



NATIONWIDE

A publication of the Department of Information Services



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FRANK TALKS DRAW CONSENSUS CARICOM CALLS FOR INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD ORGANIZATIONS



The meeting of minds - Heads of Government and Leaders of Parliamentary Opposition parties taking a mature approach to regional unity

CARICOM is calling for an overhaul and modernization of the global machinery to enable developing countries to cope with current and future international challenges.

As part of the developing world CARICOM is giving great importance to the strengthening of the United Nations. With the spread of democracy, the Community believes that the response of international organizations must be to strengthen the multilateral process to allow for a greater voice and participation by developing countries in the decision making processes.

Prime Minister of Jamaica PJ Patterson who has lead responsibility for trade within CARICOM, posits that

there is a need to address the issue of global systemic imbalances in such areas as trade, finance, money and technology and to reform the global architecture in a manner that would, among other things, enhance the voice and participation of developing countries in the decision making processes of the international financial institutions.

While CARICOM and developing states as a whole think there is importance to the preoccupation of larger countries with reform of the Security Council, Mr. Patterson says there are other areas which deserve no less attention.

"The need to create or strengthen national, sub-regional, regional and international mechanisms to predict, prevent or mitigate the destructive ef-

fects of the increasing event of natural disasters, especially in vulnerable developing countries, must certainly be among the central issues for global institutions," Patterson said.

The Caribbean Community is paying close attention to several high level meetings being undertaken by larger countries including the G-Eight summit in Edinburgh.

Of special significance to CARICOM is the meeting of the African Union, took place in Tripoli earlier this week.

Africa and the Caribbean account for 50 percent of the member states of the United Nation and it is believed their position on UN reform will be decisive.

CRICKET WORLD CUP SAINT LUCIA EXCITES COMMUNITIES

Cricket World Cup Saint Lucia has met with key members of the major communities on the island to discuss matters of interest pertaining to Saint Lucia's Hosting of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007.

These meetings commenced in March 2005 and are ongoing as management seeks to encourage dialogue with communities on their views on the implications of hosting the event. To date, meetings have been held in the communities of Bonne Terre, Beausejour, Caille Manger, Rodney Bay, Babonneau, Anse La Raye, Canaries, Soufriere, Choiseul, and Vieux-Fort. Meetings are scheduled on Tuesday,



Rodney Bay Association members share ideas with CWC officials

July 5th, 2005 with the Micoud and Mon Repos communities.

Some items generating much discussion and interest in communities are

commercial opportunities, Incentives, Water Supply, Traffic management, Security and Community Branding.

Continued on page 7



"Take ②" - A fifteen minute news review of the week.
Every Friday at 6.15 p.m. on **NTN**, Cablevision Channel 2.

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A fresh news package
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FROM CRISIS TO HOPE

Foresight and vision of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security

Continued from last week's issue

Major achievements (January 2002 – June 2004)

Police department

Police Reform: A Police Reform project aimed at repositioning the Royal St. Lucia Police Force commenced in the year 2000. Modernisation of the operational management of the Force is necessary if the Police are to confront crime and defeat the growing sophistication of crime. A team of British experts was invited to review the Police Force. The reform process is underway, based on the recommendations of the British team. A new Act to govern the structure and operations of the Force will soon be established.

Legislation

Police Complaints Act: Public confidence is directly proportional to the perception of how the Police Force treats its internal disciplinary matters. The lack of confidence by the public in the police results in the unreporting of serious crimes, frustration, vigilantes, fear and distrust.

To address the problems of police integrity and professionalism Government enacted the Police Complaints Act No. 6 of 2003. The Act provides for the establishment of a Police Complaints Commission which consist of five members appointed by the Minister with responsibility for the Police. The Commission will receive complaints on the conduct of any police officer, monitor the investigation of a complaint by the Complaints Unit, so as to ensure that the investigation is conducted impartially, report to the Minister from time to time; or at his request and review reports from the Complaints Unit.

Police Promotions Regulations: New Police Promotions Regulations have been developed. The Regulations reflect Government's policy and objectives with respect to Police Promotions. The Promotion Policy is based on the following principles - a fair, consistent and objective selection process, a clear and transparent selection criteria; the uniform application without exception, of the selection criteria, the equal opportunity for all officers regardless of age, sex, religion or marital status. The objectives of the promotion policy are – to identify the most competent officers to fill posts at higher ranks and to provide opportunities for all officers to advance their careers in accordance with available positions and their abilities.

Firearms Act: The new Firearms Act, No. 9 of 2003 was enacted and makes provisions relating to the carrying and the use of firearms and ammunition, to give legal effect and to provide for the implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, and to provide for related matters.

Three New Police Stations were Constructed. New Police Stations were constructed at Marchand (EC\$1,766,467.00), Anse-La-Raye (EC\$1,182,989.00) and Vieux-Fort (EC\$6,497,972.00) at a cost of approximately 10 million dollars.

Drug Interdiction: A multifunctional team of officers from the Drug Unit, Marine Unit, Special Services Unit and other personnel from various stations island-wide were at the forefront in the fight against the illegal drug trade. To this end, a number of major counter-drug operations were planned and executed which resulted in a significant increase in the seizures of illegal drugs, firearms and ammunition.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Training In Crime Scene Management: At the invitation of the Government, members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, conducted a training program for members of the Force in 2002, in the handling of evidence and scenes of



Bordelais Correctional Officers - rehabilitating prisoners is a step in the right direction

crime management. Their recommendations have led to changes in the approach to crime detection and prosecution.

Introduction of Beach Rangers: Government introduced a new Unit, the Beach Rangers which have been formally transferred to the Police Department this year. The Rangers patrol our beaches and help to protect both citizens and visitors. Since their introduction, a noticeable reduction in harassment of tourists and locals on our beaches has been recorded.

Establishment of the Rapid Response Unit: Government introduced the Rapid Response Unit manned by former police officers and Special Constables, to assist in strengthening the police response in our tourism - based communities. Units operate in Castries, Gros-Islet and Vieux-Fort. New vehicles were also provided for the Units.

Additional Police Recruits: In addition to 258 Police Officers recruited between 1997 and 2001, Course 24: February 10 – July 29, 2003, provided for the recruitment of 35 new police officers. An additional 60 police officers are in the process of being recruited this year.

Procurement of Police Vehicles: Between 2001 and 2004, 26 police vehicles were purchased. In addition, the Government of Korea donated 16 new vehicles to the Police Force.

National Crime Commission: Government established the National Crime Commission in 2003. The Commission will, among other things, harness concerns and suggestions from the community for crime prevention and control and to assist the Police in the development and implementation of a nationwide community policing programme.

Regional and International training programmes

A total of 233 police officers received training in a wide range of subjects inter-alia, Criminal Investigations, Traffic Management and Supervisory Management.

