

CABINET AGENDA ISSUES – 17 AND 22 MARCH 2021

The House is asked to note the following matters which were considered by the Cabinet at its meetings held on 17 and 22 March 2021:

1. Contracts;
2. Legislation;
3. Annual Reports;
4. Board Appointments;
5. Spectrum Pricing Policy and Framework;
6. The Montego Bay Perimeter Road Project; and
7. Findings of the Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions, 2018.

Each matter shall be elaborated on in turn.

1. Contracts

(i) Shoreline Protection at Runway 30 End Norman Manley International Airport

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$555,894,892.05, to Y.P. Seaton and Associates Company Limited, for the implementation of the Shoreline Protection Runway 30 End project at the Norman Manley International Airport.

The project entails the construction of approximately 358m of armoured rock revetment works parallel to the shoreline at the southern end of the NMIA Runway. The revetment toe is to be located approximately 5m from the shoreline at mean sea level.

(ii) Supply of Biodiesel Fuel to the Jamaica Urban Transit Company Limited

Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$301,975,000.00, to Elhydro Limited, to supply biodiesel fuel to be used in the Jamaica Urban Transit Company (JUTC) buses in a pilot initiative for a period of six months at the Portmore Depot.

As the exclusive provider of public transit in the Kingston Metropolitan Transport Region (KMTR), the JUTC seeks to offer safe, reliable, and cost-effective public passenger transportation by exploring economical measures to protect the Company's resources, whilst improving the energy efficiency of their operations.

(iii) Variation of Contract: Lathbury Barracks Redevelopment Project

Cabinet approved a variation in the amount of \$54,155,884.26, to M&M Jamaica Limited, for the provision of additional works under the Lathbury Barracks Redevelopment Project.

The original contract amount was \$1,531,604,615.80, and there had been three previous variations totalling \$126,601,973.36 which were within the limit of 10% that the Head of Entity was authorised to approve. The new contract amount was \$1,712,359,473.42, which was an 11.8% increase over the original.

The Lathbury Barracks Redevelopment Project began in 2006 with a Memorandum of Understanding among the National Land Agency, National Housing Trust, the Ministry Finance and the Public Service and the Jamaica Defence Force.

- (iv) National Housing Trust General Insurance Services
- Cabinet approved the award of a contract in the amount of J\$2,187,899,624.00, exclusive of General Consumption Tax (GCT), to Allied Insurance Brokers Limited, from the National Housing Trust (NHT) insurance services for the period of one year, from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022, with the following premiums applied:

- (a) Houseowners Comprehensive with British Caribbean Insurance Company Limited (BCIC) fronting for a panel of overseas Insurers led by Lloyd's Syndicate SII 1945, at a cost US\$13,951,313.00, excluding GCT;

- (b) Comprehensive Crime and Cyber Crime, Directors and Officers Liability with Lloyd's via Coverholder Dual Corporate Risks at a cost of US\$110,150.00, excluding GCT;

- (c) Excess General Liability (Public, Employers and Motor Third Party Liability) with Lloyd's Syndicate AXIS Capital Holding 1686 at a cost of J\$305,000.00, excluding GCT; and

- (d) Combined Property and Business Interruption All Risks, Computers and Artwork, Loss of Money and Fidelity Guarantee, Employers and General Liability and Motor with BCIC at a cost of J\$116,903,583.00, excluding GCT.

The previous NHT contract for the management of its General Insurance Portfolio will expire on 31 March 2021, thus necessitating this procurement.

## 2. Legislation

The Agro-Investment Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2021

Cabinet gave approval for the Bill entitled "The Agro-Investment Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2021" to be introduced into the Houses of Parliament.

The Bill seeks to amend the Act to repeal the Agricultural Marketing Corporation Act, and allow for the functions of the Agricultural Marketing Corporation to be subsumed under the Agro-Investment Corporation.

## 3. Annual Reports

Cabinet noted the Annual Reports for the:

- (i) Independence Park Limited for the Financial Year 2016/2017; and  
 (ii) Jamaica Mortgage Bank for the Financial Year 2019/2020.

#### 4. Board Appointments

##### (i) Institute of Jamaica

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Vishwanauth Tolan, OD, and Ms. Carol Rose Brown to the Council, with effect from 22 March 2021 to 29 February 2024, when the tenure of the Council will expire.

##### (ii) Island Traffic Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons as *ex officio* members of the Authority, with effect from 22 March 2021 to 15 November 2023, when the tenure of the Authority will expire:

- 1) Mrs. Marsha Henry Martin, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development;
- 2) Mrs. Dawn Smith Fagan, representative, Ministry of Transport and Mining; and
- 3) Mr. Gary McKenzie, nominee of the Commissioner of Police.

