

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 14 JANUARY 2019

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 14 January 2019:

1. Contracts;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Reports;
4. Board Appointments;
5. Approval for the Sale of Lands Located in the St. Catherine Plain by SCJ Holdings Limited;
6. Change in Water Abstraction Charges Administered by the Water Resources Authority (WRA);
7. Sugar Operations in the Monymusk Sugar Production Area;
8. The Jamaica Teaching Council;
9. National Architectural Design Competition for New Houses of Parliament;
10. Sponsorship Agreement between the Government of Jamaica and Blue Minerals Limited;
11. Official Funeral for Ambassador Donald Frank McKenzie Pringle, CD;
12. Official Funeral for Mr. Dwight Augustus Nelson, CD;
13. Implementation of the Montego Bay Waterfront Protection Infrastructure (Groynes) Project and the Closed Harbour Beach Park Development Project;
14. Hosting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> United Nations World Tourism Organization, Government of Jamaica Global Conference on Jobs and Inclusive Growth: Small and Medium Tourism Enterprises and Launch of the Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre; and
15. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Construction of the SeaWalk Foundation, Stowage Pile, Shore Mooring Dolphin and Timber Deck Access Trestle for the Port Royal Cruise Ship Terminal Development

Cabinet approved the award of a direct contract in the amount of US\$7,536,990.00 to Orion Marine Construction Incorporated for the construction of the SeaWalk Foundation, the Stowage Pile, the Shore Mooring Dolphin and the Timber Deck Access Trestle for the Port Royal Cruise Ship Terminal Development.

This project forms a part of the overarching plans for the construction of the cruise terminal at the Old Cold Wharf site at Port Royal, Kingston.

(ii) Closed User Group Solution for the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service and Various Agencies

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$69,688,201.08, inclusive of General Consumption Tax, to Cable & Wireless Jamaica Limited, for the provision of a Closed User Group (CUG) Solution to the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, and some of its affiliated agencies (Planning Institute of Jamaica, Tax Administration Jamaica, Accountant General's Department, and the Office of the Services Commission) for a period of two (2) years.

The CUG services facilitate constant, convenient and cost effective communication between staff and clients.

(iii) Greater Black River Water Supply, Luana Well Station to Middle Quarters Square Mains Replacement

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$65,527,665.00 to Surrey Paving and Aggregate Company Limited, by the National Water Commission (NWC), for the Luana Well Station to Middle Quarters Mains Replacement in St. Elizabeth.

The work will include the construction, testing and commissioning into service of approximately 4.5 km of 150 mm nominal Ductile Iron distribution pipeline from Luana Well station to Middle Quarters Square in St Elizabeth.

(iv) Closed Harbour Beach Park Development Project

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$1,296,158,870.64 to M&M Jamaica Limited, by the Urban Development Corporation (UDC), for the implementation of the Closed Harbour Beach Park Development Project.

The development of the Closed Harbour Beach Park forms a part of the larger Redevelopment Programme in downtown Montego Bay. The Beach Park is a property of 16 acres which has been identified as a site that can spur further development in the city by way of a world class recreational space that will operate as a public access beach and multi-purpose park.

(v) Manufacture and Delivery of Duty Boots and Shoes for the Jamaica Constabulary Force

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$75,591,025.00 to Broncho Boot Factory in Greendale, Spanish Town in St. Catherine, for the manufacture and delivery of 8,400 pairs of duty boots and shoes, to be issued to members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force.

The boots will be issued to recruits in training, and existing members who are engaged in tactical operational duties and other general police functions.

2. Legislation

Law Reform (Amendment of Penalties) Act, 2019

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled "The Law Reform (Amendment of Penalties) Act, 2019" to be introduced into the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to introduce provisions to amend several Acts under the portfolio of the Ministry of Justice in order to increase outdated penalties, and empower the Minister to amend penalties, where necessary, by Order subject to affirmative resolution.

3. Annual Reports

Cabinet noted the Annual Reports for the:

- (i) Broadcasting Commission Jamaica for the Financial Year 2017/2018; and
- (ii) Rural Water Supply Limited Annual Report for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

The Reports will be tabled in Parliament.

4. Board Appointments

(i) Jamaica National Heritage Trust

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Jamaica National Heritage Trust, with effect from 14 January 2019 to 17 April 2019, when the tenure of the Board will expire:

- 1) Mr. Orville Hill – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. David Brown;
- 3) Ms. Gianna Fakhourie;
- 4) Mrs. Michelle Creed-Nelson;
- 5) Dr. Aleric Josephs; and
- 6) Mr. Robert Hill.

(ii) Jamaica Urban Transit Company Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of Ms. Sashana-Lee Edwards to the Jamaica Urban Transit Company Limited, with effect from 27 August 2018 to 5 April 2019, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

(iii) Pesticides Control Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Winston McKane to the Pesticides Control Authority, with effect from 14 January 2019 to 1 May 2019, when the tenure of the Authority will expire.