Local Training Programmes (Work-Shops)

Local Workshops were attended by 31 subordinate officers and 2 Senior Officers in Basic Social Skills, Tourism Safety and Security and Regional Security Services for Coast Guard Commanders.

Bordelais Correctional Facility: The new Bordelais Correctional Facility was officially opened on January 15th 2003. As far back as 1901, the Report on the Goal and Police Commission found the building housing Her Majesty's Prison on Bridge Street, to be unsuitable and inadequate for its intended purposes.

The foresight sensitivity and vision of the Labour Party Government were the driving elements that guaranteed the identification of the sum of approximately \$48.2 million which has been spent on this modern Correctional Facility.

The Correctional Facility is located on 33.4 acres of Crown Land and comprises eleven building blocks occupying an area of 84,873 square feet plus other facilities. The buildings include: Court and Entry (in the Entry Section Security Checks are conducted there), Court House, Judge's Chambers and Visitor Section, Control Room and Administration (upstairs), Utility Building with generator, Kitchen, Admissions, Discharge and Visits, Staff Quarters (upstairs), Work-Shops for inmates, Laundry, class-rooms, library, gymnasium and Induction Unit, 6 cell units (single, two and four bed cells).

The commitment of the Government to this process is testimony of the belief in the most important resource of our country — our people. The rehabilitation of the many young men committed to our prisons is important to society's well being. Young men, fathers who should be heading their households, building strong families and contributing in a meaningful way.

With the introduction of new systems of accountability and managerial controls on commencement of operations at the Bordelais Correctional Facility in January 2003, the institution recorded a significant reduction in pilferage, and realized economic efficiencies with respect to the purchasing and utilization of supplies and materials used for the upkeep and maintenance of inmates. As a result, at financial year end (March 2004) expenditure for this activity was significantly reduced when compared to the expenditure levels anticipated for the number of inmates and the size of the Facility. \$1,685,244 was provided to the Bordelais Correctional Facility for the financial year 2003/2004. However, the actual amount spent at the end of the year was \$1,488,515 realizing savings of \$196,729.

Farming commenced full steam in January this year. Watermelons, lettuce, tomatoes, celery, thyme, cucumbers, salad greens and other vegetables are now being harvested. These are being used to feed the inmates. The Facility has completed a Fish Pond and fishes are developing for use in feeding the inmates.

The work of a full complement of four nurses, one visiting General Medical Practitioner, one visiting Psychiatrist, and one visiting dentist, has achieved 100% improvement of medical and dental services to inmates.

Full installation of 'lighting' on the access road leading from the main Dennery Highway up to the BCF was completed to provide a level of security for staff traveling on the evening shifts.

An effective adult literacy programme is underway which provides training for twelve inmates who would then be used as Trainers, to teach other inmates both in Creole and English.

A successful 'Community Outreach Programme' is on-going in collaboration with the 'Back-on-Track Ministries' for rehabilitation of inmates and for a smooth transi-

tion back to the Community.

A 'Scared-Straight' programme is also ongoing at the Bordelais Correctional Facility. This programme facilitates young people from secondary and primary schools around the Island, to visit the Facility, to have a first-hand look at 'Life In Prison'; to serve as a deterrent to these young people and to encourage them to 'keep on the right path' as they move into adolescence.

Carpentry tools and equipment have been purchased and six inmates are currently operating in the Carpentry workshop. This team will be increased in preparation for the provision of services to the Ministry of Education for repairs to school furniture in the South of the Island. This is the first phase of this initiative.

Probation and parole department

The department recorded a recidivism rate of less than 5% and ninety-five 95% of offenders successfully completed their Probation Order.

Probation Officers, working alongside the Correctional officers at the Bordelais Correctional Facility, were able to maintain a manageable remand population by assisting in securing bail for prisoners on remand.

Discussions are ongoing with various local and foreign agencies on the establishment of a Facility for female Juvenile Offenders. Funding from the European Union in the amount of \$60,000.00 has been provided for the Review and Development of a Juvenile Delinquents Programme. Through the use of the mediation process, the Department assisted the Courts in expediting several cases.

Several students placed on probation were facilitated back to the school system, and the department is also engaged in preparing juveniles who were victims of incest, carnal knowledge, and abandonment for the purposes of assisting the Courts.

The Department successfully completed all Probation Reports requested by the Courts within the stipulated one-week period.

Probation Officers are assisting the Courts with inmates who were considered for modification of sentences, extra-mural service and consecutive sentencing.

Boys' training centre

Two wards currently in the care of the Centre are enrolled at secondary schools. Several projects were undertaken:

Water Supply: Nine water tanks totaling \$5,867.00 were installed to alleviate previous water shortages.

Electricity: Work was completed in this area and has alleviated frequent electrical outages and breakdowns, previously experienced at the Centre.

Refurbishment of the Existing Kitchen and Construction of Staff Lunch Room

Refurbishment of the existing kitchen and the construction of a staff lunch room were completed.

Industrial Stoves and Refrigerator: A refrigerator and two industrial stoves were provided.

Fencing: Repairs to fencing at entrance area, outer perimeter fencing (150 feet) opposite the Gros Islet Polyclinic and installation of barbed-wire at top of inner perimeter fence were completed.

Lockers and Doors: Re-construction of lockers, repositioning of doors and completion of Counsellor's cubicle were completed.

Painting and Repairs to Ceiling: Painting the interior of the building and repairs to ceiling and painting the exterior of the building and repairs to the outside ceiling were completed.

Continued in next week's issue

Desired Destinations

Address by the Honourable Prime Minister
of St. Lucia
Dr. Kenny D. Anthony
at the Caricom Heads of Government
Conference
July 03, 2005

*“A Fresh Breeze Arising
There is hope that our sargasso days are ending.
The promise of fresh wind turns our bow toward
waiting horizons
plotting our course by our judgement of the sun
and the latitude of familiar stars.”*

(...Anonymous)

If I were a seafaring man, I would say that there is a fresh breeze arising. It ripples the sleeping surface of our sea. It ruffles our sails. Our rudder responds as the tide turns, and our small craft lists slowly towards port. It is a poetic start to a prosaic speech, and though the author remains anonymous to us, there is still the ring of truth, optimism and an undeniable relevance in the lines.

Notwithstanding, I do believe that the region is on the move again, and that there is a climate of renewal and new economic energy. That optimism is born of the knowledge that we have the wherewithal to master our own fates; our own development outcomes. As leaders, our hands are on the tillers of state. Our crafts are resilient and well built, and how faithfully we sail them will determine our economic course and destination. We must therefore competently manage the winds that fill our sails and give proper direction to our ships of state. We have no choice but to harness the wind and move forward.

On Assuming Office

As such, this is an opportune moment to assume the captaincy of this regional craft which carries our collective fates, and I am honoured to do so. I thank you for your confidence, and trust that during the next six months, I will prove worthy of this undertaking which is the Chairmanship of the region’s highest council.

