

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008**

PASSED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
1.		MFPS	Appropriation Act, 2008	Expenditure for 2008/2009
2.		MFPS	Caribbean Development Bank (Amendment) Act, 2008	To empower the Minister to make Jamaica's contributions to the Special Development Fund by non-negotiable, no-interest bearing notes
3.		MFPS	Constables (Special) (Amendment) Act, 2008	To add another ground for retirement after 30 years of service; to clarify fact that normal retirement age is 60 years
4.		MFPS	Retiring Allowances (Legislative Service) (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the repayment of refunded contributions made by a legislator in order to be qualified for retiring allowance
5.		MICYS	Anti-Doping Commission Act, 2008	To establish the Commission as the national anti-doping organisation to maintain and carry out the Jamaica Anti-Doping Programme and ensure its consistency with the World Anti-Doping Programme and other best practices
6.		MICYS	Broadcasting and Radio Rediffusion (Amendment) Act, 2008	To reflect changes in the regulatory responsibilities & the structure of the Broadcasting Commission; change in definition and classification of broadcasting licences to increase local & regional TV programmes via cable
7.		MLSS	Employment (Termination and Redundancy Payments) (Amendment) Act, 2008	To revise fines and penalties payable under Act in order to align them with current economic levels; to give the Minister the power to adjust these fines by Ministerial Order; to increase sum which may be recovered in R.M. Court in claims arising from contract of employment
8.		MNS	Firearms (Validation and Amendment) Act, 2008	To validate and confirm all acts done in good faith pursuant to the Firearms (Amendment) Act, 2005 in advance of its been brought into operation etc.
9.		MOJ	Judicature (Appellate Jurisdiction) (Amendment) Act, 2008	To increase the number of Judges of Appeal by 6 and to provide for further increase by order subject to affirmative action
10.		MOJ	Judicature (Supreme Court) (Amendment) Act, 2008	To address the backlog of cases of the courts by providing for a minimum of 24 and maximum of 40 Puisne judges and a minimum of 4 and maximum of eight masters; to provide that further increase may be made by order subject to affirmative resolution increase the number of Supreme Court Judges and Masters.

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| 4 Being considered/Approved by Legislation Committee | 5 Being drafted | 6 Drafting Instructions Issued |
| 7 Cabinet Approval of Drafting instructions | 8. Policy being Developed | |

Shaded Areas – Prime Minister's Priority

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
11.		MWH	Mortgage Insurance (Amendment) Act, 2008	To ensure the successful undertaking of the mortgage insurance operations of the Jamaica Mortgage Bank; to empower the Jamaica Mortgage Bank to play a more integral role in assisting Jamaicans to acquire suitable and affordable housing; to enable the Bank to compete on a commercial basis with other providers of mortgage insurance vis-à-vis the nature of mortgage insurance undertaken, the basis of which it was written and the volume of new business generated. To increase the ceiling for the aggregate of loans re insurance policies under the Act.
12.		OPM(LG)	Fire Brigade (Amendment) Act, 2008	To increase membership of Board from 7 to 11

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
13.	1	MA	Jamaica Dairy Development Board Bill	To establish Dairy Development Board
14.	2	MFPS	Credit Reporting Bill	To establish licensing system for a credit bureau
15.	3	MFPS	Customs (Amendment) Bill	To address collusion and bribery in respect of custom officers, to shifting of the evidential burden to the defendant and to provide for the admissibility of evidence to prove contents of documents where it is established that the maker of the document is unable or unwilling to appear before the court.
16.	4	MFPS	Financial Administration & Audit (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To provide for establishment of Audit Committees in all ministries and departments; to expand the definition of "department"; and to enforce the establishment of audit committees in public bodies. To enhance capability of MDA to carry out functions; to empower the Minister (Sections 19B and 50) to make regulations which may provide for imposition of penalties on summary conviction in RM Court of a fine not exceeding \$1m or a term not exceeding one year or both fine and imprisonment.
17.	5	MFPS	Financial Investigations Division Bill Customs (Amendment) Bill Revenue Administration (Amendment) Bill	To re-establish Revenue Protection Department as department of MFPS; To establish the Financial Investigations Division as a department of government to investigate financial crimes, with functions to include maintaining intelligence databases on financial crimes, compiling statistics and setting out the parameters for the operation of the division.
18.	6	MFPS	Loan (Amendment)	To increase borrowing authority from \$700 B to \$920 B to facilitate new borrowings and provide raise ceiling
19.	7	MNS	Constabulary Force (Interim Provisions for Arrest and Detention) Bill	To temporarily extend (for a period of one year) the provision of section 50B and 50F of the Constabulary Force Act
20.	8	MNS	Firearms (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To make similar provisions to the Offences Against the person Act where the court may hand down a sentence of 15 years in cases of serious crimes

