MINISTRY PAPER No. - 2018

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES - 7 AUGUST 2018

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 7 August 2018:

- 1. Contracts;
- 2. Annual Reports;
- 3. Board Appointments;
- 4. Acquisition of Land at Nuttall Memorial Hospital in Crossroads by Tax Administration Jamaica;
- 5. Hosting of the First Caribbean International Bamboo Symposium;
- 6. National Sensitisation Seminars for the CARICOM Results-Based Management System;
- 7. Annual Report of the National Task Force Against Trafficking in Persons; and
- 8. Report.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Financial Information Management System for the National Water Commission

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$2,839,419.17 to Fujitsu Caribbean (Jamaica) Limited, for the provision of consulting services for the National Water Commission's Financial Information Management System (FIMS), which would include the provision of:

- (a) off-the-shelf FIMS software;
- (b) a platform/service to host the FIMS application;
- (c) implementation and advisory services;
- (d) support and maintenance for four years following implementation; and
- (e) a data migration strategy.

The procurement will assist the NWC in improving and strengthening its financial processes in support of its business activities.

(ii) <u>Procurement and Distribution of Textbooks under the National Textbook Loan Scheme for 2018-2019</u>

Cabinet approved the award of three contracts, totalling J\$386,698,122.79, for the provision and distribution of textbooks for students under the National Textbook Loan Scheme for 2018-2019, as follows:

- 1) Kingston Bookshop Limited J\$210,517,535.14;
- 2) Carlong Publishers (Caribbean Limited) J\$110,593,387.65; and
- 3) Book Wizard Limited J\$65,587,200.00.

The National Textbook Loan Scheme provides textbooks in the major subject areas to thousands of students in Grades 7-9 of Primary and Junior High and All-Age Schools, and Grades 7-11 in High Schools.

(iii) Supply of Garbage Compactor Trucks to the National Solid Waste Management Authority

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$1,749,264.00 to Kingston Industrial Agencies, for the purchase of 12 garbage compactor trucks for the National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA).

The acquisition of the trucks will assist the NSWMA in increasing its efficiency and improving the collection of solid waste.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet considered the Annual Reports for the:

- (i) Management Institute for National Development for the Financial Year 2016/2017; and
- (ii) Overseas Examinations Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

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

3. Board Appointments

(i) Jamaica Intellectual Property Office Advisory Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Advisory Board, with effect from 7 August 2018 to 24 June 2020, when the tenure of the Board will expire:

- 1) Mr. Lloyd McLean; and
- 2) Mr. Steven Cross.

(ii) Maritime Authority of Jamaica

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Authority, with effect from 7 August 2018 to 24 April 2019, when the tenure of the Authority will expire:

- 1) Ambassador L. Ann Scott, representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade; and
- 2) Miss Joan Wynter, representative of the Ministry of Transport and Mining.

(iii) North East Regional Health Authority Board of Management

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board, with effect from 7 August 2018 to 5 April 2019, when the tenure of the Board will expire:

- 1) Ms. Patrice Edwards; and
- 2) Mr. Junior Haughton.

(iv) Passport Immigration and Citizenship Advisory Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Advisory Board, with effect from 7 August 2018 to 6 August 2021:

- 1) Mr. Joseph Issa Chairman;
- 2) Ms. Doreen Hutchinson;
- 3) Ms. Lilymae Silvera;
- 4) Mrs. Angella Tingling Nelson;
- 5) Mr. Anton Young;
- 6) Ms. Lorraine Patterson; and
- 7) Mrs. Fay Hutchinson.

(v) Pesticides Control Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Warren M. Newby as a member and Chairman of the Authority, with effect from 7 August 2018 to 1 May 2019, when the tenure of the Authority will expire.

