

## **THE CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT**

### **CABINET DECISIONS**

3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2025

#### **Cabinet Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2025**

His Excellency, the Acting Governor Mr. David Archer Jr., chaired the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2025.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Governor, and the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, who were on annual leave and absent, respectively.

Cabinet:

1. Noted the report from Public Service Week 2025, which was held from 5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2025 under the theme “Celebrating our people, Strengthening our Service”.
2. Decided that in accordance with:
  - a. Section 13(1)(7) of the Immigration and Passport Act Revised Edition 2013, Dr. Michelle Todman Smith be reappointed as a member of the Board of Immigration from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2027 for a period of two (2) years;
  - b. Section 13(1)(7) of the Immigration and Passport Act Revised Edition 2013, and Section 13(5)(c) of the Immigration and Passport (Amendment) Act, 2024, Messrs. Kevin Fahie and Temulji Hughes be appointed as members of the Board of Immigration from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2027 for a period of two (2) years;
  - c. Section 13(1)(7) of the Immigration and Passport Act Revised Edition 2013, Ms. Shakira Skelton and Mr. Troy Christopher be reappointed as members of the Board of Immigration from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2028 for a period of two (2) years; endorsed

- d. the Minister's recommendation, in accordance with Section 13(2)(a) of the Immigration and Passport Act Revised Edition 2013 that Ms. Kamika Forbes be appointed as Chairperson of the Board of Immigration with effect from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2027, which would coincide with her current appointment; and noted
- e. that the members of the Board would be paid the following monthly stipends: Chairperson - \$1,200; Members - \$800.

- 3. Accepted the recommendations of the Board of Immigration to grant Certificates of Residence to twenty-nine (29) persons, in accordance with Section 18(1) of the Immigration and Passport Act (as amended).
- 4. Accepted the recommendations of the Board of Immigration to grant Certificates of Residence to one hundred and fifty-six (156) persons, in accordance with Section 18(1) of the Immigration and Passport Act (as amended).
- 5. Considered and approved the Bill entitled, Mutual Legal Assistance (Tax Matters) (Amendment)(No.2) Act, 2025, which was vetted by the Attorney General's Chambers; and decided that the Bill be introduced in the House of Assembly at the next convenient sitting.
- 6. Reviewed and approved the 2021 British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation's Annual Report, inclusive of the audited accounts at; and agreed that the Annual Report be laid on the table at the next convenient sitting of the House of Assembly in accordance with Section 22(2) of the British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation's Ordinance, Cap 277.
- 7. Decided that Mr. Marvin Flax Jr. be appointed as a member of the British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation's Board for a period of three (3) years, in accordance with Section 4(1)(b) of the BVI Electricity Corporation Ordinance (Cap 277) from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2026 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2028, and would be paid \$700.00 monthly.
- 8. Decided that Mr. Stephon Mactavious be re-appointed as a member of the British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation's Board for a period of two (2) years, in accordance with Section 4(1)(b) of the BVI Electricity Corporation Ordinance (Cap 277) from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2025 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2027, would be paid \$700.00 monthly.
- 9. Reviewed and approved the Ministry of Communications and Works' 2023 Annual Report; and agreed that it be laid on the table at the next convenient sitting of the House of Assembly.

10. Reviewed and approved the 2024 Annual Report for His Majesty's Prison; noted the 2024 achievements and challenges of His Majesty's Prison outlined in the report; and decided that the Report be laid on the table at the next convenient sitting of the House of Assembly.
11. Approved eight (8) Non-Belongers Land Holding Licences.

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### **Cabinet Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2025**

His Excellency, the Acting Governor Mr. David Archer Jr., chaired the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2025.

All Members were present with the exception of His Excellency the Governor who was on annual leave, the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change who was absent and Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports who was on annual leave, respectively.

Cabinet:

1. Accepted the recommendations of the Board of Immigration:
  - a. to grant Certificates of Belonger Status to forty-four (44) persons who, in accordance with section 16(6) of the Immigration and Passport Act (revised) are the spouses of belongers, and who have been living together with their spouses within the Territory for a period not less than five (5) years;
  - b. to not grant a Certificate of Belonger Status on the basis of marriage to one (1) applicant, in accordance with section 16(6) of the Immigration and Passport Act (as amended); and
  - c. to grant Certificates of Belonger Status to seventy (70) applicants, who, in the opinion of the Board, have met the legal requirements of Section 16(3) of the Immigration and Passport Act (revised).
2. Noted that the Resolution for the Schedule of Additional Provision No. 3 of 2017 (2025) was vetted by the Attorney General's Chambers; and agreed that the Resolution be introduced in the House of Assembly at its next convenient sitting.

3. Approved:

- a. the extension of the then existing Appointments of the Anegada Lands Development Advisory Committee (ALDAC) Chairman and Officers Members which were extended to cover from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2024; noted
- b. that a stipend for the extension of the previous Chairman at five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per month and the previous committee members at three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per month:
  - i. Chairman -Darrell A. Ruan, Jr.
  - ii. Vice Chairman -Gregory Levons, Sr.
  - iii. Treasurer -Michael Vanterpool
  - iv. Vice Treasurer -Wilford Faulkner
  - v. Secretary - Philomena Jno Marie
  - vi. Assistant Secretary -Chekada O'Neal
  - vii. Board Member -Sylvia Faulkner
  - viii. Board Member -Rondel Smith, Sr.; accepted
- c. the previous ALDAC's Final Report and meeting minutes of its term's activities; and
- d. that the previous committee members that served, be paid the outstanding stipend payments for the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 extension.

