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

### **CABINET DECISIONS** **9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2019**

His Excellency the Governor Augustus Jaspert chaired the Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2019, which was held at the Premier's Conference Room, Central Administration Building.

All Members were present with the exception of the Minister for Education, Culture, Youth Affairs, Fisheries and Agriculture Dr. the Hon. Natalio Wheatley, who was overseas on official business.

#### **Cabinet Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2019**

The Cabinet:

1. Considered and approved the Merchant Shipping (Coastal Craft Registration and Licensing) Regulations 2019.
2. Decided:
  - (a) that the Government shall subsidise the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College by providing additional funding in the amount of one million and seventy five thousand dollars (\$1,075,000) specifically for the Marine Centre of applied studies; and
  - (b) that the remaining \$300,000 of the \$500,000 approved by Cabinet decision of 12th June 2019 be allocated as follows:
    - i. two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to be provided for the HLSCC to fund purchasing of the necessary equipment for the Marine Centre's rebuilding of the facility as the Centre of Excellence in the OECS; and
    - ii. \$100,000 to be earmarked for other training programmes in other Maritime certified institutions and agreed work service apprenticeship experience training programmes in the Maritime sector.

- iii. that an additional six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) shall be budgeted in the 2020 budget in order to cover the cost for maritime training at HLSCC and other certified institutions.
3. Decided that the terms included in the Peter Islands Resort and Spa - Redevelopment Agreement be considered by the Attorney General's Chambers and the Premier's Office for the purpose of negotiating with Peter Island 2000 Holding Inc. (the developer) with a view to concluding an Investment and Economic Agreement with the developer.
4. Considered and approved the Economic Substance (Companies and Limited Partnership) (Intellectual Property Business Requirements) Regulations, 2019 and decided that once finalised and signed by the Minister, the Regulations be gazetted and thereafter laid on the table of the House of Assembly at the next Sitting.
5. Decided that a Bill to amend the Limited Partnership Act be drafted to give the International Tax Authority the power to seek the winding up of a limited partnership on public interest grounds and that the Bill be introduced in the next Sitting of the House of Assembly.
6. Decided that a Bill to amend the Insolvency Act be drafted to give the International Tax Authority the power to seek the winding up of a company on public interest grounds and that the Bill be introduced at the next Sitting of the House of Assembly.
7. Considered and approved the Regulations below, decided that the Regulations shall come into force on a date immediately following the coming into force of the Securities and Investment Business (Amendment) Act, 2019 and decided that the Regulations be laid on the table of the House of Assembly in accordance with Standing Order 14(3) of the Standing Orders of the House of Assembly:
  - i. Private Investment Funds Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter known as "the PIF Regulations");
  - ii. Mutual Funds (Foreign Funds) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter known as the "Foreign Funds Regulations");
  - iii. Mutual Funds (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter known as the "MF Amendment Regulations");

- iv. Securities and Investment Business (Incubator and Approved Funds) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter known as the “IAF Amendment Regulations”);
  - v. Financial Services (Miscellaneous Exemptions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter known as the “Exemptions Amendment Regulations”);
  - vi. Financial Services (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter known as “Fees Amendment Regulations”); and
  - vii. Anti-money Laundering (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter known as “AML Amendment Regulations”).
8. Considered and accepted the report on the Audited Financial Statements of the BVI Health Services Authority for the year 2015 and decided that the report be laid on the table of the House of Assembly at its next convenient Sitting.
9. Received the Report on the Evaluation of the Immunization Programme of British Virgin Islands and decided that the recommendations contained in the said report be implemented by the British Virgin Islands Health Services Authority and the Ministry of Health and Social Development.
10. Considered and approved the Virgin Islands National Medicines Policy and decided that the Policy be tabled in the House of Assembly at its next convenient Sitting.
11. Approved the transfer of Crown lands to the British Virgin Islands Ports Authority to assist with the expansion of its main cargo handling and passenger terminal.
12. Approved a number of Non-Belongers land holding licence applications and a land revocation.

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His Excellency the Governor Augustus Jaspert chaired the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2019, which was held at the Premier’s Conference Room, Central Administration Building.

All Members were present.

## **Cabinet Meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2019**

The Cabinet:

1. Accepted the recommendation to rename the Jost Van Dyke Administration building to “Albert H. Chinnery Administration Building” in honour of the late Mr. Albert H. Chinnery; decided that the Renaming and Handover Ceremony be held on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 and approved the establishment of a Committee, comprised of the following members, to plan the Renaming Ceremony:
  - i. Hon. Melvin Mitchell Turnbull – District Representative;
  - ii. Ms. Sasha Flax – Sister Islands Programme Coordinator (Chairperson);
  - iii. Mrs. Carmen Blyden – District Officer, Jost Van Dyke;
  - iv. Mr. Clifford George/Sharlene Chinnery – great nephew/great niece of Mr. Albert Chinnery;
  - v. Mr. John Klein – long-time friend of Mr. Chinnery; and
  - vi. Mrs. Berta Adams - Information Officer, Premier’s Office
2. Reviewed and approved the grant of Certificate of Belonger Status and Certificate of Residence and Belonger Status for a number of applicants who have met the legal requirements of Section 2 (4) and Section 3 of the Immigration and Passport Amendment Act, 2019.
3. Approved two Non-Belongers land holding licence applications

*Further information on these matters will be provided by the Premier and Ministers in due course.*

**Published by the Cabinet Office on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2019.**

**###**

**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.