

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2009/2010
AS AT 22 MAY 2009**

PASSED IN BOTH HOUSES				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
1.		MFPS	Appropriations Act, 2009	Expenditure for 2009/2010

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2009/2010
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BEFORE PARLIAMENT				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
2.	1	MFPS	Bank of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To establish new limits for the legal tender of coins in any one transaction.
3.	2	MFPS	Credit Reporting Bill	To establish licensing system for a credit bureau.
4.	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.
5.	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.
6.	5	MFPS	Financial Investigations Division Bill <i>Companion Legislation</i> 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 etc.
7.	6	MFPS	Income Tax (Validation and Amendment) Bill	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.
8.	7	MIIC	Trade (Amendment) Bill	To increase the fines and other penalties
9.	8	MNS	Constabulary Force (Interim Provisions for Arrest and Detention) Bill	To temporarily extend (for a period of one year) the provision of sections 50B and 50F of the Constabulary Force Act. To allow for the Police to detain persons without charge for up to 72 hours
10.	9	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.
11.	10	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.

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BEFORE PARLIAMENT				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
12.	11	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.
13.	12	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. 1
14.	13	MOJ	Child Pornography (Prevention) Bill	To provide enabling legislation to criminalize and treat with the production, possession of child pornography and related matters.
15.	14	MOJ	Corruption Prevention (Special Prosecutor)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 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). 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
16.	15	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
17.	16	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.
18.	17	MOJ	Offences Against the Person (Amendment) Bill	To provide for minimum custodial sentence of 15 years 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
19.	18	MOJ (MYSC)	Sexual Offences Bill	<p>To modernise the law relating to sexual offences:</p> <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.

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BEFORE PARLIAMENT				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
20.	19	MLSS	Factories (Amendment) Bill	To provide for increases in fines/penalties
21.	20	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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APPROVED FOR TABLING				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
22.	1	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
23.	2	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
24.	3	MLSS	Labour Relations and Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate hearing of disputes involving the non-unionised worker by the Industrial Disputes tribunal; increase the number of Deputy Chairmen who may be appointed by the Tribunal; give the Minister the power to amend the Second Schedule (which provided for the constitution of the Tribunal) by Order subject to affirmative resolution; and correct an error appearing in regulation 6(4) of the Labour Relations and Industrial Disputes Regulations, 1975.
25.	4	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.
26.	5	OPM(LG)	Registration (Strata Titles) (Amendment) Bill	Provide for improved management of strata properties and the resolution of disputes with strata properties and to establish Commission of Strata Corporations and Strata Appeals Tribunal

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LEGISLATION COMMITTEE STAGE				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
27.	1	MAF	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
28.	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
29.	3	MFPS	Casino Gaming Bill	To establish a regulatory framework and taxation regime for casino gaming
30.	4	MFPS	Constabulary Force (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the linking of service between the Special Constabulary Force and the Jamaica Constabulary Force
31.	5	MFPS	Retiring Allowances (Legislative Service) (Amendment) Bill	Validation of Acts of Parliamentarians where court overturns elections
32.	6	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.
33.	7	MH	Radiation (Safety & Control) Bill	To regulate safety of radiation to users & unsuspecting public
34.	8	MYSC	National Library of Jamaica Bill Institute of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To give full autonomy to National Library of Jamaica
35.	9	MTW	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To establish Island Traffic Authority as a statutory body
36.	10	MTW	Transport Authority (Collection of Fees) (Validation and Indemnity) Bill	Validation of the Collection of Fees

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LEGISLATION COMMITTEE STAGE				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
37.	11	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