An Historic Meeting

In its own significant way, this is an historic occasion. It is made memorable by the meeting yesterday between Heads of Government and Leaders of the Parliamentary Opposition across CARICOM. This is really the first time anywhere, that elected political leaders, without the prompting of war or crisis, have formally occasioned a face-to-face encounter with their competitors.

Once again, we see the Caribbean setting the pace for others to follow, and we are pleased that St. Lucia has provided the setting. This is major step forward in the evolution of Caribbean governance, and I hope that yesterday’s meeting, at last heralds the dwindling of an era when governance was seen as the exclusive domain of governments.

What we are doing expands the definition of our democracy. That is a testament to the fact that there is common ground in our separate agendas. It is evidence that we recognize the need for shared commitment to certain common problems and principles, irrespective of individual partisan persuasions. It is a statement of shared intent towards the ideals of a single region, despite political differences and the physical divides that define or separate statehoods. That such a meeting could be contemplated and convened, is a reflection of a maturing political consciousness, and the confidence we profess in the systems of democratic governance. This augurs well for our future.

Overcoming Impediments

Despite all optimism, there is much that impedes our vision of that future state wherein the lives and livelihoods of Caribbean people can be unalterably enhanced. Our safe passage through the shoals and reefs of adversity demands new levels of competence and cooperation. The obsta-



Hon. Dr. Kenny D. Anthony

cles in our path of progress must therefore be tackled with a new sensibility.

The Scourge of Crime

Among those obstacles there is none more pervasive, more tame, more treacherous to our economic, political and social stability, than the issue of crime. It is the scourge that threatens us all, and it gnaws at the very root of the economic and social transformation that we seek as the attainable fruit of our labours.

The statistics speak for themselves, and the numbers, though they vary between states, tell much the same stories. They speak, as the President of the Caribbean Development Bank recently reminded us, of the soft underbelly of our weak social and legal infrastructure. They speak of the inability to cope in conventional ways with unprecedented levels of violence, brutality and inhumanity. For many victims life has indeed become nasty, brutish and short.

Clearly, these issues run deeper than the adequacy of legislation and enforcement. They speak to radical changes taking place in the social psyche of certain sectors of our population. These issues speak of people on the periphery of conventional society, who bear little respect for, and even less interest in the preservation of society as we know it.

The implications are potentially devastating, for among the attributes which most define our societies are our quality of life and level of personal liberty. When these are challenged, as they now are, a significant denigration of our existence becomes an attendant risk. A whole new set of values emerges which threaten to reduce us to the mindset of those who would hold us captive.

To avert that eventuality, we will have to define and implement new radical responses. In some areas, zero-tolerance measures may have to be contemplated. There needs to be a garnering of forces and a commonality of purpose when dealing with persistent criminality. Under no circumstances would we wish to see criminal activity robbing us of our cherished personal freedoms and liberties. Nor would we wish to see the day when measures taken to ensure peace and prosperity result in the impingement of the freedoms we currently enjoy. That, not withstanding, we must affirm our resolve to collaborate on defining and implementing solutions and strategies to combat crime across the region. St. Lucia therefore, welcomes the recent proposals on these issues from Prime Minister Patrick Manning, our Lead Prime Minister on Crime and Security.

The OECS Dilemma

The second major issue which we must turn our attention is the furtherance of the CARICOM integration process through the reality of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, and the relative positioning of the OECS within that system.

The Government of St. Lucia believes that there must be no turning back from the

objectives of the CSME. However, there is need for immediate attention to redress some of the imbalances implicit in the current model. This is to take nothing from our position that the CSME is absolutely necessary to our collective and individual survival.

There are some sobering statistics on regional trade well worth contemplation. These statistics, and the comments that I am about to make, should not be taken as any deliberate offence to Trinidad and Tobago; a country for which my personal affinity is demonstrable and one which may well be considered my second home.

Consider nevertheless, the objective reality that Trinidad is at the fulcrum of regional trade, and remains unquestionably the primary beneficiary of the CARICOM trade regime. Trinidad’s share of intra-regional exports far exceeds its share of imports. That is to say that the rest of CARICOM continue to source a high proportion of their material needs within the region, the same is not true of the Trinidad economy. Indeed, there is a high concentration at the product and firm levels and intraregional exports have either stagnated or declined over the last fifteen years. A primary benefit and purpose of the customs union, that is to rebalance the pattern of trade, is not being achieved.

Equally important, the OECS intra-regional export share dropped from 2.4% in 1985 to 1.4% of the total in 2003. OECS export performance has been inferior, relative to CARICOM LDCs as a whole, whose share has declined from 2.5% to 1.8% over the same period.

Yet, as a sub-regional grouping within CARICOM, the OECS exhibits the highest degree of participation in intra regional trade flows. Its intra-regional export share was 30% in 2003, whereas for the LDCs as a group, the corresponding figure was 18%, and for the MDCs a meagre 12%.

Moreover, the establishment of the CSME coincides with a period when many OECS economies are experiencing fiscal deficits and balance of payments pressures. Whereas the OECS current account has widened significantly due to export performance deterioration, Trinidad and Tobago has been able to increase its current account surplus via increased exports of goods and services.

These imbalances are not temporary but structural. They reflect real differences in economic capacity, factor prices, labour market conditions, resource endowments and economies of scale in the production and export of goods and services. As such, they require structural remedies which take into account the objectives of balanced and sustainable growth across the region.

Should this not be the case, we will be all trapped in a short-term zero sum game where benefits, lopsided and temporary, are only achieved by the impoverishment of our trading partners. That eventuality cannot be in the long-term interest of even the immediate beneficiaries of such an arrangement.

In the interim, many of our governments will continue trying to overcome external constraints by concentrating efforts and policies on attracting foreign exchange inflows. While these have been partially successful, foreign direct investment into the OECS has mainly targeted to Tourism sector. Yet, the OECS market share of Caribbean arrivals has been in decline since 1996 when we accounted for 7% of tourist traffic. In 2003 the OECS share declined to 5%. This is an intriguing statistic given that the OECS continues to experience increasing visitor arrivals. What these figures suggest is that the competitive edge enjoyed by the OECS in this particular sector is being eroded by other destinations, notably the Dominican Republic and the Hispanic Caribbean whose share of the market is growing at a faster rate.

These economic realities must inform the practical implementation of the CSME. It is clear that some economies will face greater challenges than others in the quest to expand the integration dividend. Among our priorities must be a vigilant focus on improving international competitiveness across the region, but with strategic em-

phasis on long-term equalisation of critical economic indicators. In that regard, it may well be necessary to revisit the provisions of Chapter Seven of the Treaty of Chaguamamas, which deals with disadvantaged countries, regions and sectors.

