

1999



# Review

A monthly update of the PSOJ's activities

FEBRUARY

## NEW PRESIDENT'S GOALS

Unanimously elected PSOJ President Peter Moses has identified the following areas of focus:

- unity in the private sector
- public/private sector partnership
- membership outreach

**YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED.  
GET INVOLVED.**

### Meeting with Prime Minister

Members of the Organisation's new Executive Committee paid a courtesy call on the Right Honourable Prime Minister in February.

A list of fundamental obstacles which confront the business community to be compiled and sent to the Prime Minister. A Working Committee (public and private sector representatives/ technocrats) will then meet to identify "workable" solutions/measures to reduce these obstacles.

## PRIVATE SECTOR UNITY

Peter King & Associates is undertaking a study of how private sector associations can achieve greater synergy in their operations.

### Meeting with Transport Minister

At its February meeting, members of the Executive Committee shared with the Honourable Dr. Peter Phillips concerns of the private sector e.g. public transportation, traffic jams, deteriorating roadways, etc. The Minister outlined plans to deal with the problems cited as well as the constraints of his Ministry.



## TRADE POLICY

The Executive Director attended a meeting of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade's Committee on Trade Policy. Minister Anthony Hylton gave an update on Post LOME negotiations and the progress of the CARICOM/ Dominican Republic trade agreement.

### New Companies Act

In February, a sub-committee chaired by Mark Golding prepared and submitted the PSOJ's comments to the Joint Select Committee of Parliament.

## NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE CONSULTATION

- The private sector's presentation was prepared by a sub-committee (including the JMA and JCC) chaired by EPC Chairman Peter Melhado and presented by the PSOJ President.
- The main points were:
  - \* reduced inflation and a stable exchange rate are only some of the conditions for economic growth;
  - \* high interest rates are a major deterrent to investment and have caused many businesses to fold;
  - \* a significant and rapid reduction of interest rates is needed if achieving economic growth is to be given the highest priority.
  - \* a partnership between the private and public sectors as well as the trade unions will help to move us forward.

## REVENUE ADMINISTRATION ACT

PSOJ was a member of the Joint Public/Private Sector Task Force, appointed by the Minister of Finance, to review the proposed draft of this important legislation. We were successful in having some of our recommendations included, thus "softening" the proposed Act. We will continue to monitor the progress of same.



## Membership Drive

Our Membership Committee is actively working on strategies for an aggressive membership recruitment drive.

## CRIME AND VIOLENCE

The Presidents' Council issued a press release in February on the escalation of crime in the society as well as the apparent upsurge in attacks on members of the security forces.



## ENVIRONMENT

The PSOJ's environment information package (a videotape and

booklet focussing on water) is now available. An ideal gift for schools, youth groups and community groups - order now for your company and community.



## Vivian Rochester

The PSOJ lost a valuable member in December - former Executive Director of LICA, Vivian Rochester. He will long be remembered for his outstanding contribution to the insurance industry and his active participation in PSOJ Council Meetings.

## What's Ahead

- \* Membership Luncheon focussing on rate "re-balancing" — Thursday, March 25 at the Terra Nova Hotel.
- \* Annual Seminar on the Jamaican Economy — May 13
- \* Membership Luncheon — May 27

# 27%\*

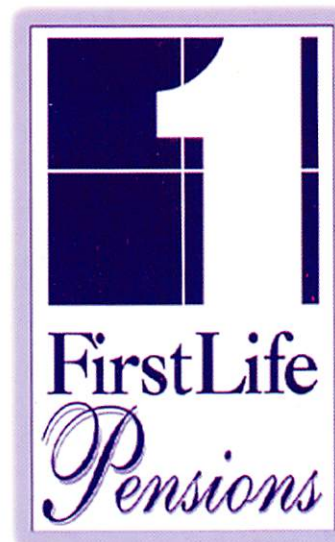
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