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TABLED IN PARLIAMENT				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
21.	9	MNS	Parole (Amendment) Bill	To provide that persons who have been sentenced to imprisonment for life, or for a period of 15 years or more, for specified firearms offences, shall not be eligible for parole until after having served a period of not less than ten years of the sentence.
22.	10	MOJ	Bail (Amendment) Bill	To effect a delay or deferral in the consideration of bail for 60 days and place the onus on the accused to show cause why he should be granted bail
23.	11	MOJ	Bail (Interim Provisions for Specified Offences) Bill	To provide for person charged with specified offence to be entitled to bail only after expiration of a period of 60 days from date of charge and would apply to persons who are charged a second time for the prescribed offences and that are repeat offenders.
24.	12	MOJ (OPM)	Charter of Rights and Freedoms (Constitutional Amendment) Bill	To amend Chapter 3 of Constitution to provide for a Charter of Rights and Freedoms
25.	13	MOJ	Constabulary Force (Interim Provisions for Arrest and Detention) Bill	To allow for the Police to detain persons without charge for up to 72 hours
26.	14	MOJ (OPM)	Constitution (Constituencies) Amendment) Bill	To amend Section 67 (1) of the Constitution to increase from 60 to 65 the maximum number of constituencies into which Jamaica is to be divided. To modify the functions of the Standing Committee by enabling it to submit reports, prior to the next general elections but in any event before January 2007, to the House of Representatives on the delineation of constituency boundaries having regard to the increase in the number of constituencies
27.	15	MOJ	Coroner's (Amendment) Bill	To provide for the establishment of an Office of Special Coroner to exercise jurisdiction in all parishes in relation to deaths which occur as a result of actions taken by certain agents of the state

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
28.	16	MOJ	Corruption Prevention (Special Prosecutor) Bill	<p>1. To repeal the Corruption (Prevention) Act and the Parliament (Integrity of Members) Act; and to provide for the establishment of the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Corruption as a Commission of Parliament</p> <p>2. To create an offence for the filing of late statutory declaration; to empower Commission to request information from certain Govt. Depts. and agencies, including the revenue services, banks, financial institutions, building societies, co-operative societies and registered accountants; for statutory declarations to be filed on 31st day of the December in each year or as such other intervals as the Commission may direct; to update the fine imposed under section 6 (2).</p> <p>3. To remove requirement for persons who were elected or reappointed as Parliamentarians following the dissolution of Parliament to furnish a statutory declaration of assets, liabilities and income as at the date of such re-election or re-appointment</p>
29.	17	MOJ	Independent Commission of Investigations Bill	To improve the current system of investigations into public complaints concerning misconduct by members of the Security Forces by repealing the Police Public Complaints Act and appointing an Independent Commission of Investigations.
30.	18	MOJ	Jury (Amendment) Bill (No. 1)	To enable the Registrar of the Supreme Court to make appropriate arrangements for the service of summons to jurors and to remove the responsibility from the Commissioner of Police. To widen the pool of persons from which the jury list may be compiled to include holders of TRNs.
31.	19	MOJ	Jury (Amendment) Bill (No. 2)	To provide for majority verdict of the jury to be accepted in cases of murder where the sentencing options do not include the death penalty
32.	20	MOJ	Offences Against the Person (Amendment) Bill	To provide for minimum custodial sentence for a person convicted before Circuit Court of the offences of shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm and wounding with intent, with the use of a firearm

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
33.	21	MOJ (MICYS)	Sexual Offences Bill Companion Bills: Offences Against the Person (Amendment) Bill Rape (Amendment) Bill Incest (Punishment) (Amendment) Bill	To modernise the law relating to sexual offences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide for a statutory, gender-neutral definition of rape. • To abolish the common law presumption that a boy under fourteen years is incapable of committing rape or other offence of vaginal or anal intercourse. • To increase the penalty for incest and widen the categories of prohibited relationships.
34.	22	MTW	Carriage by Air (Montreal Convention on Air Line Liability) Bill	Unification of certain rules for international Carriage by air. To ratify ICAO's new convention of passengers, baggage and cargo.

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
35.	1	MFPS	Bank of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To establish new limits for the legal tender of coins in any one transaction.
36.	2	MFPS	Industrial & Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill	To strengthen the regulatory framework governing financial institutions by restricting these organisations from engaging in banking business without authority of the Minister
37.	3	MIIC	Trade (Amendment) Bill	To provide for increase in fines; and to empower the Minister to increase fines under the Act by order, subject to affirmative resolution in each House of Parliament.
38.	4	MLSS	Holidays with Pay (Amendment) Bill	To increase fines payable to more realistic levels and to give RM courts jurisdiction to hear and determine matters arising out of the operation of the Act.

