



CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 7 OCTOBER 2019

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 7 October 2019:

1. Contracts;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Reports;
4. Board Appointments;
5. Re-Establishment of the Minerals Development Advisory Council; and
6. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Procurement of Security and Related Services at Health Facilities in the South East Regional Health Authority

Cabinet approved the award of five (5) contracts totalling \$1,716,349,134.50, for the provision of security and related services in five lots, across health facilities in the South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA) for a period of three (3) years, as follows:

Lot	Parishes and Health Facilities	Name of Contractor	Contract Amount (\$J)
1	Kingston and St. Andrew Bustamante Hospital for Children, National Chest Hospital, Hope Institute and the Sir John Golding Rehabilitation Centre	Modern Investigations and Security Company Limited	\$436,649,922.00
2	Kingston and St. Andrew Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department and all Health Centres	Shalk Electronic Security	\$348,271,577.00
3	Kingston and St. Andrew Kingston Public and Victoria Jubilee Hospitals	King Alarm	\$355,048,312.50
4	St. Catherine Spanish Town Hospital, St. Catherine Health Department Offices, Linstead Hospital and selected Health Centres	Marksman Limited	\$382,800,010.50
5	St. Thomas Princess Margaret Hospital, St. Thomas Health Department Offices and selected Health Centres	Atlas Protection Limited	\$193,579,312.50
TOTAL			\$1,716,349,134.50

SEHRA seeks to utilise reliable and responsive contractors to provide security and related services on a 24-hour basis for the health facilities in the four (4) parishes in the region to ensure the security of employees, customers, property and assets.

(ii) Migration of Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) Services

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$470,022.69 to Cable and Wireless Jamaica Limited for the private branch exchange (PBX) upgrade and migration of voice-over internet protocol (VOIP) services for the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service and its affiliated agencies.

The current PBX system needs replacement as it has outlived its useful life resulting in, among other things, difficulty in obtaining hardware components due to obsolescence.

- (iii) Procurement of Firefighters' Protective Clothing (Bunker Gear) for the Jamaica Fire Brigade
Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of US\$1,000,045.32 to Bell Safety Limited for the supply of 400 firefighters' protective clothing (bunker gear) to the Jamaica Fire Brigade (JFB).

The JFB is presently experiencing a shortage of bunker gear and this procurement will alleviate this issue.

2. Legislation

The Patents and the Designs Act, 2019

Cabinet approved the tabling of the Bill entitled "The Patents Act and the Designs Act, 2019" in the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to modernise the patents and designs regime and to facilitate Jamaica's involvement in international arrangements.

3. Annual Reports

Cabinet noted the Annual Reports for the:

- (i) National Energy Solutions Limited for the Financial Year 2013/2014; and
- (ii) Port Authority of Jamaica for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

The Reports will be tabled in the Houses of Parliament.

4. Board Appointments

(i) Board of Supervision

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 7 October 2019 to 6 October 2021, as under:

- 1) Dr. Lee Martin;
- 2) Councillor Tosha Schwapp;
- 3) Mrs. Pearline Barrett;
- 4) Dr. Maureen Irons Morgan;
- 5) Mrs. Elaine Walker;
- 6) Mrs. Barbara Christian;
- 7) Miss Yvonne Grant;
- 8) Mrs. Joylene Griffiths-Irving; and
- 9) Reverend Astor Carlyle.

(The membership will determine the chairmanship of the Board.)

(ii) Social Development Commission

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Commission for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 7 October 2019 to 6 October 2022:

- 1) Mrs. Prudence Kidd-Deans – **Chairperson**;
- 2) Councillor Richard Creary – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 3) Mr. Michael Stern;
- 4) Mrs. Sonia Fuller;
- 5) Mrs. Dawn Heron;
- 6) Mrs. Dorothy Carter-Bradford;
- 7) Mr. Donovan Williams;
- 8) Mr. Lloyd Pommells;
- 9) Mr. Eddie Muir; and
- 10) Mr. Hidran McKulsky.

5. Re-Establishment of the Minerals Development Advisory Council (MinDAC)

Cabinet gave approval for the re-establishment of the Minerals Development Advisory Council (MinDAC).

The role of the MinDAC is the promotion and safeguarding of the country's mineral wealth, promoting the development of the minerals sector and seeking to improve the synergies between various public sector entities that impact the sector to ensure increased efficiencies.

6. Reports

(i) The Technology Advancement Programme

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology in connection with the performance of the Technology Advancement Programme (TAP) of the Universal Service Fund (USF) and plans for the continuation of the Programme.

The report informed that the Programme was launched in December 2017 and aimed at engaging 1,000 young Jamaicans through Information and Communications Technology (ICT). It further advised of the objectives and format of the Programme, which was for a 12-month period, three months of training and nine months of work experience, including the provision of a stipend of \$10,600.00 per week for each individual; and that the Programme had commenced in March 2018.

The report further informed of the outcome of the Programme, which commenced with 920 participants, of which 890 received training, and that 665 successfully completed all nine modules of the Programme. It outlined the plans for the TAP for financial year 2019/2020.

(ii) Celebration of National Heritage Week 2019

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport in connection with the plans for the celebration of National Heritage Week 2019.

The report advised that National Heroes Day 2019 would be celebrated on Monday, 21 October; and National Heritage Week 2019 would be celebrated over the period Sunday, 13 October to

Monday, 21 October. It further advised that the theme for Heritage Week 2019 was "Our Heritage...A Great Legacy!!!".

The report provided further information on the focus of Heritage Week; the principal celebratory activities, including the National Heritage Week Thanksgiving Service, and floral tributes to the National Heroes; and the financing of the activities.

(iii) Population and Housing Census 2021

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service in connection with the preparatory activities in relation to the Population and Housing Census 2021, by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN).

The report advised that the preparatory activities were underway for the population and housing census to be conducted during the period April to August 2021; censuses had been conducted in Jamaica since 1844 and were undertaken every 10 years; and the last three censuses were held in 1991, 2001 and 2011, respectively.

The report further advised that the census was a statistical product that would provide information on the social, demographic and economic profile of the population, the conditions under which citizens lived, and the housing characteristics of the country. It was an important source of disaggregated data that would produce indicators required for the measurement of progress towards meeting the obligations under *Vision 2030, Jamaica's National Development Plan and Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals*. Statistical data derived from the Population and Housing Census 2021 would be used as benchmarks for research, analysis, policymaking, planning, statistical compilation, and as the basis for the sampling frame for household surveys such as the Labour Force and the Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions.

The report provided information on the legislative framework and planning and preparation activities, including the budget.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.


Andrew Holness, MP
Prime Minister
15 December 2019