

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 11 MARCH 2019

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 11 March 2019:

1. Contracts;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Reports;
4. Board Appointments;
5. Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan Medium-Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework 2018-2021;
6. The Government Campus Development at National Heroes Park;
7. Amendment of the Joint Venture Agreement with West Indies Home Contractors Limited (WIHCON) for the Provision of Housing Units at Harbour Head, Harbour View, St. Andrew;
8. Inclusion of the Ebony Park/Spring Plain Critical Infrastructure Completion Project in the Public Sector Investment Programme;
9. Candidature for Re-Election to Category “C” of the Council of the International Maritime Organization for the 2020-2021 Biennium;
10. Multilateral Air Services Agreement of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM);
11. Hosting of the World Trade Organization Regional Workshop on Fisheries Subsidies for Caribbean Countries; and
12. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

- (i) Building and Civil Infrastructure Works at Perth Housing Development Phase 1A in Manchester  
Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$822,114,865.32 to M&M Jamaica Limited, by the National Housing Trust, for building and civil infrastructure works at Perth Housing Development Phase 1A in Manchester.

The construction of this development falls under the National Housing Trust's Strategic Priority *“to increase housing completions and deliver 18,662 new housing solutions by March 31, 2021.”* This development is to provide approximately 118 housing solutions.

- (ii) Rehabilitation of the Greater Portmore Wastewater Treatment Plant, Phase 1 - National Water Commission

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$672,000,000.00, plus a contingency amount of \$22,300,000.00, to Build-Rite Construction Company Limited by the National Water Commission, for the rehabilitation of the Greater Portmore Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The project will involve the upgrading of the pumping station, rehabilitation of the eastern sewage ponds and construction of new reed beds on the eastern side of the plant.

(iii) Retail Fuel Supplies to Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government

Cabinet approved the establishment of a framework agreement with eligible petroleum marketing companies for the supply of retail fuel at fixed margins to Government Ministries, departments and agencies for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2021:

Description	Price/Litre	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Margin \$	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Margin \$
Petrojam ex-refinery price (high end)	≥ \$165.00	11.5%	\$18.98	12.25%	\$20.21
Petrojam ex-refinery price	\$130.00-\$164.99	12%	\$15.60-\$19.80	12.75%	\$16.25-\$21.04
Petrojam ex-refinery price (low end)	≤\$129.00	12.5%	\$16.25	13.25%	\$17.22

Biennially, the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, on behalf of the Government of Jamaica, invites petroleum marketing companies to participate in negotiations to arrive at the best prices for fuel for Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

(iv) Procurement of a National Identification System (NIDS) for the Government of Jamaica (GOJ)

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$31,778,158.50 to a Consortium comprising of Productive Business Solutions Limited in Jamaica; Gemalto in the United Kingdom; Entrust Datacard in the United States of America; and Grupo Vision in Honduras, for the procurement of a national identification system (NIDS) primary data centre and disaster recovery site hardware and software for the Government of Jamaica (GOJ).

The NIDS will see the institutionalisation of a unique, reliable and secure method of authenticating an individual's identity.

2. Legislation

(i) The Microcredit Act, 2019

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled "The Microcredit Act, 2019" to be introduced in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to license and regulate microcredit institutions that provide financing to individuals and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs); discourage predatory lending practices by promoting greater transparency and consumer protection; and reduce the risk of the industry being used to facilitate money-laundering.

(ii) The Human Employment and Resource Training (Amendment) Act, 2019

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled "The Human Employment and Resource Training (Amendment) Act, 2019" to be introduced in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to widen the functions of the Human Employment and Resource Training (HEART) Trust/National Training Agency (NTA) by consolidating the functions to be merged under the auspices of the HEART Trust/NTA; and repeal the National Youth Service Act and the Apprenticeship Act. The Bill also seeks to revise the definition of the word 'trainee' to include on-the-job training in order to accommodate apprenticeship training schemes under the Act.

