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OCTOBER, 2006

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## FROM THE EDITOR

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### WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOU

**TRADE WATCH** is expanding and updating its subscribers database to ensure that a wide cross section of readers are kept abreast of pertinent trade and economic issues which affect the region. Existing subscribers to update your profile please [click here](#). New subscribers please [click here](#).

We are also seeking your feedback and comments on ways to improve the newsletter. In this month's poll we are asking if the information provided is useful to your business. Please visit the **TRADE WATCH** Website: <http://tradewatch.carib-export.com> and participate in the poll. Your views and comments on any of our articles can also be sent to: E-mail: [tradewatch@carib-export.com](mailto:tradewatch@carib-export.com).

### CARIBBEAN EXPORT DIGEST

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#### FOCUS ON TRADE, COMPETITIVENESS AND INNOVATION

What are the contributing factors that foster innovation? What is the significance of innovation to the region's sustainable competitive advantage? How do countries foster a culture of innovation? How can new trading arrangements be crafted to best support the development of a sustainable Caribbean Innovation System? These are some of the weighty issues to be discussed at the seminar Trade, Competitiveness and Innovation: Imperatives for the Development of CARIFORUM Countries in the Dominican Republic from November 9-10.

The **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)**, the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery, the National Competitiveness Council of the Dominican Republic and the Institute of International Relations of the University of the West Indies are the organizers of this seminar which brings together the public and private sectors and support organizations within the region and internationally, to share ideas on the way forward and develop a road-map that will guide national and regional planners, towards the creation of a sustainable Caribbean Innovation System.

For additional information on the Seminar which is one of the activities under the 9<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF) of the Caribbean Regional Trade and Private Sector Development Programme (CRTPSDP) funded by the European Commission, please contact **Caribbean Export's** Tonika Sealy, Technical Advisor, New Sectors at E-mail: [tsealy@carib-export.com](mailto:tsealy@carib-export.com).

#### THIRTEEN (13) GRANTS AWARDED

Thirteen (13) groups of Caribbean companies are now better positioned to compete in the global economy as a result of the 415,441.92 Euro funding provided under the 9th European Development Fund (EDF) Competitiveness Grant Fund administered by Caribbean Export as part of Caribbean Regional Trade and Private Sector Development Programme (CRTPSDP) funded by the European Commission.

The project activities ranged from website development, trade fair participation, the development of quality and environmental systems, the development of business plans and the production of product catalogues and other promotional materials.

Some of the successful companies which satisfied the criteria for grant funding the under the four calls for proposals were: The Caribbean Herbal Cluster Association of Trinidad and Tobago, The Film Group of Barbados, Caribbean Paper Company and the Belize Recycling Company of Belize, Supervicion Directa S.A. of the Dominican Republic, and a group of Guyanese companies who wish to invest in the lumber industry.

According to Ronald Dubrishing, Programme Manager, CRTPSDP, "Many of the groups which were awarded grants are now completing their projects and their members have recognized the benefits of collaborating with others to

achieve their goals."

While there will be no more calls for proposals in 2006, companies interested in the Fund's activities for 2007 may contact: Ronald Dubrishing, Tel: (246) 436-0578, Fax: (246) 436-9999, E-mail: [rdubrishing@carib-export.com](mailto:rdubrishing@carib-export.com)

## **INVITATION TO JOIN CARIBISNET**

Over 30 Business Support Organisations (BSOs) in the region have joined together to form the Caribbean Business and Investment Support Network (CARIBISNET). This network was established last July at a Regional Workshop for BSOs funded by the 9<sup>th</sup> Economic Development Fund (EDF) of the Caribbean Regional Trade and Private Sector Development Programme (CRTPSDP) and aims inter alia to increase the collaboration and the sharing of ideas and experiences among its membership (See Trade Watch July-August, 2006).

According to Caribbean Export's Technical Advisor, BSOs, Sam Kruiner, "CARIBISNET is a network primarily of Caribbean private and public sector non-financial BSOs to improve collaboration, information exchange and the dissemination of common services among themselves."

BSOs interested in joining CARIBISNET may download the application form by clicking on the link below: [CARIBISNET APPLICATION FORM - BSO](#)

For further information on the network please contact Sam Kruiner at E-mail: [skruiner@carib-export.com](mailto:skruiner@carib-export.com).

