



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

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**MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE**  
**30 NATIONAL HEROES CIRCLE**  
**P.O. BOX 512**  
**KINGSTON 4**  
**JAMAICA, W.I.**

Circular No.: 6

February 25, 2022

To: Cabinet Secretary  
Permanent Secretaries

### **Code of Ethics for Board Members and Executive Officers of Public Bodies (PBs)**

The Corporate Governance Framework (CGF) recommends the creation of a Code of Ethics (CoE/Code) pursuant to Principle 19. Accordingly, the attached Code is being issued to provide guidance on the standards of ethical conduct required from PB Boards and Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and the practices necessary to maintain the integrity in the business of the entity. A PB should use this document to create its own Code specific to its operations. For the purpose of this Circular, a public body is defined by the Public Bodies Management and Accountability Act as a statutory body or authority (*with body corporate status*<sup>1</sup>) over which GOJ or an agency of the government has control; *or a government company*.

The principle outlined in the CGF recommends that the CoE should be included in a Code of Conduct (CoC), which is to be prescribed based on S6(2) of the Public Bodies Management and Accountability Act (PBMAA). You are advised that S6(2) of the PBMAA is currently under review. Pending completion of the review, the CoE is hereby attached to provide needed guidance.

All Board members and Executive Officers are expected to act in accordance with the principles outlined. Please ensure that the attached is brought to the attention of all public bodies which fall within the purview of your respective Ministries.

Yours sincerely,

Darlene Morrison (Ms)  
Financial Secretary

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<sup>1</sup> Section 28 of the Interpretation Act vests power in a body corporate: to sue and enter into contracts in its corporate name; have a common seal; acquire, hold, dispose of and charge real or personal property; regulate its procedures and business; and employ staff as necessary.