This is not inconsistent with recent assertions by Dr Vaughn Lewis that there is merit in linking the creation and existence of the CSME to the Regional Economic Partnership Agreement which is to result from ongoing discussions with the European Union. Such an approach, he argues, would test in a serious way, the European assertion that part of the rationale for creating the Regional Economic Partnership as the successor agreement to the Lome/Cotonou system, is to enhance the possibilities and scope for Caribbean regional integration. This approach certainly merits further reflection.

A Voice for Rights and Freedoms

As my previous point demonstrates, it is important that we find words to communicate our similarities as well as our differences. I believe that sometimes we do ourselves grave injustice by our silence. We sell ourselves short by underestimating the power of our individual and collective voices. We forget that we are the survivors of enslavement and oppression. We forget that we have triumphed over tyranny, that we have turned an imposed adversity into advantage, self-assurance and prosperity. Still, we know and remember the forces of hegemony and domination. We know the pain of liberty denied and have fought hard and long for the freedoms we now enjoy.

We should not therefore allow ourselves to be lectured on the merits of democratic ideals and principles. We must not allow our nations to be bullied or intimidated by external agencies or forces posing as paragons of universal freedom, virtue and justice. These are values that we ourselves already cherish and to which we already adhere. We must not, in the name of modesty, expediency or diplomacy, hide our democratic achievements under any bushel.

Even within this region, where we may have differences regarding appropriate solutions, to the Haitian crisis for example, we maintain the fundamental and common position that there be full respect for human rights and a commitment to political equity and fairness.

So, just as we find words to discuss our internal difficulties, and to speak out regarding injustice in our backyard, we must not be reticent or apologetic about opposing injustice and oppression elsewhere in the world. Accordingly, when our African brothers and sisters bleed from acts of injustice, we must speak out in their defence. We must raise a single and unwavering voice against racism, intimidation, and political bigotry which are the instruments of imposed hopelessness and despair. We must feel neither burdened nor guilty because of the history which created and shaped us.

Conclusion

These points having been made, I wish to return to the opening sentiment of this address. After a period of indefinite and limited progress, it is my belief that this region stands poised again for growth. It is a growth which is largely of our making and we should draw comfort and confidence from that fact. The enlargement of our economic space is a fundamental principle, objective and advantage of our integration process; a process in which we have been engaged for half a century. We should be proud of the fact that we have brought ourselves to this juncture, and equally proud of the fact that despite issues still to be resolved, we are no less committed to passing over the threshold into a new era of expanded possibilities.

The Caribbean must now see itself as a model for others to study, learn from and emulate. We must not fail. We cannot fail. We will not fail. These are our days and we greet them as the seafarer greets the fresh breeze, by charting the course and aiming our craft at our desired destination.

I thank you.



Trinidad's Prime Minister Patrick Manning defending his country's disputed trade relations with the rest of CARICOM



A light moment of serious conversation



St. Vincent's Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves - far right - in a pensive mood



Sir George Alleyne, Jamaica's PM Patrick Patterson, Barbados' PM, Owen Arthur and Her Excellency, Governor General Dame Pearlette Louisy, engage in light banter



CARICOM's Secretary General Edwin Carrington - lots of challenges ahead

More people participation for greater regional advancement Leaders of Parliamentary Opposition Hail Inclusion

Secretary General of CARICOM His Excellency Edwin Carrington has highlighted the need for the inclusion of Caribbean people in the attainment of goals which have been set by the Caribbean Community. Dr. Carrington says it is the only way to ensure the true progress of the entire region.

Dr. Carrington says CARICOM must not be blinded by the goals that it has so far attained including the CSME, the CJJ and recent permanent headquar-

ters for the Secretariat. He says while these successes are a clear indication the community is not standing still he warns that there are many remaining, critical challenges that still confront the community including changes to the banana regime, and problems confronting the region's sugar industries.

The battle against AIDS and HIV Carrington warned, must be intensified if the social and economic fabric of the community including the CSME is not undermined.

The Secretary General also made

a plea for the situation in Haiti to be given priority by CARICOM in ensuring free and fair election is undertaken thereby paving the way for economic and social recovery of the community's newest member.

The historic meeting of CARICOM Heads of Government and Leaders of Parliamentary Opposition ended in Saint Lucia Saturday 2nd July with the two sides agreeing on measures to advance the CARICOM Single Market and Economy CSME.

At a press conference following the

meeting, representatives of heads of government and leaders of parliamentary opposition said the meeting was a good first step in broadening the dialogue and widening the boundaries of governance.

Leader of the Parliamentary Opposition of Jamaica Bruce Golding said the meeting was useful. He said he was pleased with a decision taken to provide the opposition with all material relevant to the establishment of the CSME.

While the two parties reached con-

sensus on many of the agenda issues the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) remains an issue on which the two sides have not agreed. Mr Golding said the opposition in Jamaica remains adamant that a final appellate court will not get the support of opposition without a referendum.

Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis Dr. Denzil Douglas was optimistic about building consensus on the CCJ indicating that "the stage was set for continued debate and all agree of necessity to have the court established.

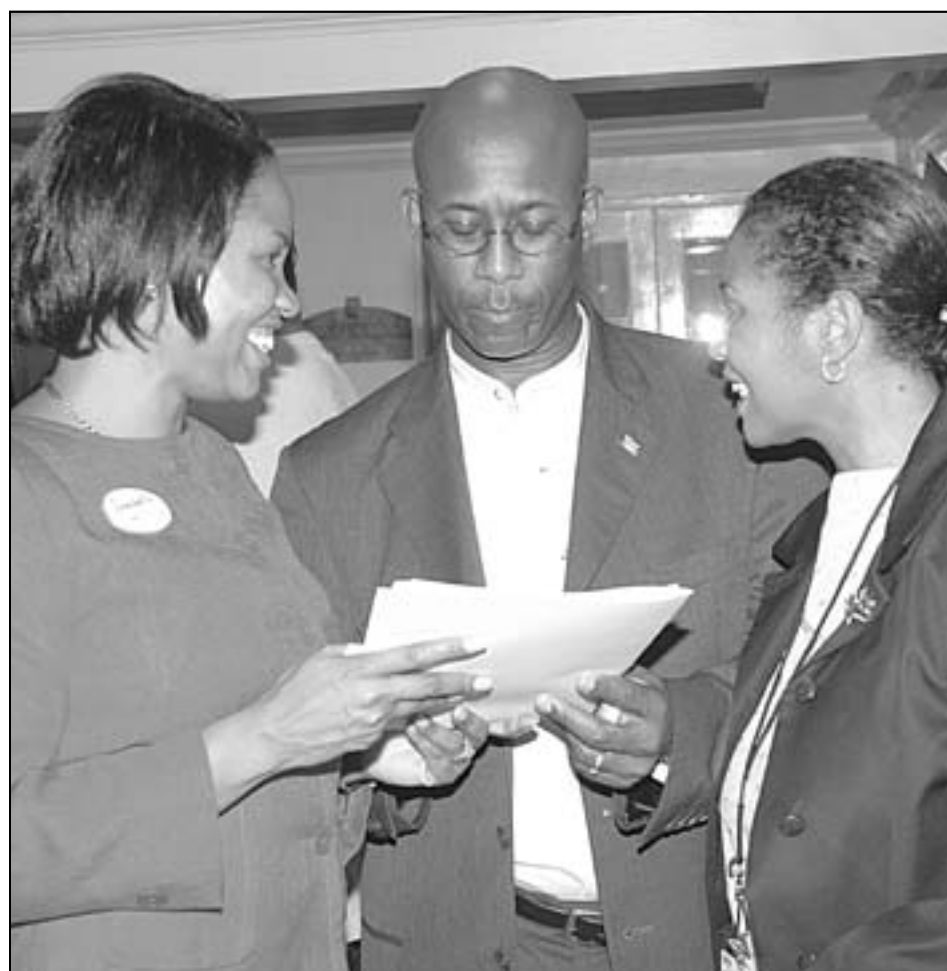
The main stumbling block is how we are certain the sovereignty will be maintained in the way the court is being conceived."