## **FINAL PHASE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROJECT**

The project, Promotion of Professional Services in the Commonwealth Caribbean enters its final phase in November/December with the presentation of diagnostics and national strategies in the four pilot countries of the Project. The Commonwealth Secretariat has provided donor funding in support of the project, and the Trade Section of the Special Advisory Services Division (SASD) has been collaborating with the Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) in its execution.

The project Consultants EME Limited will present to all relevant stakeholders draft diagnostic reports and draft rational strategies in Barbados on November 29, St. Lucia on December 1, Dominica on December 4, and Trinidad and Tobago on December 6.

These presentations will follow review meetings with Caribbean Export, planned for November 27 and 28. A pivotal input in the preparation of the diagnostics and strategies was the firm level survey of key companies in specific sub-sectors of the Professional Services Sector. This survey sought to gather vital information on the companies and their capabilities, export performance and firm level and business environment constraints to export development.

Final Strategic Marketing Plans for the promotion of the Professional Services Sector will be prepared based on the feedback, comments and recommendations arising from the presentations in the four countries.

## **CULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN FOCUS**

The promotion of the creative sector was the focus of a workshop organized by the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM) in Barbados on October 25-26. Over 90 Caribbean representatives from the Music, Fashion, Publishing, Audio Visual, Visual Arts, Festivals and Performing Arts sectors gathered to review a study prepared by Dr. Keith Nurse and his team on the theme "Promoting the Creative Industries: A Trade and Investment Strategy". This meeting was a follow-up to the October 2004 workshop held in Trinidad and Tobago which focussed on The Impact of Trade and Technology on Caribbean Creative Industries.

The two-day workshop provided the Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) with the opportunity to collaborate with the CRNM in hosting a strategic planning session with a smaller group of representatives on October 27th to identify specific priority actions that could be supported by Caribbean Export based on the recommendations arising from Dr. Nurse's report and the earlier discussions. Industry practitioners with varying levels of expertise in the region's cultural industries shared with Caribbean Export their vision for the development of

the creative industries in the region. Among the strategic objectives which were identified for action included:

- support for the development of strong private sector associations in cultural and creative industries at the national and regional levels in CARIFORUM;
- the facilitation of regional trade and investment forum for the cultural and creative industries and;
- the development of a strong network of service providers and professionals to provide services to enable development of effective policy support, increased competitiveness and product and market development of the cultural and creative industries in the region.

The strategic planning session was an initial activity of the New Sectors component of the 9th Economic Development Fund (EDF) Caribbean Regional Trade and Private Sector Development Programme (CRTPSDP) and will inform the activities that are rolled out by Caribbean Export in the implementation phase of the CRTPSDP. For further information please contact Tonika Sealy, Technical Advisor, New Sectors at [tsealy@carib-export.com](mailto:tsealy@carib-export.com).

## **CSME NEWS**

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### **CSME ON TRACK**

"The implementation of the CARICOM Single Economy by 2008 is still on track. A task force was commissioned to look into the issue of a single currency for the region, which was one of the essential components of the plan", says Dr. Edward Green, Deputy Secretary General of the CARICOM Secretariat. Dr Green also stated that the Heads of Government will be meeting in November to discuss the preparation of a document which will set out how the single economy can be achieved.

The CARICOM Single Market came into operation on earlier this year with all twelve member states signing the agreement. The single economy is expected to create a unified economic space within the region and is expected to be implemented by 2008.

### **MONTSERRAT SEEKS INCLUSION IN CSME**

Montserrat is seeking inclusion into the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) and has commissioned a cost benefit analysis of the country's inclusion in this regional agreement. According to Chief Minister Lowell Lewis, Montserrat wanted to be a member of the CSME once they were able to get derogations in some trade areas to protect their special interests. He added that it is expected that the study will show that the country will indeed benefit from becoming a member of the CSME.

### **CSME BEARING FRUIT**

The CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) is a tremendous opportunity for the region to have harmonised economic policies - an opportunity which was within reach" so .said the Honorable Owen Arthur, Prime Minister of Barbados. Mr Arthur was addressing a Caribbean Community Secretariat/University of the West Indies (UWI) symposium on a developmental vision for the CSME at the Savannah Hotel, Barbados this month.

According to Mr Arthur, Barbados has recorded a 30 per cent growth in exports to other CARICOM countries last year. He stressed that the country's economic growth was not limited to trade alone but major investments are being planned in the Bahamas, Suriname and Belize.

