

## MINISTRY OF THE CIVIL SERVICE

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Date: March 20, 2018

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Ms. Toni Moore General Secretary The Barbados Workers' Union "Solidarity House" Harmony Hall St. Michael

Dear Ms. Moore

## Government Negotiations with the Barbados Workers Unions 2016 – 2018

I wish to advise that an updated mandate was recently sought from my Principals with regard to the new Wages and Salary Accord for Public Servants to facilitate a continuation of the process. I am directed to advise you that the Minister, as authorised under section 13(1) (d) of the Public Service Act Cap. 29, and with advice from the Ministry of Finance, has determined that the prevailing economic conditions do not permit a general increase in the emoluments for public servants including any one-off payments.

Furthermore, the Minister has directed that negotiations with the Unions should focus on non-salary items.

I therefore wish to inform you that your request for a 15 percent increase in wages and salaries, across for the board, for the period April 2016 to March 2018 for public servants, cannot be accommodated at this time.

Consequently, while I am prepared to continue to meet with you to follow up on any non-salary items, I will not be meeting to discuss matters relating to any increases in salaries and wages at this time.

Yours sincerely

Alyson G. Forte

Permanent Secretary

AGF/la