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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **OFFICE OF THE CONTRACTOR-GENERAL AGAIN REGISTERS UNPRECEDENTED 100% REPORT COMPLIANCE RATE FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE QUARTER RUNNING**

**Kingston, Jamaica; August 10, 2009;** – For the second consecutive quarter running, the Office of the Contractor General (OCG) has registered an unprecedented 100% compliance rate on the part of the country's procuring Public Bodies in their submission of Quarterly Contract Award (QCA) Reports.

All 196 Public Bodies whose contract award activities are currently being monitored by the OCG were declared fully compliant in filing their 2009 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter QCA Reports to the OCG by the stipulated deadline of August 3, 2009, in keeping with the requirements of the OCG's Zero Tolerance Policy.

In May, the OCG had announced that, for the first time since its Zero Tolerance Policy was introduced in October 2006, all procuring Public Bodies had submitted their 2009 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter QCA Reports within the prescribed time lines.

And Contractor General Greg Christie has once again publicly commended Public Sector Heads for their record and unprecedented achievement.

*“The pervasive culture which previously existed whereby the formal requisitions of the OCG were substantially ignored is now a thing of the past. The country's Permanent Secretaries and the Heads of all relevant State Agencies have succeeded in attaining an unparalleled level of discipline in conforming to the official requirements of the OCG”.*



*“While there is considerable work left to be done to insulate public contracting in Jamaica from acts of impropriety and irregularity, and to ensure that the Tax-payer gets value for his money, the accomplishments of these Public Servants must be viewed as a very promising and positive development and, accordingly, should not go without public acknowledgement or commendation”*, Mr. Christie said.

QCA Reports are required to be filed with the OCG, in arrears, within one month after the ending of each quarter. The Reports are specifically structured to force the disclosure of the material particulars of certain contracts which have been awarded by Public Bodies. They are also designed to disclose whether and to what extent a Procuring Public Body has breached the Government’s Procurement Procedures.

The QCA Report regime was conceived and implemented in May 2006 by the Contractor General as a major plank of his strategic plan to secure a marked improvement in probity and transparency in the Government contract award process. Very importantly, the initiative has enabled the OCG to obtain and to make public the particulars of the Government contract awards that are reported on QCA forms.

Currently, the QCA particulars of 28,735 Government contracts which were awarded between May 1, 2006 and June 30, 2009 and which range from \$250,000 to \$10 Million in value, can be freely examined and scrutinized by any member of the public on the OCG’s website at [www.ocg.gov.jm](http://www.ocg.gov.jm). The data is updated each quarter.

The particulars of Government contract award recommendations which have been endorsed by the National Contracts Commission during the period of June 1, 2000 to June 30, 2009, and which value in excess of \$4 Million (and in excess of \$10 Million since October 2008), are also available for scrutiny on the OCG’s website. This data is updated on a monthly basis.

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