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•Phone: 822-0094 or 0092

•Fax: 822-2671

• website: [www.pressoffice.gov.bz](http://www.pressoffice.gov.bz)

## PRESS RELEASE

### **CWU and PBL Sign Collective Bargaining Agreement for Stevedores**

*Belmopan. August 2, 2020. 10:30 p.m.*

Today, August 2, 2020, the Christian Workers Union (CWU) and the Port of Belize Limited (PBL), in the presence of the Labour Department, signed a new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) for stevedores, which became effective immediately.

The signing of the CBA is the culmination of negotiations and collaborative actions that intensified last Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and ended today.

Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour, Dr. Hon. Carla Barnett, congratulates the stevedores, the CWU and PBL for undertaking these negotiations in an atmosphere of respect, positivity and compromise to reach this crucial milestone of finally having a CBA in place after 16 years. It is anticipated that the agreement will help to ensure that the Port of Belize can operate in an uninterrupted manner to facilitate the smooth flow of imports and exports that are essential to economic stability.

The Ministry remains committed to facilitating an atmosphere of harmonious industrial relations for the benefit of workers and employers as the parties now move ahead to work on a CBA for the staff of PBL.

**Ends**