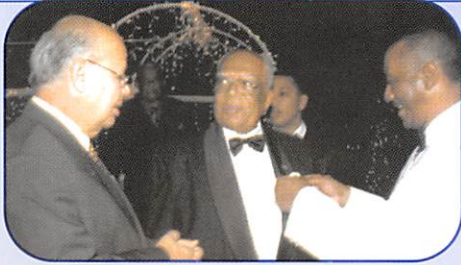




## POLICE COURTESY WEEK DECEMBER 2003-DECEMBER 2004



His Excellency The Governor General being pinned with the PCW badge by the Commissioner of Police. Looking on is Hon. Oliver F. Clarke, OJ

Police Courtesy Week was conceived in an effort to improve the trust and cooperation between the police and the public in each parish. Launched in December 2002 in St. Elizabeth, the initial programme received sponsorship from various companies, including Jamaica National Building Society (JNBS), Appleton Estate and YS Falls. Based on its success, increased sponsorship was secured to hold Police Courtesy Week activities in all parishes throughout 2003.

The PSOJ coordinated the monthly Police Courtesy Week activities, including sourcing, monitoring and distribution of the funds received from the sponsors. A total of nineteen Courtesy Week events have been held throughout Jamaica between December 2002 to December 2003. A feature of each event is the presentation of the PSOJ/Gleaner Law & Order appreciation plaque to a citizen or group who have contributed the most to the promotion of law and order in each division, with this awardee selected by the police.

The newspaper features and the Police Charter have displayed to the police and to communities throughout the island the commitment of the sponsors to support the police and law and order in each parish. We thank the sponsors for their support and contributions, as the implementation of this programme was greatly facilitated by major sponsors, the Gleaner

Company Ltd., JNBS and National Housing Trust, as well as Red Stripe and Police Co-operative Credit Union.

From all reports received to date, this programme has been extremely successful:

- The Gleaner features have emphasized the positive work of the police and highlighted individuals, thus providing the public with positive feedback on the police in each parish. Through these features, the activities of the police have received important and regular coverage.

- Through Police Courtesy Week, The Gleaner Company and JNBS joined with the Kingston Central Police and the PSOJ to present a Summer Leadership Enhancement Programme in August 2003. This successful programme was held as an outreach to the youth, with a view to improving the relationship between the police and this community. Two-hundred and thirty-five (235) young persons from Kingston Central were exposed to a menu of activities, including sports and games, counselling sessions, career development, conflict management and health and sexual issues.

- We have received extremely positive verbal and written reports of increased cooperation between the citizens and the police in those parishes which have held Police Courtesy Week. Some examples include:

*Excerpt from letter dated 2nd July, 2003 from Supt. Herman Brown - St. Elizabeth*

"Citizens were given the opportunity to see the police reaching out to the poor and needy. The police improved their approach towards members of the public when performing traffic duties and the church service and the sermon has left an indelible mark on their lives. Through Courtesy Week, citizens got further insight into the multidimensional role of the Police and were encouraged to give greater support. Thus the citizens have become more trust worthy of the Police."

*Excerpt from letter dated 17th March, 2003 from Supt. W. Clarke - Clarendon*

"All the planned activities were successful, some of them even beyond our expectations. Since Courtesy Week, with the assistance and cooperation of citizens, a number of illegal firearms have been recovered and wanted men captured. There is also improved partnership between the community and the police, with 107 community-based programmes instituted. The approach towards citizens by the police has improved tremendously, indicated by citizens at 40 community meetings."

*Excerpt from letter dated 10th December, 2003 to the PSOJ from Supt. C. Wilson- Kingston Central Division*

"Police Courtesy Week was a resounding success and has had a positive effect on the community, with marked improvement in the citizen/police relationship. More persons are coming forward with information, attending weekly meetings, and the station has been receiving calls from citizens, giving high marks for the events. There has been fewer confrontations between the police and the community. Through this activity, an alliance between 20 students, their guardians and the police has been formed. The citizens and police are looking forward with great anticipation for Police Courtesy Week 2004. We believe that events like these can only foster a better and lasting relationship between the police and citizens."