A technical team to meet with the Jamaica opposition to dialogue on the concerns regarding the establishment of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ), will be established.

Meantime, an agreement has been reached to establish a development fund to address the current trade imbalance among member states of CARICOM.



Leader of the Opposition in Jamaica, Bruce Golding - leading the case for regional opposition leaders



St. Lucia's Ambassador to CARICOM, Anthony Severin, (centre), pivotal to the execution of the conference



Former Prime Ministers of Saint Lucia Michael Pilgrim and Dr. Vaughn Lewis



Government Ministers Hon. Felix Finisterre and Hon. Menissa Rambally were among several high level delegates who attended the summit



St. Lucia's "Special Blend" - among other cultural performers - blending perfectly at the formal opening of the summit

Ahead of major construction activity Standardization of Construction Industry Key to St. Lucia's Prosperity

Construction plays a vital role in infrastructural and general development of a country. It is required to fulfill the needs relating to housing, industrial development and infrastructural facilitation for general development, all with the ultimate aim of overall socio-economic development of the country and for satisfaction of social and cultural aspirations of its citizens.

Standardization is vital for prosperity of any country and more so in construction. Standards ensure quality, interoperability, compatibility, reliability, cost reduction and invisible support of protective hand to the consumers at almost all the stages till completion of the work.

Whereas research and development work in the construction sector is an ongoing activity, it is essential to infuse confidence in the minds of users of materials, practices and technologies for construction. Standardization at the highest level possible paves the way for wider use of such successful construction materials and technologies for construction materials and techniques. There are several vital reasons for this: the very process of standardization through wide consultations at various levels signals that a certain amount of acceptance has been obtained at the appropriate levels; standards help in the transfer of technology; standards are dynamic and as such enable the introduction of new building materials, techniques and technology at all levels; standards facilitate the regulatory process by serving as technical documents which could be referred to in the regulatory documents.

Consumers' Concern

Consumers, both individual and organized should above all, expect structural adequacy and fitness for the designed use, from any construction. This is particularly important in the case of housing. Some of the important parameters in this regard include structural safety (including earthquake and cyclone resistance), durability, day lighting, natural ventilation, sound insulation/noise reduction, heat insulation, fire safety and safety in construction.

The above concerns can be satisfactorily addressed only if the laid down standards in each of these fields are meticulously followed and scrupulously implemented.

Standardization in the Local Construction Industry

With the growth and importance of the construction industry in St. Lucia, standardization efforts are being pursued and intensified at various levels. The Ministry of Physical Planning, Development, and Environment is working on the implementation of the Construction Industry Standardization, Training and Certification Project to be funded by the Caribbean Human Resources Development Programme for Economic Competitiveness (CPEC). A major, if not critical deliverable of that project is the approval of a new Consultation Bill by the Government of St. Lucia which will incorporate "a Building Code and Guidelines, Standard Forms of Contract, Standard Methods of Measurement and

a body of Regulations as part of setting internationally recognized standards for the local construction industry".

The referred code (OECS Building Code - St. Lucia), establishes the minimum standard requirements for materials, construction, fire, public health, safety, electrical and mechanical installations, and loads, among others. Applicable British and American Construction Standards are quoted, where applicable.

It is important to note that a number of different but related interest groups are involved in the project such as the Association of Professional Engineers, the St. Lucia Architects' Institute, the Housing and Urban Development Corporation, the Insurance Council of the St. Lucia, the Bankers' Association, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Communications, Works, Transport and Public Utilities, the Surveyors Institute and the Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards.

It is expected that these organizations will identify the appropriate standards to transform the local construction industry through a combination of research/assimilation of research result, experience in and knowledge of building materials, knowledge of the local environment, construction practices, safety considerations and other related issues. The efforts of those organizations will be actively supported by the Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards which is ultimately responsible for the formulation and

adoption of national standards.

The Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards considers that Standards for the local construction industry are crucial to ensure industrial efficiency and development as well as to protect the health and safety of all citizens and the environment. In recognition of this a Construction and Engineering Technical Committee was formed in 1994. This committee comprises of representatives from the St. Lucia Engineering Association; the St. Lucia Society of Quantity and Valuation Surveyors; the St. Lucia Chamber of Commerce; Ministry of Planning, Development, Environment and Housing; Ministry of Communications, Works, Transport and Public Utilities; the Insurance Council of St. Lucia; Sir Arthur Lewis Community College; St. Lucia Electricity Services Ltd; the Water and Sewerage Co. Ltd. and a technical member of the Bureau staff.

The Construction and Engineering Technical Committee provides the medium through which all standards for the local construction industry are developed and adopted at a national level. Through the work of the committee standards for Hollow Concrete Blocks, steel nails, carbon steel bars, concrete-classification by compressive strength and aggregates for concrete-determination of bulk density have been developed and adopted. Standards such as Specification for Aggregates for concrete, Portland cement, Specification



Building Code and Guidelines important for proper construction practices

for Plywood, Specification for structural Timber and labeling of Plywood are a few topics which are currently under consideration. The development and adoption of appropriate standards for the local construction industry is also facilitated by arrangements with several International and Regional Standard Bodies. This allows the Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards to adopt relevant International and regional Standards as Saint Lucia National Standards.

The construction industry is one of the oldest sectors in the world that has had standards as an integral part of its existence. St. Lucia can benefit immensely from the experience of others as well as from its own knowledge and experience to develop appropriate standards for the local construction industry to improve quality, efficiency and competitiveness. Government, practitioners of the industry and consumers must all be united in the objective that the development and implementation of standards is critical for the transformation of the industry.

