

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 27 JANUARY 2020

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27 January 2020:

1. Contracts;
2. Annual Report;
3. Board Appointments
4. Approval for the Sale of Lot 1 Part of Corletts Road and Fellowship Hall, St. Catherine from Factories Corporation of Jamaica to the Housing Agency of Jamaica Limited;
5. Jamaica's State of the Environment Report 2017; and
6. Reports.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Hellshire Sewerage Treatment Plant Expansion, St. Catherine

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$471,049,981.00 to YP Seaton and Associates Company Limited for the provision of works for the Hellshire Sewerage Treatment Plant expansion in St. Catherine.

The existing Hellshire Sewerage Pond and Treatment Plant does not have adequate capacity to accommodate the anticipated wastewater flows, due to the development of new housing developments in the area.

(ii) Building and Civil Infrastructure Works at Latium Housing Development, St. James

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$1,755,652,947.50 to YP Seaton and Associates Company Limited to undertake building and civil infrastructure works at the Latium Housing Development in St. James.

The construction of this housing development falls under the National Housing Trust's strategic priority to increase housing completions by delivering 18,624 new housing solutions to contributors by 31 March 2022.

(iii) Supply and Installation of Workstations and Office Furniture at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade New Corporate Office Building, Downtown, Kingston

Cabinet approved the award of contract in the amount of \$68,178,865.51, including General Consumption Tax (GCT) to Corporate Interiors International Limited for the supply and installation of workstations and office furniture at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade's new corporate office building in Downtown, Kingston.

The estimated project duration is eleven weeks and it is anticipated that the project will commence in February 2020.

2. Annual Report

Cabinet noted the Annual Report of the Cannabis Licensing Authority for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

The Report will be tabled in Parliament.

3. Board Appointments

(i) Caribbean Maritime University Council (CMU)

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Council for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 27 January 2020 to 26 January 2023:

- 1) Professor Gordon Shirley – **Chairman**;
- 2) Professor Noel Brown;
- 3) Mr. Dwain Powell;
- 4) Ms. Belinda Ward;
- 5) Mr. Kim Clarke;
- 6) Mr. Trevor Riley;
- 7) Dr. Donovan Stanberry;
- 8) Dr. Therese Chambers;
- 9) Mr. Mark Hart;
- 10) Rear Admiral Peter Brady;
- 11) Dr. Marshall Hall;
- 12) Mr. Donovan Perkins;
- 13) Mrs. Mitzie Gordon Burke-Green;
- 14) Mr. Grantley Stephenson;
- 15) Mr. Peter McCarthy;
- 16) Mr. Worrel Morrison;
- 17) Professor Gossett Oliver;
- 18) Professor Ibrahim Ajagunna, Acting President of CMU – *ex officio*;
- 19) Mr. Devon Gardner, CMU Treasurer – *ex officio*;
- 20) Ms. Kerry-Ann Tulloch, President, Alumni Association – *ex officio*; and
- 21) Mr. Glenardo Simpson, President Students' Union – *ex officio*;

(ii) National Road Operating and Constructing Company

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Ivan Anderson to the Board of Directors with effect from 27 January 2020 to 13 May 2020, when the tenure of the Board will expire.

4. Approval for the Sale of Lot 1 Part of Corletts Road and Fellowship Hall, St. Catherine by Factories Corporation of Jamaica to the Housing Agency of Jamaica Limited

Cabinet approved the sale of 22.19 hectares (54.83 acres) of land at Lot 1, part of Corletts Road and Fellowship Hall in St. Catherine, registered at Volume 1084 Folio 570 by the Factories Corporation of Jamaica Limited to the Housing Agency of Jamaica Limited at a cost of \$85 million.

The acquisition of the property is necessary to resolve the storm-water drainage issues within the proposed Bernard Lodge housing development project; and the remaining lands will be used to deliver more housing solutions.

5. Jamaica's State of the Environment Report 2017

Cabinet approved the tabling of Jamaica's State of the Environment Report, 2017 in the Houses of Parliament.

The Report provides a status report on the country's environmental health and air quality, watershed and land resources, marine and coastal ecosystems and biodiversity, resulting from the impact of the five key drivers on the provision of ecosystem services and the pressures on the environment. Sixty-four (64) performance indicators were utilised in the 2017 State of the Environment Report to assess the country's progress to date in the management of the natural and built environment.

6. Reports

(i) Update on the Career Advancement Programme

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information in connection with the Career Advancement Programme (CAP) and its role in the expanded seven years secondary level school programme.

The report informed that the 2010 CAP was conceptualised to assist in stemming the rising trend of students leaving high school without the requisite qualifications, to allow them to transition into career pathways and, to provide opportunities for students between the ages of 16-18 to identify, understand, and prepare for careers and occupations of their choice.

