

---

## **CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT**

### **CABINET DECISIONS** **19<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

His Excellency the Acting Governor David D. Archer, Jr. chaired the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, in the absence of Governor Augustus Jaspert, who was overseas on official business. The Meeting was held at the Ralph T. O'Neal Administration Complex.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Premier and Minister of Finance and the Minister for Education, Culture, Youth Affairs, Fisheries and Agriculture, who were overseas on official business.

#### **Cabinet Meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

1. Received the Situation Report prepared by the Department of Disaster Management following the passage of Tropical Storm Karen on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2019; noted actions taken before, during and after the passage of Tropical Storm Karen and instructed the Deputy Governor's Office (Department of Disaster Management) and the Ministry of Health and Social Development to:
  - (a) revisit the responsibility assigned to the Ministry of Health and Social Development for maintaining the land-based emergency shelters owned by the Crown to better streamline the functional responsibilities within the Disaster Management Act (2003) Section 13(1), which requires the Director of Disaster Management to establish a list of emergency shelters;
  - (b) enter into an agreement that clearly delineates the responsibilities of each party as it relates to the upkeep and maintenance of community centres that are used as emergency shelters; and
  - (c) establish the national group that is charged with the responsibility for managing the national emergency shelter programme as articulated in the 2019 revised Emergency Shelter Policy.

2. Noted the information provided in the Public Service Transformation Framework, and that each Ministry will present its Transformation Plan as guided by the Cabinet.
3. Decided that Ms. Joycelyn Murraine and Mr. Bevis Sylvester be appointed as Commissioners to the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission for a period of two (2) years effective 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2020.
4. Reviewed and approved the Bill entitled, Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Control, 2020, which seeks to provide for the regulation and control of gaming and betting and matters related thereto and decided that the Bill be introduced in the House of Assembly for its first reading at the next convenient Sitting.
5. Decided that the Government of the Virgin Islands enter into a lease agreement with Union Property Company Ltd. for a period of five years, in the first instance, for office space measuring 3,070.37 square feet in Building #1 to accommodate the Social Development Department and for office space measuring 3,174.75 square feet located on the first and second floors in Building #2 to accommodate the Public Health Unit, Environmental Health Division and the Department of Waste Management for a period of three years, in the first instance.
6. Decided that permission be granted to Elvet Meyers to use the seabed for the installation of five commercial moorings buoys at Cane Garden Bay, subject to a number of conditions.
7. Reviewed and accepted the Immigration Department's 2014 Annual Report and decided that it be tabled in the House of Assembly at the next convenient Sitting.
8. Reviewed and accepted the Labour Department's 2016 Annual Report and decided that it be tabled in the House of Assembly at the next convenient Sitting.
9. Considered and approved the Bill entitled, Nurses and Midwives Act, 2020, which seeks to revise the Nurses and Midwives Act, 2009 in order to strengthen the framework for nursing in the Territory, and decided that it be introduced in the House of Assembly for its first reading at the next convenient Sitting.
10. Approved a number of Non-Belongers land holding licence applications and one Bank charge on Crown land leased for commercial purposes.

**Published by the Cabinet Office on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2020.**

**###**

**Guidelines:**

1. Cabinet decisions will be published by the Cabinet Office following confirmation of the Minutes.
2. Only a summary of the decisions will be published.
3. Cabinet discussions will not be disclosed.
4. Cabinet decisions of a sensitive nature, matters of national security, those where publication breaches regional or international conventions and those relating to personal privacy will not be disclosed.
5. Cabinet decisions will be published in the weekly issues of the Virgin Islands Official Gazette at [www.eservices.gov.vg/gazette](http://www.eservices.gov.vg/gazette).
6. Cabinet decisions will be also available on [bvi.gov.vg](http://bvi.gov.vg) and on Twitter.