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DRAFTING STAGE				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
38.	1	MAF	Animal/Disease & Importation of (Amendment) Bill	Facilitate importation, distribution, storage of animal products including milk and by-products w.r.t. disease and safety
39.	2	MAF	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
40.	3	MAF	Fishing Industry (Amendment) Bill	Repeal & replace existing Act
41.	4	MAF	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)
42.	5	ME	Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To enable institution to grant, confer and rescind academic awards
43.	6	ME	National Parenting Support Commission Bill	To provide for establishment of Parenting Support Commission
44.	7	MEM	Petroleum (Quality Control) Bill Petroleum (Quality Control) Regulations	To provide for the regulation of the petroleum sector as it relates to petroleum safety
45.	8	MEM	Petroleum and Oil (Conveyance) Bill	To provide for safety measures for conveyance of petroleum
46.	9	MEM	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.
47.	10	MEM	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.
48.	11	MFAFT	Convention Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti- Personnel Mines on their Destruction Bill	To implement obligations under the Convention

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
49.	12	MFAFT	Convention of Prohibition of Development, Production, and Stockpiling of Bacteriological and Toxin Weapons and their Destruction	To implement the obligations under the Convention and those established under the United Nations Security Council
50.	13	MFAFT	Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide	To implement the obligations under the Convention
51.	14	MFAFT	Geneva Conventions and its Protocols Bill	To provide for implementing the obligations under the Convention
52.	15	MFAFT	Inter-American Agreement Against Illicit Manufacturing & Trafficking of Arms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials Bill	To implement the obligations under the Convention
53.	16	MFPS	Constables (Special) (Amendment) Bill	To increase minimum gratuity payable for officers killed on duty
54.	17	MFPS	Deposit Insurance (Amendment) Bill	Cancellation of tax exemption enjoyed by certain public enterprises
55.	18	MFPS	Deposit Insurance (Amendment) Bill	To provide for enhanced depositor entitlements and improved operating efficiencies of the Deposit Insurance Scheme
56.	19	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.
57.	20	MFPS	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill	To increase the income tax thresholds at July 1, 2005 and January 1, 2006.
58.	21	MFPS	Payments Clearing and Settlement Bill BOJ (Amendment) Bill – <i>Companion Legislation</i>	To provide for legal framework for BOJ to regulate Jamaica's payments systems

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
59.	22	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.
60.	23	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.
61.	24	MFPS	Revenue Administration (Amendment) Bill	To allow Appeals Department to deal with certain matters in the Revenue Court
62.	25	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
63.	26	MFPS	Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill	To allow for stamping of document by means of digital imprinting
64.	27	MH	Chemical Weapons Convention Implementation	To implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and use of Chemical weapons and on their destruction
65.	28	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
66.	29	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
67.	30	MH	Mental Health (Amendment) Bill	To provide for treatment of patients by Mental Health Officers without their consent
68.	31	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

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
69.	32	MIIC	Companies (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
70.	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.
71.	34	MIIC	Customs Duties (Dumping & Subsidies) (Amendment) Bill	To bring Act in close harmony with WTO anti-dumping agreement
72.	35	MIIC	Fair Competition (Amendment) Bill	To improve efficacy of Act, following 2001 case of Jamaica Stock Exchange vs. Fair Trading Commission
73.	36	MIIC	Geographical Indications Bill and Regulations	To ensure effective legal protection of geographical indications
74.	37	MIIC	International Finance Company (Income Tax Relief) (Change of Name & Amendment) Bill	To widen scope of services/provide increased tax benefits
75.	38	MIIC	Jamaica Export Free Zones (Amendment) Bill	To provide GCT relief on local cost incurred by Free Zone Operators
76.	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 due of the lengthy delay in passing the new Patent Legislation.
77.	40	MIIC	Processed Foods (Amendment) Bill	To provide for use of internationally recognised systems
78.	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.
79.	42	MIIC	Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill	To improve efficiency of Act and amend typographical errors

