

MINISTRY PAPER No. 77 – 2018

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 25 JUNE 2018

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 25 June 2018:

1. Legislation;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Board Appointments;
4. Policy on Enterprise Risk Management;
5. Proposal to Establish an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights;
6. Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH) Research Committee in Response to Concerns about the Possible Effects of the Reported Exposure at the Hospital;
7. Regional Training Workshop on Measles Outbreak Response, Montego Bay, Jamaica;
8. Tuberculosis Drugs Quantification Workshop for the Caribbean, Montego Bay, Jamaica; and
9. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Legislation

The Income Tax (Amendment) Act, 2018

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled “The Income Tax (Amendment) Act, 2018” to be introduced into the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to:

- (i) make permanent the removal of the exemption previously provided for general insurance companies, insurance brokers and agents, from the 15% withholding tax on outgoing insurance premiums in the circumstances specified in the Act;
- (ii) validate and confirm as lawful, the withholding tax on outgoing insurance premiums collected during the period 30 December 2017 to the date of the coming into operation of the more permanent provisions; and
- (iii) indemnify the Government and persons purporting to act on behalf of the Government in good faith and inadvertent as to the collection being invalid, improper or unlawful during that period.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports for the:

- (i) Board of Supervision for the Financial Years 2010/2011; 2011/2012 and 2013/2014;
- (ii) Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management for the Financial Year 2015/2016; and
- (iii) Social Development Commission for the Financial Year 2015/2016.

The Annual Reports will be tabled in Parliament.

3. Board Appointments

(i) Clarendon Alumina Production Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of one (1) year, with effect from 25 June 2018 and up to 24 June 2019:

- 1) Mr. Dennis Morgan – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Dennis Wright – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 3) Ms. Georgia Hamilton;
- 4) Mr. David Wan;
- 5) Ms. Pauline Reynolds;
- 6) Mr. Milton Brown;
- 7) Dr. Parris Lyew-Ayee, Jnr.;
- 8) Mr. Joseph Shoucair; and
- 9) Dr. Janine Dawkins.

(ii) Jamaica Bauxite Institute Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of one (1) year, with effect from 25 June 2018 and up to 24 June 2019:

- 1) Dr. Aundre Franklin – **Chairman**;
- 2) Ms. Melanie Thwaites;
- 3) Mr. Dennis Meadows;
- 4) Mrs. Juliet Rose;
- 5) Mrs. Sharon Hay Webster;
- 6) Mr. Angus Gordon;
- 7) Mr. Alston Douglas;
- 8) Miss D'Jamila Ward; and
- 9) Mr. Denis Miller.

(iii) Jamaica Bauxite Mining Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of one (1) year, with effect from 25 June 2018 and up to 24 June 2019:

- 1) Ambassador Clifton Whyms-Stone – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Joseph Issa – **Vice Chairman**;
- 3) Mr. Paul East;
- 4) Mrs. Donna-Marie Howe;
- 5) Mr. Stevie Barnett;
- 6) Mr. Ian Moore;
- 7) Mr. Ruel Crawford;
- 8) Mr. Phillip Anthony Schwapp; and
- 9) Mr. Suresh Bhalai.

(iv) Jamaica Exotic Flavours and Essences Company Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 25 June 2018 and up to 24 June 2020:

- 1) Mr. Shaun A. Baugh – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mrs. Carissa Messado – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 3) Ms. Michelle Parkins;
- 4) Mr. Michael Pryce;
- 5) Mr. Robert Levy;
- 6) Professor Errol Morrison;
- 7) Mr. Andrew Cowan; and
- 8) Mr. Anthony Freckleton (*ex officio*).

(v) Jamaica Intellectual Property Office

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Advisory Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 25 June 2018 and up to 24 June 2020:

- 1) Mr. Peter Goldson – **Chairman**;
- 2) Miss Rochelle Cameron;
- 3) Mr. Stephen Cross;
- 4) Ms. Carol Newman;
- 5) Mr. Jeffrey Campbell;
- 6) Mr. Ewan Simpson;
- 7) Ms. Lydia Rose;
- 8) Mr. Hugh Faulkner;
- 9) Dr. Dennis Howard;
- 10) Mrs. Charmaine Creary-Beckford;
- 11) Mr. Lloyd McLeod;
- 12) Mr. Ray-St. Michael Williams;
- 13) Ms. Beverley Lashley;
- 14) Ms. Michelle Parkins; and
- 15) Ms. Lilyclaire Bellamy (*ex officio*).

