

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 14 MAY 2018

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 14 May 2018:

1. Contracts;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Board Appointments;
4. Closure of the Audit Commission and the Integration of its Functions into the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service;
5. Approval for the Factories Corporation of Jamaica Limited to Divest 15% of its Assets;
6. Amendment of the Visa Exemption Period for Nationals of Spain; and
7. Prevalence Survey to Measure Gender-Based Violence/Violence Against Women.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Management Services for Government Pensioners' Administrative Services Only (GPASO) Health Scheme

Cabinet approved the award of a contract at a negotiated administrative fee of six per cent of the total cost of \$1,315,272,228.00 in the first year of a three-year contract to Sagicor Life Jamaica Limited for the provision of management services for the Government Pensioners' Administrative Services Only (GPASO) Health Scheme and related insurance policies.

Sagicor, on behalf of the Government of Jamaica, in collaboration with the Jamaica Government Pensioners Association will administer the Government Pensioners' Administrative Services Only (GPASO) Health Scheme which provides health coverage for pensioners.

(ii) Variation to Contract for the Beach Nourishment/ Reclamation Works Component of Phase 3 of the Ocho Rios Fishing Village Redevelopment Project

Cabinet approved the variation of a contract awarded to M&M Jamaica Limited by the Port Authority of Jamaica in the amount of \$38,985,098.32, for the beach nourishment/reclamation works component of Phase 3 of the Ocho Rios Fishing Village Redevelopment Project.

This project is a part of a larger programme of rehabilitation and upgrading of infrastructure in the town of Ocho Rios in order to enhance the tourism product, particularly for cruise tourism.

(iii) Long-Term Concession to Finance, Operate and Maintain Harbour Tug Services in the Port of Kingston

Cabinet approved the award of a 10-year concession, with the option to renew for a further 10 years, to OCEAN (Quebec Inc.) for the financing, operating and maintaining of three harbour tugs within the Port of Kingston.

In order to meet its statutory responsibilities and obligations, and in accordance with the concession agreement with Kingston Freeport Terminal Limited, the new terminal operator, the Port Authority of Jamaica is required to provide reliable and first class pilot and tug services.

(iv) External Audit Services for the Port Authority of Jamaica, its Subsidiaries and Pension Funds

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$91 million to KPMG Jamaica. for the provision of external audit services to the Port Authority of Jamaica, its subsidiaries and pension funds, for a five-year period from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2023.

The contractor is expected to complete the financial audit of the Port Authority of Jamaica, all its subsidiaries and two pension funds in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Report of the:

- (i) Jamaica Urban Transit Company for the Financial Year 2014/2015;
- (ii) Sugar Industry Authority for the Financial Year 2015/2016: and
- (iii) Tourism Enhancement Fund for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

The Reports will be tabled at a later date.

3. Board Appointments

(i) Appeals Tribunal for the Department of Co-Operatives and Friendly Societies

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Tribunal for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2020:

- 1) Mrs. Yvette Sutherland-Reid – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Franklyn Taylor; and
- 3) Mr. Stanley Moore.

(ii) Charities Appeal Tribunal

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Tribunal for a period of two (2) years with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2020:

- 1) Justice Mr. Ferdinand Algernon Smith (Retired) – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Robert Collie;
- 3) Mrs. Yvette Sutherland-Reid;
- 4) Mr. Nigel Jones; and

- 5) Chief Executive Officer or Commissioner of the Jamaica Customs Agency.

(iii) Commission of Strata Corporations

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Commission for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2020:

- 1) Mr. Kevin Richards – **Chairman**;
- 2) Ms. Carolyn Chuck;
- 3) Mrs. Rose Bennett-Cooper;
- 4) Mr. Andrew James;
- 5) Mrs. Marvalyn Campbell;
- 6) Mr. Karl Vendryes;
- 7) Mr. Dale Sinclair;
- 8) Mrs. Authrine Scarlett;
- 9) Mrs. Sheryl Shirley-Haynes;
- 10) Mr. Richard Ferdinand; and
- 11) Mr. Howard Johnson, Jnr.

(iv) Copyright Tribunal

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Tribunal for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2021:

- 1) Mr. Hugh Faulkner – **Chairman**;
- 2) Ms. Nicola Foga – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 3) Mr. Dennis Chung – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 4) Ms. Andrea Davis;
- 5) Ms. Audrey Chin; and
- 6) Ms. Michelle Brown.

(v) Housing Agency of Jamaica Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons Board of Directors for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2021:

- 1) Mr. Norman Brown – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Sylvester Tulloch;
- 3) Mrs. Faye Hutchinson;
- 4) Mr. John Valentine;
- 5) Mr. Cleveland Stewart;
- 6) Mr. Joseph Shoucair;
- 7) Reverend Conrad Pitkin;
- 8) Ms. Sonia McFarlene;
- 9) Mr. Robert Lawrence;
- 10) Mr. Stephen Fong Yee
- 11) Mrs. Doreen Prendergast;
- 12) Mr. Wayne Strachan;
- 13) Mr. Davion Vassell; and
- 14) Mr. Ian C. Johnson.

