Presidential Statement Regarding VP Bells Budget Appropriation

The supplemental budget that I recently signed into law includes an appropriation for legal fees and expenses incurred by the Vice President to defend his actions while acting lawfully in his official capacity.  The appropriated funds will be administered by the Ministry and Finance.  As with all fiscal matters, the Ministry of Finance will ensure that such appropriated funds are properly utilized and accounted for.

Such appropriation is necessary so that the government is providing proper support for the Vice President, one of the elected officials of the Republic.  When elected officials and employees are carrying out their official duties for the Republic’s benefit they must be provided adequate support in all aspects including defense against legal claims.  If such support is not provided, then the Republic runs the risk of not receiving the best service from its elected officials and employees because of fear of consequences and lack of adequate support from the government.