## **TRADE POLICY DEVELOPMENTS**

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### **EU'S NEW AID PACKAGE FOR CARICOM**

The European Union has proposed a US\$100 million aid package to the region over the next five years. CARICOM and Spanish officials met in Kingston on October 19 to deliberate over the proposal. Deputy Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Ambassador Lolita Applewhaite described the Second Joint Commission Meeting of CARICOM and the Kingdom of Spain as "fruitful and successful."

According to Ambassador Applewhaite "the two broad areas covered by the agreements were Caribbean Integration and Human and Social Development. The focus on the former was on making the region more competitive and

included assistance for the Regional Development Fund, the Regional Development Agency and Caribnet. The focus on the latter was intended to prepare the people of the region to participate in and benefit from the opportunities presented by the integration process and included projects on health, education, natural disaster management and agriculture among others."

## **EU'S ASSISTANCE TO CARIFORUM**

Member States of the Caribbean Forum of the African Caribbean Pacific grouping (CARIFORUM) are set to benefit from a very significant project funded by the European Union (EU), the Caribbean Integration Support Programme, which is expected to be approved this month. This 40,500,000 Euro project under the 9th European Development Fund (EDF) is designed to assist the integration of the Caribbean Region into the world economy, through a global repositioning aimed at achieving sustainable growth, regional cohesion and stability, and continued improvements in living conditions.

The main elements of the project include the establishment and consolidation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME); improved external trade negotiating capacities and improved and harmonized production of statistical data at national and regional levels in CARICOM as well as improved macro-economic management through enhancement of the Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) .

Other elements are the establishment and operation of the CARICOM Institute of Translation and the Caribbean Information Society; reduction of the supply and demand for illegal drugs; implementation of Phase 11 of the Ogle Airport Development in Guyana and enhancement of the capacity of the CARICOM Secretariat to co-ordinate regional programmes effectively and in financial management.

Other EDF programmes from the 9th EDF are:

- **Trade Negotiations:** The Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery will coordinate a 770,000 euro grant to develop and enhance CARIFORUM capacity to prepare for, participation in and undertake external trade and economic negotiations particularly in respect of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union.
- **Trade and Private Sector Development:** Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States/Export Development Unit (OECS) (EDU) based in Dominica are coordinating the 9th EDF Caribbean Trade and Private Sector Development Programme. The EDF has also contributed ?2,600,000 to Phase I of the Caribbean Trade and Private Sector Development Programme. The objective of this project is to contribute to the gradual integration of CARIFORUM countries into the world economy and in the turn to enhance regional economic growth.
- The Caribbean Rum Sector through its institutional representative the West Indies Rum and Spirits Association (WIRSPA). The Association received 70,000,000 euro in funds to assist its members in improving plant efficiency, complying with environmental and waste management regulations and standards as well as distribution and marketing.

The Guyana-based Caribbean Rice Association is supervising a ?24,000,000 project aimed at increasing the efficiency and sustainability of the rice industry in Guyana and Suriname.

The administration of all these projects has also been funded by the EU under the CARIFORUM Technical Cooperation Facility. **Source: CARICOM Secretariat**

## **NEW EU ACP COMMITMENTS**

EU Ministers have agreed to prepare a strategy setting out the delivery of 2 billion euro of aid to help developing countries put in place new trade policies to boost their growth and help them integrate into global markets. A substantial part of this increase in aid will be specifically targeted to African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries to help them put in place Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU which will come into force in January 2008.

The money will be available to help countries prepare new trade policies, benefit from trade opportunities and adjust to the changes they bring. It will be delivered through a combination of international partnerships, EU and member states' development programmes.

The EU commitments include 1 billion euro of aid managed by the European Commission (announced at the G8 in 2005) and ?1 billion of aid from Member States (EU Council conclusions in December 2005). These commitments

were tabled at the Hong Kong WTO Ministerial and this announcement follows extensive consultation with developing countries in WTO on how best to put them into practice and monitor progress.

Economic Partnership Agreements will replace the current trade regime with Africa Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries that expires on 1st January 2008. These agreements are an integral part of the wider EU-ACP Cotonou Co-operation Agreement and explicitly aim to promote the sustainable development of the ACP by increasing their engagement in world trade.