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
39.	1	MA	Banana Insurance (Amendment) Bill	Restructuring of the administrative framework to allow for delegation of the duties of the Banana Board to any body corporate or company having the requisite expertise in banana sales and marketing insurance and the effecting of contractual insurance on existing banana cultivations over and above the statutory limit
40.	2	MFPS	Betting, Gaming & Lotteries (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the grant of licences to operators of commercial bingo and to levy a tax on the gross proceeds of each event as well as the winnings. Strengthen regulatory framework and the rules governing licensed operators. Improve the fairness of the conduct of race meets. To remove the different number of taxes that now prevail in the Betting & Gaming industry and introduce a gross profit tax Instead; To provide for a fee structure for administration of prize competitions
41.	3	MFPS	Constabulary Force (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the linking of service between the Special Constabulary Force and the Jamaica Constabulary Force
42.	4	MFPS	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To amend Section 79(1) (b) of the Act to allow for the charging of interest on the unpaid taxes owed by persons who file returns under Section 67(5) of the Act; to provide for an incentive for tax payers for pre-payments by crediting the same rate of interest applicable to unpaid amounts.
43.	5	MFPS	Retiring Allowances (Legislative Service) (Amendment) Bill	Validation of Acts of Parliamentarians where court overturns elections
44.	6	MFPS	Tourist (Duty Free) Shopping System (Change of Name) (Amendment) Bill	To provide for establishment of duty free shopping system for arriving passengers. To include provisions re penalties, loose stones to be included in definition of approved goods, revision of issues related to contents of the sales slip

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
45.	7	MH	Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Amendment) Bill Health & Allied Professions and Services (Increase in Monetary Penalties) Bill	To provide for increases in fines To address the issue of fines in all acts relating to the health portfolio.
46.	8	MH	Radiation (Safety & Control) Bill	To regulate safety of radiation to users & unsuspecting public
47.	9	MICYS	National Library of Jamaica Bill Institute of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To give full autonomy to National Library of Jamaica
48.	10	MLSS	Factories (Amendment) Bill	To provide for increases in fines/penalties
49.	11	MLSS	Labour Relations and Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate hearing of disputes involving the non-unionised worker by the Industrial Disputes tribunal
50.	12	MTW	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To establish Island Traffic Authority as a statutory body
51.	13	MTW	Transport Authority (Collection of Fees) (Validation and Indemnity) Bill	Validation of the Collection of Fees
52.	14	MWH	Water Resources (Amendment) Bill Flood Water Control (Amendment) Bill	To rationalise responsibility for Flood Water Control between WRA and MTW; repeal Flood Control Water Act
53.	15	OPM(LG)	Registration (Strata Titles (Amendment) Bill	To improve maintenance and management of strata properties.

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
54.	1	MA	Animal/Disease & Importation of (Amendment) Bill	Facilitate importation, distribution, storage of animal products including milk and by-products w.r.t. disease and safety
55.	2	MA	Aquaculture Inland & Marine Products & By-products (Inspection, Licensing & Export) (Amendment) Bill	To plug loopholes discovered in Act since opening of conch season in 2001 and make provisions for import
56.	3	MA	Fishing Industry (Amendment) Bill	Repeal & replace existing Act
57.	4	MA	Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Bill	To make Jamaica compliant with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (TPGRFA)
58.	5	MEd	Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To enable institution to grant, confer and rescind academic awards
59.	6	MEd	National Parenting Support Commission Bill	To provide for establishment of Parenting Support Commission
60.	7	MEn	Petroleum (Quality Control) Bill Petroleum (Quality Control) Regulations	To provide for the regulation of the petroleum sector as it relates to petroleum safety
61.	8	MEn	Petroleum and Oil (Conveyance) Bill	To provide for safety measures for conveyance of petroleum
62.	9	MEn	Petroleum and Oil Fuel (Landing and Storage) (Amendment) Bill	To provide for the regulation of the Petroleum Sector as it pertains to the storage of petroleum. Bureau of Standards to be responsible for testing imported petroleum.
63.	10	MFAFT	Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide Bill	To implement the obligations under the Convention
64.	11	MFAFT	Geneva Conventions and its Protocols Bill	To provide for implementing the obligations under the Convention
65.	12	MFAFT	Inter-American Agreement Against Illicit Manufacturing & Trafficking of Arms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials Bill	To implement the obligations under the Convention

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
66.	13	MFPS	Constables (Special) (Amendment) Bill	To increase minimum gratuity payable for officers killed on duty
67.	14	MFPS	Deposit Insurance (Amendment) Bill	Cancellation of tax exemption enjoyed by certain public enterprises
68.	15	MFPS	Deposit Insurance (Amendment) Bill	To provide for enhanced depositor entitlements and improved operating efficiencies of the Deposit Insurance Scheme
69.	16	MFPS	Financial Administration & Audit (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To convert the existing Handbook of Public Sector Procurement into a body of Regulations with accompanying penalties under Section 19B of the FAA Act. To repeal the Financial Administration (Supplies) Regulations of 1963. To amend Section 20 of the FAA Act to allow for surcharge of public officers found culpable for mis-procurement, i.e., breaches of the procurement procedure & guidelines.
70.	17	MFPS	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill	To increase the income tax thresholds at July 1, 2005 and January 1, 2006
71.	18	MFPS	Payments Clearing and Settlement Bill BOJ (Amendment) Bill – Companion Legislation	To provide for legal framework for BOF to regulate Jamaica's payments systems
72.	19	MFPS	Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Amendment) Bill Income Tax (Amendment) Bill	Regulation of National Pension Scheme – vesting, portability and indexation. To ensure conformity with amendment to Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) Act.
73.	20	MFPS	Public Bodies (Management & Accountability) (Amendment) Bill	To strengthen the existing legislative framework of accountability in public bodies, including compliance with government's procurement rules. To implement a financial distribution policy for self-financing public bodies.
74.	21	MFPS	Revenue Administration (Amendment) Bill	To allow Appeals Department to deal with certain matters in the Revenue Court
75.	22	MFPS	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To increase fixed penalties as well as fines under the Act. To validate action under the Provisional Collection of Tax Act

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76.	23	MFPS	Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill	To allow for stamping of document by means of digital imprinting
77.	24	MH	Chemical Weapons Convention Implementation Bill	To implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and use of Chemical weapons and on their destruction
78.	25	MH	Childcare and Protection (Children's Homes) Validation and Indemnity Bill Childcare and Protection (Advisory Council) Regulations (Validation and Indemnity) Bill	To validate and confirm acts done in good faith by CDA in enforcing the provisions of the regulations ad to indemnify persons from liability in respect of such acts as the regulations were published before parliamentary approval was received
79.	26	MH	Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill Food and Drugs (Amendment) Regulations	To include and define over-the counter products and five new categories of substances for human consumption
80.	27	MH	Mental Health (Amendment) Bill	To provide for treatment of patients by Mental Health Officers without their consent
81.	28	MH	Nurses and Midwives (Amendment) Bill (Nurse Practitioner) Bill Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill	To establish Nurse Practitioner Council to regulate control and monitor all categories of Nurse Practitioner. To authorise prescribing by Nurse Practitioner of specified drugs
82.	29	MICYS	Archives (Amendment) Bill	To legislate access to information generated by Government and reconcile provisions with Access to Information Bill
83.	30	MICYS	Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill	To provide necessary statutory guidelines
84.	31	MICYS	Entertainment Industry (Encouragement) (Amendment) Bill	To provide incentives to approved entertainment operators similar to those proposed for motion picture producers

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
85.	32	MIIC	Companies (Amendment) Bill	i. Improve transition arrangements for those companies registered under 1965 Act ii. Section 354 of the Act to be amended to provide that the Companies Act, 2004 will only apply to companies that file Articles of Continuance pursuant to section 396 of the Act; Companies will be required to file Articles of Continuance within 3 days from the date of the amending Act, to allow ample time for the transition; the fees charged by the Companies Office of Jamaica for the Articles of Continuance to be \$2,000.00; the Companies Office of Jamaica be permitted to issue Certificates of Continuance as an administrative document. iii. To improve the effectiveness of the Companies Act
86.	33	MIIC	Copyright (Amendment) Bill	To ensure Jamaica's accession to the WIPO Copyright Treaty; to incorporate provisions of the WIPO copyright Treaty which seeks to protect authors, composers and creators of literature.
87.	34	MIIC	Customs Duties (Dumping & Subsidies) (Amendment) Bill	To bring Act in close harmony with WTO anti-dumping agreement
88.	35	MIIC	Fair Competition (Amendment) Bill	To improve efficacy of Act, following 2001 case of Jamaica Stock Exchange vs. Fair Trading Commission
89.	36	MIIC	Geographical Indications Bill Geographical Indications Regulations	To ensure effective legal protection of geographical indications
90.	37	MIIC	International Finance Company (Income Tax Relief) (Change of Name & Amendment) Bill	To widen scope of services/provide increased tax benefits
91.	38	MIIC	Jamaica Export Free Zones (Amendment) Bill	To provide GCT relief on local cost incurred by Free Zone Operators
92.	39	MIIC	Patents & Industrial Designs Bill	To replace and repeal Patents Act. To bring Act into conformity with international standards of protection for inventors and innovators. Jamaica has for several years been placed on the US Trade Representative 301 Watch List as a result of the lengthy delay in passing the new Patent Legislation.