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
80.	43	MLSS	Foreign Nationals & Commonwealth Citizens (Amendment) Bill & Regulations	(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.
81.	44	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.
82.	45	MLSS	National Disabilities Bill	To provide for further protection of rights of persons with disabilities
83.	46	MLSS	Occupational Health & Safety Bill	To provide for safety standards at workplace
84.	47	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
85.	48	MNS	Constabulary Force (Amendment) Bill	To grant legal status to Jamaica Police Officers Association
86.	49	MNS	DNA Evidence Bill	To provide for the taking of DNA samples from persons arrested in relation to specified offences
87.	50	MNS	Port Security Bill	To grant jurisdiction to MNS for port security standards and regulations and to set up Security Agency
88.	51	MNS	Private Security Regulations Authority (Amendment) Bill	To update legislation to respond to developments within the industry
89.	52	MNS	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To allow for use of prescribed equipment such as speed measuring devices and to introduce additional ticketable offences
90.	53	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.
91.	54	MOJ	Committal Proceedings Bill	To make provisions for the elimination of Committal Proceedings in the Resident Magistrate Courts.
92.	55	MOJ	Constitutional Amendments	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
93.	56	MOJ	Coroner's (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	Introduction of Court Reporters.
94.	57	MOJ	Cybercrimes Bill	To provide enabling legislation for handling criminal activities relating to internet and computer.

Shaded Areas – Prime Minister's Priority

Cabinet Office, May 2009

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
95.	58	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.
96.	59	MOJ	Judicature (Resident Magistrates) (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the recording of proceedings in the Resident Magistrates Court by Official Court Stenographers.
97.	60	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
98.	61	MOJ	Judicature (Supreme Court) (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the recording of proceedings by Official Court Stenographers
99.	62	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.
100.	63	MOJ	Obscene Publications (Amendment) Bill	To increase fines & custodial sentences
101.	64	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.
102.	65	MTW	Jamaica Railway Corporation (Amendment) Bill	To harmonise Act with provisions of OUR Act; to make provisions for privatisation of railway operations
103.	66	MTW	Port Authority of Jamaica Bill	Repeal & replace existing Act
104.	67	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 removed duplication; the Transport Authority Act include all provisions relating to public transport vehicles which were removed from the Road Traffic Act consequent on its amendment.

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DRAFTING STAGE				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
105.	68	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
106.	69	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
107.	70	MTW	Shipping (Pollution and Control) Bill [Marine Pollution]	To implement 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.
108.	71	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
109.	72	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
110.	73	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
111.	74	MYSC	Entertainment Industry (Encouragement) (Amendment) Bill	To provide incentives to approved entertainment operators similar to those proposed for motion picture producers
112.	75	OPM(E)	Biosafety Bill	To put in place a regulatory system for the safe management of Genetically Modified Organisms.
113.	76	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
114.	77	OPM(IT)	Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill	To revamp the legislation to bring in line with the present approaches to regulation of the film distribution and exhibition industry and to provide necessary statutory guidelines.
115.	78	OPM(IT)	Postal Services Bill [Post Office (Repeal) Bill]	(i) To repeal Post Office Act; (ii) Facilitate modernisation & commercialisation of post offices by transferring the Postal Corporation into a statutory body, Jamaica Post.

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DRAFTING STAGE				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
116.	79	OPM(LG)	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.
117.	80	OPM(LG)	Disaster Management & Mitigation Bill	To provide for a strengthened legislative framework for disaster management. (To replace ODPEM Act.)
118.	81	OPM(LG)	Negril Green Island Area Local Planning Authority (NGIALPA) Validating Legislation	To assist in the proper setting up of the NGIALPA as a Planning Authority and to exempt it from any legal action that might be taken against it from 1981. This is necessary as there is no evidence to indicate that the Authority was properly set up from its inception as a Planning Authority.
119.	82	OPM (LG)	Real Estate (Dealers & Developers) (Amendment) Bill	To improve legislative framework and improve the ability of the Real Estate Board to regulate real estate practitioners and better protect purchasers under pre-payment contracts.

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2009/2010
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DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
120.	1	MFAFT	Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction Bill	To implement obligations under the Convention.
121.	2	MFAFT	Legislation to regulate diving activities	To regulate commercial diving activities and diving equipment, safety standards etc.
122.	3	MH	Public Health (Amendment) Bill	To provide for measures to regulate and control tobacco use
123.	4	MH	Rotterdam Convention on the Informed Consent Bill	To provide for prior informed consent fro hazardous chemical
124.	5	MIIC	Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	(i) 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 (ii) To restrict the deposit taking activities of the Co-operative Societies.
125.	6	OPM (IT)	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.

