



RESPONSE TO QUERIES FROM JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The status of the Recommendations of the Seventh Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity on an Inquiry into the Status of the 2015 Report of the Recommendations of the JSC on Human Rights, Diversity the Environment and Sustainable Development on the Examination of Programmes and Services which provide Support to Victims of Domestic Violence

PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

4.11. The Committee expressed concerns with the audience reach of the MSDFS radio programme, ‘It’s Family Time; Let’s Talk.’ due to the allocated time-slot of 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. being outside of the ideal timeframe to target the school and working populations.

***Response:** The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) acknowledged the concerns of the Committee in respect of the audience reach of its Radio Programme, “It’s Family Time; Let’s Talk”. In this regard, MSDFS is in negotiation with the selected Media House to obtain a time slot that would reach a wider target audience and is also exploring additional avenues to host the Programme.*

4.17. The Committee reiterated the implementation of the 2015 recommendation that the MSDFS and OPM create a co-ordinating body in the form of a Committee with representatives from the TTPS, MSDFS, OPM and shelters and the Inter-Ministerial Committee be commenced by September 2018.

***Response:** An Inter-Ministerial Committee comprising representatives from TTPS, MSDFS, OPM and Shelters has not yet been formally convened. However, in treating with matters of Domestic Violence, the stated Organizations regularly collaborate in order to appropriately address the needs of the impacted persons. It is expected that the Office of the Prime Minister will prepare the relevant Note for Cabinet to formalise the establishment of the Committee.*

4.24. The Committee recommends that in order to improve the level of effectiveness of its current MSDFS programmes and services, that a data analysis is conducted to ensure that its outreach programmes appeal and target different audiences.

Response: The MSDFS through its Social Investigations Division and Monitoring and Evaluation is engaged in ongoing data collection and data analysis, in order to gauge specific trends and needs of various populations. It is also standard procedure for all our events, training workshops, etc. to include an evaluation form to obtain feedback from participants and reports are subsequently prepared.