

ANY REPLY OR SUBSEQUENT REFERENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE NUMBER QUOTED:

Telephone No. 922-8600 Website: http://www.mof.gov.jm Email: info@of.gov.jm MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING 30 NATIONAL HEROES CIRCLE P.O. BOX 512 KINGSTON JAMAICA

September 12, 2013

Circular No. 24

Division: Public Expenditure Policy Co-ordination

Permanent Secretaries
Heads of Departments
Chief Executive Officers
Heads of Procuring Entities

Re: Ministry of Finance Comments on Cabinet Submissions Related to Public Procurement Contract Awards

Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Departments, Chief Executive Officers and Heads of Procuring Entities are hereby advised that by way of Cabinet Decision No. 27/13 dated July 15, 2013 procuring entities are no longer required to seek comments from the Ministry of Finance & Planning on Cabinet Submissions that are related to budgeted public procurement contract awards as approved in Procurement Plans effective October 1, 2013. This is in an effort to expedite the procurement process.

In light of this new arrangement:

- 1. Head of the Procuring Entity must ensure that funds are available prior to the commencement of the bid solicitation process.
- 2. Cabinet Submissions must be accompanied by a letter of endorsement by the Permanent Secretary for the relevant portfolio Ministry which specifies the following:
 - a. Implications for budgetary provisions for the current fiscal year.
 - b. Incremental and any other associated costs for subsequent fiscal year(s).
- 3. A copy of the Permanent Secretary's letter of endorsement and the Cabinet Submission must be received by the Financial Secretary at the time of submission to Cabinet.

Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Departments, Chief Executive Officers and Heads of Procuring Entities are advised to bring this circular to the attention of all affected personnel.

Devon Rowe Financial Secretary