The report further informed that the CAP had been managed under the Human Employment and Resource Training/National Training Agency (HEART Trust/NTA) from 2010 to 2013; the students were placed for work-based experience through the National Youth Service (NYS) under the Apprenticeship Programme and National Service Corps; and the Programme engaged 30,000 students over the four years.

The report advised of the achievements under the CAP such as the examinations and the enrolment statistics of the Programme; the new initiatives to be undertaken, including the integration into the central Ministry, the Alternative Pathways to Secondary Education (APSE), the Secondary Pathway I (SP I), the Secondary Pathway II (SP II) and the Secondary Pathway III (SP III); and the implementation of the expanded Grades 12 and 13 Programme.

(ii) Outcomes of the Twelfth International Civil Aviation Organization Air Services Negotiation Event

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Transport and Mining in connection with the outcomes of the 12<sup>th</sup> International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Air Services Negotiation Event (ICAN 2019) which was held in Aqaba, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 2 to 6 December 2019, hosted by the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Civil Aviation Regulatory Commission (CARC).

The report recalled Cabinet's previous decision, which approved the signing of new Air Services Agreements, which were concluded ad referendum between the Government of Jamaica and the Governments of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia, the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Rwanda, respectively; and for Jamaica to hold discussions with Cyprus,

Germany, Guyana, Haiti, Jordan, Malaysia, Nigeria and Oman towards initialling new Air Services Agreements.

The report informed that the ICAO was established in 2008 and provided States with an annual meeting space to conduct multiple bilateral, regional, or plurilateral air services negotiations or consultations, as well as an opportunity for business-to-business networking among States, international organisations, the aviation industry, tourism and other stakeholders.

The report also advised of the issues and considerations of the ICAN outcomes, including the member State's participation, strategic positioning for sector impact and growth, and meeting and negotiations.

(iii) Outcomes of the 31<sup>st</sup> International Maritime Organisation Assembly Held in London, United Kingdom

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Transport and Mining in connection with the outcome of the 31<sup>st</sup> International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Assembly held in London, United Kingdom (UK) during the period 25 November to 5 December 2019 held at the IMO Headquarters.

The report recalled Cabinet's previous decision which gave approval for Jamaica's candidature for election to Category "C" of the Council of the IMO for 2020 to 2021 biennium.

The report informed of the strategy for re-election which was employed subsequent to the approval of the Cabinet, including the appointment of a Special Envoy, the establishment of a Candidature Steering Committee and the development of an Aide Memoire, among other things; the lobbying activities of Jamaica during the IMO Assembly; and the election result, which advised that Jamaica emerged in the top 20 countries, having received 126 of a possible 165 valid votes.

(iv) IV Ministerial Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology in connection with the IV Ministerial Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA).

The report recalled Cabinet's previous decision which gave approval for Jamaica's hosting of the IV Ministerial Meeting of the ECPA in 2019.

The report advised that the Ministerial Meeting was originally scheduled for 29 to 30 October 2019 in Montego Bay, St. James; Jamaica was in the final stages of preparation to host the IV Ministerial Meeting of the ECPA from 27 to 28 February 2020 at the Montego Bay Convention Centre; the Ministerial Meeting would be held under the theme 'Energy Resilience and Investment Opportunities'; and the Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, was spearheading plans for the event;.

The report further advised of the ECPA Agenda; the Plenary Sessions; the themed side events; bilateral meetings; the opening and closing ceremonies; sponsorship; confirmations for the event; media and public relations; and the inter-ministerial planning committee.

(v) Ministry of Health and Wellness Novel Coronavirus Preparedness and Response

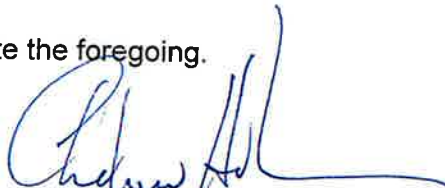
Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Health and Wellness in connection with the Ministry's preparedness and response to the novel coronavirus.

The report informed that in December 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) was alerted to several cases of pneumonia in Wuhan City in China that did not match any other known virus. Subsequently, in January 2020, the Chinese authorities confirmed that it was a new virus, determined to be a coronavirus, similar to the virus that caused the common cold, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS); and this new virus was temporarily named "2019-nCoV".

The report also informed that in Jamaica, a novel virus was classified as a Class 1 reportable disease, which meant that it was of highest priority and health care providers must report Class 1 diseases/health events on suspicion to the Medical Officer of Health at their Parish Health Departments immediately; and case definitions for the 2019-nCoV had been disseminated to the field to facilitate notification.

The report advised of the current situation; the response of the Ministry of Health and Wellness; and the Protocol for the Management of Suspected Cases at Points of Entry.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP

Prime Minister

13 May 2020

