

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING 30 NATIONAL HEROES CIRCLE KINGSTON 4 JAMAICA

ANY REPLY OR SUBSEQUENT REFERENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE <u>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</u> AND THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE NUMBER QUOTED: 22/01 ID

Telephone No. 92-28600-16

August 10, 2005

<u>Circular No. 21</u> <u>File No. 107/022</u> Division: Public Expenditure Policy Coordination

Permanent Secretaries Heads of Departments Chief Executive Officers

Re: Terms of Reference for External Auditors

In the continuing effort to reduce corruption and increase transparency in Government entities, Cabinet in its Decision No. 18/05 dated May 16, 2005 mandated that private external auditors include 'test checks' for compliance with Government's procurement rules in their auditing of public bodies.

With immediate effect, all existing and new terms of reference for the services of external auditors must include a request for compliance review of procurement activities in keeping with the Government of Jamaica procurement guidelines.

Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Departments and Chief Executive Officers should ensure that this circular is brought to the attention of all relevant officers in their ministries/ departments/ agencies/public bodies.

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Colin Bullock Financial Secretary