



To: The News Editor

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MINISTER TOURS NRW EQUIPMENT AND ACTIVITIES

Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, Hon. Dr. Horace Chang along with the Chairman and some senior managers of the National Water Commission (NWC) toured the equipment and activities under the KSA Non-Revenue Water Reduction Programme today, October 19, 2016.

The first stop saw the contingent visiting the Marescaux Road Compound to view some of the equipment that were recently acquired at approximately \$80M to carry out works in the Kingston and St. Andrew water supply area. In responding to questions from the media indicated that under the Programme, NRW is expected to be reduced by about 30% once the technical leaks are identified and corrected. This would result in increased volumes of available water to customers, ultimately positively improving the company's bottom line. "Under the Programme, a large pool of technical employees are being trained, which means that even at its completion, the NWC will have a good pool of technically competent employees to deal with all NRW issues," he further stated.

The Minister and the team then visited a work site in the Mona Supply Zone to get a firsthand view of the equipment in operation. Here, work was being carried out with the use of a small excavator, which provides easier access to small work areas and pumps to extract water while effecting repairs to an obvious leak on a 4-inch distribution main.

Residents in the area who witnessed the operation were obviously delighted to have the repairs effected within a reasonable time frame. "I am very impressed with the level of professionalism and the speed with which the complaint was treated," said one resident while addressing the President, Mark Barnett and Vice President, Michael Dunn.

Funded by a loan from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the KSA Non-Revenue Water Reduction Co-Management Programme is a partnership arrangement between the National Water Commission and Israeli-based, internationally recognized water efficiency experts Miya to improve potable water supply in urban areas of Kingston and St. Andrew. This will in turn, increase the operational efficiencies of the NWC and ensure that more of the water produced by the NWC will be available to be supplied to paying customers.

In addition to improvement to the physical facilities, the Programme will involve the reduction of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) in the Corporate Area which is currently estimated at 108 million litres per day (MLD), or 53% of the volume that enters the water supply and distribution networks.

The project was originally expected to be completed within a 5 years but is now being targeted for completion in 3 years at just under US\$50M.