

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 18 AND 23 SEPTEMBER 2019

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meetings held on 18 and 23 September 2019:

1. Contracts;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Legislation;
4. Board Appointments;
5. Appointment of the Board of Trustees for the Tourism Workers' Pensions Scheme;
6. Multisectoral Workshop for World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Parties in the Caribbean Region;
7. Hosting of the Group of Latin American and the Caribbean Debt Management Specialists Annual Meeting;
8. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Burke Barracks Development – Phase II, in Montego Bay, St. James

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$1,451,341,042.05 to West Indies Home Contractors Limited for the completion of the construction works at the Burke Barracks in St. James (Burke Barracks Development Phase II).

The current increased presence of the Jamaica Defence Force in western Jamaica has necessitated the construction of accommodation facilities to house these personnel.

(ii) Provision of Janitorial and Sanitation Services at the Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency Locations

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$66,405,000.00, inclusive of General Consumption Tax, to Arcadia Enterprises Limited for the provision of janitorial and sanitation services at locations of the Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency (PICA) island-wide.

The janitorial and sanitation services to be provided will be in the form of personnel, equipment, tools, materials, supervision and other services as required to maintain a clean and healthy environment at the various facilities of the PICA.

(iii) Building Construction Works at the Jacksonville Housing Development, Clarendon

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$221,396,297.50 to N.F. Barnes Construction and Equipment Company Limited, by the National Housing Trust, to undertake building construction works at the Jacksonville Housing Development in Clarendon.

The construction of the Jacksonville Housing Development falls under the National Housing Trust's Strategic Priority to increase housing completions by starting 27,377 and delivering 18,264 new housing solutions to contributors by 31 March 2022.

(iv) Infrastructure Works at the White Wing Housing Development, St. Andrew

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$137,500,685.00, to Alcar Construction and Haulage Company Limited, by the National Housing Trust, to undertake the infrastructure works at the White Wing Housing Development in St. Andrew.

The construction of the White Wing Housing Development falls under the National Housing Trust's Strategic Priority to increase housing completions by starting 27,377 and delivering 18,264 new housing solutions to contributors by 31 March 2022.

(v) Building Construction Works at the Monymusk Housing Development, Phase 2, Clarendon

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$1,307,387,776.53 to Build-Rite Construction Company Limited, by the National Housing Trust, to undertake building construction works at the Monymusk Housing Development, Phase 2, in Clarendon.

The construction of the Monymusk Housing Development, Phase 2 falls under the National Housing Trust's Strategic Priority to increase housing completions by starting 27,377 and delivering 18,264 new housing solutions to contributors by 31 March 2022.

(vi) Civil Engineer-Led Team of Consultants for Mount Nelson Housing Development, Manchester

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$122,216,275.00, inclusive of General Consumption Tax (GCT), to Westech Limited, by the National Housing Trust (NHT), for the provision of a civil engineer-led team of consultants to design and monitor the construction of Mount Nelson Housing Development in Manchester.

The NHT requires the professional services of a registered civil engineering firm with a team of consultants, to undertake the design and administration of the construction contract for the infrastructure and housing units for this development.

(vii) Airport Utilities Study (Baseline and Optimisation) at the Norman Manley International Airport

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$1,637,554.02, inclusive of General Consumption Tax of 16.5%, to Seureca Veolia to undertake an Airport Utilities Study (Baseline and Optimisation) at the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA).

The project will focus on analysing all the characteristics of utilities management at the NMIA. The overall objective is to obtain enough information on the current situation to implement management and monitoring measures.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet noted the Annual Reports for the:

- (i) National Export-Import Bank of Jamaica for the Financial Year 2018/2019; and
- (ii) Tourism Enhancement Fund for the Financial Year 2018/2019.

3. Legislation

The Minimum Business Tax (Repeal) Act, 2019

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled "The Minimum Business Tax (Repeal) Act, 2019" to be introduced into the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to repeal the Act as part of the suite of revenue measures announced by the Minister of Finance and the Public Service in his contribution to the 2019/2020 Budget Debate.

4. Board Appointments

(i) Culture, Health, Arts, Sports and Education Fund

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 23 September 2019 to 22 September 2022:

- 1) Mr. Phillip Henriques – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Bindley Sangster;
- 3) Mr. Hidran McKulsky;
- 4) Ms. Nicole McLaren-Campbell;
- 5) Mr. Robert Williams;
- 6) Dr. Oniel Mundle;
- 7) Ms. Novlette Howell; and
- 8) Mr. Duane Smith.

(ii) Jamaica Mortgage Bank

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Michael Shaw as Chairman of the Board of Directors, with effect from 18 September 2019 to 20 May 2021, when the tenure of the Board will expire; and the appointment of Mr. Shaw as a member of the Enterprise Team for the privatisation of the Jamaica Mortgage Bank.