Caribbean Integration through Roving Caregivers Programme

The Roving Caregivers Programme (RCP) is a three-year pilot programme initiated by the Bernard Van Leer Foundation (BvLF) and the Caribbean Support Initiative (CSI), with support from the government of St. Lucia, the Poverty Reduction Fund, the Basic Needs Trust Fund and UNICEF.

Rovers are community caregivers who are trained to provide early childhood stimulation to children - from birth to three years - who do not have any access to formal early childhood education facilities.

Rovers visit the children at their homes in their respective communities and also work with parents to improve and enhance their knowledge, skills and

competence.

Two Dominican "Rovers" arrived in St. Lucia on Sunday, July 3, 2005 to participate in a six day Roving Caregivers Peer Exchange Programme. The Rovers are Miss Gillian Jnofinn and Wendy Laville.

Between Monday and Thursday (July 4 to 7, 2005), the Dominicans will join their St. Lucian counterparts in the field, by participating in home visits in the communities of Riviere Mitant and Dennery. They will also take part in daily feedback and evaluation sessions.

On Friday, July 8, 2005 the Dominican Rovers will again meet with other Rovers at the Early Childhood Education Training Centre in La Clery, Castries for the fortnightly Friday Workshop.

The day's activities will begin at 9 a.m.

and will end at 3 p.m. The activities include the introduction of the members of the Roving Caregivers Programme (RCP) Management Committee, feedback sessions coming out of the week's activities, discussions, role play and presentations to the visiting Rovers.

The Dominicans' visit marks the second half of the peer exchange programme.

Two Rovers from the St. Lucia (RCP) have participated in the peer exchange programme between June 13 and 17, 2005 in Dominica.

According to the Coordinator of the RCP in St. Lucia, Mrs. Ruth Phillips Fevriere, the peer exchange programme serves to forge stronger linkages, share ideas and create Caribbean integration through new experiences for the Rovers.

A taste of Saint Lucia in Miami

The Saint Lucia Hotels and Tourism Association and sponsors formally congratulated St. Lucia's culinary team who represented the island in Miami at the Taste of the Caribbean 2005 Culinary competition for their success. The silver medallists were led by Team Manager Chef Boo Bergstrom of the Windjammer Hotel.

Executive Vice President of the SLHTA Mr. Terence Gustave said the efforts of the eight-man team help to differentiate St. Lucia as a tourism destination.

The SLHTA official says the strong showing by the local chefs is proof of

the island's drive to enhance the visitor experience.

"Within our tourism product you need a variety of offerings" Gustave said. "We know visitors from Europe in particular take great delight in sampling the local dishes different destinations have to offer. Our culinary expertise - using our local products - is something that we have to work on. We are doing just that with our team's participation in these competitions."

Team Manager Chef Bobo Bergstrom says he is extremely proud of St. Lucia's performance because over the years, the "Taste of the Caribbean Competition" has become very challenging.

Participating in the culinary competition is a very expensive undertaking.

The winning team of chefs is pleased to be the recipients of support from the private sector.

The team comprised Gilroy Samuel - pastry chef of the Windjammer hotel, Fabian Vigee of the Jalousie Plantation, Elton Ambrose of the Rendezvous Hotel, Marvin Alcindor of the Windjammer Landing and Barkus Henry- of Sandals Grande.

St. Martin emerged as the overall winner of the Taste Caribbean Culinary Competition 2005.

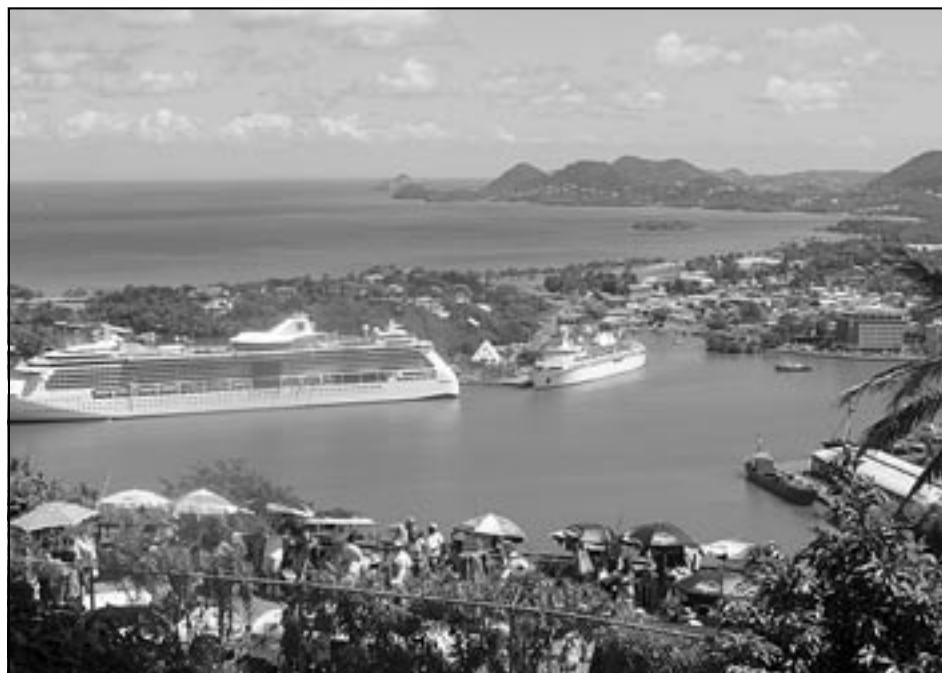
IMF seeks to guide Saint Lucia's economic development

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has commenced its Article IV Consultations in Saint Lucia.

Article IV consultations are regularly carried out in member countries of the Fund. In accordance with established procedures, each member-state of the Fund agrees to the regular review of economic conditions as a means of independently assessing economic policies in conjunction with current world economic conditions.

The IMF was created in 1945 to help promote the health of the world economy. Headquartered in Washington DC, it is governed by and accountable to the governments of the 184 countries that make up its near-global membership.

The IMF is responsible for ensuring the stability of the international monetary and financial system -- the system of international payments and exchange rates among national currencies that enable trade to take place be-



tween countries.

The Fund seeks to promote economic stability and prevent crises, to help resolve crises when they do occur, and

to promote growth and alleviate poverty. It employs three main functions—surveillance, technical assistance, and lending—to meet these objectives.

As a small developing state with an open economy, Saint Lucia welcomes these economic assessments, as they act as a means of informing the Government of Saint Lucia on strategic economic policies considered viable to ensure stability, as the country interacts with other world economies.

During the next two weeks, the IMF team, in conjunction with members of staff of the Ministry of Finance, the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) and Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), will engage in discussions with officials from the private and public sectors on matters of mutual economic interest.

The visiting IMF team of four persons is headed by Mr. Hans Peter Lankes, Division Chief in the Policy Development and Review Department.