(iii) The Information and Communications Technology Authority Act, 2019

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled "The Information and Communications Technology Authority Act, 2019" to be introduced in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to establish the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Authority and transfer the functions of eGov Jamaica Limited and the Office of the Chief Information Officer to the ICT Authority. The objectives of the Authority are to promote the use of technology and the inter-operability of systems and technologies across the Government, and to drive a sustainable digital agenda in the Government and wider society.

3. Annual Reports

Cabinet noted the Annual Reports for the Independence Park Limited for the for the Financial Years 2014/2015 and 2015/2016.

The Reports will be tabled in Parliament.

4. Board Appointments

(i) Building Advisory Council

Cabinet approved the appointment of the Building Advisory Council as under:

- 1) Mr. Peter Knight;
- 2) Mr. Dane Guthrie;
- 3) Mr. Roger Smith;
- 4) Mrs. Michelle Walter-Pommells;
- 5) Mr. Christopher Hamilton;
- 6) Mr. Christopher Lue;
- 7) Mr. Michael Robinson;
- 8) Ms. Joy Douglas;
- 9) Ms. Loy Malcolm;
- 10) Ms. Nicole Condappa; and
- 11) Mr. Dennis Hall.

(ii) Building Practitioners Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of the Building Practitioners Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 11 March 2019 to 10 March 2021, as under:

- 1) Ms. Camille Facey – **Chairperson**;
- 2) Mr. Raymond Cooper;
- 3) Mr. Michael Peter Lyn;
- 4) Mr. Patrick Gordon;
- 5) Major Gregory Webster;
- 6) Mr. L. Mark Taylor;
- 7) Mrs. Julia Bonner Douett;
- 8) Colonel Martin Rickman; and
- 9) The Registrar – **ex officio**.

(iii) Building Tribunal

Cabinet approved the appointment of the Building Tribunal for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 11 March 2019 to 10 March 2021 as under:

- 1) Ms. Rhona Morgan – **Chairperson**;
- 2) Mr. Donovan Williams; and
- 3) Mrs. Nicole Jaggon-Matthews.

(iv) Firearm Licensing Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Glenmore Hinds to the Firearm Licensing Authority, with effect from 11 March 2019 and up to 20 May 2021, when the tenure of the Authority will expire.

(v) Overseas Examinations Commission

Cabinet approved the appointment of Ms. Karlene Bisnott and Mr. Fabian Morris to the Overseas Examination Commission, with effect from 11 March 2019 and up to 29 May 2019, when the tenure of the Commission will expire.

5. Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan Medium-Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework 2018-2021

Cabinet gave approval for the Medium-Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) 2018-2021 as the prioritised strategic framework for the medium-term to 2021 that would accelerate the achievement of the goals and outcomes of Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan.

Cabinet also gave approval for the Planning Institute of Jamaica to be the national Focal Point for coordinating the mainstreaming, monitoring and reporting on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and instructed Ministries, departments and agencies of Government to support the implementation of the new MTF 2018-2021 through the alignment of their strategic and operational plans and budgets with the MTF 2018-2021.

Successive MTFs have provided the framework for the preparation of strategic and operational plans as well as budgets for all Ministries departments and agencies. A distinguishing feature of the MTF 2018-2021 is its alignment with the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

6. The Government Campus Development at National Heroes Park

Cabinet gave approval for the Urban Development Corporation (UDC):

A. to act as the lead implementing agency for the following Project:

- (i) the construction of buildings to house the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) Ministries, departments and agencies on lands located around National Heroes Park, with associated parking facilities to be called the “Government Campus”;
  - (ii) a 300-room hotel with associated parking facilities; and
  - (iii) residential and community development of the area surrounding the Government Campus;
- and

B. to determine the cost of the Intellectual Property Rights for the Kingston Development Proposal Concept Design submitted to the GOJ by China Construction America–South America (CCASA), under the concluded Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

In February 2017 Cabinet gave approval for the GOJ and the UDC to enter into a MOU with CCASA for consultancy services for the creation of a development proposal for Downtown Kingston and Port Royal. Through the MOU, signed on 9 March 2017, the UDC was mandated to develop a Government Campus encompassing lands around the National Heroes Park and surrounding areas. Those activities under the MOU were concluded in March 2018.