##### (iii) Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Commission for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 22 March 2021 to 21 March 2024, as under:

- 1) Mr. Alexander Williams – **Chairman**;
- 2) Dr. Peter Charles – **Deputy Chairman**;
- 3) Mrs. Debby-Ann Brown Salmon;
- 4) Mrs. Florette Blackwood;
- 5) Mr. Peter Chin;
- 6) Mrs. Sarah Newland-Martin;
- 7) Ms. Cheanette A. Stobbs;
- 8) Reverend Herro-Verne Blair Jr.;
- 9) Mr. Oral McCook;
- 10) Ms. Claudette Jones;
- 11) Mr. Andrew Gibbs;
- 12) Mrs. Norma June Spence-Jarrett, JP, Executive Director, Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission – *ex-officio*; and
- 13) Mrs. Suzzette Ison, Principal Director, Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport – *ex-officio*.

##### (iv) Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of Ms. Tanya Bedward as a member of the Authority, with effect from 22 March 2021 to 15 November 2023, when the tenure of the Authority will expire.

##### (v) Land Development Advisory Committee

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons as *ex officio* members of the Advisory Committee with effect from 22 March 2021 to 24 January 2024, when the tenure of the Committee will expire:

- 1) Mr. Ryan Taylor, representative, Association of Land Economy and Valuation Surveyors; and

2) Mr. Dwight Williams, representative, National Environment and Planning Agency.

(vi) Land Development and Utilization Commission

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Steven Reynolds as a member of the Commission, with effect from 22 March 2021 to 24 January 2024, when the tenure of the Commission will expire.

(vii) National Housing Trust

Cabinet approved the appointment of the following persons to the Board for a period of three (3) years, with effect from 22 March 2021 to 21 March 2024:

- 1) Mr. Lennox Channer – **Chairman**;
- 2) Senator Kavan A. Gayle, CD;
- 3) Ms. Merle Donaldson;
- 4) Ms. Hope Wint;
- 5) Mr. Doran Dixon, JP;
- 6) Mr. Granville Valentine, CD;
- 7) Corporal Rohan James;
- 8) Mr. O'Neil W. Grant;
- 9) Mrs. Nesta-Claire Hunter; and
- 10) Mr. Martin Miller, Managing Director, National Housing Trust – *ex officio*.

(viii) Toll Authority

Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr. Terrence Brown, as a member, and Mrs. Yvonne Barnett-Russell as an *ex officio* member, respectively, of the Authority, with effect from 22 March 2021 to 22 November 2023, when the tenure of the Authority will expire.

5. Spectrum Pricing Policy and Framework

Cabinet approved the policy and framework related to the charging of fees for the regulation, management, and administration of the radio spectrum frequency.

The Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology, in seeking to maximise the use of the radio frequency spectrum to drive social development and economic growth, had obtained technical assistance from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to undertake a review of the current spectrum fee framework, and to recommend appropriate and suitable changes to same.

6. The Montego Bay Perimeter Road Project

Cabinet gave approval for the declaration of the Montego Bay Perimeter Road Project as a National Development Project, and for China Harbour Engineering Company Limited (CHEC), to be the main contractor for the implementation of the Project.

The Montego Bay Perimeter Road Project is expected to open up new areas to the south of Montego Bay for further development and expansion, in particular giving access to lands for

housing, a critical area given the explosive growth in the population of Montego Bay and its satellite communities. The Project will also result in improved accessibility to places of employment; productivity for businesses will increase due to less time lost as a result of traffic congestion; and there will be improved access to educational, health and other services.

The National Road Operating and Construction Company Limited is the implementing agency for the Project, which is to be financed by the Government through the Consolidated Fund.

7. Findings of the Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions, 2018

Cabinet considered a Report from the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service in connection with the findings of the Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions (JSLC), 2018.

The Report informed that the JSLC facilitates the tracking of Jamaica's developmental progress with respect to a broad range of social indicators, and that the living standards measurement survey has been fielded annually since 1988, except for 2011, with the first report published in 1989.

The Report further informed of significant findings of the JSLC in 2018 in relation to the indicators for household consumption and poverty, noting that there is an improvement in the household's ability to spend, as well as a subsequent reduction of 6.7% in the prevalence of poverty relative to 2017, demographic characteristics which indicates that Jamaica has an ageing population, health, education, housing, social protection, early childhood development and time use.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.



Andrew Holness, MP

Prime Minister

29 May 2021