It is expected that the results of the assessment will be published on the IMF website at the conclusion of the approval process of the review.

Cricket World Cup Saint Lucia Excites Communities

Continued from page 1

Communities are being encouraged to complete an inventory list of all activities taking place in the community with a view to developing individual brands for communities.

The Management of Cricket World Cup Saint Lucia Inc. will be spearheading an initiative to develop Local

Action Teams (LATS) in each community. These LATS will be responsible for preparing the community for the event.

Their Terms of Reference are as follows: Mobilization of the community for all Cricket World Cup activities; Enlisting Broad based support among all sectors towards community initia-

tives; Identifying the key issues which need to be addressed in communities as it relates to Saint Lucia proudly hosting ICC CWC 2007; Preparing and implementing a community beautification plan; Developing and coordinating a schedule of activities for visitors during the ICC CWC 2007; Liaising with Cricket World cup Saint Inc. on

all matters concerning the hosting of ICC CWC 2007.

To date, LATS have been set up in the communities of Anse La Raye, Soufriere and Vieux-Fort.

Cricket World Cup Saint Lucia is continuing its efforts at preparing our country to host the "Best Cricket World Cup Even".

SMMA - 10 years later and poised for the future

A series of activities are planned for the 10th anniversary celebrations of the SMMA. A Regional Seminar entitled "Improving Coastal Livelihoods, Lessons Learned from Experience and Priorities for Future Research," is being hosted by the SMMA from July 28th to July 30th 2005.

The seminar will bring together planners, natural resource managers and development workers and researchers, for the purpose of sharing, comparing and analyzing experiences and lessons learned in research and development work on coastal livelihoods and coastal resource management sharing information on current research and results obtained identifying and defining opportu-

nities and priorities for future research

A public discussion on the impacts and benefits of the SMMA will be held on the Soufriere Square from 5:30PM to 6:30PM on Thursday 28th July 2005. This will take the form of a moderated panel discussion to present and discuss the positive and negative impacts generated by the SMMA since its creation, and to review its intended and actual benefits, in environmental, economic and social terms. The discussion will be broadcast live on local radio, with opportunities for listeners to call in. The public is invited to come out and support.

The opening session will take place at the Anse Chastanet Hotel on Friday 29th July from 9:00AM to 10:00AM. This session will provide the background to the



Managing the marine resources - key to the development of the SMMA

seminar, while allowing participants to introduce themselves and their expectations. This will continue with four technical sessions.

Technical Session deals with coastal development, poverty reduction and opportunities for sustainable livelihoods from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Technical session 2 will scrutinize institutional arrangements for protected areas and common property management from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Opportunities and priorities for future research from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. will be the focus of technical session 3, whilst technical session 4 will examine participatory local governance from 9:30AM to 12:30PM on Saturday July 30th at the St. Isidore Hall.

Other activities include a ten year institutional review of the SMMA and a public awareness campaign, comprising a video documentary, PSAs, public sensitization activities and a formal ceremony, honoring individuals and partner organizations which were instrumental in the design and implementation of the SMMA.

The formal ceremony will take place at the Soufriere Fisheries Complex on Sunday July 31st.

GOVERNMENT OF ST. LUCIA Second Disaster Management Project Loan # 7238 – SLU # Credit 3936 – SLU

Expression of Interest

The Government of Saint Lucia has received a loan in the amount of US\$ 3.7 million from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and a credit in the amount of US\$3.8 million equivalent from the International Development Association towards the cost of the Second Disaster Management Project and intends to apply part of proceeds of this

loan and credit towards the financing of the engagement of consulting services to undertake a study on Territorial Planning.

The main objectives of the proposed assignment is to carry out a study and prepare a comprehensive and integrated physical development plan of the northwestern corridor (Castries to Gros- Islet) of Saint Lucia. This plan should be supported by implementation strategies and relevant policy guidelines.

The consultants will also be required to provide technical assistance to strengthen the capacity and provide support services related to territorial planning to the Physical Planning Sec-

tion of the Ministry of Physical Development Environment and Housing.

The Government of Saint Lucia represented by the Ministry of Physical Development Environment and Housing now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services.

Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out

in the World Bank Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers.

Interested Consultants may obtain further information at the address below from 0830 hours (8:30 a.m.) to 1630hours (4:30 p.m.) Mondays to Fridays.

Expression of Interest must be delivered to the address below no later than July 11, 2005.

Project Coordination Unit, Ministry of Finance, International Services and Economic Affairs, Greaham Louisy Administrative Building 3rd floor, Waterfront, Castries, Saint Lucia, Tel: 758-468-4486, Fax: 758-453-0417, E-mail: SLUPCU@Planning.gov.lc

National Crime Commission has made strides

Prevention: the only answer to reducing crime

After the launch of the National Crime Commission (NCC), in January 2003 there was the great expectation that St. Lucia would finally be crime-free.

The NCC is run by an 18-member board comprising individuals from a diverse range of organisations representing a broad cross section of the St. Lucian society. The Board is headed by Mr. Rogers Eudoxie, who has had the task over the last two years of assessing the disparate concerns of citizens and merging them into a national consensus on how to tackle crime in St. Lucia.

The Board reports to Minister of Justice, Hon. Phillip Victor La Corbinere. In his first meeting with the members of the Board, he indicated that he wants a hands-on approach in order to make a positive dent both in the public's perception of the inactivity of the NCC, and in the reduction of the rate of crime in St. Lucia.

The Commission's launch followed the release of a report by Prof. Ramesh Deosaran, from the Centre for Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of the West Indies (St. Augustine Campus).

Professor Deosaran's research confirmed two significant perceptions: high levels of the fear of crime and the public's distrust of the police. The report suggested that the approach to crime fighting in St. Lucia be more proactive and concentrate on crime prevention as with other countries where there were effective crime reduction programs.

Crime prevention is the focus of the work of the NCC.

When the government of St. Lucia launched the Commission, it followed United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice matters.

The UN's group of experts, who drafted the guidelines, concluded that crime prevention "enhances the quality of life of all citizens. It has long-term benefits in terms of reducing the costs associated with the formal criminal justice system, as well as other social cost that result from crime."