(iv) Pharmacy Council

Cabinet ratified the appointment of Dr. Eugenie Brown-Myrie to the Pharmacy Council, with effect from 11 October 2017 to 5 April 2019, when the tenure of the Council will expire.

5. Approval for the Sale of Lands Located in the St. Catherine Plain by SCJ Holdings Limited

Cabinet approved the sale of approximately 206.39 hectares to Gore Developments Limited for the development of residential communities located in part of Woodlands, Phoenix Park; Union; and Salt Pond Pen in the parish of St. Catherine, at a market price of \$1.525 million per acre.

These lands form part of the approved Bernard Lodge Land Use Master Plan and are designated for residential development.

6. Change in Water Abstraction Charges Administered by the Water Resources Authority

Cabinet approved the amendment of the Water Resources (Water Abstraction Charges) Regulations, 2017, to reflect revised water abstraction charges, as proposed by the Board of the Water Resources Authority, as follows:

<b>Uses</b>	<b>Fee J\$/4.545m<sup>3</sup>/annum</b>
Domestic/Public Supply	0.1150
Industrial	0.1725
Non-Consumptive	0.0920
Agriculture	0.1725

The water abstraction charges facilitate the conservation of the country's water resources and the release of water that is currently allocated but not used, as well as supplement the budgetary allocation of the Water Resources Authority.

7. Sugar Operations in the Monymusk Sugar Production Area

Cabinet approved transportation support for up to 105,000 tonnes of sugar cane to assist an estimated 250 sugar cane farmers to supply the Appleton Estate in St. Elizabeth and Worthy Park Estate in St. Catherine.

This has become necessary as the Pan Caribbean Sugar Company has returned all sugar cane lands leased from the Government in 2010. As such, the Company will not operate the Monymusk Sugar Factory for the 2018/2019 crop year and no feasible alternative operator of the factory has been identified at present. The transportation support will enable the sugar cane produced at Monymusk to be purchased by Appleton Estate and Worthy Park Estate.

8. The Jamaica Teaching Council

Cabinet gave approval for:

- (i) the establishment of the Jamaica Teaching Council;
- (ii) the amendment and repeal, as appropriate, of sections of the *Education Act*, which relate to teacher registration, discipline, the hearing of appeals and other matters pertaining to the professional development of teachers; and
- (iii) the issuance of further drafting instructions to the Chief Parliamentary Counsel to give effect to the recommendations.

The Jamaica Teaching Council is being established pursuant to the recommendations contained in the *Task Force on Educational Reform Report, 2004*, and in accordance with international norms and regional commitments. The Jamaica Teaching Council will undertake the recurrent licensing of teachers, in part, as a means of quality assurance for the teaching profession.

9. National Architectural Design Competition for New Houses of Parliament

Cabinet approved the exception under Regulation 4(1)(j) of the *Public Sector Procurement Regulations, 2008* to exclude the Urban Development Corporation's National Architectural Design Competition for the proposed new Houses of Parliament from the procurement procedures contained in the *Public Sector Procurement Regulations, 2008* and the *Government of Jamaica Handbook of Public Sector Procurement Procedures, 2014*. This exception will allow the Urban Development Corporation, on completion of the Competition, to directly contract with the winning architect or an awardee in the Architectural Design Competition for the provision of detailed drawings/designs.

In line with the plans for the redevelopment of the National Heroes Park in Kingston, the Urban Development Corporation has been charged with administering an Architectural Design Competition for the proposed New Houses of Parliament. The competition was launched in May 2018.

10. Sponsorship Agreement between the Government of Jamaica and Blue Minerals Limited

Cabinet approved the Government's sponsorship of Blue Minerals Limited in its application to the International Seabed Authority for a contract to explore for polymetallic nodules in the deep seabed and subsoil in an area beyond national jurisdiction in the Pacific Ocean west of Mexico, and the signing of the Sponsorship Agreement.

Part XI of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provided for the establishment of the regime to regulate and manage deep seabed mining in the Area, (comprised of the deep seabed and subsoil) beyond national jurisdiction, on behalf of all humankind. For a private company to explore this area, a state sponsor is required. Jamaica has been deemed an appropriate sponsor as a longstanding adherent to the UNCLOS as well as the state in which the International Seabed Authority resides.

11. Official Funeral for Ambassador Donald Frank McKenzie Pringle, CD

Cabinet approved the according of an Official Funeral to Ambassador Donald Frank McKenzie Pringle, CD, former Cabinet Minister.

Ambassador Pringle died on Monday, 10 December 2018. His service to public life, included serving as Minister of Tourism during the period 1989 to 1992; as Ambassador and Special Envoy for Investment, whilst serving in the Senate from 1989 to 1997; as a member of the Jamaica Tourist Board and as Jamaica's Representative to the Executive Council of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).

12. Official Funeral for Mr. Dwight Augustus Nelson, CD

Cabinet approved the according of an Official Funeral to Mr. Dwight Augustus Nelson, CD, former Cabinet Minister.

