

THE CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT

CABINET DECISIONS

25th September, 2024

Cabinet Meeting – 25th September, 2024

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. Daniel Pruce, chaired the meeting held on 25th September, 2024, at the Premier's Conference Room.

All Members were present.

Cabinet:

1. Decided that the Financial Investigation Agency Act, 2003 be amended to empower the Financial Investigation Agency (FIA), based on the recent Mutual Evaluation Report, which includes allowing the FIA to make disclosures to a foreign financial investigation agency, as well as standardising some of the existing provisions of the Act most notably relating to enabling the FIA to discharge its functions and supervisory responsibilities over Non-Financial Businesses and Professions and Non-Profit Organisations appropriately and legitimately; and considered and approved
 - a. the Financial Investigation Agency (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which seeks to better empower the FIA in many respects in accordance with the recommendations contained in the recent BVI Mutual Evaluation Report, while at the same time streamlining some of the existing provisions of the FIA Act; and that it be introduced for its first reading in the House of Assembly at the next convenient sitting.
2. Noted the content of the Governor's Office Commission of Inquiry Report, and Outstanding Recommendations.
3. Decided that visa requirements for Guyanese nationals entering the British Virgin Islands be removed in accordance with section 37(4) of the Immigration and Passport Act (Revised Edition 2013), and in alignment with the BVI's commitment to fostering closer ties with Guyana and facilitating ease of travel for leisure and business purposes.

4. Considered and approved the Bill entitled, Miscellaneous Amendments (SIGTAS) (Validation), 2024, which seeks to validate monies collected pursuant to the Miscellaneous Amendments (SIGTAS) Act, 2005 to date; decided that the Bill be introduced in the House of Assembly for its first reading at the next convenient sitting; and approved the publication in the Gazette of the Proclamation to retroactively bring the Miscellaneous Amendments (SIGTAS) Act, 2005 into force as of 1st November, 2005.
5. Approved the appointment of the following individuals to the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise Grant Selection Committee:
 - a. for three (3) years, with effect from 1st October, 2024 until 30th September, 2027:
 - i. Dr. Lincoln Bobb (Senior Staff Member, Department of Trade, Investment Promotion, and Consumer Affairs); and
 - ii. Mrs. Shaina Smith-Archer (Representative from the Business Community);
 - b. for two (2) years, with effect from 1st October, 2024 until 30th September, 2026:
 - i. Mrs. Janice Skelton;
 - ii. Mr. Russell Harrigan; and
 - iii. Mr. Kevin Smith;
6. Approved five (5) Non-Belonger Land Holding Licence applications.

Published by the Cabinet Office on 5th December, 2024.

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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.
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