



**PRESS RELEASE  
NO EMBARGO**

**24 February 2021**

### **AL JAMA-AH'S response to the Minister's Budget Speech**

The AL JAMA-AH party welcomes the initiative of Treasury to change to a system of zero based budgeting.

We addressed this matter with the Minister at the "heads up" meeting he held with political party leaders before the budget speech of last year and again today. This will save monies in line items by up to 30%.

We take note of progress made to guarantee jobs for matriculants. The budget provides for placement of matriculants at schools to assist with stopping the spread of the Covid-19 virus. The Minister was brave not to succumb to pressure from the World Bank and other international funding agencies to introduce austerity measures.

This brings much joy to our senior citizens whose old age pensioners were increased. Now that tax has been reduced for businesses, we call on the business sector to unleash their cash, create new jobs and to avoid retrenchments.

**For further details contact"**

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