(vi) Western Regional Health Authority Board of Management

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Eric Clarke as a member of the Board, with effect from 7 August 2018 to 31 March 2019, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

4. Acquisition of Land at Nuttall Hospital in Crossroads by Tax Administration Jamaica

Cabinet gave approval for the proposed purchase, at a cost of \$229,000,000.00, of land located on the grounds of Nuttall Memorial Hospital, Cross Roads by Tax Administration Jamaica (TAJ), for the construction of a building to house the Cross Roads Tax Office and other TAJ offices.

A new building is required for the Cross Roads Tax Office, one of three such offices located in the Kingston and St. Andrew metropolitan area, as the current one is inadequate and can no longer properly house its operations, thereby limiting the revenue collection capability. The Office also contributes to traffic congestion due to limited parking and long waiting lines leading to the streets.

5. Hosting of the First Caribbean International Bamboo Symposium

Cabinet gave approval for Jamaica to host the first Caribbean International Bamboo Symposium, during the period 27 to 28 November 2018, at the Jamaica Conference Centre in Kingston.

The first Caribbean International Bamboo Symposium will be hosted by the Bureau of Standards Jamaica, in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries, the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation, the Tourism Enhancement Fund, the Bamboo Industry Association of Jamaica, and the Jamaica Business Development Corporation, under the theme "Bamboo: An Economic High Value Chain Resource for the Caribbean." Several CARICOM members are beginning to recognise the potential of bamboo, with Jamaica and Suriname both being members of the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation, an inter-governmental organisation dedicated to promoting the benefits to producers and users of bamboo and rattan within the context of a sustainable resource base, and this symposium will assist in the development of the industry.

6. National Sensitisation Seminars for the CARICOM Results-Based Management System

Cabinet approved Jamaica hosting national sensitisation seminars on the CARICOM Results-Based Management (RBM) System, over the period 14 to 16 August 2018. Cabinet also approved the Office of the Cabinet being designated as the lead Ministry to anchor the RBM activities, which will form part of the CARICOM Secretariat's Work Programme for the 2018/2019 biennium.

The objective of the seminars is to give stakeholders the opportunity to understand how the RBM System functions, its importance in achieving the outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan, and their role in the utility, implementation and sustainability of the System. The seminars are meant to improve the way in which governments achieve targets, maximise the outcomes of public-private partnerships and facilitate the regional integration process.

Annual Report of the National Task Force Against Trafficking in Persons

Cabinet approved the Annual Report of the National Task Force Against Trafficking in Persons (NATFATIP) for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

Cabinet noted that for the Financial Year 2016/2017, Jamaica was graded at Tier 2 in the United States Department of State Annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report, which meant that the Government of Jamaica had made significant efforts to meet the minimum standards to eliminate human trafficking; and for the 2017/2018 period, the NATFATIP embarked on activities in accordance with local and international obligations to continue its efforts.

The Report contains information on the activities for the reporting period 2017/2018, including prosecution, protection and prevention activities, and other initiatives undertaken such as education and training.

8. Report

Ministerial Mission to the 9th International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum in Macao Special Administrative Region and to Beijing, People's Republic of China

Cabinet considered the report from the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation on the outcomes of the overseas travel to the People's Republic of China over the period 7 to 11 June 2018 by a delegation led by the Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (Minister Samuda). The delegation participated in the 9th International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum (9th IIICF) and met with officials of the China Harbour Engineering Company Limited (CHEC), the Export-Import Bank of China, and the China Development Bank in Beijing.

The Report highlighted the recommendations of the 9th IIICF, including that de-risking instruments needed to be developed in order to attract increased private investment in the infrastructure sector; the issues discussed and outcomes of the various meetings Minister Samuda held with officials from the China International Contractors Association, the China Communications Construction Company, CHEC, and the Export-Import Bank of China; and outlined the follow-up action plan, including finalisation of the Cooperation Agreement between the GOJ and CHEC for the Caymanas Special Economic Zone Development, among others.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.

andrew Holness, MP

Prime Minister 5 October 2018