Mr. Nelson died on Monday, 24 December 2018. His over 20 years of service to public life, included serving as a member of the Senate, as Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service from 2007 to 2009 and Minister of National Security from 2009 to 2011. In 2004, Mr. Nelson was elected President of the Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions (JCTU) and served as Senior Vice President of the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU) and Deputy Chairman of the Industrial Disputes Tribunal (IDT).

13. Implementation of the Montego Bay Waterfront Protection Infrastructure (Groynes) Project and the Closed Harbour Beach Park Development Project

Cabinet gave approval for the incorporation of the following projects in the Public Sector Investment Programme, in keeping with the recommendation of the Public Investment Management Committee:

- i. Montego Bay Waterfront Protection Infrastructure (Groynes) Project;
- ii. Closed Harbour Beach Park Development Project;

Due to a lack of maintenance of the breakwaters and the impact of hurricanes over the years, there has been a loss of beach acreage and recession of the Montego Bay shoreline. The Closed Harbour Beach has been included as part of the Montego Bay Redevelopment Programme due to its high potential to be a catalyst for physical improvement and economic activity of the Montego Bay Waterfront Park.

14. Hosting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> United Nations World Tourism Organization, Government of Jamaica Global Conference on Jobs and Inclusive Growth: Small and Medium Tourism Enterprises and Launch of the Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre

Cabinet approved Jamaica's hosting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> United Nations World Tourism Organization, Government of Jamaica Global Conference on Jobs and Inclusive Growth: Small and Medium Tourism Enterprises (SMTEs) and the launch of the Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management (GTRCM) Centre. These events will be held at the Montego Bay Convention Centre on 29 and 30 January 2019.

The overarching goal of the Conference will be to allow SMTEs the opportunity to forge partnerships to build their capacity. The Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre will be hosted at the University of the West Indies Mona.

15. Reports

(i) Jamaica's Application to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for the Inscription of Port Royal as a World Heritage Site

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport in connection with Jamaica's application to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for the inscription of Port Royal as a World Heritage Site.

The report recalled Cabinet's previous decision in February 2018 which gave approval for Jamaica's submission of the Port Royal nomination dossier for inscription to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The report advised that Port Royal's underwater city was classified internationally as the most "catastrophic" site in the Western Hemisphere; and informed of the process towards achieving world heritage status for Port Royal. It also advised of the basis of the nomination for inscription to the UNESCO World Heritage List, including the designation of Port Royal as Protected National Heritage, as a Protected Area and as a Ramsar site. The report also informed of the deficiencies in the social amenities and physical infrastructure of Port Royal; progress made in relation to the submission of the nomination dossier; next steps to be undertaken; and the consultations done.

(ii) Jamaican Trade Delegation to Israel

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries on overseas travel to Israel by a delegation led by the Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries, which comprised of members from the public and private sectors, over the period 23 to 28 November 2018.

The report advised of the outcomes of several bilateral meetings and tours conducted to explore agricultural services, agricultural academia, medical cannabis technology and investment, water technology, dairy development, food storage and packaging.

The report further advised of follow-up meetings to be held with the companies Bio-Lab and LR Group which focus on the accelerated development of bio-technology projects; and that a plan of action was being developed towards the full utilisation of the Israeli standards and methodologies.

(iii) Report on Trade and Investment Mission to China

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries on the overseas travel by a delegation led by the Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries to the People's Republic of China to attend the China-LAC Business Summit and the China International Import Expo (CIIE) over the period 1 to 9 November 2018.

The report provided information on the mission to China which sought to establish and strengthen business and trade links between Jamaica and China and noted that, with the growing need to diversify Jamaica's export markets, the mission was timely and provided the platform to introduce Jamaican products to the Chinese market; and the delegation met with several existing and potential investors, partners and buyers.

The report advised of the outcome of meetings with Jiuquan Iron and Steel Company (JISCO), Huawei, the China Development Bank (CDB), China Go Abroad and the China Communications Construction Company/China Harbour Engineering Company Limited CCCC/CHEC. It was further noted that the mission to China was part of a larger strategy to diversify Jamaica's export market.


(iv) Report on United Kingdom Trade and Investment Mission

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries on the overseas travel to London, United Kingdom (UK), by a delegation led by the Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries to attend the Global AgInvesting Conference over the period 4 to 5 December 2018.

The report advised that the UK had traditionally been in the top three export markets for Jamaica; however, recent trade data and in-market intelligence indicated that Jamaican products had lost some market share in the UK; and therefore, the purpose of the mission was to promote Jamaica's export of fresh produce and processed foods into the UK and stimulate investment interest in Jamaica, primarily the agribusiness sector.

The report further advised of the outcomes of activities and meetings held; and outlined observations which would inform and guide the strategic approach of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.

  
Andrew Holness, MP  
Prime Minister  
28 February 2019

