

MINISTRY PAPER No. 34 – 2018

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 6 MARCH 2018

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 6 March 2018:

1. Contracts;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Reports;
4. Board Appointments;
5. Signature of the Revised Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC);
6. Hosting of the 2018 Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) General Assembly, Montego Bay, 15-20 April 2018; and
7. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Procurement of an Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Vehicle to be used at the Ian Fleming International Airport

Cabinet approved the award of a contract to Oshkosh Corporation in the amount of US\$871,677.00 for the procurement and supply of an aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle on behalf of the Norman Manley International Airports (NIMA) Limited to be used at the Ian Fleming International Airport.

The procurement of the aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle is a critical part of the overarching safety mechanism for the Ian Fleming International Airport.

(ii) Variation to Contract for Consultancy Services for the Design, Development, Implementation and Maintenance of a Port Community System for Jamaica

Cabinet approved a variation of the five-year contract to the Joint Venture Consortium of SOGET S.A./Bureau Veritas B.I.V.A.C. BV in the amount of US\$860,380.01 for the design, development, implementation and maintenance of a Port Community System for Jamaica.

A Port Community System manages and automates port and logistic processes and encourages efficient trading practices while reducing business costs.

(iii) Supply of the Apache Hadoop Software Required to Support Data Integration within the Ministry of National Security

Cabinet approved the award of a contract to Digicel Jamaica Limited in the amount of US\$1,660,150.00 and applicable taxes, for the supply of the Apache Hadoop software required to support the data integration efforts of the Ministry of National Security.

Apache Hadoop is a collection of open-source software utilities that provide a framework that allows for the distributed processing of large data sets across clusters of computers using simple programming models.

2. Legislation

The Public Procurement (Amendment) Act, 2018

Cabinet approved the Bill entitled "The Public Procurement (Amendment) Act, 2018" for tabling in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to ensure that the provisions of the Act are effective and in keeping with internationally accepted standards and procedures for public procurement.

3. Annual Reports

Cabinet noted the Annual Reports for the:

- (i) Bath Corporation (Bath Fountain Hotel and Spa) for the Financial Year 2015/2016;
- (ii) National Solid Waste Management Authority for the Financial Years 2010/2011, 2011/2012, 2012/2013, 2013/2014 and 2014/2015;
- (iii) Postal Corporation of Jamaica Limited for the Financial Year 2016/2017; and
- (iv) Scientific Research Council for the Financial Year 2015/2016.

The Reports will be tabled in Parliament.

4. Board Appointments

(i) Creative Production and Training Centre

Cabinet approved the appointment of Dr. Fritz Pinnock to the Board of Directors with effect from 19 February 2018, and up to 15 May 2019 when the tenure of the Board will expire.

(ii) Gender Advisory Council

Cabinet approved the appointment of Dr. Sapphire Longmore and Dr. Heather Ricketts to the Council, with effect from 19 February 2018, and up to 7 January 2021 when the tenure of the Council will expire.

5. Signature of the Revised Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC)

Cabinet approved Jamaica's signature of the Revised Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC).

The Revised Agreement substantially clarifies and strengthens the structure of the CXC and its organs, membership, and powers, among other things.

6. Hosting of the 2018 Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) General Assembly at the Hilton Resort, Montego Bay, 15-20 April 2018

Cabinet approved Jamaica's hosting of the 2018 Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) General Assembly by the Bureau of Standards on behalf of the Government of Jamaica, from 15 to 20 April 2018 in Montego Bay, St. James.

COPANT is a civil non-profit association whose members are the national standards bodies of 34 countries of North, South and Central America and the Caribbean. This General Assembly will be held under the theme "One Voice – Regionally Standardised, Globally Harmonised."

7. Reports

(i) Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) and the 4th Meeting of the CARIFORUM-EU Joint Council Under the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in connection with the Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States and the 4th Meeting of the Joint CARIFORUM-EU Council under the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in Brussels, Belgium, 16 to 17 November 2017, which were attended by a Jamaican delegation led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.

The report provided information on preparatory meetings at the technical level and bilateral meetings, discussions on CARIFORUM's candidate for chairmanship of the ACP and CARIFORUM's negotiations for Post-Cotonou negotiations, trade in services, trade in goods, the financing of the EPA, ACP-European Union (EU) relations, and the exit of the United Kingdom (UK) from the EU (BREXIT).

(ii) Jamaica 55 Diaspora Conference, Kingston

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade on the Jamaica 55 Diaspora Conference 2017 held 23 to 26 July 2017 in Kingston.

The report provided information on the theme "Partnering for Growth"; the strategic alignment of the Conference with the commemoration of Jamaica's 55th Anniversary of Independence and the Government of Jamaica strategic priority of inclusive economic growth and job creation; the public and private sector sponsorship received; and the major specific and actionable outcomes and commitments from the Conference.

(iii) Creative and Cultural Industries Symposium (The Future of the Latin American, Caribbean and South Florida Economies) Broward College, South Florida

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports in connection with the Creative and Cultural Industries Symposium held on 20 May 2016 at the Broward College in South Florida, United States of America, which was attended by a Jamaican delegation led by the Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports.

The report advised of the objective of the Symposium to engender coalescence around the role of the cultural and creative industries in economic development; and a presentation by the Minister on regional and international frameworks for incentivizing cultural industries in Jamaica and the economic and financial factors in relation to the cultural industries.

(iv) VII Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities, Asunción, Paraguay

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports in connection with the VII Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities held 17 to 18 November 2016 in Asunción, Paraguay, which was attended by a Jamaican delegation led by the Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports.

The report advised of deliberations on opportunities and challenges in relation to the promotion of cultural goods and services, job creation, social inclusion and cultural diversity; and regional programmes for the promotion of cultural goods and services. It further advised of the election of new officers to the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC), the political and technical organ of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) that enabled follow-up on ministerial agreements.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.


Andrew Holness, MP
Prime Minister
24 April 2018