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**MINUTES OF THE 78<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA**  
**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 AT 9.00 AM**

- PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam  
Acting Deputy Governor, Mr Foster Rogers
- The Honourable Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs,  
Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education and Library Services and  
Acting Premier and Minister for Finance and Health,  
Ms Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers
- The Honourable Minister for Home Affairs, Immigration, Labour,  
Human Rights, Constitutional Affairs, Information and Broadcasting,  
Lands and Physical Planning, Mr Kenneth Hodge
- The Honourable Minister for Infrastructure, Communications,  
Utilities, Housing and Tourism, Mr Haydn Hughes
- The Honourable Minister for Economic Development, Commerce,  
Information Technology, Environment and Natural Resources,  
Mr Kyle Hodge
- The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford
- Clerk to Executive Council, Mrs Angela Hughes
- IN ATTENDANCE: Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development,  
Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie  
Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social  
Development/Education, Mr Merrick Richardson  
Financial Specialist, Mr Stephen Turnbull
- ABSENT: The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance and Health,  
Dr Ellis Webster  
The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr Perin Bradley

EX MIN 22/67

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 77<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

EX MIN 22/71

**COVID-19 UPDATE**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. The following persons joined:

PS, Health, Mr Foster Rogers  
CMO, Dr Aisha Andrewin  
Health Planner, Ms Rochelle Rogers

**Epidemiology*****Global overview***

Globally, during the week 14 - 20 February the number of new cases decreased by 21%, as compared to the previous week, the number of new deaths showed a decreasing trend. This past week, across the six WHO regions, over 12 million new cases were reported and just over 67,000 new deaths were reported. As of February 20, over 422 million confirmed cases and over 5.8 million deaths have been reported globally.

## **Update on the Emergence of Variant of Concern Omicron (B.1.1.529)**

The current global epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2 is characterized by the global dominance of the Omicron variant. Delta remains the only other named variant with significant reported circulation. Among the 495,016 sequences uploaded to GISAID with specimens collected in the last 30 days: 490,519 (99.1%) were Omicron, 3,841 (0.8%) were Delta, one (<0.1%) was Alpha and there was one non VOI/VOC sequence.

Amongst the major Omicron lineages, BA.1 predominates overall, followed by BA.1.1 and BA.2, with BA.3 being the least frequently detected. Weekly trends show that the relative proportion of BA.2 has increased over time, becoming the second most frequently detected lineage after BA.1.1 by week 6, and the dominant lineage in 18 countries. This trend is most pronounced in the South-East Asia Region, followed by the Eastern Mediterranean, African, Western Pacific and European Regions. In contrast, very little BA.2 has been detected in the Americas.

### ***Caribbean Region***

Since the previous report on February 14, an additional 35,733 cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in 33 countries within the Caribbean, bringing the region's total confirmed cases to 3,211,368 in 35 countries/territories (including the 26 CARPHA Member States). The new total represents a 1.1% increase in the number of confirmed cases. There were 32,338 deaths recorded in the Caribbean Region as of February 21.

### ***Anguilla***

As of February 23, 2022 the total number of confirmed cases since the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020 is 2535 with 2516 recoveries, 9 deaths and 10 active cases. Five adults (three vaccinated and two unvaccinated) are currently admitted to the Isolation Unit.

After further discussions with UKHSA colleagues and their lead technical persons, at present, the COVID-19 antibody prevalence study would be more of an academic exercise that could potentially contribute data from the Caribbean to the scientific literature. The study could still be pursued and the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) and PAHO may be engaged on the subject. On the other hand, analysis of vaccination coverage data could potentially provide information to guide policy in a more expeditious manner.

With regard to schools, 38 school-aged children tested positive from January 28 to date: 10 (26%) tested positive at school and 2(5%) were tested as school contacts. At this time, more cases are being detected outside of the school system and the majority are household contacts of cases.

The Ministry has also been approached with regard to its position on any anticipated restrictions on upcoming mass gathering events such as Festival del Mar in April and the carnival in August. Based on the current epidemiological situation locally, regionally and internationally, at this time no restrictions are warranted, but this is subject to change, if the epidemiological situation changes. The current emphasis remains on vaccination, including boosters where indicated and individual risk assessment and action.

## **Vaccination Deployment Update**

### Vaccine Uptake

As of February 23, 2022, 10,318 first doses and 9,531 second doses have been administered. In an estimated population of 15,500 total persons, this would represent 67% of the population having received the first dose and 61% of the population having received two doses.

