## VOTE OF THANKS

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14, 2015

Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, good afternoon. My job is the pleasurable one of just saying thanks. Showing gratitude because, we do know that all things in life are a result of some collaborative effort, whether directly or indirectly, intentional or not. The JSIF is no exception.

Today as we officially put a cap on 19 years of existence, moving from a mere project to the powerhouse known affectionately by all as JSIF, we must first say thanks to the architect and first captain of this ship- Mrs. Scarlette Gillings. We thank her for her vision to build a big enough ship, so that even today, there is room on it for so many to practice their craft, while contributing to the daunting mandate of implementing community based programmes aimed at social development and poverty reduction.

Special thanks to our shareholder representatives:

- ✓ Mrs. Barbara Hew- Gooden- Ministry of Finance and Planning
- ✓ Ms. Vinnette Gayle- Accountant General department

This could not have happened without you. Thanks for coming.

Thank you Chairman Colin Bullock and your colleagues on the Board, for your steady hand in guiding our affairs, while keeping this ship afloat.

Let me also on your behalf express our gratitude to Mr. Howard Malcolm, the Company Secretary, who has been with us from the very beginning. We continue to depend on your wise counsel.

To Mr. Sweeney thanks for saying yes. Yes to the call to take up the compass and chart our path from being a teenager into adulthood. I wish for you sir, all the wisdom you will need on our journey.

To the management team for providing the support <u>you</u> need, as well as the leadership required for the Agency's staff in our efforts at fulfilling our mission, thanks.

Thanks to all our stakeholders, past and present, who have made this journey to 19 both adventurous and worthwhile.

Our gratitude to the AGM Committee, ably led by Mrs. Lue.

To Michelle Moses, who singlehandedly drove everyone insane, in her yeoman efforts at getting the Annual Report ready. Michelle you did a fine job. Congrats! You can now exhale!!

And for the brilliant job in preparing our Multimedia presentation shown today, let us give Odvar and Doreth a big

hand. And we must never forget that this is outside of their core functions here at JSIF.

And how could we ever leave out the media. Thank you all for your continuing support of the work at JSIF. I must however say a special thanks to JIS. You are always ready to support us when we call. Please accept our sincerest gratitude.

To the ever valuable JSIF staff, who really make things happen around here, I just want to say on behalf of the Board and Management, thank you for your time, talents and passion.

Now we are well into our 20<sup>th</sup> year of existence, and are about to embark on a programme of activities to commemorate this significant milestone. Our main objectives in commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> year are:

- Celebratory
- To enhance visibility
- To publicly recognize outstanding contributors to the JSIF efforts since our inception, and
- To rededicate ourselves to the mission going forward.

An appropriate media launch will be held soon to outline the details of our plans for the year.

Again thanks to everyone for being here. See you next year and bless you all.

Carl Bliss