MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Current Structure and Functions of the Ministry of Education

Vision
A customer-centred, performance oriented education system producing globally competitive, socially conscious Jamaican citizens.

Mission
To provide strategic leadership and policy direction for quality education for all Jamaicans to maximize their potential, contribute to national development and compete effectively in the global economy.

Strategic Priorities
The following are the stated strategic priorities of the Ministry:

- Improvement in processes and systems to enhance efficiency and service delivery throughout the sector
- Enhancement of education outcomes
- Building the leadership capacity at all levels of the system
- Reduction of anti-social behaviour impacting the system
- Improvement in facilities and infrastructure
- Strengthening and expansion of partnerships
- Strengthening of the legislative and regulatory framework
- Reshaping the philosophy/ethos/culture of the Ministry and enhancing the corporate image

Functional areas
- Education Affairs and Services
- Social and Community Services (School Nutrition)

Current Entities
1. National Council on Education
2. Overseas Examinations Commission
3. The University Council of Jamaica
4. National Youth Service
5. Early Childhood Commission
6. HEART Trust/National Training Agency
7. Jamaica Foundation for Lifelong Learning
8. National Education Trust Ltd.
9. Jamaica Library Service
10. The Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica
11. Nutrition Products Limited
12. Electoral Commission of Jamaica
13. Electoral Office of Jamaica

**Proposed Functional Areas**

**Rationale**
The Ministry of Education is already in transformation mode as it implements the recommendations of the Education Transformation Programme.

**Functional Areas**
This Ministry will focus on three (3) main functional areas.

- Educational Services
- Human Resource Development
- Social and Community Services

**Educational Services**
- Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Institutions
- Certification and Oversight of Educational Programmes
- Administration of National and Overseas Examinations
- E-Learning (from OPM)
- National Educational Inspectorate
- Jamaica Teaching Council
- Early Childhood Commission

**Human Resource Development**
- HEART Trust/National Training Agency merged with Jamaica Foundation for Lifelong Learning
- Jamaica Library Service
- Dental Auxiliary School, Kingston School of Nursing, EXED School of Nursing Programme, Jamaica School of Nurse Anaesthesia Critical Care
- Sydney Pagon Agricultural School * (aligned to the UWI)
- Ebony Park Academy * (under HEART/NTA)
- Knockalva Agricultural School *

* Institutional strengthening required to focus on an integrated agricultural programme
Social and Community Services

- Restructured Nutrition Programme – Regulatory Functions
- Parenting Programme

Entities to be Transferred

- E-Learning Company from OPM, to have all educational functions in the MoE
- The Administrative management of the Electoral Commission of Jamaica and the Electoral Office of Jamaica should be transferred from the Ministry of Education to the Office of the Parliament (Current Minister is the Leader of Government Business in the House). As creatures of Parliament they should maintain total independence.
- Aspects of the National Youth Service is to be transferred to the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture with the necessary arrangements put in place for support to be given to the Career Advancement Programme in the MoE.
- Dental Auxiliary School, Kingston School of Nursing, EXED School of Nursing Programme, Jamaica School of Nurse Anaesthesia Critical Care from the MoH.

Entities to be Merged

- The University Council of Jamaica to be merged with the Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica to form the Jamaica Tertiary Commission (in progress).
- Jamaica Foundation for Lifelong Learning to be merged with the HEART Trust/National Training Agency

Entities to be Contracted Out

- Nutrition Products Limited and the Central Food Organisation from MLSS should be contracted out. Provision of school meals for the School Feeding Programme to be contracted out at the parish or regional level as this is a service the government pays for but need not perform.