(vi) Petrojam Limited

Cabinet ratified the appointment of Mr. Paul Hoo as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the period 19 June 2018 to 23 November 2018, when the tenure of the Chairmanship will expire; and noted that Mr. Paul Hoo would remain a member of the Board of Directors from 24 November 2018 to 3 April 2020, subsequent to the expiration of his tenure as Chairman.

Cabinet also ratified the appointment of Mrs. Rosemarie Pilliner and Mr. H. Wayne Powell as members of the Board of Directors, with effect from 19 June 2018 and up to 3 April 2020, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

4. Policy on Enterprise Risk Management

Cabinet approved the Enterprise Risk Management Policy, which sets out the framework by which public entities within the Government of Jamaica would manage risks.

The Public Expenditure Financial Accountability (PEFA) Reviews, undertaken in 2012 and 2016, found that, among other things, fiscal risk management needed to be enhanced to allow for a risk-based approach in all fiscal operations. The Policy represents a response to this need.

5. Establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights

Cabinet approved the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights. Having regard to the cross-sectoral nature of human rights issues, it was necessary to establish an institutional framework that includes a wide cross-section of Ministries, departments and agencies, to contribute to reporting on and monitoring Jamaica's implementation of the various human rights Conventions.

6. Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH) Research Committee in Response to Concerns about the Possible Effects of the Reported Exposure at the Hospital

Cabinet gave approval for the establishment of the Cornwall Regional Hospital Research Committee; and the appointment of the members of the Committee, as under:

- 1) Dr. Kenneth James – **Chairman**;
- 2) Dr. Jacqueline Duncan;
- 3) Dr. Orville Heslop;
- 4) Dr. Karen Webster-Kerr; and
- 5) Dr. Jacqueline Bisasor-McKenzie.

The Research Committee is expected to undertake a study to clearly uncover the current concerns of staff that have been exposed to the various chemicals at the Hospital as well as determine the potential long-term effects of said exposure. The research is to take place in two phases – phase 1 being the collection of baseline data from the employees, followed by phase 2 which will entail long-term tracking of the current cohort of staff.

7. Regional Training Workshop on Measles Outbreak Response, Montego Bay, Jamaica

Cabinet approved Jamaica's hosting of a Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO) regional training workshop on Measles Outbreak Response, during the period 9 to 13 July 2018 in Montego Bay, St. James.

The objectives of the training are to increase knowledge and skills for outbreak investigation and control; and to build capacity for rapid response to imported measles including vaccination campaigns.

8. Tuberculosis Drugs Quantification Workshop for the Caribbean, Montego Bay, Jamaica  
Cabinet approved Jamaica's hosting of a Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO) Tuberculosis Drugs Quantification Workshop for the Caribbean, during the period 25 to 29 June 2018 in Montego Bay, St. James.

The objective of the workshop is to improve the drug management capacity of anti-tuberculosis drugs in the participating countries.

9. Reports

- (i) Establishment of an Independent Oversight Committee for the Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH) Rehabilitation Project

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Health regarding the establishment of an Independent Oversight Committee for the Cornwall Regional Hospital Rehabilitation Project.

The report informed that the Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH) was one of three Type A hospitals in Jamaica. Over the past 10 years, there were intermittent reports of air quality issues, which escalated in 2016, resulting in the disruption of the Hospital's services. The report outlined elements of the rehabilitation programme for the CRH embarked on by the Ministry of Health and the Western Regional Health Authority, which included the replacement of the main heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system; the full replacement of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and Information Technology (IT) systems of the hospital building; and structural repairs to certain areas.

The report provided information on the purpose of the Independent Oversight Committee; its roles and responsibilities; the tenure; and other administrative arrangements for the Committee.

The membership of the Independent Oversight Committee, appointed by the Minister of Health, is as under:

- 1) Professor Archibald McDonald – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Errol Alberga;
- 3) Ms. Claudette Bryan;
- 4) Professor Ishenkumba Kahwa; and
- 5) Mr. Earl Richards.

- (ii) Women's Health Survey Jamaica: Prevalence Survey to Measure Gender-Based Violence/Violence Against Women and Girls in Jamaica

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport in connection with the findings of the Report on the Women's Health Survey to measure the nature and prevalence of gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (GBV/VAWG) in Jamaica.

The report advised that violence against women was recognised by the international community as a fundamental violation of human rights, embodying not only physical violence but emotional and sexual assault by their partners. It further advised of Jamaica's ratification of several international instruments that prohibited gender-based violence.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP

Prime Minister

31 July 2018