The breakdown by age of persons having received a first dose is as follows:

- 71 persons age 5 - 11
- 493 persons age 12 - 17
- 3057 persons age 18 - 34
- 2904 persons age 35 - 49
- 2482 persons age 50 - 64
- 1315 persons age 65+

The occupational breakdown of first doses is as follows:

- 355 Healthcare workers
- 546 Civil and Border Protection
- 1833 Hospitality
- 1105 Retired
- 6474 Others

#### Distribution (Pfizer)

As of February 23, 3379 doses of Pfizer have been administered, this includes 745 first doses, 285 second doses and 2349 booster doses. This includes 493 first doses for 12 - 17 year olds. This represents roughly 35% of the estimated 12 – 17 year old population. Vaccination for 5 to 11 year olds

On February 18, a soft launch of the vaccines for 5 to 11 year olds was held at Welches Polyclinic: 35 children received the 1<sup>st</sup> dose and 1 child received a second dose. Further distribution is planned in schools and clinics and the schedule has been published.

#### **Exit Strategy Part 2**

Based on the global, regional and local epidemiological situations, at the time of writing, the Ministry of Health maintains the proposed recommendations and implementation date of April 1. Further, the Ministry has no objection to mass gatherings, including but not limited to, Festival Del Mar and the Summer Festival, provided there is adherence to health protocols. The Ministry continues to monitor the local epidemiological situation to assess whether there is a need for variation of any internal restrictions.

Council:

- 1) thanked the health team for their continued hard work;

- 2) noted that the Ministry will continue to monitor the global epidemiological situation including the Omicron BA.2 subvariant;
- 3) noted that data exploration with UKHSA counterparts on vaccination coverage including assessment of the data being captured via the portal shall be ongoing;
- 4) noted that vaccination of 5 - 11 year olds shall be the main priority over the next 10 weeks. Considered options to increase vaccination uptake in the under 17 age group;
- 5) noted that the Ministry's position with respect to the Exit Strategy and April 1 implementation date remain the same. Noted that with vaccination having commenced last week for the 5 – 11 year olds, the April 1 date broadly aligns with the provision of a second vaccine dose for this group. Noted that vaccination coverage of 70% of the general population is desirable in order to optimize the Exit Strategy. The Ministry shall consider whether it is possible to facilitate an earlier implementation date than April 1, taking into consideration all relevant factors; and
- 6) noted that there are no recommendations by the health team at this time to introduce restrictions on mass gatherings.

Council authorized the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, HLTH; PS, FIN; PS, EDCITENR; BD; ACC, GEN;  
HON, DG; HON, AG; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 22/72

**EX MEMO 22/47 APPLICATION FOR DUTY AND TAX EXEMPTION FOR ONLY THE SERIOUS DRUM ACADEMY**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council:

- 1) agreed that duty and tax exemptions should be granted to Only The Serious Drum Academy on the importation of items donated to the drum academy including a drum set, music stands, drum pads, drumsticks, staff paper, a speaker and hardware;
- 2) agreed that the administrative fee under the Customs Administrative Cost Recovery Act should apply;
- 3) noted that the estimated duty and tax loss to the Government is EC\$3,716.96; and
- 4) instructed the Ministry of Finance to prepare the required Resolution of the House of Assembly, pursuant to section 77(1) of the Customs Act, R.S.A. c. C 169 and section 6A of the Interim Goods Tax Act, 2019.

Council authorized the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; HON, PREM

EX MIN 22/73

**EX MEMO 22/48 APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM ENTERTAINMENT TAX**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council:

- 1) noted that in respect of every payment made for admission to an entertainment event a tax of 10% of the amount is levied;
- 2) noted that the grant of the requested tax exemption resulted in tax loss of EC\$2,278; and
- 3) approved the application by the Anguilla Football Association for a retrospective exemption from entertainment tax for the Concacaf W Qualifiers, the proceeds of which shall be devoted wholly to developing football in Anguilla; and
- 4) instructed the Ministry of Finance to prepare, for onward submission to the House of Assembly, the required Resolution for the remission of the Public Entertainment Tax associated with the sale of tickets to a maximum of EC\$2,278 in accordance with the Financial Administration and Audit Act.

Council authorized the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; HON, PREM



EX MIN 22/74

**EX MEMO 22/49 APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ANGUILLA TOURIST BOARD (ATB) DUE TO A VACANCY ON THE ATB**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council:

- 1) noted the departure of Mr Tiago Sarmento as a member of the Anguilla Tourist Board;
- 2) noted that the Department of Inland Revenue has indicated that Mr Angarita is in good standing; and
- 3) approved the appointment of Mr Diego Angarita as a member of the Anguilla Tourist Board, for a 2 year period from 24 February 2022 to 23 February 2024, in accordance with Section 5 of the Anguilla Tourist Board Act.

Action: PS, MICUHT; HON, MIN MICUHT

EX MIN 22/75

**EX MEMO 22/50 APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF LICENCE UNDER THE ALIENS LAND HOLDING REGULATION ACT – REGISTRATION SECTION NORTH, BLOCK 58916 B, PARCEL 395 BEING 0.37 OF AN ACRE**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council noted the initial approval granted as per Executive Council Minute 22/41.

