

**COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE
6th MEETING OF 2013
MINUTES
24th JUNE, 2013
CONFERENCE ROOM, COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT**

PRESENT: Karin M. Thompson Chairman
Nyda Mae Flatley Member
Hedley Robinson Member

APOLOGIES: Ian Wight Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:
Deborah Bodden Manager, Commissions Secretariat

1. Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm and a prayer was offered.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 May, 2013 were approved.

3. Outstanding Business

a. Update on the SPL Bill

The Commission is extremely pleased to learn that the new Government reaffirms its commitment to the passing of the SPL Bill. The Commission looks forward to working with the new Government in this regard.

b. Working Group and Sub-Committee on Procurement

The Commission continues to be hopeful that the new government will work to ensure the issue of procurement is properly managed. To that end, the Commission will await confirmation from the Honourable Deputy Governor as to when the Cabinet paper previously submitted to the former government on this matter will be resubmitted to the new government.

4. New Business

a. Chairman's Presentation to Members of the Legislative Assembly

The Chairman has been invited to make a presentation to the Members of the Legislative Assembly on the role and remit of the Commission including its work to date and future resource needs. The Chairman has accepted this invitation and awaits a date in which the Members can facilitate the presentation as the originally scheduled date had to be changed.

b. FOI – recent review

The Commission understands from media reports that the Freedom of Information Law Sub-Committee laid their Review of the Freedom of Information Law, 2007 and the Freedom of Information (General) Regulations, 2008 before the House in March, 2013. The Secretariat is in the process of attempting to obtain a copy of the said report in order to understand the recommendations relevant to the Commission.

c. Recent meetings

The Chairman had the opportunity last week (20 June, 2013) to meet with Tim Colley, Deputy Director of the FCO Overseas Territories Directorate. The Chairman presented a summary of the work of the Commission including its desire to have the SPL Bill passed into legislation. Mr. Colley emphasised the FCO's commitment to good governance and thus its support of the Commission's.

d. Seventh Report of the Commission

The Commission has begun to work on drafting its Seventh Report which is due to be submitted to the Legislative Assembly mid-August.

5. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

6. Action List

The Secretariat was tasked with:

- a. following up with the Honourable Deputy Governor on the submission of the SPL Bill to Cabinet (Secretariat);
- b. following up with the Honourable Deputy Governor on the submission of the Working Group on Procurement's Report to Cabinet (Secretariat);
- c. following up with the Cabinet Secretary regarding a new date for the presentation to the MLA's (Secretariat);
- d. obtaining a copy of the Review of the Freedom of Information Law, 2007 and the Freedom of Information (General) Regulations, 2008 (Secretariat);
- e. forwarding the draft of the Seventh Report to the Chairman for review (Secretariat).

7. Items to be discussed at the next meeting


- a. Update on the SPL Bill
- b. Update on the Working Group on Procurement's Report
- c. Chairman's Presentation to the MLA
- d. Report on FOI Law/Regulations
- e. Seventh Report of the Commission
- f. Appointments to Statutory Boards

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 22 July, 2013 at 2:30pm.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.


Karin Thompson
CHAIRMAN
COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE