

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2007/2008
AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2007
(SHADED ITEMS REFLECT PRIORITY LEGISLATION IDENTIFIED BY PRIME MINISTER)**

TABLED				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
1.		MFPS	Pensions (Prime Minister) (Amendment) Bill	To change the entitlements of the current Prime Minister and future Prime Ministers.
2.		MOJ	Charter of Rights and Freedoms (Constitutional Amendment) Bill	To amend Chapter 3 of Constitution to provide for a Charter of Rights and Freedoms
3.		MFPS	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill	To bring in line with amendments to Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes Act, 2004 and which came into effect March 1, 2005) and to allow for retroactivity to take effect on March 1, 2005. To allow an appeal against a decision of Commissioner of tax payer Appeals relating to the approval of a fund or scheme to lie to the Revenue Court

APPROVED BY CABINET FOR TABELING				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
4.	1	MFPS	Property Tax (Amendment) Bill	To make permanent the new rate of Property Tax introduced in 2005 under the Provisional Collection of Tax Act.

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2007/2008
AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2007
(SHADED ITEMS REFLECT PRIORITY LEGISLATION IDENTIFIED BY PRIME MINISTER)**

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
5.	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
6.	2	MA	Jamaica Dairy Development Board Bill	To establish Dairy Development Board
7.	3	MFPS	Constables Special (Amendment) Bill	To increase minimum gratuity payable for officers killed on duty
8.	4	MFPS	Constabulary Force (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the linking of service between the Special Constabulary Force and the Jamaica Constabulary Force
9.	5	MFPS	Credit Reporting Bill	To establish licensing system for a credit bureau
10.	6	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.
11.	7	MFPS	Industrial & Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill	To strengthen the regulatory framework governing financial institutions by restricting these orgs from engaging in banking business without authority of Minister
12.	8	MFPS	Motor Vehicles Insurance (Third Party Risks) (Amendment) Bill	To increase amount payable from insurance coverage for health care
13.	9	MFPS	Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Amendment) Bill Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No. 3)	Regulation of National Pension Scheme – vesting, portability and indexation. To ensure conformity with Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) Act with respect to: tax relief, allowable lump sum payments, and maximum pensions payable.
14.	10	MHE	Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Amendment) Bill Health & Allied Professions and Services (Increase in Monetary Penalties) Bill	To provide for increases in fines
15.	11	MHE	Radiation (Safety & Control) Bill	To regulate safety of radiation to users & unsuspecting public
16.	12	MICI	Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill (No. 1)	To place the activities of credit unions within the regulatory ambit of BOJ
17.	13	MICYS	Broadcasting and Radio Rediffusion (Amendment) Bill	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
18.	1	14	MICYS National Library of Jamaica Bill Institute of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To give full autonomy to National Library of Jamaica

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2007/2008
AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2007
(SHADED ITEMS REFLECT PRIORITY LEGISLATION IDENTIFIED BY PRIME MINISTER)**

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
19.	15	MNS	Constituencies (Constitutional Amendment) Bill	To amend 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
20.	16	MOJ	Committal Proceedings Bill	To make provisions for the elimination of Committal Proceedings in the Resident Magistrate Courts.
21.	17	MOJ	Corruption Prevention (Amendment) Bill	To create an offence for the filing of late statutory declaration; to empower Commission to request info 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 31 st 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).
22.	18	MOJ	Evidence (Amendment) Bill	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
23.	19	MOJ	Jury (Amendment) Bill	To repeal the provision relating to special juries
24.	20	OPM(LG)	Fire Brigade (Amendment) Bill	To increase membership of Board from 7 to 11

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2007/2008
AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2007
(SHADED ITEMS REFLECT PRIORITY LEGISLATION IDENTIFIED BY PRIME MINISTER)**