**Source: European Commission**

## **WTO ENDORSEMENT OF OECS PROPOSALS**

The General Council of the World Trade Organization (WTO) has endorsed a package of proposals from the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) which seeks to accommodate the needs of small states in the implementation of obligations arising out of membership in the WTO. This acceptance by the General Council provides legal certainty to donors where practicable, multilateral agencies could target regional bodies for the disbursement of technical and financial assistance. The proposals endorsed seek recognition of the following WTO agreements:

- Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) - this relates to food safety as well as animal and plant health;
- Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) - this agreement seeks to ensure that technical procedures, testing and certification procedures, do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade in industrial goods and;
- Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) - which deals with intellectual property law in international trade.

## **MARKET NEWS**

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### **OECS IN PUERTO RICO**

The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) has opened an office in Puerto Rico which will be used as a base for stimulating trade, tourism and investment promotion. The office was officially opened during the 4th meeting of OECS Ministers of Tourism in Puerto Rico, October 5-6.

According to Fernando Bonilla, Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, "the two sides now have a bridge to make the ideal of regionalism flourish into fruitful and enduring friendly relations between neighbouring countries. Mr Bonilla also stated that "the new office will address the needs and interests of citizens of the nine OECS member countries, while also providing commercial support for Puerto Rican and Eastern Caribbean entrepreneurs."

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the OECS and Puerto Rico in 2004 which identified a number of areas for collaboration including trade and investment.

### **NEW TAX REGIMES**

The Minister of Finance and Economy of Antigua and Barbuda, the Honourable Errol Cort has announced the implementation of a 15 per cent Antigua and Barbuda Sales Tax (ABST) from January 27, 2007. The ABST will replace the following taxes on sales of goods and services: Consumption Tax, Hotel (bed-night) Tax, Hotel Guest Tax, Hotel Guest Levy, Restaurant and Catering Services Tax and Telecommunications Taxes.

In related news the Guyana Revenue Authority (GRA) will be implementing a Value-Added Tax (VAT) and Excise Tax (ET) on January 1, 2007. The rate of the VAT is 16% and the registration threshold for the tax is set at ten (10) million dollars. The VAT is not an additional tax as it will replace eight (8) of the existing taxes: Consumption Tax, Hotel Accommodation Tax, Entertainment Tax, Travel Voucher Tax, Purchase Tax, Telephone Tax, Service Tax and Premium Tax. Schedules I and II of the VAT Act list those items that will attract a zero rate (0%) of VAT and items that will be exempt from VAT respectively.

### **ST KITTS-NEVIS NEW INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

The promotion of investment rather than citizenship will be the new focus of the new St. Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Programme. This was stated by Dr Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, during a press conference earlier this month, where he announced a series of measures aimed at strengthening the already tight regulatory mechanisms currently in place in respect of the programme.

These measures include an increase in the minimum investment required for citizenship eligibility, revision of the citizenship investment application process and promotion of the programme.

The St Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Programme been in place for more than two decades and has distinguished itself from many other similar programmes by rigidly enforced investment requirements and meticulous due diligence procedures.

## **CALMING DR-CAFTA CONCERNS**

The government of the Dominican Republic has announced that ten Dominican agricultural products will be protected once the DR-CAFTA free trade agreement with the United States and Central America comes into effect. Rice, milk, pork and chicken, beans, corn, onions and garlic are all on the list. Agriculture Minister Salvador Jimenez also informed that these products would remain protected for a period of either 10 or 20 years to mitigate the effects of DR-CAFTA on the Dominican agricultural sector.

Source: [www.dr1.com](http://www.dr1.com)

## **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**HOTEL SUPPLIES** such as shampoo, conditioner, hair utensils, napkins, toilet paper, towels, robes, soap are available. Contact: Cindy Calle, President, 1017 Abraham Lincoln Avenue, Santo Domingo, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC; Tel: (786)260-3516, E-mail: [dbsllc@hotmail.com](mailto:dbsllc@hotmail.com)

**SHIPPING SERVICES** from Antwerpen to Curacao-Surinam-Santo Domingo-Venezuela-British Guyana-Trinidad are available. Contact: Mr Lothar Rozenblad, Manager, Moersbergen 12-3334en, Zwijndrecht, HOLLAND, Tel: 0031-625507111, E-mail: [brozenblad@hetnet.nl](mailto:brozenblad@hetnet.nl)

**ORCHIDS** are available. Contact: Rogert Espailat, Marketing Manager, Calle Flor del Sol # 6, Alameda, Santo Domingo, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, Tel: (809) 561 8430, Fax: (809) 440 1777, E-mail: [rogertespaillat@orchidom.com](mailto:rogertespaillat@orchidom.com), Website: [www.orchidom.com](http://www.orchidom.com)

