

## 9. PUBLIC BODIES APPEAL TRIBUNAL

- 9.1 Established under Section 91A of the Constitution, the Public Bodies Appeal Tribunal (PBAT) has as objective to hear and determine any appeal made by a Public Officer, or any Local Government Officer, against any decision of the Public Service Commission (PSC) or the Local Government Service Commission (LGSC), pertaining to an appointment exercise or a disciplinary action taken. It operates as a quasi-judicial body.
- 9.2 The Tribunal consists of a Chairperson and two Members. At present, an Assistant Permanent Secretary has been assigned the duties of Secretary, PBAT. Incumbent is responsible for the overall administration of the Tribunal and is supported in his duties by officers in the General Services as well as Financial Operations, Procurement and Supply, and Office Auxiliary Cadres, all seconded for duty from other Ministries/Departments.
- 9.3 We did not receive any representation from the staff side. Management on its part, proposed for: officers in the grade of Court Usher on the establishment of the Judiciary to be posted on secondment at the Tribunal; the ushering allowance payable to the seniormost Management Support Officer to be reviewed; and payment of a Black Jacket Allowance to the latter.
- 9.4 During consultation, Management was advised that it was more appropriate to refer the request for a review of the ushering allowance to the MPSAR on an *ad hoc* basis. In addition, we are making an appropriate recommendation for the secondment of Court Ushers from the Judiciary to the PBAT on a rotational basis, to cater for ushering duties, among others. As regards payment of a Black Jacket Allowance to the Management Support Officer performing ushering duties, we consider that same would not be in order for technical reasons.

### Posting of Court Ushers

#### Recommendation 1

- 9.5 **We recommend that Management should make necessary arrangements with the Judiciary for the secondment of officers in the grade of Court Usher to the Public Bodies Appeal Tribunal on a rotational basis. In this context, an appropriate provision has also been made at paragraph 6.35 of this Volume.**

