

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 4 FEBRUARY 2019

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 4 February 2019:

1. Contracts;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Board Appointments;
4. Memorandum of Understanding for Bilateral Nurse Exchange Partnership;
5. National Plan of Action 2018 to 2021 for Combatting Trafficking in Persons;
6. National Report on the Implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development; and
7. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) 2MVA Standby Generator Set and Accessories at the Norman Manley International Airport

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$1,229,300.00, to IMCA Jamaica Limited for the supply and installation of a new 2MVA Caterpillar Standby Generator set and accessories at the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA).

To substantially reduce the risk of the need for load shedding due to inadequate power generation facilities, the NMIA requires the 2MVA generator unit which will provide backup power when any of the other existing generator units are unavailable.

(ii) Gabion Wall Construction and Drainage Improvement Along John Golding Road, St. Andrew

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$62,987,500.00 to Chin's Construction Limited to undertake road rehabilitation and drainage improvement works along John Golding Road in St. Andrew.

Heavy rains in May 2018 caused the culvert, which crosses the roadway in the vicinity of the Usain Bolt Track located on the property of the University of the West Indies to collapse, which has rendered the roadway completely inaccessible to vehicular traffic.

(iii) National Housing Trust, Renewal of General Insurance for 2019/2020 Contract Year

Cabinet approved proposals for the renewal of the general insurance coverage for the National Housing Trust's risk portfolio for the financial year 2019/2020, in the sum of \$1,805,988,703.00 exclusive of General Consumption Tax (GCT), for quoted premiums as follows:

- a) Houseowners Comprehensive with British Caribbean Insurance Company Limited fronting Lloyd's Syndicate SII 1945 at a cost of US\$13,439,721.00, excluding GCT;
- b) Excess General Liability Layer (Public, Employers and Motor Third Party Liability) with Lloyd's Syndicate Axis Capital Holding 1686 at a cost of J\$300,000.00, excluding GCT;
- c) Comprehensive Crime with Lloyd's Syndicate AUL 1274 for a premium of US\$97,650.00, excluding GCT; and

- d) Combined Property and Business Interruption All Risks, Computers and Art Work, Loss of Money & Fidelity Guarantee, Employers and General Liability and Motor Risk with British Caribbean Insurance Company Limited at a cost of J\$86,442,586.00, excluding GCT.

The risks covered comprise Houseowners Comprehensive and Comprehensive Crime which are denominated in US Dollars. The other risks denominated in Jamaican Dollars are Combined Property and Business Interruption All Risks, Combined All Risk, Combined Crime, Combined Liability, Combined Motor Comprehensive and Excess General Liability.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet noted the Annual Reports for the:

- (i) All-Island Jamaica Cane Farmers Association for the Crop Year ending 30 September 2017;
- (ii) National Irrigation Commission for the Financial Year 2015/2016; and
- (iii) University Council of Jamaica for the Financial Year 2017/2018.

The Reports will be tabled in Parliament.

3. Board Appointments

(i) Local Government Services Commission

Cabinet gave approval for the recommendation to be made to the Governor-General for the appointment of Mr. Shane Dalling to the Commission, with effect from 4 February 2019 to 17 April 2021, when the tenure of the Commission will expire.

(ii) National Irrigation Commission Limited (NIC)

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Douglas Cupidon to the Board of Directors, with effect from 4 February 2019 and up to 3 June 2020, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

(iii) Rural Agricultural Development Authority

Cabinet gave approval for the appointment of the following persons to the Authority, with effect from 4 February 2019 and up to 10 June 2021, when the tenure of the Authority will expire:

- 1) Mr. Nigel Myrie – Chairman; and
- 2) Mr. Wayne Hays – Vice Chairman.

(iv) Transport Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of Miss Shernette Sampson as an ex officio member to the Authority, with effect from 4 February 2019 and up to 5 April 2019, when the tenure of the Authority will expire.

(v) University of Technology, Jamaica

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mrs. Bridgette Johnson-Smith to the Council, with effect from 4 February 2019 to 8 May 2019, when the tenure of the Council will expire.

4. Memorandum of Understanding for Bilateral Nurse Exchange Partnership

Cabinet approved the Ministry of Health entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Health and Social Care, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK), concerning a Bilateral Nurse Exchange Partnership between both countries.

The proposal for the partnership resulted from the chronic shortage of nurses, particularly specialist nurses and critical care nurses, in the Jamaican public sector. Under the MOU, nurses will spend seven months training in Jamaica and five months training in the UK at the Leeds Teaching Hospital, and will return to Jamaica after the training to work for at least two years.

5. National Plan of Action 2018 to 2021 for Combatting Trafficking in Persons

Cabinet approved the Government of Jamaica's National Plan of Action 2018 to 2021 for Combatting Trafficking in Persons (TIP).

The National Action Plan provides the strategic framework for Jamaica's response to human trafficking over a four-year period, and sets out the work currently being done, identifies gaps, maps the direction of future priorities and sets out plans to enhance transparency and accountability in the fight against human trafficking. The National Action Plan reflects recommendations from Ministries, departments and agencies, and incorporates recommendations from the United States' Department of State 2018 Report on TIP.

6. National Report on the Implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development

Cabinet approved the National Report on the Implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development for submission to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development for Latin America and the Caribbean is a regional agreement that was adopted by 38 Latin American and Caribbean Governments at the First Regional Conference on Population and Development held in Montevideo, Uruguay in August 2013. The Report chronicles the achievements made within the areas of population and development for the period 2013 to 2017, trends observed, and projections for population growth and demographic transitions.

7. Reports

(i) The Chief Justice's Third Quarter Parish Court Statistical Report (July-September 2018)

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Justice in connection with the Chief Justice's Statistical Report for the Parish Courts for the third quarter of the calendar year (July 2018 to September 2018), which advised that the Report would be tabled in Parliament.

The areas highlighted from the Report included, parish court statistics in relation to new case activity, case disposal rates, court demographics, and the challenges experienced during the period under review.

(ii) First Cooperation Forum between the Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Caribbean

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade with respect to the participation of a delegation, including the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, the Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport, and the Minister of Tourism, to the First Cooperation Forum between the Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Caribbean, held in Dubai over the period 24 to 26 November 2018.

The report advised that cultural cooperation between the countries of the Caribbean and the UAE was one focus at the Forum, and that a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Jamaica and the UAE in that regard.

The report informed that the Forum facilitated concerted dialogue on the development of strategic relations and the strengthening of technical cooperation between the UAE and CARICOM Member States. It further informed of the discussions between the CARICOM Foreign Ministers and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the UAE; the discussions on tourism-related investments; and engagement with the Jamaican Diaspora.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP
Prime Minister
28 February 2019