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93.	40	MIIC	Processed Foods (Amendment) Bill	To provide for use of internationally recognised systems
94.	41	MIIC	Protection of New Plant Varieties Bill	For consistency with bilateral Intellectual Property Agreement with USA & WTO TRIPS. To protect the rights of breeders of new plant varieties
95.	42	MLSS	Foreign Nationals & Commonwealth Citizens (Employment) Bill	(i) To facilitate entry of certain categories of CARICOM Nationals into Jamaica without need for work permits pursuant to CSM. To increase fines and penalties; (i) To allow future amendments to these to be done by Ministerial Order.
96.	43	MLSS	National Assistance Bill	To incorporate institutional changes under the Social Safety Net Reform (a Unified Benefits Programme) and repeal the Poor Relief Law of 1886.
97.	44	MLSS	National Disabilities Bill	To provide for further protection of rights of persons with disabilities
98.	45	MLSS	Occupational Health & Safety Bill	To provide for safety standards at workplace
99.	46	MMT	Postal Services Bill [Post Office (Repeal) Bill]	To repeal Post Office Act; Facilitate modernisation & commercialisation of post offices by transferring the Postal Corporation into a statutory body, Jamaica Post.
100.	47	MMT	Quarries Control Bill	To increase the fines and penalties for illicit quarrying and to introduce requirements for quarries above a given size to employ a Quarry Manager among other amendments aimed at strengthening the quarrying regulatory framework.
101.	48	MNS	Constable (Special) (Amendment) Bill	To consolidate legislation governing Island Special Constabulary Force (ISCF) in order to give effect to new mandate for maintaining public order
102.	49	MNS	Constabulary Force (Amendment) Bill	To grant legal status to Jamaica Police Officers Association
103.	50	MNS	DNA Evidence Bill	To provide for the taking of DNA samples from persons arrested in relation to specified offences
104.	51	MNS	Port Security Bill	To grant jurisdiction to MNS for port security standards and regulations and to set up Security Agency
105.	52	MNS	Private Security Regulations Authority (Amendment) Bill	To update legislation to respond to developments within the industry
106.	53	MNS	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To allow for use of prescribed equipment such as speed measuring devices and to introduce additional ticketable offences

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107.	54	MNS	Road Traffic (Imposition of Fines) Validation Bill	To validate action taken by relevant authorities pursuant to Provisional Collection of Tax (Road Traffic) Order 2002 and subsequent Orders enacted in 2003 & 2004 and to increase penalties.
108.	55	MOJ	Child Pornography Bill	To provide enabling legislation to criminalize and treat with the production, possession of child pornography and related matters.
109.	56	MOJ	Committal Proceedings Bill	To make provisions for the elimination of Committal Proceedings in the Resident Magistrate Courts.
110.	57	MOJ (OPM)	Constitutional Amendments Bill	To provide for: I. Term Limits for Prime Minister (Two Consecutive Terms) II. Removal of power from the Prime Minister to call elections III. Establishing fixed election dates
111.	58	MOJ	Coroner's (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	Introduction of Court Reporters.
112.	59	MOJ	Cyber Crime Bill	To provide enabling legislation for handling criminal activities relating to internet and computer.
113.	60	MOJ	Evidence (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To provide for admissibility of evidence in criminal & civil proceedings by way of television links; Removal of certain procedural requirements to the admissibility of computer generated evidence in proceedings generally
114.	61	MOJ	Judicature (Resident Magistrates) (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the recording of proceedings in the Resident Magistrates Court by Official Court Stenographers
115.	62	MOJ	Judicature (Supreme Court) (Admiralty Jurisdiction) Bill	To repeal and replace the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890 (UK), the Administration of Justice Act. 1956 and the Admiral Jurisdiction (Jamaica) Order in Council, 1962 which collectively govern the admiralty jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in Jamaica
116.	63	MOJ	Judicature (Supreme Court) (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the recording of proceedings by Official Court Stenographers
117.	64	MOJ	Legal Profession (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To provide for mandatory continuing legal education and to provide for intervention by the General Legal Council in the practice of an Attorney-at-Law.
118.	65	MOJ	Obscene Publications (Amendment) Bill	To increase fines & custodial sentences

Categories

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| 7 Cabinet Approval of Drafting instructions | 8. Policy being Developed | |