DRAFTED/BEING DRAFTED				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
25.	1	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
26.	2	MA	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.
27.	3	MA	Fishing Industry (Amendment) Bill	Repeal & replace existing Act
28.	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)
29.	5	ME	Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To enable institution to grant, confer and rescind academic awards
30.	6	MEMT	Petroleum (Quality Control) Bill Petroleum (Quality Control) Regulations Bill	To provide for the regulation of the petroleum sector as it relates to petroleum safety
31.	7	MEMT	Petroleum and Oil (Conveyance) Bill	To provide for safety measures for conveyance of petroleum
32.	8	MEMT	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.
33.	9	MFAFT	Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide Bill	To implement the obligations under the Convention
34.	10	MFAFT	Inter-American Agreement Against Illicit Manufacturing & Trafficking of Arms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials Bill	To implement the obligations under the Convention
35.	11	MFPS	Betting, Gaming & Lotteries (Amendment) Bill (No. 1)	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
36.	12	MFPS	Betting, Gaming & Lotteries (Amendment) Bill (No. 2)	To provide for a fee structure for administration of prize competitions
37.	13	MFPS	Constables (Special) (Amendment) Bill	To add another ground for retirement after 30 year service; to clarify fact that normal retirement age is 60 years
38.	14	MFPS	Deposit Insurance (Amendment) Bill	Cancellation of tax exemption enjoyed by certain public enterprises
39.	15	MFPS	Financial Administration & Audit (Amendment) Bill	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
40.	16	MFPS	Financial Investigations Division Bill Customs (Amendment) Bill	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

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2007/2008
AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2007
(SHADED ITEMS REFLECT PRIORITY LEGISLATION IDENTIFIED BY PRIME MINISTER)**

DRAFTED/BEING DRAFTED				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
			Revenue Administration (Amendment) Bill	and setting out the parameters for the operation of the division.
41.	17	MFPS	Retiring Allowances (Legislative Service) (Amendment) Bill	Validation of Acts of Parliamentarians where court overturns elections
42.	18	MFPS	Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill	To allow for stamping of document by means of digital imprinting
43.	19	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
44.	20	MHE	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
45.	21	MICI	Companies (Amendment) Bill	Improve transition arrangements for those companies registered under 1965 Act
46.	22	MICI	Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To restrict the deposit taking activities of the Co-operative Societies.
47.	23	MICI	Customs Duties (Dumping & Subsidies) (Amendment) Bill	To bring Act in close harmony with WTO anti-dumping agreement
48.	24	MICI	International Finance Company (Income Tax Relief) (Change of Name & Amendment) Bill	To widen scope of services/provide increased tax benefits
49.	25	MICI	Jamaica Export Free Zones (Amendment) Bill	To provide GCT relief on local cost incurred by Free Zone Operators
50.	26	MICYS	Anti-Doping Commission Bill	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
51.	27	MICYS	Archives (Amendment) Bill	To legislate access to information generated by Government and reconcile provisions with Access to Information Bill
52.	28	MICYS	Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill	To provide necessary statutory guidelines
53.	29	MICYS	Copyright (Amendment) Bill	Jamaica's accession to the WIPO Copyright Treaty
54.	30	MICYS	Entertainment Industry (Encouragement) (Amendment) Bill	To provide incentives to approved entertainment operators similar to those proposed for motion picture producers
55.	31	MICYS	Patents & 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.
56.	32	MLSS	Employment (Termination Redundancy Payments) (Amendment) Bill	To increase fines payable under Act; to increase sum which may be recovered in R.M. Court in claims arising from contract of employment

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2007/2008
AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2007
(SHADED ITEMS REFLECT PRIORITY LEGISLATION IDENTIFIED BY PRIME MINISTER)**