4. Reviewed and approved the revised Virgin Islands Centenarian Programme Policy in line with Cabinet's recommendation; and agreed that the Virgin Islands Centenarian Programme Policy be laid on the table of the House of Assembly at its next convenient sitting.

5. Endorsed:

- a. the establishment of a Legal Profession Act Support Unit within the Registrar's Office,
- b. that the Legal Profession Act Support Unit be staffed initially with an Assistant Secretary, a Senior Administrative Officer and shared clerical support, with interim consultancy arrangements, if appropriate; recommended
  - i. that provision be made in the 2026 Budget Estimates to cover the estimated operating cost of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for year one (2026) for the Unit; and

- ii. that the Registrar of the Supreme Court, in consultation with the Attorney General, Human Resources Department and the Financial Secretary take all necessary steps to establish and operationalise the Unit.
- 6. Approved two (2) Non-Belongers Land Holding Licences and a transfer of lease Road Town Section.

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### **Cabinet Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2025**

His Excellency, the Acting Governor Mr. David Archer Jr., chaired the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2025.

All Members were present, with the exception of His Excellency the Governor and the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change who were on annual leave and absent, respectively.

- 1. Reviewed and approved the Bill entitled, Human Rights Commission Bill,2025, which seeks to establish the Human Rights Commission as an independent statutory body to promote, protect, and monitor human rights in the Virgin Islands, consistent with the Virgin Islands Constitution Order 2007 and international human rights standards and provides for the Commission's establishment, functions, powers, composition, administration, and procedures for investigating and resolving complaints of human rights violations; and agreed that the Bill be introduced at the next convenient sitting of the House of Assembly.
- 2. Reviewed and accepted the 2024 Annual Report for the Financial Investigation Agency, and the 2025 Budget Estimates, in accordance respectively with sections 11 and 13 of the Financial Investigation Agency Act; and agreed that that both the Annual Report and Budget Estimates be laid on the table of the House of Assembly at the next convenient sitting.
- 3. Approved the Government of the Virgin Islands' contribution of two hundred thousand dollars (USD\$200,000) towards the rebuilding of a school in one of the worst affected areas of Jamaica, identified in partnership with the Government of Jamaica, following the destruction caused by Hurricane Melissa, in accordance with Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2003.

4. Decided that Ms. Patlian Johnson be reappointed as a Commissioner on the Financial Services Commission's Board of Commissioners for two (2) years with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2027 in accordance with Section 5 of the Financial Services Commission Act and Section 2.1 of the Protocols for the Appointment and Removal of Statutory Board Members and will be paid \$18,000 per annum.
5. Decided
  - a. that Mr. Cherno Jallow, KC be reappointed to the BVI International Arbitration Centre Board as a member and Deputy Chairman in accordance with 95-(1) of the Arbitration Act, 2013, for a further period of three (3) years from 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024 to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2027 to be remunerated at a rate of twenty-one thousand, six hundred dollars (\$21,600) per annum; and
  - b. that Ms. Vanessa King be appointed to the BVI International Arbitration Centre Board as a member for a period of three (3) years from 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2028 to be remunerated at a rate of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) per annum (Appendix II);
6. Approved the acquisition of land for the Hannah Hill Reservoir.
7. Decided that the government of the Virgin Islands in accordance with Section 15 of the British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation Act (CAP 277) will subsidise the full fuel surcharge for the electricity bills of all domestic consumers in December 2025, which will amount to approximately seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00).
8. Noted that the Minister for Communications and Works has approved a Commemorative Motor Vehicle Registration Plate to be used on personally registered vehicles to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Legislature pursuant to regulation 6A(5) of the Road Traffic (Motor Vehicle Registration and Operation and Driver and Vehicle Licensing) Regulations; decided
  - a. that a maximum of one hundred and fifty (150) pairs of plates be issued pursuant to regulation 6A(6) of the Road Traffic (Motor Vehicle Registration and Operation and Driver and Vehicle Licensing) Regulations; and

- b. that the Department of Motor Vehicles is to sell the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Legislature Commemorative Motor Vehicle Registration Plates at a fee of one hundred and fifty (\$150.00) per pair of plates, as proposed and subject to the approval of the imposition of the fee by order of the Cabinet pursuant to section 66 (1)(e) and (j) of the Road Traffic Act (as amended).

9. Decided:

- a. that Dion Stoutt be appointed to the British Virgin Islands Port Authority Board for three (3) years from 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025 to 29<sup>th</sup> November 2028; by section 1(1)(a) and (b) of the First Schedule of the BVI Ports Authority Act, 1990;
- b. that Ms. Annette Collins be appointed as Board member to the British Virgin Islands Port Authority Board for three (3) years from 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025 to 29<sup>th</sup> November 2028; by section 1(1)(b) of the First Schedule of the BVI Ports Authority Act, 1990; and
- c. that Mr. David Penn be re-appointed to the British Virgin Islands Port Authority Board for two (2) years from 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 to 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2027; by Section 1(1)(b) of the First schedule of the BVI Ports Authority Act, 1990; and noted
- d. that the Chairperson would be paid a monthly stipend of eighteen hundred dollars (\$1800.00) and Board members nine hundred dollars (\$900.00).

10. Reviewed and noted the British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation (BVIEC) Fiscal Sustainability Discussion Report; noted that once funds are available, that the BVIEC will conduct a full rate review in the very near future and would advise Cabinet of a well-balanced price point that takes into consideration the needs of the energy sector of the Virgin Islands and the economic reality that the customer base must support; and approved the adjustment to the subsidy for fuel consumption to a maximum of 1500kWh per month per customer and update the third schedule of the By-Laws made under section 33 of the BVIEC Corporation Ordinance (7 of 1979) to effect this adjustment.

**Published by the Cabinet Office on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2026.**

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