

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 14 APRIL 2020

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 14 April 2020:

1. Contracts;
2. Annual Reports;
3. Board Appointments;
4. Proposal for Establishing a Seventh Region in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information;
5. Amended Nutritional Support for Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) Beneficiaries; and
6. Report.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

- (i) Construction of a Three Span Single Lane Compact 200 Bridge at Mahogany Vale, St. Thomas  
Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$181,479,300.00 to Alcar Construction and Haulage Company Limited, for the construction of a continuous three span single lane Compact 200 Modular Bridge in Mahogany Vale, St. Thomas.

The construction of the bridge will facilitate safe passage across the Yallahs River for residents in adjoining districts in St. Thomas and St. Andrew, and improve the livelihood of the residents, in particular the coffee growers and farmers who are dependent on the bridge being structurally sound and reliable for the transportation of their crops.

- (ii) Acquisition of Commercial-off-the-Shelf Core Banking System for the National Export Import Bank of Jamaica (EXIM Bank)

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of J\$83,121,500.00 or US\$593,725.00, inclusive of recurrent costs, to Highgate Systems Inc for the supply and installation of a Commercial Off-the-Shelf Core Banking System for the National Export-Import (EXIM) Bank of Jamaica for a period of three (3) years.

At present the EXIM Bank has hosted its core banking system on the server of the Bank of Jamaica. This arrangement is no longer tenable and the establishment of a stand-alone system is required.

- (iii) Supply and Installation of a Neurosurgical Microscope at the Kingston Public Hospital

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$69,377,487.48, inclusive of General Consumption Tax, to Industrial and Technical Supplies Limited for the supply and installation of one neurological microscope at the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH).

The KPH is the major Type A facility in the parish of Kingston and it is in urgent need of a neurological microscope.

(iv) Supply of Medical Gases to the Western Regional Health Authority

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$144,760,208.99, inclusive of General Consumption Tax, to Industrial Gases Limited by the Western Regional Health Authority (WRHA) for the supply of medical gases to the WRHA for a period of one (1) year.

The medical gases to be provided are oxygen, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide and nitrogen.

(v) Provision of Cleaning and Portering Services at the Cornwall Regional Hospital

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$508,210,360.03, inclusive of General Consumption Tax, to Milestone Environmental Limited by the Western Regional Health Authority (WRHA), for the provision of cleaning and portering services to the Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH) for a period of two (2) years.

The provision of cleaning and portering services is to ensure and maintain a clean, sanitary and safe environment with appropriate infection control procedures/standards for the CRH.

(vi) Variation of the Contract for the Supply of Architectural and Quantity Surveying Services for the Cornwall Regional Hospital Rehabilitation Programme

Cabinet approved the variation in the amount of \$50,689,363.08, excluding General Consumption Tax, to a contract originally awarded to Harold Morrison + Robert Woodstock Associates Limited by the Western Regional Health Authority (WRHA) for the provision of architectural and quantity surveying services for the Cornwall Regional Hospital Rehabilitation Programme.

The variation relates to changes in the scope of the Cornwall Regional Hospital Rehabilitation Programme and new works to be undertaken.

2. Annual Reports

Cabinet noted the Annual Report for the Postal Corporation of Jamaica for Financial Year 2018/2019. Cabinet also noted the Annual Land Divestment Report for Financial Year 2018/2019.

3. Board Appointments

(i) Land Information Council of Jamaica

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Council for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 14 April 2020 to 13 April 2023:

- 1) Mr. Alexander Williams – **Chairman**;
- 2) Mr. Sherlock Glenister – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 3) Mrs. Tanya Hay;
- 4) Ms. Simone Barnette;
- 5) Lieutenant Colonel Markland Lloyd;
- 6) Mr. Orette Bascoe;
- 7) Mr. Milton Saunders;
- 8) Mr. Leonard Francis;
- 9) Ms. Michelle Edwards;
- 10) Mrs. Dahlia Fletcher;
- 11) Ms. Alicia Edwards;
- 12) Ms. Andrea Williamson;
- 13) Mr. Andre Atkinson;

- 14) Ms. Trecia Williams;
- 15) Dr. Donovan Campbell;
- 16) Mrs. Patrine Cole;
- 17) Mr. Joel Moo-Young;
- 18) Mr. Kenrick Steele;
- 19) Mrs. Dasmine Kennedy;
- 20) Mr. Richard Picart;
- 21) Mr. Andre Gordon;
- 22) Ms. Remoski Russell;
- 23) Mr. Yaneke Watson, National Spatial Data Management Division – **ex officio**.

