenance of five mobile and seven pallet Vehicle and Cargo Inspection Security (VACIS) machines for the period 23 April 2017 to 22 April 2018.

VACIS machines represent a significant aspect of the security initiatives undertaken by the Port Authority of Jamaica at our nation's ports. The machines use gamma-rays to non-intrusively inspect the contents of trucks, containers and other cargo for contraband.

(vi) Variation of Contract with DPK Information Systems Limited to Continue Development of the Grades 2 & 9 Diagnostic Tests

Cabinet approved a variation in the amount of US\$687,950.00 to a contract awarded to DPK Information Systems Limited for the provision of additional work in relation to the National Assessment Programme Grades 2 and 9 Diagnostic Tests and the Primary Exit Profile.

This variation is to allow for the completion of the Grade 2 Diagnostic test, which will support the summative assessment of student performance after Grade 2. Additionally, the development of the Grade 9 Diagnostic test did not fall within the scope of the original contract and variation presents a cost-effective way of achieving this output.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered Annual Reports of the:

- (i) Financial Investigations Division for the Financial Year 2014/2015;
- (ii) Office of Utilities Regulation for the Financial Year 2016/2017; and
- (iii) Students' Loan Bureau for the Financial Year 2015/2016.

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

3. Board Appointments

(i) National Council for Senior Citizens

Cabinet approved the appointment of Miss Vicki Julia Hanson and Ms. Suzette Morris to the Advisory Board, with effect from 25 September 2017, and up to 17 July 2018 when the tenure of the Board will expire.

(ii) National Insurance Fund (NIF)

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mrs. Camille Bennett-Campbell to the Advisory Board with effect from 25 September 2017 and up to 31 March 2018 when the tenure of the Board will expire.

4. Replenishment of the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Cabinet approved Jamaica's ratification of the Agreement establishing the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) III and the Agreement for the Administration of the Multilateral Investment Fund III; and Jamaica's contribution US\$3,000,000.00 towards the Third Replenishment of the Multilateral Investment Fund over the six-year Contribution Cycle commencing 31 December 2017.

The purpose of MIF III is to promote sustainable development through the private sector by identifying, supporting, testing and piloting new solutions to development challenges for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) member states.

5. Agreement Between the Government of Jamaica and the Government of the Argentine Republic on Cooperation in the Fields of Arts and Culture

Cabinet approved the signing of the Agreement between the Government of Jamaica and the Government of the Argentine Republic on cooperation in the fields of arts and culture.

The purpose of the Agreement is to develop cultural relations and foster dialogue through promoting knowledge and understanding of the intellectual and artistic achievements of both countries. The Agreement will also encourage the establishment of contact and cooperation between interested institutions, organisations and persons in both countries, whilst giving regard to the autonomy of the relevant institutions and bodies and to the status of implementing agencies.

6. Establishment of an Urban Development Corporation (UDC) Enterprise Team

Cabinet gave approval for the establishment of an Urban Development Corporation Enterprise Team to oversee the privatisation and Public-Private Partnership initiatives to be undertaken by the Urban Development Corporation.

The Enterprise Team will have strategic oversight of the projects, including reviewing consultants' reports, ensuring compliance with Government of Jamaica Procurement Rules, and negotiating and/or recommending the final transaction terms.

7. Reports

(i) United States Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant – 2017

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation regarding a readiness and preparatory support grant of US\$300,000.00 from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) that had been applied for by Jamaica and approved.

The report advised of the responsibilities of the Climate Change Division (CCD) in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, including functioning as Jamaica's National Designated Authority (NDA) to the GCF since 2015. It further advised that the Grant would support the strengthening of the CCD, and would also advance the development of a country programme in line with the GCF portfolio.

(ii) Progress of Restorative Works due to the Disruption of Air Traffic Services within Jamaica's Airspace as a Result of a Lightning Strike

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Transport and Mining in connection with the progress of restorative works relating to the disruption of air traffic services within the Jamaican airspace, due to a lightning strike on Friday, 8 September 2017 at the Kingston Air Traffic Control Centre (KATCC) located at the headquarters of the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) at 4 Winchester Road in Kingston.

The report advised of emergency procurement activities undertaken to expedite the procurement of equipment and services for the restoration work, the financial considerations, notification to the International Air Transport Association (IATA) regarding the plans for restoring systems and services and public information activities.

(iii) National Water Commission's (NWC) Strategic Measures for Improving its Financial Performance

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation regarding the Strategic Plan developed by the National Water Commission (NWC) to improving the entity's financial performance.

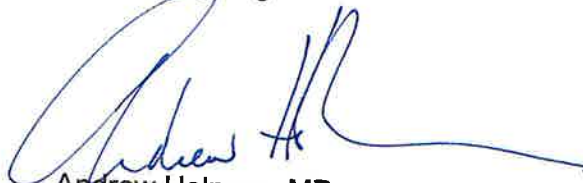
The report presented the plans of the NWC to improve financial performance through the four main corporate strategic objectives of (1) increased revenue and available cash, (2) increased operational efficiency, (3) improved customer service delivery and public image, and (4) building staff capacity. It also outlined performance targets for the 2017/2018 to 2020/2021 period and the key performance indicators to measure and monitor the performance of the entity in that regard.

(iv) Country Visit to Review Jamaica's Implementation of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Justice in connection with the visit to Jamaica, over the period 25 to 28 September 2017, by lead experts from the Committee of Experts for the Mechanism for Follow-Up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and members of the Technical Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS).

The report advised that, pursuant to the Convention and the Declaration on the Mechanism for Follow-Up of the implementation of the Convention, the Committee of Experts conducted reviews of the implementation of the Convention by State Parties. It further advised of the processes and procedures for the conduct of reviews and reporting thereon, past reviews of Jamaica in 2005, 2008, 2011 and 2014, recommendations from the earlier reviews for action by Jamaica to improve implementation and preparatory activities and key issues with respect to the 2017 Fifth Round.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP
Prime Minister
1 November 2017