(iii) Planning Institute of Jamaica

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 23 September 2019 to 22 September 2022:

- 1) Dr. Wayne Henry – **Chairman (ex officio)**;
- 2) Mr. Colin Williams;
- 3) Mr. Mark Tracey;
- 4) Professor David Tennant;
- 5) Ambassador Dr. Richard Bernal;
- 6) Ms. Merle Donaldson;
- 7) Professor Alvin Wint; and
- 8) Ms. Sheree Martin.

(iv) Rural Water Supply Limited

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 23 September 2019 to 22 September 2022:

- 1) Mayor Homer Davis – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mayor Collin Gager;
- 3) Mr. Kevin Lue;
- 4) Ms. Farah Blake;
- 5) Mr. Kemoy Lindsay;

- 6) Ms. Rhoda Crawford;
- 7) Mayor Winston Maragh;
- 8) Councillor Doreen Hutchinson; and
- 9) Mr. Peter Clarke.

(v) Sports Development Foundation

Cabinet approved the appointment of Ms. Mexine Bisasor to the Board of Directors with effect from 23 September 2019 to 11 November 2020, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

(vi) Water Resources Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Authority for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 23 September 2019 to 22 September 2022:

- 1) Dr. Parris Lyew-Ayee, Jr. – **Chairman**;
- 2) Professor Michael Taylor;
- 3) Mr. Michael Brown;
- 4) Ms. Nadine Spence;
- 5) Mr. George Grant;
- 6) Ms. Stephanie Abrahams;
- 7) Ms. Georgina Hamilton;
- 8) Ms. Novelette Howell; and
- 9) Mrs. Allison Rangolan.

5. Appointment of the Board of Trustees for the Tourism Workers' Pensions Scheme

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of one year, with effect from 23 September 2019 to 22 September 2020:

- 1) Mr. Richard Powell – **Chairman**;
- 2) Ms. Hyacinth Lightbourne – **Deputy Chairperson**;
- 3) Mrs. Daisy Coke, OJ, CD;
- 4) Mr. Omar Robinson;
- 5) Mr. Wayne Cummings;
- 6) Mr. Philipp Hofer;
- 7) Mr. Carlton Williams;
- 8) Mr. Eric Crawford; and
- 9) Mr. Danny Roberts, CD, JP.

The Tourism Workers Pension Act 2019 provided for the establishment of a defined contribution scheme for tourism workers with contributions payable by tourism operators and their employees and by self-employed tourism workers. The Scheme will be managed by its Board of Trustees, the composition of which is provided for in the Act.

6. Multisectoral Workshop for World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Parties in the Caribbean Region

Cabinet approved Jamaica hosting a multisectoral workshop to promote the Protocol for the Elimination of the Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products in the Caribbean region, during the period 8 to 10 October 2019, in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

The primary objective of the workshop is to raise awareness of the Protocol among Parties to the World Health Organisation (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) in the Caribbean region.

7. Hosting of the Group of Latin American and the Caribbean Debt Management Specialists Annual Meeting

Cabinet approved the co-hosting of the XV Annual Meeting of the Group of Latin American and the Caribbean Debt Management Specialists by the Government of Jamaica and the Inter-American Development Bank from 1 to 3 October 2019 in Montego Bay, St. James.

The meeting is the principal venue for the exchange of experience and knowledge of public debt management practices within the Latin American and the Caribbean region.

8. Reports

(i) Panama Disease Race 4 Prevention Measures for the Jamaican Banana and Plantain Industry

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries in connection with an update on the Panama Disease Race 4 (PDR4) prevention initiatives for the safeguarding of the Jamaican banana and plantain industry.

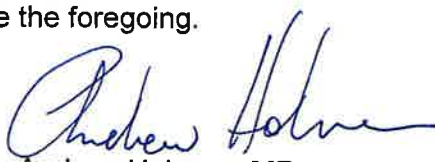
The report informed that the Jamaican banana and plantain industry was on high alert for the prevention of *Fusarium oxysporum fsp.cubense* Tropical Race 4 (Foc TR4) or Fusarium Wilt, known locally as Panama Disease. It advised that the fungus was spread through infected plant materials and infested particles attached to items such as farm tools, shoes, clothes, animals, vehicles as well as irrigation and water; and the best measure to mitigate its impact was by exclusion by way of preventing its entry. The report also provided information on the PDR4; the current status; the actions being taken to prevent the entry of the PDR4, and the control measures; the constraints to implementation of the Action Plan; and the available resources being utilised to prevent the entry of the disease into Jamaica.

(ii) 9th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency and the Shock-Responsive Social Protection Regional Symposium

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development in connection with the outcome of the 9th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and the Shock-Responsive Social Protection Regional Symposium held in the Turks and Caicos Islands from 27 to 29 June 2019.

The report advised that CDEMA would be a partner in the planning and execution of the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean to be held in Montego Bay, Jamaica from 8 to 10 July 2020.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP
Prime Minister

31 October 2019