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APPROVAL FOR ISSUE OF DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
126.	1	ME	National Education Trust	To provide for the establishment of National Education Trust through which an Education Endowment Fund would be operated.
127.	2	MFPS	International Financial Services Centre	To provide for the establishment of a public body as the vehicle through which the implementation and marketing activities are to be pursued
128.	3	MFPS	National Contractors Commission Bill	To create an independent National Contracts Commission
129.	4	MFPS	Revenue Administration (Amendment) Bill <i>Companion Acts:</i> Contactor Levy Act; Customs Act; Educations Tax Act; GCT Act; Income Tax Act; Property Tax Act; Stamp Duty Act; Transfer Tax Act.	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
130.	5	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
131.	6	MFAFT	Cotonou Agreement (Revised) Bill	To implement the revised Cotonou Agreement
132.	7	MH	National Registration Bill	To provide for the compulsory registration of all citizens ordinarily resident in Jamaica
133.	8	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
134.	9	MLSS	Minimum Wage (Amendment) Bill	To amend section 3 of the Minimum Wage Act to exclude the operation of Section 29(b) of the Interpretation Act on the fine and penalty under the National Minimum Wage Order, 1975.

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APPROVAL FOR ISSUE OF DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
135.	10	MOJ	Whistleblower Legislation	To provide enabling legislation to protect individuals who report corrupt practices and activities.
136.	11	MT	Hotels Incentives (Amendment) Bill	(i) To provide clarity in definitions given in some aspects of the Act; (ii) To request "approved building plans" instead of 'certified drawings'; (iii) To encourage investors to purchase locally items included under the Second Schedule of the HIA; (iv) To give the Minister the authority to amend the Second Schedule of the HIA.
137.	12	MWH	National Water Commission (Amendment) Bill	Enhancement of benefits under new pension scheme
138.	13	OPM(LG)	Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Act	To amend the Act to increase the maximum number of Board Members to fourteen(14); the appointment of a representative of the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the Jamaica Defence Force and the Jamaica Fire Brigade as members
139.	14	OPM(LG)	National Solid Waste Authority (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Act to increase the number of Board Members from 11 to 13 by the inclusion of two (2) representatives of the Association of Local Government Authorities of Jamaica (ALGAJ).

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2009/2010
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POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
140.	1	MAF	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
141.	2	MAF	Plants (Quarantine) (Amendment) Bill	To harmonise the sanitary and phytosanitary measures with WTO requirements
142.	3	ME	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
143.	4	ME	National Education Inspectorate Bill	To provide for the establishment of the National Education Inspectorate (NEI) as a statutory body responsible for: (i) the inspection of all schools, Regional Education Authorities and other educational service providers; and (ii) the provision of evidence-based advice to the Minister of Education to inform policy development.
144.	5	ME	Jamaica Teaching Council Bill	To establish the Jamaica Teaching Council (JTC) to amend the Education Act, 1965, to resolve the future of the Teachers Service Commission.
145.	6	ME	Regional Educational Authorities Bill	To amend the Education Act, 1965, to empower the Minister to designate by Order, the establishment of five (5) Regional Education Authorities. These Authorities will be responsible for the provision of high quality, innovative and participatory education services for their respective regions.
146.	7	ME	Curriculum and Assessment Agency Bill	To provide for the establishment of the Curriculum and Assessment Agency responsible for providing an integrated curriculum and national assessment system relevant to the needs of all learners at each phase of their education.
147.	8	ME	Consortium of Institutions for Teachers Education Bill	To provide for institutions to offer teacher education programmes in Jamaica to operate as a degree granting entity
148.	9	ME	Tertiary Education Commission Bill	To provide for the establishment of a National Oversight Body for Tertiary Education in Jamaica.
149.	10	ME	MICO University College Scheme (Amendment) Order	To recognise the positions of Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and Professor for the institution
150.	11	ME	Technical and Vocational Education (TVET) College Scheme Order	To rebrand the Vocational and Technical Development Institute (VTDI) and establish it as a College

