



Remarks
by
Honorable Audley Shaw, CD, MP
Minister of Finance and the Public Service
on the
**AGREEMENT FOR THE PARTIAL USE OF THE NATIONAL PROCUREMENT SYSTEM OF JAMAICA
FOR
IDB -FINANCED PROJECTS**

Between
The Government of Jamaica (GOJ)
and the
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Salutations...,

We are pleased that the continued partnership and collaboration between the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Government of Jamaica has in this instance resulted in the preparation of an ***Agreement for the Partial Use of the National Procurement System of Jamaica for IDB-Financed Projects*** which we are here gathered to sign this morning.

As part of the Government's modernization programme, the public procurement regulatory and institutional frameworks are being strengthened to create a more efficient and effective public procurement system and policy geared towards alignment with international best practices.

Notably, IDB has provided support to its Borrowing Member Countries in their efforts to strengthen procurement systems so that international best practices

maybe met. Ultimately, when this standard is achieved, borrowing countries can use their own systems to carry out procurement processes for IDB-financed projects.

Arising from a review of Jamaica's procurement system, conducted by the IDB at the Government's request, it was found that the procurement procedures are at a level that is considered to be on par with IDB policies and international standards of best practice.

In fact, it was noted that in some instances the Government procedures surpass the IDB's policies which is an indication that the partial use of the Jamaican Procurement System in IDB-financed projects will not create any challenges in project implementation with the procurement procedures currently in place.

The Agreement to be signed this morning identifies and establishes the responsibility of the Government in relation to the partial use of the Jamaican Procurement System in IDB-financed operations. The Agreement is also intended to formalize the adoption of the Procurement System by the IDB which is a clear indication of their confidence in the strides that Jamaica continues to make in procurement reform.

The Government welcomes this marked achievement and anticipates that the gains to be realized through the implementation of this Agreement will be used as a catalyst that will positively impact the success of future projects in Jamaica as we strive to achieve sustained economic growth and prosperity for our land.

Thank you!