

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

### **CABINET DECISIONS** 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2024

#### **Cabinet Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2024**

His Excellency, the Governor Daniel Pruce, chaired the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2024 at the Premier's Conference Room.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Attorney General, who was overseas on official business. Solicitor General Mrs. Jo-Ann Williams-Roberts attended as the acting Attorney General.

1. Cabinet approved two (2) Non-Belongers Land Holding Licence applications, and also granted permission for the transfer of one (1) leasehold interest.

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#### **Cabinet Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2024**

His Excellency, the Governor Daniel Pruce, chaired the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 at the Premier's Conference Room.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Minister for Communications and Works who was overseas on official business.

1. Reviewed and approved the Governor's Office's 2023 Annual Report and decided that the Report be laid on the table at the next convenient sitting of the House of Assembly.
2. Reviewed and approved the Department of Human Resources' 2022 Annual Report; and decided that the Report be laid on the table at the next convenient sitting of the House of Assembly.

3. Reviewed the recommendations of the Board of Immigration in respect of applicants for Certificates of Residence; accepted the recommendations of the Board of Immigration to grant Certificates of Residence to eighty - two (82) persons, in accordance with Section 18(1) of the Immigration and Passport Act (as amended); decided
  - a. not to accept the recommendations of the Board of Immigration to not grant Certificates of Residence to six (6) applicants, who, in the opinion of the Board, have not met the legal requirements of Section 18(1) of the Immigration and Passport Act (revised), and instead requested clarity on the legal and practical implications of denying the six (6) applicants to be provided in a separate Cabinet paper within two (2) weeks; and directed
  - b. that the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sustainable Development instruct the Department of Immigration to communicate Cabinet's decision to the respective applicants in a timely manner.
  
4. Approved the revised Belonger Status and Permanent Residence Policy for the Virgin Islands that outlines a fair, clear, and transparent framework and process by which individuals, who are not deemed to belong or who are not permanent residents, may be granted the privilege of attaining this status, in response to the policy recommendations of the review in response to B33 of the Framework for the Implementation of the COI Recommendations and Other Reforms; decided that:
  - a. the Belonger Status and Permanent Residence Policy for the Virgin Islands be tabled in the House of Assembly at the next convenient sitting; and  
  
the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sustainable Development provide drafting instructions to the Attorney General's Chambers to amend the Immigration and Passport Act to give effect to the Belonger Status and Permanent Residence Policy for the Virgin Islands.
  
5. Denied an application to use the seabed for the installation of six (6) commercial moorings at Cane Garden Bay, Tortola and fourteen (14) commercial moorings at Little Harbour, Jost Van Dyke.

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**Cabinet Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2024**

His Excellency, the Governor Daniel Pruce, chaired the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 at the Premier's Conference Room.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, who was overseas on private business.

Cabinet:

1. Reviewed and approved the 2023 annual report of the Supreme Court and Commercial Court; and decided that it be laid on the table at the next convenient sitting of the House of Assembly.
2. Approved the Virgin Islands Recovery and Development Agency Strategic Plan 2022-2026; and decided that the plan be tabled in the House of Assembly at its next convenient sitting.
3. Decided:
  - a. that in accordance with Schedule 5 to the Social Security Ordinance (Cap. 266), as amended, the following persons be reappointed to the Social Security Board for a period of three (3) years with effect from 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2024 until 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2027:
    - i. Ms. Tasha Bertie (Ag. Permanent Secretary) - Representing Government;
    - ii. Dr. Ronald Georges (Chief Medical Officer) - Representing Government;
    - iii. Dr. Mitchell Penn - Representing Private Health Practitioners; and
    - iv. Ms. Maya Barry - (Legal Practitioner), Representing Government.
  - b. that in accordance with Schedule 1 to the Social Security Ordinance (Cap. 266), as amended, the following person be appointed to the Social Security Board for a period of three (3) years with effect from 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2024 until 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2027:
    - i. Mr. Chad Maduro - Representing Employers; and
  - c. noted that the members who are not public officers will be remunerated from the Social Security Fund in the amount of eight hundred dollars (\$800) per month in accordance with Section 6 of the Social Security Ordinance (Cap. 266).
4. Approved one (1) Non-Belongers Land Holding Licence application.

**Published by the Cabinet Office on 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.**

**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.

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