**MEDICINES** are available. Contact: Lucrecia Puente, Manager, Calle 1ra. No. 50, Herrera, Santo Domingo, REPUBLICA DOMINICANA, Tel: (809) 707 6434, Fax: (809) 534 9291, E-mail: [lucrecia.puentes@gmail.com](mailto:lucrecia.puentes@gmail.com)

**DISTRIBUTORS** are required to market sunscreen lotion, water sensations, juices and cookies. Contact: Mr. Hans-Peter Roser, Distributor Resellers/ Independent Distributors, Bluff Lane Pembroke, Hamilton HM09, BERMUDA, Tel: 441-296-8224, Fax: 441-296-8224, E-mail: [royalflush@tbinet.bm](mailto:royalflush@tbinet.bm), Website: [royalflushwholesalers.homestead.com](http://royalflushwholesalers.homestead.com)

**OLIVE OIL**, foods products, honey, fruit juice, fresh and dried fruit, vegetables, beans, coffee, tea, malt, seeds, saffron, pistachios, herbs, nuts, tomato paste, jams, canned vegetable & fruits, sugars, wheat flour, starch, milk powder, canned milk, beverages, vinegar, meat and fish, dairy product, eggs, canned foods, wines, beer, alcoholic beverages, t-shirts, garments, sportswear, footwear, pharmaceutical, medical, equipment, detergents, soaps, cosmetic, chemicals and allied products, computers, laptops, air conditioners, generators, mobile phone sets, television sets, agricultural equipments, tractors, etc. are required. Contact: Mr. Richard Odinga, Director, Reflection 1994 Ltd. Carre 457 Akpakpa, Cotonou, REPUBLIC OF BENIN, Tel: +22995960739, Fax: +22921323549, E-mail:

[reflection1994@yahoo.com](mailto:reflection1994@yahoo.com)

**TEAK ROUND LOGS**, teak rough square logs, secondary stainless steel & high speed steel material are required. Contact: Tejas Shah, Partner, Shree Bahucharaji Enterprises, B-304,Lilac Garden, 90ft. Road, Nr.Charkop Market, Kandivali(West), Mumbai-400067, Maharashtra, INDIA, Tel: 91-22-28670646, Fax: 91-22-28685161, E-mail: [sbentprs@yahoo.co.in](mailto:sbentprs@yahoo.co.in)

**TEXTURED TRESSES STYLING** seminar participant are required. Contact: Diane Da Costa, Tel: 011-599-580-6717, E-mail: [sxmt texturedhair@yahoo.com](mailto:sxmt texturedhair@yahoo.com), Website: [www.texturedtresses.com/sxm](http://www.texturedtresses.com/sxm).

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Delegation of the European Commission to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean is seeking to recruit self-motivated individuals to fill the posts of Secretary and Project Officer (Economic Affairs - Private Sector). The vacancies are open to nationals from Caribbean or EU countries.

Interested persons should submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae, complete with two (2) references by Friday November 17, 2006 to: The Head of Delegation, EC Delegation to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, Post Office Box 654C, Bridgetown, or E-mail: [delegation.barbados@ec.europa.eu](mailto:delegation.barbados@ec.europa.eu).

## TRADE AND INVESTMENT EVENTS

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### REGION

**System Strategies for High Quality Service Delivery**, November 2-3, 2006, BARBADOS. E-mail: [bnpcouncil@caribsurf.com](mailto:bnpcouncil@caribsurf.com), Website: [www.productivitycouncil.org.bb](http://www.productivitycouncil.org.bb)

**The Caribbean International Literary Festival**, November 2-5, 2006, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA. Website: <http://www.caribbeanliteraryfestival.com/>

**The Business of Music in the Caribbean Workshop**, November 5-6, 2006 at the Sherbourne Conference Centre, BARBADOS. Tel: (246) 435-1777/437-2163, Fax: (246) 435-2777, E-mail: [coscap@caribsurf.com](mailto:coscap@caribsurf.com)

**Dominican International Film Festival**, November 6-11, 2006, Sun Village, Cofresi Beach, Puerto Plata, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Website: <http://www.dominicaninternationalfilmfestival.com/>

**Salon de la communication (The Communication Show)**, November 8-12, 2006, GUADELOUPE, Tel : +590 590 26 60 50/+590 590 59 80 58, Fax : +590 590 26 61 87