Shaded Areas – Prime Minister's Priority

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008**

BEING DRAFTED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
119.	66	MOJ	Supreme Court (Admiralty Jurisdiction) Bill	To repeal and replace the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act of 1890 (UK) and the Admiralty Jurisdiction (Jamaica) Order in Council, 1962 which govern the admiralty jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Jamaica. Empowers Rules Committee to make rules to regulate procedures. To provide for the Admiralty Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court
120.	67	MTW	Jamaica Railway Corporation (Amendment) Bill	To harmonise act with provisions of OUR Act; to make provisions for privatisation of railway operations
121.	68	MTW	Port Authority of Jamaica Bill	Repeal & replace existing Act
122.	69	MTW	Public Passenger KMTR (Jamaica Urban Transit Company Limited Third Party Insurance Scheme) (Validation and Indemnity) Bill	(i) to validate and confirm the operation in good faith by the Jamaica Urban Transit Company Limited (JUTC) during the period when it was operating. (ii) To indemnify the JUTC and all other persons against consequential liability
123.	70	MTW	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To provide for comprehensive revision of Act; To repeal and replace the current Road Traffic Act and Regulations (1938) and Companion Acts and Regulations
124.	71	MTW	Shipping (Pollution and Control) Bill [Marine Pollution]	To implement for several international conventions (including International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Damage; International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness & Response Cooperation (ICOPP & R); Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) to protect shipping & preserve the marine environment from pollution by ships.
125.	72	MTW	Transport Services Economic Regulations Bill	To implement a new legislative regime where the powers to set rates, fares and tariffs in the public passenger sector are vested in OUR
126.	73	MWH	Registration (Strata Titles) (Amendment) Bill	To improve management of strata properties
127.	74	MWH	Rent Restriction (Change of Name & Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the provision of adequate legislation governing the rental of properties in Jamaica and to bring about greater efficiency in the processing of applications & complaints
128.	75	MWH	Water Supply and Sewerage Service Bill	To provide the framework for multiple service providers in the water sector through a licensing regime, and to establish the appropriate institutional framework, responsibilities and roles of the various players in the water sector consistent with the Policy.
129.	76	OPM (LG)	Real Estate (Dealers & Developers) (Amendment) Bill	To improve legislative framework. The amendment will improve the ability of the Real Estate Board to regulate real estate practitioners and better protect purchasers under pre-payment contracts.

Categories

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Shaded Areas – Prime Minister's Priority

Cabinet Office, January 2009

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008**

BEING DRAFTED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
130.	77	OPM(E)	Biosafety Bill	To put in place a regulatory system for the safe management of Genetically Modified Organisms.
131.	78	OPM(E)	Crown Property (Vesting) (Amendment) Bill	To establish National Divestment Committee to advise Minister of Land and Environment; to provide for the Minister making an Order to exempt certain categories of divestment being routed through the Committee.
132.	79	OPM(E)	Negril Green island Area Planning Authority (Validation)	To validate activities carried out bona fide since its inception
133.	80	OPM(E)	Ozone Layer Protection Bill	To provide for phase-out of importation of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and to bring together existing orders & regulations concerning controls of ODS
134.	81	OPM(LG)	Disaster Management & Mitigation Bill	To provide for a strengthened legislative framework for disaster management. (To replace ODPEM Act.)
135.	82	OPM(LG) MLSS	National Assistance Bill	To incorporate institutional changes under the Social Safety Net Reform (a Unified Benefits Programme) and repeal the Poor Relief Law of 1886.

Categories

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**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008**

DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
136.	1	MA	Conch Levy Bill	To impose a levy on conch harvested
137.	2	MFAFT	Convention of Prohibition of Development, Production, and Stockpiling of Bacteriological and Toxin Weapons and their Destruction Bill	To implement the obligations under the Convention and those established under the United Nations Security Council
138.	3	MFAFT	Convention Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti- Personnel Mines on their Destruction Bill	To implement obligations under the Convention
139.	4	MH	Public Health (Amendment) Bill	To provide for measures to regulate and control tobacco use
140.	5	MH	Rotterdam Convention on the Informed Consent Bill	To provide for prior informed consent fro hazardous chemical
141.	6	MMT	Data Protection Bill	To deal with protection of the privacy of individuals in relation to personal data and to regulate the collection, processing, keeping, use and disclosure of certain information relating to individuals and to provide for matters incidental or connected therewith.
142.	7	MTW	Public Passenger KMTR (Amendment) Bill Public Passenger Rural Areas (Amendment) Bill Transport Authority (Amendment) Bill	To consolidate the Public Passenger KMTR Act and Public Passenger Rural Areas Act To remove all detailed matters relating to public transport

Categories

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Shaded Areas – Prime Minister's Priority

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008**

DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS APPROVED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
143.	1	MFAFT	Convention Against Corruption Bill	To ratify the Convention for the reduction and eradication of corruption: Prevention (inclusive of investigation); Criminalisation; International Cooperation; Asset Recovery
144.	2	MFAFT	Cotonou Agreement (Revised) Bill	To implement the revised Cotonou Agreement
145.	3	MFAFT	Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction Bill	To implement obligations under the Convention.
146.	4	MFAFT	Legislation to regulate diving activities	To regulate commercial diving activities and diving equipment, safety standards etc.
147.	5	MFPS	Casino Gaming Bill	To establish a regulatory framework and taxation regime for casino gaming
148.	6	MFPS	National Contractors Commission Bill	To create an independent National Contracts Commission
149.	7	MFPS	Revenue Administration (Amendment) Bill Companion Bills: Contactor Levy Bill; Customs Bill; Educations Tax Bill; GCT Bill; Income Tax Bill; Property Bill;; Stamp Duty Bill; Transfer Tax Bill.	To impose stiffer fines and penalties on personnel who were tax officials and who had been arrested and convicted of adding and abetting a taxpayer to evade taxes or commit fraud
150.	8	MH	National Registration Bill	To provide for the compulsory registration of all citizens ordinarily resident in Jamaica
151.	9	MIIC	Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To place the activities of credit unions within the regulatory ambit of BOJ; develop youth credit unions, register deposit taking businesses, amalgamation, conversion and acquisitions. To restrict the deposit taking activities of the Co-operative Societies.
152.	10	MLSS	National Insurance (Amendment) Bill	To enable persons born prior to Jan 1, 1908 to qualify for a special pension w.e.f. April 1, 2008
153.	11	MWH	National Water Commission (Amendment) Bill	Enhancement of benefits under new pension scheme

