



Ministerial Statement

The Hon. Trevor G. Moniz JP, MP
Minister of Public Works

KPMG Infrastructure Summit, Miami Florida
Friday September 27th 2013

Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to provide Honourable members of this House with an update on the recent KPMG Infrastructure Summit that was held in Miami Florida from September 22nd to 24th.

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Premier led a delegation of Minister's namely the Hon. Sean Crockwell, the Hon. Sylvan Richards and myself. We were also accompanied by six senior civil servants with expertise in the areas we were to discuss at this Summit.

The respective Ministers were responsible to take part in panel discussions or answer questions from those in attendance on issues relating directly to their Ministries. ***Thirteen Caribbean Islands, along with Panama,*** had strong representation at this Summit. Other Island leaders included ***Dr. the Hon Orlando Smith***, Premier and Finance Minister of the British Virgin Islands, ***the Hon Dr. Rufus Ewing Premier*** and ***Minister of Tourism for Turks and Caicos Islands,*** and ***the Hon Alden McLaughlin Premier of the Cayman Islands*** among many Ministers for these same islands.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that the Summit is becoming more popular since the number of islands has more than doubled from *six in 2011* to *thirteen this year* and from *80* delegates to over *230*.

The Conference brought together parties interested in public private partnerships relating to the procurement of infrastructure projects from Clients, law firms such as *Freshfields, Davis LLP to CD&P* - as well as developers and investors. The hundreds of delegates were informed that there is potentially *\$57 Trillion* worth of infrastructure projects globally and that the potential infrastructure projects in the countries represented amounted to some *\$17 Billion*. From this you can see that this is a very competitive market we are in and therefore it was *critically important* that Bermuda be seen as a good place to invest.

Mr. Speaker, our Premier was first to talk at the Summit as one of many panels discussing the importance of infrastructure projects in the islands. The Premier emphasized that the Government is working with *transparency* and *integrity* and is *committed* to *working collaboratively* with those who are willing to invest in infrastructure.

The Premier also detailed how project development has become more streamlined under his Government with the setting up of the *Economic Development Committee ("the EDC")* which was created, as the Premier emphasized, to cut down on the bureaucracy thereby enabling projects to progress more quickly.

Mr. Speaker, the concept of the *EDC* was praised by a major developer later in the summit as *an example* that should be followed by others in the region. Bermuda also received praise during a later panel discussion for the ease with

which the ***P3 Contract for the KEMH Hospital*** had been set up. We were advised that this contract had been devised ***far more quickly*** than any in the United Kingdom.

On the second day of the summit **Mr. Speaker I** had the opportunity to join a panel on stage in which the focus was on successful project management and keeping projects on time and on budget.

Delegates were interested to hear the success that Bermuda had in delivering the upgrade works to the ***Heritage Wharf*** to accommodate the new Breakaway cruise ship. And before the Summit concluded, Bermuda delivered a very comprehensive and impressive presentation on the ***proposed new airport and the new crossing*** which was well received by the delegates.

Mr. Speaker, I can report that by attending the Summit it has put Bermuda in a very positive position and there were many positive comments from delegates about how things are done in our country.

In addition, the Bermuda delegation learned and received invaluable advice which will help investment in infrastructure which we are optimistic will go a long way to help generate jobs.

Thank you Mr. Speaker!