

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Ansord Hewitt appointed new OUR Director General

(KINGSTON, Jamaica; 2016 December 29) As of 2017 January 1, Ansord E. Hewitt, Regulatory Specialist, Economist and Attorney at Law, will be the new Director General of the Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR). Mr. Hewitt was appointed by the Governor General, His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen to serve for three years.

As Director General, Mr. Hewitt will be an ex officio member of the Office and he succeeds Albert Gordon, who demitted office in November 2016.

Mr. Hewitt, who was formerly the OUR's Director of Regulation, Policy, Monitoring and Enforcement (RPME), has over twenty five years' experience working and providing leadership at various levels in quasi-judicial organizations. His educational background covers law, management and economics with extensive specialised training in, among other areas: regulation, competition analysis, strategic planning, leadership, international negotiation and corporate planning.

Chairman of the OUR, Mr. Joseph Matalon, CD, extended congratulations to Mr. Hewitt on his appointment by the Governor General to head the organization. He also reaffirmed the continued commitment of all members of the Office to support the Director General and to ensure that under his leadership the OUR will continue to discharge its regulatory functions with efficiency and with keen regard to the public interest.

Mr. Hewitt has charted a career in competition and regulatory analysis, joining the OUR in February 2000, where he has served in several positions including: Economist, Manager of Regulatory Affairs, Secretary to the Office (the first such) and most recently, the Director of RPME. Prior to joining the OUR, he worked at the Jamaica Bauxite Institute and the Fair Trading Commission as an Economist. He also lectured at the post graduate level on Regulation and Regulatory Reform in the Department of Government, University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona for over ten years and served as a tutor in the UWI's Masters In Telecommunications Regulation and Policy Programme.

The holder of a Masters degree in Regulation from the London School of Economics, obtained after being awarded a Chevening Scholarship in 1997, Mr. Hewitt also holds undergraduate honours degrees (Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Economics & Management (UWI), and Bachelor of Law (LL.B) from the University of London. He also holds a Certificate in Legal Education from the Norman Manley Law School.

Mr. Hewitt has on more than one occasion been invited to be part of the faculty of the Public Utilities Research Centre, the University of Florida's premier two week Certificate course in regulation.

An accomplished writer, the new OUR Director General has presented and published papers locally and internationally. Among his publications are: *"Responding to Market Signals & Complying with Public Sector Bureaucratic Requirements –the Dilemma of Residual State Owned Enterprises"* and *"The Search for Optimal Institutional Design for Utilities Regulation: Is the Multi-Sector Model Still Viable?"*.

Mr. Hewitt is married to Sharon and is an unapologetic man of faith.

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