DRAFTED/BEING DRAFTED				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
57.	33	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.
58.	34	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.
59.	35	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
60.	36	MNS	Port Security Bill	To grant jurisdiction to MNS for port security standards and regulations and to set up Security Agency
61.	37	MNS	Private Security Regulations Authority (Amendment) Bill	To update legislation to respond to developments within the industry
62.	38	MNS	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
63.	39	MNS	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To allow for use of prescribed equipment such as speed measuring devices and to introduce additional ticketable offences
64.	40	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
65.	41	MOJ	Coroner's (Amendment) Bill	Introduction of Court Reporters.
66.	42	MOJ	Cyber Crime Bill	To provide enabling legislation for handling criminal activities relating to internet and computer.
67.	43	MOJ	Judicature (Resident Magistrates) (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the recording of proceedings in the Resident Magistrates Court by Official Court Stenographers
68.	44	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
69.	45	MOJ	Judicature (Supreme Court) (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the recording of proceedings by Official Court Stenographers
70.	46	MOJ	Obscene Publications (Amendment) Bill	To increase fines & custodial sentences
71.	47	MOJ	Special Prosecutor Bill	To provide for a Special Prosecutor to tackle corruption in both the Private and Public Sectors.
72.	48	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
73.	49	MTW	Port Authority of Jamaica Bill	Repeal & replace existing Act

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2007/2008
AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2007
(SHADED ITEMS REFLECT PRIORITY LEGISLATION IDENTIFIED BY PRIME MINISTER)**

DRAFTED/BEING DRAFTED				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
74.	50	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
75.	51	MTW	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To establish Island Traffic Authority as a statutory body
76.	52	MWH	Housing (Amendment) Bill	To transfer powers of Minister of Housing as Corporation Sole to permanent secretary in said ministry etc
77.	53	MWH	Mortgage Bank (Amendment) Bill Mortgage Insurance (Amendment) Bill	To enable the Jamaica Mortgage Bank to play a more active role in facilitating acquisition of housing for majority of Jamaicans. To increase the ceiling for the aggregate of loans re insurance policies under the Act.
78.	54	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
79.	55	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
80.	56	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.
81.	57	OPM(LG)	Disaster Management & Mitigation Bill	To provide for a strengthened legislative framework for disaster management. (To replace ODPEM Act.)
82.	58	OPM(LG)	Poor Relief Repeal Bill	To repeal statute on enactment of modern legislation regulating the new Unified Benefits Programme

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2007/2008
AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2007
(SHADED ITEMS REFLECT PRIORITY LEGISLATION IDENTIFIED BY PRIME MINISTER)**

DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
83.	1	MFAFT	Geneva Conventions and its Protocols Bill	To provide for implementing the obligations under the Convention
84.	2	MICI	Fair Competition (Amendment) Bill	To improve efficacy of Act, following 2001 case of Jamaica Stock Exchange vs. Fair Trading Commission
85.	3	MICI	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.
86.	4	MICI	Processed Foods (Amendment) Bill	To provide for use of internationally recognised systems

CABINET APPROVAL FOR ISSUE OF DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS				
NO	NO	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
87.	1	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
88.	2	MFAFT	Cotonou Agreement (Revised) Bill	To implement the revised Cotonou Agreement
89.	3	MFAFT	Legislation to regulate diving activities	To regulate commercial diving activities and diving equipment, safety standards etc.
90.	4	MFPS	Financial Administration & Audit (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To convert procurement procedures into a body of Regulations. To amend Section 20 of the Act to allow for surcharge of public officers found to be culpable for mis-procurement.
91.	5	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.
92.	6	MICI	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
93.	7	MLSS	Foreign Nationals & Commonwealth Citizens (Employment) Bill	To increase fines and penalties. To allow future amendments to these to be done by Ministerial Order.
94.	8	MLSS	National Insurance (Amendment) Bill	Extension of time frame for claiming benefits under the National Insurance Scheme from 12 months to 3 years.
95.	9	MNS	Constabulary Force (Amendment) Bill	To grant legal status to Jamaica Police Officers Association
96.	10	MOJ	Independent Investigative Commission to Investigate Security Forces' Excesses and Abuses Bill	To provide enabling legislation for the establishment of the Commission.
97.	11	MWH	National Water Commission (Amendment) Bill	Enhancement of benefits under new pension scheme