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MEDIA RELEASE

OCG REGISTERS UNPRECEDENTED 100% QCA REPORT COMPLIANCE RATE FOR THE EIGHTH CONSECUTIVE QUARTER – CONTRACTOR GENERAL THANKS PUBLIC BODIES

Kingston, Jamaica; February 1, 2011 – Contractor General, Greg Christie, has extended his gratitude to the heads of the country’s 198 Procuring Public Bodies for assisting the Office of the Contractor General (OCG) to register an unprecedented and record 100% compliance rate for the eighth consecutive quarter running.

All 198 Public Bodies, whose contract award activities are currently being monitored by the OCG, were declared fully compliant in filing their 2010 4th Quarter Contract Award (QCA) Reports to the OCG by the stipulated deadline date of today, February 1, 2011.

“I am obliged to place upon record, my appreciation to the country’s permanent secretaries, the heads of all public sector agencies, as well as their procurement staff, for what will undoubtedly stand as an unprecedented demonstration of discipline and diligence in public sector procurement in Jamaica. The OCG is confident that with this record and sustained level of support from our nation’s public officials, it is safe to say that we have now turned over a new leaf in public sector accountability in Jamaica”, said the Contractor General.

The OCG’s QCA Regime, which is reinforced by a Zero Tolerance Policy which was first introduced in October 2006 to combat Public Bodies who were refusing to comply with the lawful requisitions of the OCG, dictates that a failure or refusal to comply with the OCG’s QCA Requisition, results in the automatic referral of the head of the delinquent Public Body to the Director of Public Prosecutions for criminal prosecution under Section 29 (b) of the Contractor General Act.

The QCA Report regime was conceived and implemented in May 2006 as a major plank of the Contractor General’s strategic plan to secure a marked improvement in probity, accountability and transparency in the Government procurement process. In terms of improved transparency, 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 46,674 Government contracts, with an aggregated value of \$54.68 Billion, which were awarded between May 1, 2006 and December, 2010, and which range from \$250,000 to \$10 Million in value, can be freely examined and scrutinized on the OCG’s website at www.ocg.gov.jm.

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