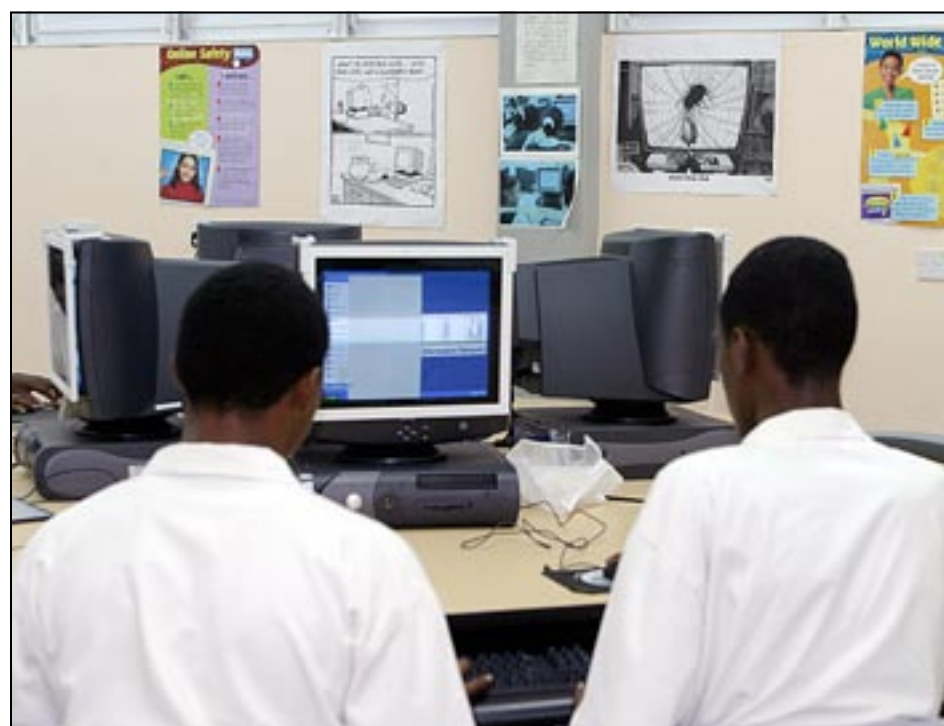
Of course, the expectations of a crime free St. Lucia two years after the NCC have not been met. And the simple explanation is that crime prevention and crime reduction are not overnight sensations or quick fixes. "In St. Lucia we have tended to look at short-term strategies. That is catching people who commit crime, sending them to prison", says Lindwall James, Chief Administrative Officer of the NCC. "The public is used to that approach and believes that if more is done in that direction, then we are solving crime. But it is the inadequacy of tackling symptoms of crime rather than the root causes that will not make crime go away."

James added that while he can understand society's impatience with the NCC, the kinds of solutions and interventions that are needed, have to go beyond the methods currently being employed.

"People do not think about crime in the future or about prevention. "We become agitated when it hits too close

to home. We want solutions right now and this kind of thinking clashes with the mandate and work of the NCC, which is looking at crime prevention, looking at new ways "to stop people from being drawn into the criminal justice system."

Indeed, the UN standards and norms on crime prevention emphasizes the view that "crime prevention considerations should be integrated into all rel-



A multi-dimensional approach to tackling crime is needed - engaging youth in productive activities will lesson criminal acts

evant social and economic policies and programmes, including those addressing employment, education, health, housing and urban planning, poverty, social marginalization and exclusion. Particular emphasis should be placed on communities, families, children and youth at risk."

Contrary to the perception that the NCC is doing nothing while crime is increasing, James said things are happening. Over the last two years the NCC has been engaged in conversations with the nation, through commu-

promoting crime prevention, wants the public to also begin to look within and see how the communities themselves can join in the fight, and make a difference for the better.

In its two years of operation, the NCC sought to build bridges with the Royal St. Lucia Police Force (RSLPF), which initially regarded the NCC as an unwelcome adversary on its turf. In its 2003 Annual Report, the Commis-

sion notes: "The establishment of the National Crime Commission was not happily received by the police. There was a misconception that the Commission was put there to oversee their activity."

The Commissioner of Police and 14 senior officers first met six months after the launch of NCC. Their fears were suppressed when the NCC explained its role as being mainly supportive and collaborative. The two sides agreed that the police must make use of the available expertise, and work in tan-



Good relations between the NCC and the Royal St. Lucia Police Force critical to tackling crime

nity meeting in several areas. Most of the meetings have been well attended. Much of the criticism, as expected, has been leveled at the police. Indeed, the police is an important part of the crime-fighting puzzle, but the NCC, in

dem with each other. James added that to date dialogue continues and there is a softening of the police towards the NCC, though maximum levels of co-operation have yet to be attained.

One essential area of cooperation

between the two organizations has been the sharing and analyzing of data. The NCC's Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Analyst, Ms. Andrina Abraham, has assisting the RSLPF in revamping its methods of collecting and reporting crime data to make it more accessible and used as a powerful tool in crime fighting.

This crime mapping strategy provides almost instantaneous information on where crimes are committed. A similar exercise is being undertaken with Bordelais Correctional Facility to track the geographical location of criminals who enter the system as well as those who have served their time and where which areas they are returning to.

The UN Group of Experts in one of their guidelines, outlines that a strategy of co-operation and partnership together with adequate resources are vital if any plan has to have impact on crime reduction.

"We know we have our work cut out for us", James admits. "What we have been doing is setting up the administrative and the research capability to do the work that is needed. There is a lot of work to be done and we are just beginning to scratch the surface. We have taken the first important steps in facilitating a knowledge-based approach to solving crime. We are preparing for the next round which involves planning appropriate interventions based of the information we have."

The term of the board expired earlier this year.

THIS WEEK ON NTN

Sat. July 9th - Fri. July 15th, 2005

Secondary Schools Athletics Meet - Sat. July 9th 6:30 p.m.

· **Integrate or Perish - The Contemporary Story of the Caribbean: 1963 - 1999** - Sun. July 10th, 8:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

· **Myths and Realities of Natural Disasters** - Mon. July 11th, 8:30 p.m.

· **Feedback (Rebroadcast) - "Children In Crisis"** - Tues. July 12th, 8:00 p.m.

· **Women West Indies - An Exciting Series of portraits featuring women in the Caribbean** - Every Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. - Wed. July 13th, 6:15 p.m.

· **CARICOM SUMMIT 2005 - Press Conference with Heads of Government & Parliamentary Leaders of Opposition Parties** - Wed. July 13th, 8:00 p.m.

· **The GIS speaks with Justice Desiree Bernard - First Female Judge on the Caribbean Court of Justice Secondary Schools Athletic Meet 2005** - Thurs. July 14th 8:00 p.m.

· **CARICOM SUMMIT 2005 - Address by Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago** - Fri. July 15th - 8:30 p.m.

Remember to tune in for:

· **GIS News Breaks and Kweyol News daily from 6:30 p.m.**

· **Issues & Answers/Mondays at 8:00pm:**

· **Interview/Tuesdays at 6:15pm :**

· **Konsit Kweyol/Tuesdays at 8:00pm (Kweyol Discussion):**

· **Your Right to Know/Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. (Min. of Ed. Prog).**

Take 2/Fridays at 6:15pm

(Week in Review)

· **Weflechi/Fridays at 6:40pm - (Week in Review-Kweyol)**

For the complete programme guide, log on to our website at www.stlucia.gov.lc and then click on the NTN icon.

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