7. Amendment of the Joint Venture Agreement with West Indies Home Contractors Limited (WIHCON) for the Provision of Housing Units at Harbour Head, Harbour View, St. Andrew

Cabinet gave approval for amendments to the Joint Venture Agreement between the Minister responsible for housing and the West Indies Home Contractors Limited (WIHCON) to develop 1.42 hectares (3.51 acres) of land at Harbour Head, Harbour View, St. Andrew, to produce 72 townhouses on revised terms and conditions, using the land cost of \$51.37 million and a reduction in the administrative fees of \$11.37 million, subject to any applicable profit-sharing.

In May 2016, Cabinet gave approval for the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation to enter into a formal Joint Venture Agreement with WIHCON to develop 1.42 hectares (3.51 acres) of land at Harbour Head, Harbour View, St. Andrew, to provide 96 housing units.

8. Inclusion of the Ebony Park/Spring Plain Critical Infrastructure Completion Project in the Public Sector Investment Programme

Cabinet gave approval for the Ebony Park/Spring Plain Critical Infrastructure Completion Project to be included in the Public Sector Investment Programme.

The primary objective of the Agro Park programme is to facilitate the expansion of the productive capacity of the agricultural sector. The Ebony Park/Spring Plain Critical Infrastructure Completion Project will improve supporting infrastructure and remedy the infrastructural gaps at the Ebony Park and Spring Plain Agro Parks.

9. Multilateral Air Services Agreement of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

Cabinet endorsed the following provisions as articulated in the revised Multilateral Air Services Agreement (MASA) of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM):

- (i) **Article 1** – the definition for CARICOM Air Carrier (Substantial Ownership and Effective Control/Principal Place of Business);
- (ii) **Article 5** – Grant of Rights (7<sup>th</sup> Freedom); and
- (iii) **Article 26** – which provided for the Built-in Agenda on Aviation Security, Essential Air Services and Subsidies.

Cabinet also ratified its approval for Jamaica to sign the revised MASA of CARICOM at the Thirtieth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government scheduled for 26 to 27 February 2019 in St. Kitts and Nevis.

The CARICOM MASA entered into force in November 1998 and Jamaica was not a party to the agreement previously. Additionally, the MASA contained several provisions which were inconsistent with the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. As such, the Agreement has been revised. The revised Agreement was opened for signature at the Thirtieth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government scheduled for 26 to 27 February 2019 in St. Kitts and Nevis,

and will facilitate the delivery of seamless air services within the Community.

10. Candidature for Re-Election to Category "C" of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for the 2020-2021 Biennium

Cabinet approved:

- (i) Jamaica's candidature for election to Category "C" of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for the 2020 to 2021 biennium;
- (ii) the submission of the candidature of Jamaica for the re-election of the Council of the IMO, Category "C" for endorsement by the meeting of the Caribbean Community Foreign Ministers; and
- (iii) the appointment of Rear Admiral Peter Brady, Director General, Maritime Authority of Jamaica, as a Special Envoy for Jamaica's candidature to Category "C" of the Council of the IMO.

The IMO is the United Nations specialised agency responsible for the safety and security of shipping and the prevention of pollution by ships. Category "C", with which Jamaica is associated, represents 20 States which are deemed to have special interest in maritime transport or navigation. Election to the Council will raise the maritime profile of Jamaica, which is of importance in the initiative to establish Jamaica as a global logistics hub.

11. Hosting of the World Trade Organization Regional Workshop on Fisheries Subsidies for Caribbean Countries

Cabinet approved Jamaica hosting of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Regional Workshop on Fisheries Subsidies for Caribbean countries in Kingston during the period 9 to 11 April 2019.

The workshop is to provide a detailed briefing on the status of and main issues in the negotiations on fisheries subsidies and to facilitate an exchange among the participants on each country's specific interests and concerns.