Categories

1 Passed

4 Being considered/Approved by Legislation Committee

7 Cabinet Approval of Drafting instructions

2 Tabled

5 Being drafted

8. Policy being Developed

3

Approved by Cabinet for Tabling

6

Drafting Instructions Issued

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**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
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POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
154.	1	MA	Milk Production, Export & Import of Milk/Milk Products Bill	To provide legislation for the regulation of production, processing etc, of milk and its by-products
155.	2	MA	Plants (Quarantine) (Amendment) Bill	To harmonise the sanitary and phytosanitary measures with WTO requirements
156.	3	MEd	Apprenticeship (Repeal) Bill HEART Trust (Amendment) Bill	To repeal the Apprenticeship Act, 1955 and amend specific sections of the HEART Act, 1982 to grant safeguard for certain provisions in the Apprenticeship Act. To update schedules and monetary amounts in the HEART Act and empower the Minister to amend or vary any fines under the Act by order, subject to affirmative resolution
157.	4	MFAFT	Rome Statute Establishing the International Criminal Court Bill	To signify Jamaica's consent to be bound and to implement its obligations
158.	5	MFAFT	Terrorism Prevention (Amendment) Bill	To implement amendments to Terrorism Treaties
159.	6	MFAFT	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Bill	To implement obligations under the Treaty
160.	7	MFPS	Alternative Investment Schemes Bill	Policy to be developed for review and determination of an appropriate legislation and regulatory framework for non-tradable securities
161.	8	MFPS	Bank of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To make the central bank independent
162.	9	MFPS	Contractor General (Amendment) Bill	To correct certain deficiencies in the Act, in particular to enable the National Contracts Commission to enforce the provisions of the Act and to provide for legal sanctions for non-compliance by Government Agencies and Departments
163.	10	MFPS	Environmental (Protection) Levy Bill	To impose an environmental levy on imports
164.	11	MFPS	General Consumption Tax (Amendment) Bill	To impose a Special Consumption Tax on the sale of fuel ethanol to the monitoring public

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Shaded Areas – Prime Minister's Priority

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008**

POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
165.	12	MFPS	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill	To amend Section 12 (a) w.r.t payment of gratuity to employees in the accommodation sector of the Tourism Industry.
166.	13	MFPS	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill	To amend Section 31A to add to list of prescribed persons, investment schemes which pay interest on investments to investors
167.	14	MFPS	Motor Vehicles Insurance (Third Party Risks) (Amendment) Bill	To increase amount payable from insurance coverage for health care
168.	15	MH	Children (Adoption of) (Amendment) Bill	To revise and improve adoption process
169.	16	MICYS	Access to Information (Amendment) Bill	To fulfil the statutory requirement for review of the Act
170.	17	MIIC	Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill	To provide for greater protection of the consumer by widening the scope of the Act; to allow the Consumer Affairs Commission to have greater litigation powers.
171.	18	MIIC	Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill	To improve efficiency of Act and amend typographical errors
172.	19	MLSS	Apprenticeship (Amendment) Bill Holiday (Public General) (Amendment) Bill National Minimum Wage (Amendment) Bill Shops and Offices(Amendment) Bill Women (Employment of) (Amendment) Bill	To amend in keeping with the flexi-time proposals.
173.	20	MMT	Minerals Development Bill	To create a single, "one-stop" piece of legislation to address minerals development (mining and quarrying). Given the increased demand for more effective environmental stewardship within the Minerals Industry, especially from the quarries (the Industrial Minerals Sector), it will bring the demands for mining to the exploitation of quarried materials. Also, it will set quarrying in a more business-friendly and business-focused environment. This proposed piece of legislation would replace the existing Mining Act and the Quarries Control Act.