An appreciation luncheon in recognition of those who contributed to the success of these events and to honour the 19 Police Courtesy Week 2003 Law & Order Awardees is expected to be held in January, 2004.

Based on the success of Police Courtesy Week 2002-2003, the PSOJ intends to seek sponsorship to extend this programme, which would commence immediately upon receipt of the required sponsorship.

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## TRADE POLICY

### THE SINGAPORE ISSUES: WHAT ARE THEY ABOUT?

PART 1 of 3

By: The Private Sector Trade Team

#### SHOULD THE PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORT ATTEMPTS TO LAUNCH NEGOTIATIONS ON THESE ISSUES?

In recent times, and especially following on the collapse of the 5th WTO Ministerial Conference held in Cancun from September 10 to 14, 2003, the words "Singapore issues" have been bandied about as commentators proclaim the reasons for the collapse of the conference.

Opinions also abound as to who should be blamed for the breakdown and not surprisingly, the entire blame is being laid at the feet of the developed countries due to their insistence that negotiations be launched on the contentious Singapore Issues.

What exactly though are "the Singapore issues" and why are they important for business?

The so called "Singapore issues" are unresolved issues carried over from the 1996 Singapore Ministerial Conference. They are: (1) investment; (2) competition; (3) government procurement (i.e. contracts); and (4) trade facilitation. The 1996 Ministerial Declaration mandated WTO Members to establish working groups to analyze these issues. The EU, Japan, and a handful of developed countries supported this development. Developing countries on the other hand, were never supportive of the proposal or of the necessity of negotiating multilateral rules on these issues. It is important to note therefore, that developing countries' opposition to negotiation on these issues is not a recent phenomenon; the issues have been consistently opposed at each ministerial since 1996 (Seattle in 1999, Doha in 2001 and Cancun in 2003).

At the 2001 Ministerial Conference held in Doha, Qatar, the continuing opposition to this initiative by developing countries led Members to indicate in the Doha Ministerial Declaration in very specific terms that "...negotiations will take place after the Fifth Session of the Ministerial Conference on the basis of a decision to be taken, by explicit consensus, at that session on modalities for negotiations."

A series of efforts were then undertaken within the WTO to study, clarify and generate support for the inclusion of the four Singapore issues. These efforts were largely led and supported by the EU, despite the equally persistent opposition of developing countries. Of the four, investment evolved as the most contentious issue while trade facilitation held some promise of being an area of compromise among the developed and developing countries.

#### Investment

The possible inclusion of investment in multilateral rules dates back to 1995 when negotiations commenced on the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The main objective of the MAI was to remove all or most of the remaining restrictions on for-

eign investment, and ensure that governments treated foreign investment no less favourably than they treated domestic investment. The OECD's definition of investment was very broad and included intellectual property, portfolio investment, a proposal for investor-to-state dispute mechanisms, and a broad definition of expropriation. As a result of public pressure and disagreements between OECD members, the MAI collapsed in late 1998. However, before the breakdown of the MAI, the EU had sought to place investment on the agenda of the WTO. In 1996 at the WTO's Singapore Ministerial Conference, the EU got an agreement from other WTO members to establish a working group to examine the relationship between trade and investment.

Since then, Members have adopted diverse positions on how to deal with investment. While most developing countries have questioned the necessity and the value of negotiating multilateral rules on investment, which they assert may threaten their development policy flexibility and damage development prospects, the EU and other proponents like Japan have been agitating to bring investment on the table. At the 1999 WTO Ministerial in Seattle and in 2001 at Doha, the EU attempted to end the working group stage and to commence negotiations on investment; thereby once again putting developing countries under pressure to agree to negotiations.

To support its position on investment, the EU stresses the need for encouraging and facilitating worldwide FDI flows, particularly to and from developing countries, and for contributing to the expansion of a more balanced pattern of trade flows, adding that trade and FDI go hand in hand. Thus, the EU has emphasized that a basic



Hon. K.D. Knight Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade shares a joke with Eleanor Jones, of ESL (left) and Greta Bogues, chairperson of the BCE at the Trade and Environment Forum held at the Ja. Pegasus Hotel.

framework of investment rules would benefit the world economy and that uniform rules would encourage companies to invest abroad, particularly in developing countries. These arguments are not without merit, for there is general agreement that foreign investment can bring benefits to the economies of developing countries and to some of the poorest communities in those countries.