(vi) Jamaica Business Development Corporation, the Micro Investment Development Agency, and the Self Start Fund

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Joint Board of Directors for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2020:

- 1) Mr. Cleveland Stewart – **Chairman**;
- 2) Senator Matthew Samuda – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 3) Mr. Oral Shaw;
- 4) Mr. Omar Azan;
- 5) Ms. Keisha Lewis;
- 6) Ms. Yvonne Davis;
- 7) Mr. Raymond Villiers;
- 8) Mr. William Lawrence;
- 9) Dr. Janice Lindsay;
- 10) Ms. Valerie Viera;
- 11) Representative from the Small Business Association of Jamaica; and
- 12) Representative from the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Alliance.

(vii) National Compliance and Regulatory Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Advisory Board and Appeals Tribunal, respectively, for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2020:

- a) Advisory Board:
 - 1) Dr. David Lowe – **Chairman**;
 - 2) Ms. Fay Sylvester;
 - 3) Mr. Vincent Wellesley;
 - 4) Mr. Dermon Spence;
 - 5) Mrs. Sandra McLeish;
 - 6) Dr. Marcia Roye; and
 - 7) Chief Executive Officer, National Compliance and Regulatory Authority – **ex officio**.
- b) Appeal Tribunal:
 - 1) Justice Mr. Ferdinand Algernon Smith (Retired) – **Chairman**;
 - 2) Mrs. Yvette Sutherland-Reid; and
 - 3) Dr. Anthony Greenaway.

(viii) National Education Trust

Cabinet approved the appointment of Senator Matthew Samuda as Chairman of the Board of Directors, with effect from 14 May 2018 and up to 31 March 2019, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

(ix) National Road Operating and Constructing Company Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board of Directors for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2020:

- 1) Mr. Phillip Henriques – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Don Mullings;
- 3) Ms. Karen Chuck;
- 4) Mr. Newton Amos;
- 5) Mr. Alston Douglas;
- 6) Mrs. Janet Coleman-Howlett; and
- 7) Mr. Andre Foster.

(x) Professional Engineers Registration Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of following persons to the Board of Directors for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2020:

- 1) Professor Nilza Aples;
- 2) Mr. Christopher Burgess;
- 3) Ms. Nicole Burgher;
- 4) Dr. Nicolas McMorris;
- 5) Mr. Orett Parker;
- 6) Mr. Colin Porter;
- 7) Mr. Glaister Ricketts;
- 8) Mr. Omar Sweeny; and
- 9) Mr. Gary Walters.

(xi) Real Estate Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board of Directors for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 14 May 2018 to 13 May 2020:

- 1) Mr. Kevin Richards – **Chairman**;
- 2) Ms. Carolyn Chuck;
- 3) Mrs. Rose Bennett-Cooper;
- 4) Mr. Andrew James;
- 5) Mrs. Marvalyn Campbell;
- 6) Mr. Karl Vendryes;
- 7) Mr. Dale Sinclair;
- 8) Mrs. Authrine Scarlett;
- 9) Mrs. Sheryl Shirley-Haynes;
- 10) Mr. Richard Ferdinand; and
- 11) Mr. Howard Johnson, Jnr.

4. Closure of the Audit Commission and the Integration of its Functions into the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service

Cabinet approved the closure of the Audit Commission; the integration of its functions into the Internal Audit Directorate of the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service; and issue of drafting instructions for the relevant amendment to the Financial Administration and Audit Act.

The closure is part of the Public Sector Transformation Action Plan that is intended to reduce the number of public bodies and to improve operational efficiencies across Government.

5. Approval for the Factories Corporation of Jamaica Limited to Divest 15% of its Assets

Cabinet gave approval for the proposal for the Factories Corporation of Jamaica (FCJ) Limited to divest 15% of its assets, instead of the 20% previously stipulated by the Government of Jamaica (GOJ); and for the divestment to commence in the fiscal year 2018/2019.

As part of the Standby Agreement between the GOJ and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and in keeping with the Government's mandate to stimulate economic growth and job creation, a decision was taken by the Government to divest 20% of the assets of the FCJ. However, the FCJ has raised concerns about the possible negative impacts that the 20% divestment project would have on the viability of the entity and has proposed a 15% divestment instead.

6. Amendment of the Visa Exemption Period for Nationals of Spain

Cabinet approved the amendment of the visa exemption period for nationals of Spain for tourism, cultural and business purposes, from thirty days to a maximum of ninety days per visit, up to a maximum of one hundred and eighty days in any given calendar year.

This amendment is intended to improve relations with, and encourage greater levels of investment and business activity from Spain.

7. Prevalence Survey to Measure Gender-Based Violence/Violence Against Women

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport in connection with the findings of the Prevalence Survey (also referred to as the Women's Health Survey) conducted in 2017 to measure the prevalence of gender-based violence/violence against women (GBV/VAW), scheduled for release in May 2018.

The report informed that gender-based violence was an international issue, with violence against women one of its most pervasive forms. It further advised that Jamaica had ratified several international instruments in an effort to prohibit gender-based violence, including the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of

Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Locally, the National Strategic Action Plan to Eliminate Gender-Based Violence in Jamaica (NSAP-GBV), 2017-2027, was launched in December 2017, and was designed to create a multi-sectoral and comprehensive approach towards addressing gender-based violence in Jamaica.

The report further advised that, in keeping with Strategic Priority Area 5 of the NSAP-GBV, the Prevalence Survey sought to facilitate the collection of sex-disaggregated data towards the creation of an efficient and effective data management system. The report provided information on the objectives of the study and the methodology used, including the target population and sample size.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP
Prime Minister
29 June 2018

