

MINISTRY PAPER No. 64-2018

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 21 MAY 2018

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 21 May 2018:

1. Contract;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Reports;
4. Board Appointments;
5. Approval to Develop the National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan;
6. Proposals for the Modernisation of the Bank of Jamaica;
7. Appointment of Permanent Representation of Jamaica to the International Seabed Authority;
8. Approval for Signing of a Framework Equivalency Work Plan Between Jamaica and United States of America; and
9. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contract

Provision of General Insurance Coverage for the National Water Commission

Cabinet gave approval for the National Water Commission to award a contract to Marathon Insurance Brokers Limited, for the provision of general insurance coverage and brokerage services for the National Water Commission for the period 2017 to 2020.

2. Legislation

The Financial Institutions (Vesting of Assets in Pan Caribbean Merchant Bank Limited) (Order, 2000) (Validation) Act, 2018

Cabinet approved the Bill entitled "The Financial Institutions (Vesting of Assets in Pan Caribbean Merchant Bank Limited) Order, 2000) (Validation) Act, 2018 for tabling in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to validate and confirm as lawful the vesting of assets in Pan Caribbean Merchant Bank Limited pursuant to the Financial Institutions (Vesting of Assets in Pan Caribbean Merchant Bank Limited) Order 2000, dated 6 June 2000.

3. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports of the:

- (i) Administrator-General's Department for the Financial Year 2016/2017;
- (ii) Montego Bay Free Zone Company for the Financial Year 2016/2017; and
- (iii) Transport Authority for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

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

4. Board Appointments

(i) Anti-Dumping and Subsidies Commission

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Commission for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 21 May 2018 to 20 May 2020:

- 1) Dr. Derrick McKoy – **Chairman**;
- 2) Ms. Dorothy Lightbourne, QC;
- 3) Mr. Clyde Jacks;
- 4) Ms. Gaunique Williams; and
- 5) Mr. Karl Reid.

(ii) Banana Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 21 May 2018 to 20 May 2020:

- 1) Mr. Egbert Miller – **Chairman**;
- 2) Dr. Wayne Myrie – **Vice Chairman**;
- 3) Mr. Jason James;
- 4) Mr. Al Powell;
- 5) Dr. Sophia Ann Ramlal;
- 6) Mr. Webster McPherson;
- 7) Mr. Roger Turner; and
- 8) Representative, All Island Banana Growers Association.

(iii) Fair Trading Commission

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Commission for a period of two (2) years with effect from 21 May 2018 to 20 May 2020:

- 1) Dr. Derrick McKoy – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Robert Collie;
- 3) Ms. Dorothy Lightbourne, QC;
- 4) Mr. Stuart Andrade; and
- 5) Mr. David Miller – **ex officio**.

(iv) Firearm Licensing Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Authority for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 21 May 2018 to 20 May 2021:

- 1) Colonel (Retired) Audley Carter – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mrs. Ena Rose;
- 3) Mr. Albert Edwards;
- 4) Justice (Retired) Marva McIntosh; and
- 5) Mr. Khaleel Azan.

(v) Jamaica Mortgage Bank

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 21 May 2018 to 20 May 2021:

- 1) Mr. Cleveland Stewart – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Ryan Parkes;
- 3) Mr. Courtney Hamilton;
- 4) Mr. Hugh Faulkner;
- 5) Mrs. Tiva Forbes; and
- 6) Mrs. Doreen Prendergast.

(vi) Protection of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Management Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Authority for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 21 May 2018 to 20 May 2021:

- 1) Mr. Don McGlashan – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Courtney Cole;
- 3) Mr. Hopeton Singh;
- 4) Mr. Cleveland Stewart;
- 5) Dr. Wayne Myrie;
- 6) Dr. Sonia Gatchair;
- 7) Dr. Dwight Robinson;
- 8) Ms. Tova Hamilton;
- 9) Ms. Ann-Marie Tomlinson;
- 10) Representative of the Ministry responsible for the environment;
- 11) Representative of the National Environment and Planning Agency;
- 12) Representative of the Scientific Research Council; and
- 13) Representative of the Institute of Jamaica.

(vii) Sugar Company of Jamaica Limited (Legacy), the St. Thomas Sugar Company Limited and the Trelawny Sugar Company Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the combined Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 21 May 2018 to 20 May 2020:

- 1) Senator Kavan Gayle – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. John Plummer;
- 3) Mr. Webster McPherson;
- 4) Mr. Donald Elvey; and
- 5) Mrs. Cynthia Sankar.

(viii) Sugar Industry Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of the Authority for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 21 May 2018 to 20 May 2021:

- 1) Mr. Phillip Henriques – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Peter McConnell, CD;
- 3) Mr. Allan Rickards;

- 4) Senator Kavan Gayle;
- 5) Dr. Horace Charoo;
- 6) Dr. Derrick Deslandes; and
- 7) Ms. Stephanie Muir.