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**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008**

POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
174.	21	MMT	Minerals Industry (Encouragement) Bill	To create a single piece of legislation to address financial and development issues throughout the minerals industry. It is intended to assist in creating a broad-based Minerals Industry instead of the one dominated by the Bauxite and Alumina Sector
175.	22	MMT	Radio & Telegraph Control (Amendment) Bill	To repeal the Radio & Telegraph Control Act
176.	23	MMT	Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill	To revise the Telecommunications Act 2000 to deal with post liberalisation issues related to competition, consumer protection, regulations and emerging technologies
177.	24	MNS	Aliens (Amendment) Bill	To harmonize legislation related to citizenship and immigration status
178.	25	MNS	Constable (District) (Amendment) Bill	To rationalise the District Constables Movement to establish a Community Safety Officers Corp (CSOC)
179.	26	MNS	Firearm (Amendment) Bill	To improve efficiency and effectiveness in operations of the Firearm Licensing Authority and introduce stiffer penalties for trading in illegal firearms and ammunition.
180.	27	MOJ	Administrator-General's (Amendment) Bill	To provide for the streamlining of the functions of the Administrator-General's Department.
181.	28	MOJ (OPM)	Code of Conduct (Constitutional Amendment) Bill	To provide for a political code of conduct. To provide that certain breaches of Code of Political Conduct are made additional grounds for disqualification for election to House of Representative or appointment to Senate
182.	29	MOJ	Evidence (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To provide for the abolition of unsworn statements
183.	30	MOJ	Jury (Amendment) Bill (No.3)	To repeal the provision relating to special juries
184.	31	MOJ	Law Reform (Notice of Alibi Evidence) Bill	To provide for the giving of a notice to the Prosecution where the Defence intends to rely on Alibi Evidence at trial within a prescribed period from time of arraignment.
			Legal Aid (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To make legal aid available to a person who is charged with any offence, including an excepted offence, and who has raised the defence of alibi
185.	32	MOJ	Libel and Defamation Laws	To modernize the laws relating to libel and defamation.
186.	33	MOJ	Prosecution's Right of Appeal Bill	To provide enabling legislation affording the prosecution a right of appeal where an acquittal is granted but there was a substantial miscarriage of justice.

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POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
187.	34	MOJ	Whipping and Flogging (Repeal of) Bill	To repeal the statutory provisions that governs whipping and flogging in Jamaica.
188.	35	MOJ	Whistleblower Legislation	To provide enabling legislation to protect individuals who report corrupt practices and activities.
189.	36	MT	Bath of St. Thomas the Apostle Act (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate Government's decision to divest Bath to enable lease of property
190.	37	MT	Hotel Keeper's Liability Act (Amendment) Bill	To increase sum of hoteliers liability to make it relevant
191.	38	MT	Hotels Incentives (Amendment) Bill	To amend the existing legislation to provide for clarity of definitions among other things.
192.	39	MT	Milk River Bath (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate Government's decision to divest Milk River to enable lease of property
193.	40	MT	Resort Cottages (Incentives) (Amendment) Bill	To provide clarity in definitions given to some aspects of the Act; etc
194.	41	MT	Timeshare and Vacation Plan Legislation	To encourage new investment into the development on "non-traditional resort facilities
195.	42	MTW	Main Roads (Amendment) Bill Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To allow for metrification of measurements in the Act and increased fines and removal of fines to Schedule
196.	43	MWH	Trespass (Amendment) Bill	To improve management of squatting and increase outdated fines
197.	44	OPM	Agricultural Credit Board (Amendment) Bill	To divest the Development Bank of Jamaica of its responsibility to monitor the PC Banks
198.	45	OPM	National Housing Trust (Amendment) Bill	To strengthen and modernize the legislative framework governing the management of the National Housing Trust's operations and its assets.
199.0	46	OPM(LG)	Constitutional Amendment Bill	To have Local Government entrenched in the Constitution
200.	47	OPM(LG)	Counties and Parish Council (Amendment) Bill	To designate Portmore as the 15 th Parish.
201.	48	OPM(LG)	Fire Brigade (Amendment) Bill	To revise the Act to improve and modernize the existing legislative framework

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**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2008/2009
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008**

POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
202.	49	OPM(LG)	Local Government Finance and Financial Management Bill	To have a single modernised Act reflecting new arrangements for financing Local Government incorporating new standards of financial management, and fiscal responsibility and accountability. (To consolidate and repeal the Parochial Rates and Finance Act, the section of the KSAC Act dealing with finance and the Local Authorities (Loans) Act)
203.	50	OPM(LG)	Local Government Reform Bill	To create one Local Government Reform Act to govern all Councils and set out the broad mandate/scope/powers of Local Authorities re governance mechanisms and establish criteria/guidelines for the self management at the sub-parish level and or the conferring of city/municipal status. (To consolidate the KSAC, the Parish Council and the Municipalities Acts).
204.	51	OPM(LG)	Local Government Unified Services Bill	To improve effectiveness and efficiency and redefine the role of the Services Commission and Local Authorities in the appointment and management of staff assigned to them. (To replace the Municipal Service Commission Act, the Parish Councils (Unified Service) Act and the Poor Relief Officers (Unified Services)
205.	52	OPM(LG)	National Building Bill	To improve the efficiency of the building approval process and provide a framework for the effective management of the building industry. (To incorporate the Kingston and St. Andrew Building Act and the Parish Council Building Act.
206.	53	OPM(LG)	National Solid Waste Authority (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Act to increase the number of Board Members; to consequentially amend the Act to make the Local Authority the authority responsible for solid waste management

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