



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FISHERIES

Merger of The Banana Board & the Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority

Communication Message

Dear Valued Stakeholders,

We wish to inform you that in accordance with Government of Jamaica's Modernization and Transformation Programme and by way of Cabinet Decision No. 20/18 dated June 4, 2018, The Banana Board is to be merged with the Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (JACRA).

This is against the backdrop of the Categorization & Rationalization Policy for Public Bodies which aims to reduce duplication throughout the public sector so as to facilitate improved operational efficiencies, increase the overall effectiveness of public service delivery, reduce the cost of government, and contribute to economic growth.

The Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries (MoAF) has therefore established a steering committee to provide oversight for this merger. The Banana Board, the JACRA, the Transformation Unit of the Ministry of Finance & the Public Service and the MoAF will have representatives on the Steering Committee to contribute to the decisions and activities of this transformation project.

During the review period for the merger, The Banana Board will continue its operations and it is not expected that there will be any disruption to the services that are normally provided to its clients and stakeholders.

Our commitment is to provide you with updates on the milestones achieved on this transformation project. The Ministry has tentatively projected a review period of three months for an initial report but will provide you with an update on a more specific timeline for completion of the Report and implementation of the merger.

The Banana Board was established in 1953 and serves over 1,621 banana farmers and 1,556 plantain farmers, islandwide. The JACRA was incorporated in 2018 and serves over 19,000 farmers across the island.

We look forward to your understanding and cooperation as we aim to serve you better.