

THE CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT

CABINET DECISIONS

6th, 13th and 27th November, 2024

Cabinet Meeting – 6th November, 2024

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. Daniel Pruce, chaired the special meeting held on 6th November, 2024 at the Premier's Conference Room.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, who was overseas on official duty.

Cabinet:

1. Noted that the Public Finance Management Act, 2004 (No. 2 of 2004), as amended, in Section 36C(3), requires that the Medium Term Fiscal Plan (MTFP) for the Territory be updated semi-annually and that the 2024 mid-year MTFP Update fulfilled this requirement; approved the 2024 mid-year MTFP update; decided that the 2024 mid-year MTFP update be tabled at the next convenient sitting of the House of Assembly; and approved that the 2024 mid-year MTFP update be submitted to the Minister for the Overseas Territories.
2. Considered and approved Draft A of the 2025-2027 Recurrent Budget Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and Capital Development Estimates of Receipts and Expenditure, as amended; and decided that the Bill entitled, Appropriation (2025) Act, 2024 be introduced for its first reading in the House of Assembly at the next convenient sitting.
3. Noted:
 - a. the approval by shareholder resolutions, pursuant to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of National Bank of the Virgin Islands (NBVI) Limited of the following persons as members of the NBVI Board of Directors, (subject to the approval of the Financial Services Commission (FSC), as NBVI's regulator):
 - i. Ms. Ingrid Moses-Scatliffe as Non-Executive Director and Chair for three (3) years with effect from the date of FSC's approval;

- ii. Mrs. Michelle Todman-Smith as Non-Executive Director and Member for two (2) years with effect from the date of FSC's approval, and
 - iii. Mr. Ormond A Williams as Non-Executive Director and Member for two (2) years with effect from the date of FSC's approval;
 - b. the approval by shareholder resolutions, pursuant to the NBVI Memorandum and Articles of Association, the extension of the following persons' appointments as members of the NBVI Board of Directors, which have been duly notified to the FSC:
 - i. Dr. Benedicta Samuels as Vice Chair and Member with effect from 1st April, 2024 to 31st December, 2024; and
 - ii. Mr. Ivan Hudson Carr as Non-Executive Director and Member for two (2) years with effect from 28th February, 2024 to 27th February, 2026.

4. Decided:

- a. that Section 7(2) of the Telecommunications Act, 2006 be amended to read: *"The Board shall comprise a minimum of three and a maximum of five Commissioners, one of whom shall be the Chief Executive Officer and one Commissioner with a telecommunications services background"*;
- b. that the Act be amended to include that the Permanent Secretary or designee from the ministry responsible for telecommunications serve as an ex-officio member be on the Board; and
- c. that the Ministry of Communications and Works provide drafting instructions to the Attorney General's Chambers to amend Section 7(2) of the Act, and that the amendments in the form of a Bill be submitted to Cabinet for approval before forwarding to the House of Assembly.

5. Decided:

- a. that Mrs. Iciss Malone be appointed as a member of the Social Security Fund Investment Committee of the Social Security Board (SSB) in accordance with Section 13(2)(b) of the Social Security Act 1980 (CAP. 266) as the Minister of Finance's nominee for a period of three (3) years effective 15th November, 2024 to 14th November, 2027; and
- b. that Board member, Mr. Chad Maduro, sit on the Social Security Fund Investment Committee of the SSB, as nominated by the Minister in accordance with Section 13(2)(b) of the Social Security Act, 1980 (CAP. 266), for a period of two (2) years effective from 15th November, 2024 to 14th November, 2026.

6. Approved three (3) Non-Belonger Land Holding Licence applications.

Cabinet Meeting – 13th November, 2024

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. Daniel Pruce, chaired the meeting held on 13th November, 2024, at the Premier's Conference Room.

All Members were present with the exception of the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, who was overseas on official duty.

Cabinet:

1. Noted the content of the Governor's Office Commission of Inquiry Outstanding Recommendations.
2. Approved the extension of lease for Stevens Land Stadium Development Project (amendment).
3. Decided that Lorie Freeman be appointed to the post of Director of the BVI Social Security Board for a period of five (5) years on terms presented by the Social Security Board, given her experience as deputy director and acting director, and her successful performance in these roles; and noted that in accordance with Section 7(1)(1A)(b), the appointment of the Director shall be subject to a negative resolution of the House of Assembly.

Cabinet Meeting – 27th November, 2024

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. Daniel Pruce, chaired the meeting held on 27th November, 2024 at the Premier's Office Conference Room.

All Members were present.

Cabinet:

1. Noted:
 - a. that the Service Commissions (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 will be published in the Virgin Islands Official Gazette to have legal effect, as advised by the Attorney General; and

- b. its reservation with regard to the publication of the Service Commissions (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 in their current form, despite a request for reconsideration; and decided that the Service Commissions (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 be laid on the table in the House of Assembly at the next convenient sitting.
2. Noted the content of the Governor's Office Commission of Inquiry Outstanding Recommendations.
3. Approved a relief of the accumulated penalty/interest on property taxes for two applicants.
4. Decided that A. Hermia Tench and Kedreana Parsons be re-appointed to the British Virgin Islands Port Authority Board for two (2) years from 1st December, 2024 to 30th November, 2026; by Section 1(1)(b) of the First Schedule of the BVI Ports Authority Act, 1990 and noted that they would be paid a monthly stipend of nine hundred dollars (\$900.00).
5. Approved the re-appointment Susan Daly and Kevin Fahie, and the appointment of Kevin C. Smith and Kamilah Freeman as members of the BVI Airports Authority Board for a period of two (2) years with effect from 1st December, 2024 until 30th November, 2026 in accordance with Section 6 of the Airports Act, 2003 and Section 8 of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the BVI Airports Authority, and noted they would be paid a monthly stipend of \$800.00.
6. Approved the re-appointment of Mrs. Claudette Francis-Smith to the Public Assistance Committee in accordance with Section 3(2)(b) and 8(1) of the Public Assistance Act, 2013 for a period of two (2) years with effect from 1st October, 2024.
7. Decided that pursuant to Section 5(5)(a) of the BVI Health Services Authority Act, 2004, Stacy Lloyd and John Cline be appointed as members of the BVI Health Services Authority Board for a period of two (2) years effective 1st December, 2024 to 30th November, 2026, and noted their monthly remuneration of \$500.00.

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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 Gazette at www.eservices.gov.vg/gazette.
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