**Trade, Competitiveness and Innovation: Imperatives for the Development of CARIFORUM Countries Meeting**, November 9-10, 2006, Santo Domingo, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Tel: (246) 436-0578

**Third International Forum on Tropical Fruit Agribusiness**, November 14-15, 2006, IICA Headquarters, Costa Rica. Website: <http://www.iica.int/prensa/infoletter/img/bullet.jpg>

**Caribbean Home Expo**, November 17-19, 2006, Sonesta Maho Resort, ST. MARTIN. Website: <http://home.caribbeanhomeexpo.com/>

**Practical Approaches & Concrete Experiences in the Development of Clusters Workshop**, November 20-24, 2006, Santo Domingo, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Tel: (246) 436-0578

**Securing Success in Services Export, BCSI Workshop Series 2006-2007**, November 23, 2006, Accra Beach Hotel, BARBADOS. Tel: (246) 429-5357, E-mail: [ismall@bcsi.org.bb](mailto:ismall@bcsi.org.bb) or [lharewood@bcsi.org.bb](mailto:lharewood@bcsi.org.bb) .

**Salon Caribéen de l'alimentation (The Caribbean Food Show)**, November 24-16, 2006, GUADELOUPE. Tel :

+590 590 22 24 30, Fax : +590 590 22 24 52

**Technology Tools for Teaching And Learning Conference**, November 26-29, 2006, Caribe Hilton Hotel, San Juan, PUERTO RICO. Website: <http://www.aspira.org/>

**Fashion Weekend**, November 30 - December 3, 2006, World Trade Center, CURAÇAO E-mail: [info@destination-Curaçao.com](mailto:info@destination-Curaçao.com), Website: [www.destination-Curaçao.com](http://www.destination-Curaçao.com)

## OTHER

**Transforming the Caribbean Economy: New Avenues for Investment** - Conference, November 02, 2006, Lancaster House, London, UNITED KINGDOM. Website: [www.caribbean-council.org](http://www.caribbean-council.org)

**9th Americas Food and Beverage Show and Conference**, November 8-10, 2006, Miami Beach Convention Centre, USA. Website: [www.americasfoodandbeverage.com](http://www.americasfoodandbeverage.com)

**EX TRACTS (Essentials for spa, home & travel)**, November 12-14, 2006, Jacob K. Javits Convention centre, New York City, USA. E-mail: [rita\\_malek@glmshows.com/registration@glmshows.com](mailto:rita_malek@glmshows.com/registration@glmshows.com), Website: [www.ectractsny.com](http://www.ectractsny.com)

**Conference on Global Europe: Competing in the World: The Way Forward**, November 13, 2006, BRUSSELS. Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/>

**Business and Diplomatic Protocol Training Seminar**, November 20-21, 2006, Holiday Inn Brussels City Centre, Brussels, BELGIUM. Website: [www.europrotocol.com](http://www.europrotocol.com)

**World Food Market, 2006**, November 29-30, 2006, London, Excel, UK. E-mail: [kmann@wfmlondon.com](mailto:kmann@wfmlondon.com), Website: <http://www.worldfoodmarket.co.uk>

Persons wishing to add Events to the list kindly contact Cora Lowe at E-mail: [clowe@carib-export.com](mailto:clowe@carib-export.com)

## PUBLICATIONS

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### 2006 WORLD INVESTMENT REPORT

The new edition of the annual report focuses on new sources of foreign direct investment: transnational corporations (TNCs) from developing countries. The study indicates that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) continued to increase for the second consecutive year, with inflows reaching USD 916 billion in 2005 - a 29 percent increase over 2004. However, FDI in the manufacturing and services sectors declined relative to investment in primary commodities, particularly mining.

According to UNCTAD estimates, FDI between developing countries has grown tremendously over the past 15 years, with total outflows from transition and developing economies increasing from USD 4 billion (1985) to USD 61 billion (2004). Furthermore, the majority of this trading is intraregional, with Asia remaining the key target for FDI flows, followed by Latin American and Africa.

The World Investment Report 2006 is available online at <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=7431&intlItemID=3968&lang=1&mode=toc>

### CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Journal of Caribbean International Relations is now available. E-mail: [irtoday@fss.uwi.tt/jjones@cits.uwi.tt](mailto:irtoday@fss.uwi.tt/jjones@cits.uwi.tt).

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