STATEMENT TO THE PARLIAMENT

MINISTER FOR YOUTH, SPORTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

STATEMENT BY THE MINSTRY OF YOUTH, SPORTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE ON SECTION 11(5) REQUESTS

27 JUNE 2025

Mister Speaker, I rise to make a statement in accordance with Section 11 (6) of the Public Management and Finance Act (PMFA) (2020 Revision), prior to the tabling of the 2025 Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

Mister Speaker, Section 11(6) of the PMFA provides that:

Where the Cabinet has authorised executive financial transactions in accordance with subsection (5)—

- (a) a member of the Cabinet appointed by the Cabinet to do so on its behalf shall, at the next sitting of the Legislative Assembly after the exceptional circumstance has occurred, make a statement to the Legislative Assembly advising of:
- (i) the exceptional circumstance, its nature, and how it complies with the definition of the term "exceptional circumstance" set out in section 2;
- (ii) the type and amount of the executive financial transactions authorised or likely to be authorised; and
- (iii) the effect of the authorisations, or likely authorisations, on compliance with the principles of responsible financial management specified in section 14; and
- (b) the authorised executive financial transactions are to be included in a supplementary Appropriation Bill introduced in the Legislative Assembly by

the 31st day of March following the financial year to which those transactions relate.

Mister Speaker, the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage sought and received Cabinet's approval for two Section 11 (5) requests. These requests support the Ministry's four priorities, which form the foundation of our work, guide our initiatives; and are:

- (1) Talent Identification and Development;
- (2) Enhancing and Empowering our Youth;
- (3) Awareness and Preservation of Culture & Heritage; and
- (4) Promoting an Active and Healthy Lifestyle for All

These approvals were directed towards the following initiatives:

EAST END DIXON PARK

Mister Speaker, the Ministry requested and received Cabinet approval for funding towards the East End Dixon Park. This facility provides a district-based space aimed at encouraging participation in sporting, recreational, and social activities. Furthermore, it provides a safe space for community interaction across all ages,

support the restructuring of community initiatives under the Department of Sports, and promote mental, physical, and emotional wellness.

Mister Speaker, additional funding was essential because the development of East End Dixon Park represents a critical investment in the health, safety, and well-being of the community. Without this funding, the Ministry would have been unable to proceed with creating a facility that addresses longstanding gaps in access to recreational and wellness infrastructure in the district of East End.

TP 107 SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING

Additionally, Mister Speaker, the Ministry requested supplementary funding for TP 107. This was necessary to support anticipated events, activities, and community grants for youth, sports, and heritage in 2025. The need arose due to a shortfall in 2024 linked to the reinstatement of Emancipation Day and the provision of grant funding opportunities for programmes aligned with our subject areas.

Mister Speaker, the TP 107 supplementary funding was important because it ensures that the Ministry can continue to deliver vital programmes and events that support the development of our youth, promote sports participation, and preserve our culture and heritage. These initiatives are key to strengthening national identity,

encouraging healthy lifestyles, and providing positive opportunities for our young people.

CONCLUSION

In closing, Mr. Speaker and Members of this Honourable House, these are the exceptional circumstances that made it necessary to approve the supplementary appropriations for the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage in the 2025 financial year.

Mister Speaker, I wish to express my gratitude to this Honourable House for its consideration and approval of these necessary requests. Your support enables the Ministry to fulfil its mandate to protect our heritage, empower our youth, and promote a healthier, stronger future for our people.

Thank you, Mister Speaker.