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## **KING'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY TO BE OBSERVED ON 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023**

*Approved for Release: 08 June 2023*

The Chief Secretary to Government, Ivan Pomaleu, announced late this evening that the National Executive Council has revoked the declared public holiday for 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and endorsed the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 as the day to observe the official King's Birthday.

"Earlier this evening, the NEC made the decision to correct the confusion surrounding the date. This announcement concludes a long and protracted wait on Buckingham Palace to confirm the official birthday for King Charles III"

The Palace confirmed two days ago that the official birthday for King Charles III is the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2023. In lieu of the day falling on a Saturday, the NEC determined that Friday, the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2023 is to be declared a Public Holiday to observe the King's Birthday.

"All public holidays, including the Queen's Birthday holiday for 2023, were approved on the 1st of September 2022. The Queen died on 08 September 2022 and we have not been able to secure a confirmation on the Kings birthday until now."

Mr. Pomaleu confirmed that Monday, 12 June 2023 will be a normal working day for the country and that Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 will now be a Public Holiday. He said that this press release is issued ahead of the National Gazette which is expected to be done tomorrow.

"I apologize for any inconvenience caused with this late announcement but until a confirmation came from the Palace, this corrective action for public record was not possible earlier."

Ends