

CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT

CABINET DECISIONS

14th and 21st July, 2021

Special Cabinet Meeting – 14th July, 2021

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. John J. Rankin, CMG, chaired the online Meeting held on 14th July, 2021.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Attorney General Hon. Dawn Smith, who is on personal leave.

The Cabinet:

1. Noted the Auditor General's Special Report on the Government's stimulus programme for religious organisations, civic groups, daycares and private schools that was launched as a part of the COVID-19 recovery initiative and decided that the Auditor General's Special Report, in spite of the concerns over the methodology used in developing the report and concerns over the accuracy of some of the content of the report, , be laid, with names of recipients redacted, by the Attorney General before the House of Assembly at the next Sitting or at its next meeting thereafter.
2. Noted the Auditor General's Special Report on the Government's stimulus programme for farmers and fisherfolks that was launched as a part of the COVID-19 recovery initiative and decided that the Auditor General's Special Report, in spite of the concerns over the methodology used in developing the report and concerns over the accuracy of some of the content of the report, be laid, with names of recipients redacted, by the Attorney General before the House of Assembly at the next convenient Sitting or at its next meeting thereafter.
3. Reviewed the Annual Report of the Office of the Deputy Governor for the year ending 31st December, 2020 and decided that the Report be laid on the table at the next convenient Sitting of the House of Assembly.

4. Decided that:

- a. the tender process be waived for the Government of the Virgin Islands to enter into a contract with IBM (Bahamas) Ltd. to provide Management, Maintenance, Support and Enhancement services in relation to the Customs Automated Processing System (CAPS) due to the proprietary software rights;
 - b. the contract be issued to IBM (Bahamas) Ltd. for five (5) years with effect from 1st January, 2022 and ending 31st December, 2026 at a rate of two hundred and thirty-four thousand, three hundred dollars (\$234,300.00) per annum;
 - c. the Financial Secretary instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to vet the relevant agreement; and
 - d. the contract be reviewed by the Financial Secretary within three (3) years and the results of the review be submitted to Cabinet for consideration.
5. Reviewed and accepted the Evaluation Report submitted by the Central Tenders Board Technical Sub-Committee, which was approved by the CTB on 19th May, 2021; accepted the recommendation of the CTB that Quality Air Conditioning & Refrigeration be awarded the contract for (HVAC) Air Conditioning System for the Multi-Purpose Sports Complex; and recommended that full negotiations be held with the recommended contractor, to ensure best value for money.
6. Reviewed and accepted the Evaluation Report submitted by the Central Tenders Board Technical Sub-Committee, which was approved by the CTB on 19th May, 2021; accepted the recommendation of the CTB to award Ever Ready Trucking the contract for Managing of the Jost Van Dyke Transfer Station and Providing Hauling Services for waste from Jost Van Dyke to the Incinerator on Tortola, in the amount of two hundred and ninety-five thousand five hundred dollars (\$295,500.00) for 36 months and decided that the Ministry of Health and Social Development instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to vet the relevant agreement.

7. Approved:

- a. the appointment of Mr. Moletto Abram Smith Jr. as Chairman of the BVI Health Services Authority Board for a period of three (3) years with effect from 15th July, 2021;
- b. the appointment of Dr. Karl Dawson as Deputy Chairman of the BVI Health Services Authority Board for a period of three (3) years with effect from 13th August, 2021;

- c. the re-appointment of Mrs. Kishelle Blaize-Cameron and Ms. Andrea Walters as members of the BVI Health Services Authority Board, for a period of three (3), respectively, with effect from 15th July, 2021; and
- d. the appointment of Mrs. Esther Wheatley, Ms. Kisha Frett and Mr. Lemuel Smith as Members of the BVI Health Services Authority Board, for a period of three (3) years, respectively, with effect from 15th July, 2021.

Cabinet Meeting – 21st July, 2021

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. John J. Rankin, CMG, chaired the online Meeting held on 21th July, 2021.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Attorney General Hon. Dawn Smith, who is on personal leave.

The Cabinet:

1. Reviewed and accepted the Evaluation Report submitted by the Central Tenders Board technical evaluation sub-committee, which was approved by the CTB on 1st June, 2021; accepted the recommendation of the Central Tenders Board to award the contract for Construction of New Social Home, Zion Hill to Building Construction Management Group Ltd. in the amount of two hundred and eight thousand, three hundred and eighty-five dollars and seventy-four cents (\$208,385.74).
2. Approved a Policy Paper on Bona Vacantia of Dissolved and the form entitled 'Application for Repayment After Restoration' and:
 - a. agreed that the Policy Paper be published on the website of the Government of the Virgin Islands and in the Virgin Islands Official Gazette;
 - b. decided that the Ministry of Finance instruct the Attorney General to prepare Regulations under the BVI Business Companies Act to stipulate that any monies paid out of the Consolidated Fund in order to restore property to a company be:
 - i. returned interest free; and
 - ii. subject to an administrative fee of between 0.10 percent and 0.25 percent per annum of the principal amount as further prescribed by an Order of the Minister.

3. Reviewed and accepted the Evaluation Report submitted by the Central Tenders Board technical evaluation sub-committee, which was approved by the CTB on 29th June, 2021; accepted the recommendation of the CTB to award Quality Construction Ltd., the contract for Construction of New Social Home, Sea Cow's Bay in the amount of one hundred ninety-seven thousand, two hundred eighty-six dollars and twenty-four cents (\$197,286.24) and decided that the Ministry of Health and Social Development instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to vet the relevant agreement.
4. Reviewed the recommendations of the Board of Immigration in respect of applicants for Certificates of Belonger Status; accepted the recommendations of the Board of Immigration to grant Certificates of Belonger Status to twenty-five (25) individuals who, in accordance with section 16 (6) of the Immigration and Passport Act (revised) are the spouses of Belongers, and who have been living together with their spouses within the Territory for a period not less than five (5) years: accepted the recommendations of the Board of Immigration to grant Certificates of Belonger Status to thirty-six (36) applicants, who, in the opinion of the Board, have met each of the legal requirements of Section 16 (3) of the Immigration and Passport Act (revised) and directed that the Immigration Department communicates Cabinet's decision to the respective applicants in a timely manner.

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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.
6. Cabinet decisions will be also available on bvi.gov.vg and on Twitter.