



PR#167-26

PRESS RELEASE

Cabinet Brief

Belmopan, June 25, 2026.

The Cabinet met on June 23, 2026.

- The Prime Minister briefed Cabinet on the request of the Honourable Oscar Mira to take a leave of absence and the Prime Minister's decision to accept same.

Following from this, Cabinet discussed and examined the existing Government Procurement Rules and considered that the current process of comprehensively reviewing and updating these Procurement Rules (including the Financial Orders 1965, the Stores Orders 1968), must be fast-tracked. Cabinet therefore directed that the new draft Procurement Rules be submitted for its consideration within the next three months.

- The Prime Minister apprised Cabinet of preparation for Belize to assume the presidency (Pro-Tempore) of the Central American Integration System (SICA) for the period July to December of 2026. While SICA focuses on five priority pillars, namely economic and social integration, institutional strengthening, democratic security, climate change and sustainable development, Belize intends to go even further by including discussions on issues such as migration, energy, regional and international cooperation, and disaster risk management.
- Cabinet gave its approval for Belize to sign and later ratify a Partial Scope Agreement with the Government of the Republic of El Salvador.

The Agreement, which will be signed on the 2nd July 2026 in San Salvador, forms part of Belize's border strategy to diversify export

markets to deepen economic integration with Latin America and strengthen trade and investment opportunities for Belizean businesses. Beyond trade in goods, the agreement establishes a framework for deeper economic cooperation between Belize and El Salvador.

- Cabinet gave its approval for the establishment of a governance structure for the development of the Electronic Single Window (ESW) for trade. The ESW is intended to become the national platform through which all import and export documents will be submitted and processed electronically. This governance structure will oversee the development, implementation and operationalization of the Electronic Single Window for Trade.
- Cabinet approved the implementation of a cost of power adjustment (COPA) to the electricity rate, which would avoid a large immediate increase in electricity rates, provide greater transparency, allow customers to benefit when power costs decline, and aligns Belize with international regulatory practices used throughout North America, Central America, and the Caribbean
- Cabinet approved the introduction of the Credit Union Bill to provide for the continuance, registration, licensing, management, and supervision of Credit Unions. In addition, Cabinet approved the repeal of the Credit Union Act, Chapter 413, of the substantive laws of Belize.
- Cabinet approved the final modifications of the proposed Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Belize Compact to strengthen the energy project to enhance the Compact's ability to achieve lasting economic growth and reduce poverty in Belize.
- Finally, Cabinet advises all Belizeans to remain alert and prepared during the hurricane season.

Ends