(ii) National Council on Education

Cabinet noted that Instruments of Appointment had been issued by the Governor-General for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2022; and endorsed the membership of the Council as under:

- 1) Mr. Alphansus Davis – **Chairman**;
- 2) The Most Reverend and Honourable Donald Reece, OJ – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 3) Dr. Donna Brown;
- 4) Reverend Merlyn Hyde Riley;
- 5) Senator Kerensia Morrison;
- 6) Mrs. Elaine Foster-Allen;
- 7) Dr. Disraeli Hutton;
- 8) Mrs. Althea Heron;
- 9) Mrs. Sandra Swyer Watson;
- 10) Ms. Carlene Chin;
- 11) Mr. Paul Burgess;
- 12) Mr. Everton Hannam;
- 13) Mr. Franklin McKnight;
- 14) Mr. Derrick Simon;
- 15) Mr. Ray Howell;
- 16) Mr. Doran Dixon;
- 17) Mr. Lenford Salmon;
- 18) Ms. Marvelyn Campbell;
- 19) Ms. Ann-Marie Heron;
- 20) Mr. Tajay Francis;
- 21) Dr. Garth Anderson;
- 22) Dr. Charmaine Gooden Monteith; and
- 23) Dr. Grace McLean, Acting Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information – **ex officio**.

4. Proposal for Establishing a Seventh Region in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information

Cabinet approved the establishment of a seventh region in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information to facilitate the efficient and effective delivery of services to the relevant institutions and their stakeholders in the long term in the designated parishes.

The establishment of a seventh region has been mooted under the Education System Transformation Programme (ESTP). The proposal is to separate Clarendon and St. Catherine to create the new

region to facilitate the efficient and effective delivery of services to the institutions and their stakeholders.

5. Amended Nutritional Support for Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) Beneficiaries

Cabinet gave approval for the disbursement of funds from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information 2020/2021 Nutrition Budget to the Ministry of Labour and Social Security for the purpose of making payments of cash grants to parents of the Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) Beneficiaries at the primary and secondary levels.

Effective 13 March 2020, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information was mandated to close all schools for an initial 14 calendar days; the 10 days of closure would have an adverse effect on PATH Beneficiaries, who would be without the cooked lunch normally provided by schools; and the Ministry had decided to pay a cash grant to the parents to provide these students with the cooked lunches. The approach would allow parents/guardians the flexibility of procure supplies in their local communities; and the Ministry would be collaborating with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security to continue disbursement of cash grants to the parents of PATH Beneficiaries for the number of days schools would remain closed due to COVID-19.

6. Report

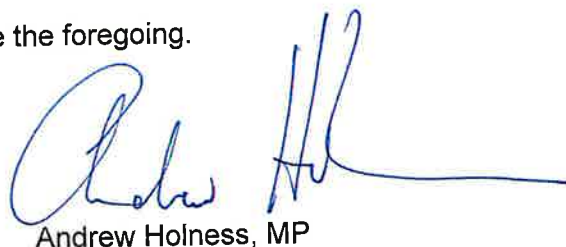
Trip to Washington for the Launch of America Crece.

Cabinet considered a report from the Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology in connection with a report on the outcome of the Launch of America Crece or Growth in the Americas on 17 December 2019.

The report advised that the Growth in the Americas was characterised by the Government of the United States of America (USA) as an initiative that sought to catalyse private sector investment in infrastructure in Latin America and the Caribbean, encompassing energy, telecommunications, roads, and ports.

The report also advised that Jamaica had a need for large project investments in many different sectors; of greatest interest was the energy sector, as the country sought to increase its diversification efforts; and the Growth in the Americas engagement with the USA could allow Jamaica to access programmes, resources and expertise of numerous USA Government agencies, which, in turn, could help to strengthen the Jamaican economy.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP

Prime Minister

23 July 2020