Council agreed to issue an Aliens Land Holding Licence to hold property situated in Registration Section North, Block 58916 B, described as Parcel 395 located in Tackling for residential purposes, subject to:

- (a) payment of the following Stamp Duties:

(i)	under the Stamp Act – 5% of EC\$88,710.60	EC\$4,435.53
(ii)	under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act – 6.25% of EC\$88,710.60	N/A
(iii)	Refundable Deposit – 10% of EC\$88,710.60	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b><u>EC\$4,435.53</u></b>

- (b) Regulations to be issued by the Attorney General's Chambers;
- (c) the Licensee shall be granted an exemption from the Aliens Land Holding Licence Regulation Act fee and refundable deposit, on the grounds that Executive Council Minute 03/224 and the policy on exemption from fees payable by Caribbean Nationals permits the same;
- (d) the property is to be used for residential purposes;
- (e) the Licensee shall not rent the dwelling house unless a Business Licence is obtained from the Ministry of Economic Development, Investment, Commerce, Information Technology & Natural Resources;
- (f) the Licensee shall fully comply with the laws of Anguilla from time to time including the Land Development Control Act, the Property Tax Act, the Building Regulations, the Labour (Relations) Act, the Social Security Act, the Immigration and Passport Regulations and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and any rules or regulations made there under;
- (g) any breach of any of the conditions of this Licence shall result in all the estate and interest of the Licensee in the land being liable for forfeiture to the Crown;

- (h) that the Government of Anguilla shall forgo taxes in the amount of EC\$5,544.41; and
- (i) that the Ministry of Finance records the taxes waived in the amount of EC\$5,544.41 for Stamp Duty under the Stamp Act.

Council authorized the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, HA; DLS; HON, MIN HA

EX MIN 22/76

**EX MEMO 22/51 APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF LICENCE UNDER THE ALIENS LAND HOLDING REGULATION ACT – REGISTRATION SECTION WEST END, BLOCK 17810 B, PARCEL 176 BEING 0.26 OF AN ACRE OF LAND**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council agreed to issue an Aliens Land Holding Licence to hold on a freehold basis Villa #14 being 0.26 of an acre of land forming part of Resorts & Residences of Anguilla Home Owners Association Ltd., at Four Seasons Anguilla Ltd., described as Registration Section West End, Block 17810 B, Parcel 176, subject to the following:

- a) Stamp Duties payable are as follows:
    - (i) under the Stamp Act – 5%  
of EC\$10,394,304.87 EC\$519,715.24
    - (ii) under the Aliens Land Holding  
Regulation Act – 5%  
of EC\$10,394,304.87 EXEMPT
- TOTAL EC\$519,715.24**

- b) Regulations to be issued for Exemption by the Attorney General's Chambers;
- c) the Licensee is exempted from the payment of Stamp Duty under the Aliens Land Holding Act and in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Anguilla and SOF-VIII-Hotel II Anguilla Holdings, LLC signed on 17 September 2010 and further agreed in First, Second, Third and Fourth Amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding;
- d) the Licensee shall rent the unit that forms part of Four Seasons Anguilla Resort;
- e) the Licensee shall fully comply with the Memorandum of Understanding dated 17 September 2010 and further agreed in First, Second, Third and Fourth Amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding, signed between the Government of Anguilla and SOF-VIII-Hotel II Anguilla Holdings, LLC and in particular Part IV Sections 4, 6 and 7 and Part V Sections IV (a) (b) (c) (in keeping with Use Restrictions and Accommodation Tax for Luxury Real Estate Products);
- f) the Licensee shall place its unit in the rental programme/pool of the hotel for the first two years on receiving ownership of the property;
- g) the Licensee may opt to continue the placement of its unit in the rental programme/pool after this initial period;
- h) following the first five years as defined at (f), if the unit is **NOT** included in the rental programme/pool, annual levies will be charged at US\$6.50 per square foot per annum. Such levies shall be payable on the first day of January in each year that the levy is due. The annual levies will be subject to increase in accordance with Part IV, Section 5(d) of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Anguilla and SOF-VIII-Hotel II Anguilla Holdings, LLC on 17 September 2010 and further agreed in First, Second, Third and Fourth Amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding;
- i) additionally, the annual levy payable by the Licensee will be zero for the first five (5) years following the purchase of the unit. Commencing five (5) years after the purchase of the unit, if the unit is included in the rental programme/pool, annual levies

payable by the Licensee will be charged at US\$5.00 per square foot per annum on the covered area of the unit;

- j) the Licensee shall fully comply with the laws of Anguilla from time to time including the Land Development Control Act, the Property Tax Act, the Building Regulations, the Control of Employment Act, the Social Security Act, the Immigration and Passport Regulations and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and any rules or regulations made there under; and
- k) any breach of any of the conditions of this Licence shall result in all the estate and interest of the Licensee in the land being liable for forfeiture to the Crown.

Council authorized the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, HA; DLS; HON, MIN HA

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