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2009/2010
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POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
151.	12	ME	Education (Amendment) Bill	To review the Education Act and Regulations in order to make amendments regarding recommendations for the introduction of alternative methods of discipline and for the abolition of corporal punishment at the primary and secondary levels of the education system
152.	13	MEM	Minerals Development Bill	To create a single, "one-stop" 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 legislation would replace the existing Mining Act and the Quarries Control Act.
153.	14	MEM	Minerals Industry (Encouragement) Bill	To create a single 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.
154.	15	MFPS	Alternative Investment Schemes	Policy to be developed for review and determination of an appropriate legislation and regulatory framework for non-tradable securities
155.	16	MFPS	Bank of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To make the central bank independent
156.	17	MFPS	Environmental (Protection) Levy Bill	To impose an environmental levy on imports
157.	18	MFPS	General Consumption Tax (Amendment) Bill	To impose a Special Consumption Tax on the sale of fuel ethanol to the monitoring public
158.	19	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.
159.	20	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
160.	21	MFPS	Motor Vehicles Insurance (Third Party Risks) (Amendment) Bill	To increase amount payable from insurance coverage for health care
161.	22	MFAFT	Rome Statute Establishing the International Criminal Court	To signify Jamaica's consent to be bound and to implement its obligations
162.	23	MFAFT	Terrorism Prevention (Amendment) Bill	To implement amendments to Terrorism Treaties

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2009/2010
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POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
163.	24	MFAFT	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	To implement obligations under the Treaty
164.	25	MH	Children (Adoption of) (Amendment) Bill	To revise and improve adoption process
165.	26	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.
166.	27	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.
167.	28	MLSS	Minimum Wage (Amendment) Bill	To increase fines and penalties under the Minimum Wage Orders
168.	29	MNS	Aliens (Amendment) Bill	To harmonize legislation related to citizenship and immigration status
169.	30	MNS	Anti-gang Legislation	To introduce new legislation to address gangs, participation in gangs and matters associated therewith.
170.	31	MNS	Constable (District) (Amendment) Bill	To rationalise the District Constables Movement to establish a Community Safety Officers Corp (CSOC).
171.	32	MNS	Fingerprint (Amendment) Bill	To increase the period of retention for prints that would have ordinarily destroyed under the existing law.
172.	33	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 in line with international obligations.
173.	34	MNS	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To make it mandatory for motor vehicle drivers to have their drivers licences on their persons at all times while driving
174.	35	MOJ	Administrator-General's (Amendment) Bill	To provide for the streamlining of the functions of the Administrator-General's Department

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2009/2010
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POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
175.	36	MOJ	Caribbean Community Amendment	To deal with referrals from the domestic courts to the CCJ and the proposed entry into force of the CCJ (Original Jurisdiction)
176.	37	MOJ	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
177.	38	MOJ	Evidence Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To provide for the abolition of unsworn statements
178.	39	MOJ	Jury (Amendment) Bill (No.3)	To repeal the provision relating to special juries
179.	40	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
180.	41	MOJ	Libel and Defamation Laws	To modernise the laws relating to libel and defamation.
181.	42	MOJ	Prosecution's Right of Appeal	To provide enabling legislation affording the prosecution a right of appeal where an acquittal is granted but there was a substantial miscarriage of justice.
182.	43	MOJ	Whipping and Flogging (Repeal of) Bill	To repeal the statutory provisions that governs whipping and flogging in Jamaica.
183.	44	MT	Hotel Keeper's Liability (Amendment) Bill	To clearly define the hotel keeper's liability to guests; To increase sum of hoteliers liability to make it relevant.
184.	45	MT	Resort Cottages (Incentives) (Amendment) Bill	To provide clarity in definitions given to some aspects of the Act; etc
185.	46	MT	Timeshare and Vacation Plan Bill	To encourage new investment into the development on "non-traditional resort facilities such as Timeshare Development, Vacation Ownership and Horizontal Property Regimes
186.	47	MT	Tourism Attractions (Incentives) Bill	To provide incentives to the attractions sector
187.	48	MT	Tourist Board (Amendment) Bill	(i) To rename legislation Tourism Industry Act; (ii) To state Jamaica Tourist Board's renewed focus on licensing, marketing, promotion and research; and (iii) To enable the transfer of product development standards/monitoring functions and inspection functions to the Tourism Product Development Corporation.

**LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2009/2010
AS AT 22 MAY 2009**

POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
188.	49	MT	Tourism Product Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill	(i) To be incorporated into the Tourism Industry Act; (ii) To give statutory status to the Tourism Product Development Company (TPDCo) to empower that organisation to assume product development standards/monitoring functions and inspection functions which were assigned to the Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB); (iii) To enable TPDCo to administer and monitor travel agencies and assume responsibility for the administration and financing of the River Rafting Authority and all licensing and product matters pertaining to River Rafting.
189.	50	MT	River Rafting Authority (Amendment) Bill and Regulations	(i) To be incorporated into the Tourism Industry Act; (ii) To repeal the River Rafting Authority Act and subsume responsibilities of the River Rafting Authority to the TPDCo.
190.	51	MTW	Gun Powder and Explosives (Amendment) Bill	To amend Act to make provisions for Regulations
191.	52	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
192.	53	MTW	Toll Road (Amendment) Bill	To amend Act to make provisions for Regulations; to provide for a single oversight agency.
193.	54	MWH	Trespass (Amendment) Bill	To improve management of squatting and increase outdated fines
194.	55	OPM	Access to Information (Amendment) Bill	To fulfil the statutory requirement for review of the Act
195.	56	OPM	Agricultural Credit Board (Amendment) Bill	To divest the Development Bank of Jamaica of its responsibility to monitor the PC Banks
196.	57	OPM	Bauxite (Production Levy) (Amend) Bill	To regulate the legal status of the Capital Development Fund, making it a statutory body
197.	58	OPM	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
198.	59	OPM	Jamaica Development Bank Act (Repeal) Bill	To wind up the Development Bank of Jamaica
199.	60	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.

Shaded Areas – Prime Minister's Priority

Cabinet Office, May 2009

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AS AT 22 MAY 2009**

POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
200.	61	OPM	Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill	Revise and update the Town and Country Planning Act (1999 revised)
201.	62	OPM (IT)	Access to Information (Amendment) Bill	To strengthen the ATI regime in keeping with recommendations to be made by the Joint Select Committee of the Parliament on completion of the review of the Act required by Statute
202.	63	OPM (IT)	Archives (Amendment) Bill	To legislate access to information generated by Government and reconcile provisions with Access to Information Act.
203.	64	OPM (IT)	Broadcasting and Radio Rediffusion (Amendment) Bill	To reform regulatory framework; increase financial sanctions available to the Minister in the Act and make consequential changes.
204.	65	OPM (IT)	Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill	To review the legislation to bring same in line with the present approaches to regulation of the Film (exhibition) industry
205.	66	OPM (IT)	Information Communication and Technology (ICT) Bill	To revise the Telecommunications Act 2000 to deal with post liberalization issues related to competition, consumer protection, regulations and emerging technologies.
206.	67	OPM (IT)	Official Secrets (Repeal and Replacement of) Bill	To repeal the existing Act and provide for the criminalization of the unauthorized disclosure of restricted categories of government information/documents.
207.	68	OPM (IT)	Radio & Telegraph Control (Amendment) Bill	To repeal the Radio & Telegraph Control Act
208.	69	OPM (IT)	Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill	To revise the Telecommunications Act 2000 to deal with post liberalisation issues related to competition, consumer protection, regulations and emerging technologies.
209.	70	OPM(LG)	Constitutional Amendment Bill	To have Local Government entrenched in the Constitution.
210.	71	OPM(LG)	Counties and Parish Council (Amendment) Bill	To designate Portmore as the 15 th Parish.
211.	72	OPM(LG)	Fire Brigade (Amendment) Bill	To revise the Act to improve and modernize the existing legislative framework
212.	73	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).

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POLICY BEING DEVELOPED				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
213.	74	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).
214.	75	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) Act.
215.	76	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.