*(Parts 2 and 3 will focus on the remaining Singapore issues: competition; government procurement; and trade facilitation.)*

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### "PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS"

As a follow-up to the PSOJ Annual Economic Seminar held in May 2003, a team from Jamaica comprising representatives from the trade unions, academia, civil society, the private sector, and the political parties traveled to Ireland in October to discuss with Irish officials the policy changes that were integral to Ireland's economic transformation. During this visit, they met with the Prime Minister of Ireland, Irish trade union leaders, senior leaders of the Government and opposition and IDA Ireland- the Irish investment promotion agency. The team has continued to meet regularly and have produced a listing of critical issues to be addressed under the theme, "Partnership for Progress."

PSOJ President Mrs. Beverley Lopez notes that the aim of Partnership for Progress is to promote a climate which will foster economic growth for the benefit of the widest cross-section of Jamaican society. "The starting point of the Partnership discussions is recognition of the threat posed by the current economic state to the standard of living of every Jamaican - owners and workers alike," continued Lopez. The group has agreed that achieving consensus around the following initiatives, and their purposeful implementation by the social partners, is critical to moving the economy forward:

- *Support to the small and medium enterprises sector, which is the driver of employment creation in most economies*
- *Divestment of public sector assets*
- *Public sector pension reform*
- *Wage bill/price restraint*
- *Tax reform measures*
- *Crime reduction*
- *Improved educational framework and social values*
- *Observation of labour laws and codes*

The Partnership for progress team, while being convened by the private sector, is a joint collaborative effort, and it is expected that this initiative

will result in the formation of a programme which will reflect shared responsibilities on national issues.

The first Programme for National Recovery was forged by Ireland in October 1987, which, through social partnerships, dramatically turned around the Irish economy as evidenced by declining unemployment and debt and has seen GNP Growth move from -0.1 % in 1986 to 10.7% in Year 2000.

Whilst being inspired by the Irish model and the success of the Irish Social Partnership, there is recognition that any initiative must address Jamaica's specific situation. However, it is expected that many of the Irish programmes can be adapted within the context of our Jamaican environment to put us on the path to progress, hope and sustainable national development.



PSOJ President Beverley Lopez seen here with Presenters at the 2003 PSOJ Annual Economic Seminar

- *Designing measures to address the fiscal deficit and reverse the growth trend of the national debt.*

## BULLETIN BOARD

Better Family Life

DECEMBER 2003



Participants of the BFL Programme at the Appreciation Luncheon hosted in December 2003 by Hon. Oliver F. Clarke, O.J. PSOJ Immediate Past President.



Awardees shown here displaying their plaques received at JCA Awards - December 2003.

### PRESIDENTS ELECTED

Dr. Andre Gordon was unanimously elected as President of the JEA at their AGM held on 19th November, 2003. He has been a Vice-President of the JEA for 3 years and a Director for 5 years. Dr. Gordon succeeds Immediate Past President, Mr. Ricky Wates, who did not seek re-election. The four Vice-Presidents elected to support Dr. Gordon are Mrs. Marjory Kennedy, Mrs. Beverley Morgan, Mr. Hernal Hamilton and Mr. Derrick Reckord.



Mr. Raymond Campbell, Country Manager of First International Bank Jamaica Limited was re-elected as President of the Jamaica Bankers Association (JBA) for year 2003-2004 at the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 11th December. Mr. Aubyn Hill, Managing Director of National Commercial Bank Jamaica Limited was elected Vice President. Mr. Wayne Wray, Treasurer and Ms. Pamela Smith, Secretary were re-elected to these positions.



### JOB CREATION AWARDS

### PSOJ MISSION STATEMENT

- ☐ Promoting the principles of private enterprise and the market system as the most effective model for economic growth for the country.
- ☐ Advocating equality of opportunity, freedom and reward for personal initiative.
- ☐ Fostering unity and co-operation within the private sector.
- ☐ Lobbying government for policies and programmes favourable to the private sector.
- ☐ Channelling private sector resources to help alleviate the economic and social problems of the country

**WE WISH YOU A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!!**