12. Reports

- (i) Status of the Integration of the Land Administration and Management Programme into the National Land Agency

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation in connection with the status of the merger of the Land Administration and Management Programme (LAMP) into the National Land Agency (NLA) as at 14 January 2019.

The report recalled that Cabinet gave approval for the merger of LAMP and the NLA; and the delivery of 20,000 titles in 3 years, through the implementation of an adjudication-centric and driven process for proving the ownership of land.

The report informed that it was expected that, through the execution of the Cabinet Decision on land registration, the cadastral mapping and tenure clarification process would be improved, and that the number of registered titles being produced had significantly increased.

The report provided updates on the implementation of an adjudication-centric and driven process for proving the ownership of land; the separation of the processes of planning and subdivision approval from the issuing of titles under the Registration of Titles, Cadastral

Mapping and Tenure Clarification (Special Provisions) Act, 2005; the full operation of the LAMP processes; the restructuring of the NLA to provide for the inclusion of additional posts and the upgrading of existing posts; the revision of the registration fees in order to make the cost of titles more affordable; and the financial support to fund a three-year programme to produce 20,000 Certificates of Title.

(ii) Participation in the United Nations Climate Change Conference COP24

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation in connection with the outcomes of Jamaica's participation in the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP24) held in Katowice, Poland from 2 to 15 December 2018, which was preceded by preparatory meetings for negotiating blocs from 28 November to 1 December 2018.

The report advised of discussions on the Adoption of the Paris Agreement Work Programme; key decisions of interest and relevance to Jamaica; other matters of strategic importance.

The report further advised of participation in COP24 side events, including meetings which addressed issues regarding climate financing, the circular economy and climate risk management in projects; the convening of COP24 Presidency stocktaking sessions to update parties on the progress and status of negotiations; the UN Climate Summit 2019; Jamaica's contribution and the role of the Climate Change Division; and the benefits to Jamaica of participating in United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conferences.

(iii) Report of the 18<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community on the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, Trinidad and Tobago

Cabinet considered a report from the Office of the Prime Minister on the 18<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) on the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) held in Trinidad and Tobago over the period 3 to 4 December 2018.

The report informed that the Special Meeting was chaired by the Prime Minister of Jamaica and that all Member States, except for The Bahamas, had been present. It further informed of the discussions on the main agenda item – Perspectives for an Effective and Meaningful CSME; the Report of the Commission to Review Jamaica's Relations within the CARICOM and CARIFORUM Frameworks; the CARICOM Development Fund; security and transportation issues; the single Information and Communication Technology space; the contribution formula, and Haiti's Implementation Plan for its integration into the CSME.

The report also advised of the decisions adopted by the Special Meeting with a view to making the CSME more effective, including an agreement for further consideration of a proposal for the introduction of a regime of sanctions to address non-compliance issues and the appointment of a ten-member re-configured Commission on the Economy.

(iv) Report on Visit to the Dominican Republic

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information on the outcome of overseas travel by a delegation led by the Minister of Education, Youth and Information to assess the school feeding programme in the Dominican Republic on 13 November 2018.

The Note advised of the information garnered from the trip and the plans for the reorganisation of the school feeding programme in Jamaica to enable the implementation of a more practicable programme.

(v) Update on National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information in connection with an update on the development of the National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence (NPACV) (2018-2023), and the accompanying Road Map for ending violence against children.

The report informed of 2015 commitments by world leaders to end all forms of violence against children by 2030 which resulted in the creation of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children; and, in an attempt to create accelerated action to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16.2, the Global Partnership designated 15 Pathfinder Countries, each charged with the commitment of three to five years of fast-tracked action aimed at ending violence against children.

The report advised that the NPACV and Road Map were deliverables for the Pathfinder Countries which would be pivotal in the achievement of the objective of reducing the impact of violence on children through an integrated approach to prevention, mitigation, and improved response to violence against children for their rights to be preserved.

The report highlighted the comments received from Ministries, departments and agencies on the matter; details of the establishment of the NPACV, including the creation of the Golden Partnership, and its designated members.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP

Prime Minister

17 June 2019