5. Approval to Develop the National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan  
Cabinet approved the development of the National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan.

The need for this policy has arisen as aspects of the current consumer protection framework are outdated and it is necessary to streamline the overlapping and/or complementary activities of various agencies involved in consumer protection.

6. Proposals for the Modernisation of the Bank of Jamaica (BOJ)  
Cabinet approved recommendations to modernise the Bank of Jamaica.

The proposals include clarifying the mandate and policy direction of the Bank and amending the governance structure.

7. Appointment of Permanent Representation of Jamaica to the International Seabed Authority

Cabinet:

- (i) approved the appointment of Dr. Kathy-Ann Brown, Deputy Solicitor General and Director of International Affairs in the Attorney General's Chambers, as Jamaica's Permanent Representative to the International Seabed Authority (ISA);
- (ii) approved the appointment of Miss Michelle Walker, Head of the Legal Unit in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, as a Deputy Permanent Representative to the International Seabed Authority; and
- (iii) reconfirmed the appointment of Mr. Coy Roache, Managing Director, Jamaica Bauxite Mining Limited, as a Deputy Permanent Representative to the International Seabed Authority.

The ISA is an autonomous international organisation and is the body through which State Parties to the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Law of the Sea manage and control activities in the deep seabed, with a view to administering the resources of the area.

8. Approval for Signing of a Framework Equivalency Work Plan Between Jamaica and the United States of America

Cabinet gave approval for the signing of a Framework Equivalency Work Plan (FEWP) between the Government of Jamaica and the Government of the United States of America (USA) related to the irradiation of mangoes on entry into the USA.

Cabinet also noted that Jamaica would commence export of mangoes and other soft fruits to the USA.

The Work Plan relates to the protocol for the irradiation of mangoes on entry into the USA, which will allow for the inaugural export of mangoes to the USA.

## 9. Reports

### (i) Special Meeting of the CARIFORUM Council of Ministers in Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in connection with the outcome of the Special Meeting of the CARIFORUM Council of Ministers held in Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis, over the period 26 to 27 March 2018.

The report provided information on the delegation led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade; the objectives of the Special Meeting of the CARIFORUM Council of Ministers; discussions on the priority areas for Jamaica, including the impending withdrawal of the United Kingdom (UK) from the European Union (EU); and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP)/EU post-Cotonou relations.

The report further informed that a draft CARIFORUM-UK Agreement was prepared by the CARIFORUM Directorate on the basis of recommendations of the meeting of CARIFORUM senior officials.

### (ii) VIII Summit of the Americas in Lima, Peru

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in connection with the outcomes of the VIII Summit of the Americas held in Lima, Peru during the period 13 to 14 April 2018.

The report advised of the Jamaican delegation to the Summit led by the Prime Minister including the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade; the Member States in attendance; the issues highlighted, including corruption in the Americas and the call for a regional alliance against corruption that promoted a preventative and dissuasive approach; the importance of international legal cooperation and the strengthening of the Inter-American Anti-Corruption mechanisms; and the critical role in the sustained development efforts of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The report advised of the outcome of the Summit whereby the Lima Commitment, "Democratic Governance against Corruption", was adopted by acclamation; and bilateral meetings held, including with Chile, Argentina, Mexico, and the Vice-President of the United States of America.

(iii) Analysis of the 2016 Poverty Rates

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service in connection with the analysis of the poverty rates for 2016, calculated from the Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions (JSLC) data.

The report informed that the JSLC was a survey that was canvassed annually, capturing data on the living conditions of Jamaicans. It also informed that the individual poverty rates were calculated by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), based on consumption expenditure.

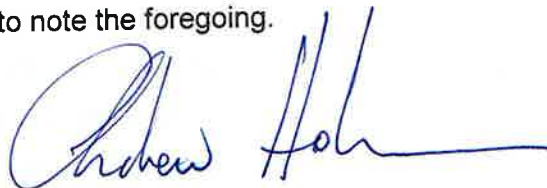
The report further informed that the poverty rate in 2016 was recorded at 17.1% compared to 21.2% in 2015, which reflected a 4.1 percentage point decline since 2007. It outlined the prevalence of poverty by region (2007-2016); the economic performance of Jamaica; consumer confidence and inflation; data on the employment rate; mean per capita consumption; output of the agriculture sector; and remittances.

(iv) Key Messages for Voluntary National Review for the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service in connection with the key messages of the Voluntary National Review (VNR) Report for Jamaica's presentation to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development for submission to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).

The report informed that Jamaica would deliver its first VNR Report to the UN HLPF, which was scheduled for 9 to 18 July 2018 at the UN Headquarters; and highlighted Jamaica's six key messages in its VNR, namely, strong national ownership and commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals; systematic and integrated framework for monitoring the implementation of national development priorities; key development achievements since 2015, and priorities for 2018 to 2021; inclusiveness and participation of stakeholders; the challenges; and the next steps.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP

Prime Minister

29 June 2018