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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Integrity Commission Requisitions Public Bodies to Provide Particulars of Land and Asset Divestment, Public Private Partnerships and Acquisition Activities

April 3, 2025 - The Integrity Commission has requisitioned twelve (12) Public Bodies to provide to it, by May 30, 2025, detailed particulars concerning all Land, Asset Divestment, Public Private Partnership and Acquisition transactions executed by them during the period July 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. This includes warrants/exemptions.

The Commission's initiative, which will be supported by a new web-based system, is geared towards ensuring enhanced compliance, accountability and transparency in respect of Land, Asset Divestment, Public Private Partnership and Acquisition transactions executed. The data will be requisitioned bi-annually.

The formal Requisition, which was issued under the hand of the Commission's Director of Investigation, Mr. Kevon Stephenson, requires all Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Public Bodies of twelve (12) agencies selected to participate in the Pilot stage of the Implementation Process to provide the required information in respect of all Land, Asset Divestment, Public Private Partnership and Acquisition transactions executed, as well as, contract particulars in respect of transactions that commenced within the reporting period but have not yet progressed to the execution of an Agreement.

The twelve (12) agencies selected are as follows:

- 1. National Land Agency;
- 2. Development Bank of Jamaica;
- 3. Urban Development Corporation;
- 4. Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation;
- 5. SCJ Holdings Jamaica Limited;
- 6. Factories Corporation of Jamaica;
- 7. Tourism Product Development Company;
- 8. National Road Operating & Constructing Company Limited (NROCC);
- 9. Port Authority of Jamaica;
- 10. St. Catherine Municipal Corporation;
- 11. National Housing Trust; and
- 12. Housing Agency of Jamaica.

Commissioners: The Hon. Mrs. Justice (Ret'd.) Carol Lawrence Beswick, CD (Chairman); Mrs. Pamela Monroe Ellis, FCCA, CA; The Hon. Justice (Ret'd.) Lloyd Hibbert, CD, KC; Mr. H. Wayne Powell, OD, JP; The Hon. Mr. Brian Wynter, OJ, CD.

The Policy Framework and Procedures Manual for the Divestment of Government-owned Lands, 2015 defines the activity of divestment as the "disposal of an interest in land whether by lease or sale."

Further, the *Policy and Institutional Framework for the Implementation of a Public-Private Partnership Programme for the Government of Jamaica: The PPP Policy*, defines a publicprivate partnership as "a long-term procurement contract between the public and private sectors, in which the proficiency of each party is focused in the designing, financing, building and operating an infrastructure project or providing a service, through the appropriate sharing of resources, risks and rewards. The definition of PPP is limited to assets of high value and areas where the Government is faced with fiscal constraints and is obligated to provide the infrastructure service."

The Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Procuring Public Bodies for the selected Pilot Agencies have been given detailed instructions on how the required data should be formulated and submitted.

END

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