

AN ACT to Amend the Access to Information Act.

[12th day of December, 2003]

BE IT ENACTED by The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Representatives of Jamaica, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Access to Information (Amendment) Act, 2003, and shall be read and construed as one with the Access to Information Act, 2002, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

2. Subsection (1) of section 4 of the principal Act is amended—

(a) in paragraph (b) by deleting the word "or";

(b) in paragraph (c)—

(i) by inserting immediately after the numeral "5" the words "(1) (a) or";

(ii) by deleting the comma appearing at the end thereof and substituting therefor a semi-colon and the word "or";

(c) by inserting next after paragraph (c) the following as paragraph (d)—

"(d) the application of the provisions of this Act to that public authority pursuant to section 5 (1)(b),".

3. Section 5 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (1)—

(a) by deleting paragraph (a) and renumbering paragraph (b) as paragraph (c); and

(b) by inserting the following as paragraphs (a) and (b)—

"(a) public authorities which are specified by the Minister by order within eighteen months after the appointed day; and

(b) all other public authorities immediately after the expiration of the period of eighteen months referred to in paragraph (a);".

4. The First Schedule to the principal Act is amended by deleting paragraph 5 and substituting therefor the following—

"5. Paragraphs 2 and 3 apply in relation to a public authority—

(a) that comes into existence after the appointed day;

(b) which is specified in an order under section 5(1)(a) or (3) of the Act; or

(c) to which section 5(1)(b) of the Act applies,

as if the references in paragraph 3 to the appointed day were references to the day on which the authority comes into existence or the date on which the order referred to in subparagraph (b) takes effect or the date on which the provisions of section 5(1)(b) of the Act take effect in relation to the authority, as the case may be."