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FROM THE EDITOR

UPDATE YOUR PROFILE

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CARIBBEAN EXPORT DIGEST

DOING BUSINESS WITH COSTA RICA

Existing and potential exporters of goods and services and person interested in conducting business with Costa Rica in general, are invited to attend a "Doing Business with Costa Rica Seminar" scheduled for June 5th at the Savannah Hotel, Barbados.

Mr. Francisco Gamboa, Director - Economic Studies, Foreign Trade Corporation of Costa Rica (PROCOMER), will discuss the opportunities in Costa Rica for CARICOM's products and services, and he will be joined by presenters from the CARICOM Secretariat, the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ), and a private sector panel to further explore the subject.

In March 2004, the CARICOM/Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement was signed, with the Member States of Barbados, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago subsequently ratifying the Agreement. However, Costa Rica with a population of 4.2 million and per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of US\$4,748.3 largely remains an untapped market for CARICOM producers. In 2004, the region's imports from Costa Rica were in excess of US\$26 million, while exports totalled a mere US\$7 million leading to a trade deficit of over US\$18 million.

The **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** is organising the seminar under the 9th Economic Development Fund (EDF) Caribbean Regional Trade and Private Sector Programme (CRTPSDP) of the European Commission, in partnership with the Barbados Investment and Development Corporation (BIDC). The half-day seminar is targeted at small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in the manufacturing and services sectors

To register to attend the seminar complete the [REGISTRATION FORM](#) and return to Ms Undeane Ashby Grimes at e-mail: ugrimes@carib-export.com; Tel: 246-436-0578; Fax: 246-436-9999

CGCS 2007 LAUNCHES

Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados will host official launches of the Caribbean Gift and Craft Show (CGCS) 2007 featuring Caribbean Fashion Rhythms on May 16th and 18th respectively, reports the **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** the organizer of the show.

The planning of the fourteenth edition of the show is moving apace with over 70 exhibitors and trade buyers from regional and international markets already registered to participate in the show, which takes place at the World Trade Centre in Curaçao, from September 27th -30th. Over 200 exhibitors from 30 countries in the greater Caribbean and 400 trade buyers are expected to attend the show which will showcase over 23 categories of craft, art, gift, apparel and fashion accessories.

According to **Caribbean Export's** Show Manager, Veona Maloney "The two launches are the beginning of a series of in-market promotions in key markets all designed to stimulate interest in the show, and to galvanize potential exhibitors and trade buyers, who have not yet registered, to do so and capitalize on the special booth rates, and travel and accommodation arrangements offered to show participants."

The Caribbean Gift and Craft Show which has earned the stellar reputation of being the premier regional trade show for the sector, continues to attract support from leading private and public sector agencies in the region. Again this year, FirstCaribbean International Bank is the show's major sponsor and with the Curaçao Coordinating Committee will join Caribbean Export in the upcoming launches.

For further information on CGCS 2007 contact Veona Maloney at e-mail: vmaloney@carib-export.com or visit the show's website www.caribbeangiftandcraft.com

MAJOR HOT PEPPER INITIATIVE

Leading players in the hot pepper sector will be attending a workshop in Jamaica from May 31st - June 2nd to address primarily, issues pertaining to the sector's competitiveness, innovation and linkages between processors and producers. In addition, Taiana Mora-Ramis, Caribbean Export's Executive Director states "Success stories of companies which have maintained their market position and have diversified within the industry will also be highlighted."

The workshop is being coordinated by the **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** under the 9th Economic Development Fund (EDF) Caribbean Regional Trade and Private Sector Development Program CRTPSDP) of the European Commission in association with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

For further information on the workshop contact: Cora Lowe at e-mail: clowe@carib-export.com.

ASSISTANCE TO COMPANIES

Five groups of companies in the furniture, craft and tourism sectors are now better positioned to compete in the global economy as a result of the funding approved under the 9th European Development Fund (EDF) Grant Fund administered by **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** as part of the Caribbean Trade and Private Sector Development Programme (CTPSDP). The total amount approved for the activities to be undertaken by these groups of companies is Euro 140,000. They have joined the (13) groups of companies which benefited previously from Euro 415,500 under the earlier four calls for proposals.

Sam Kruiner, Technical Adviser, Business Support Organisations reports that "The fifth and final call for proposals ended in February, and the successful companies which satisfied the criteria for grant funding were from Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago."

HEALTH AND WELLNESS MEETING

Thirty (30) representatives of the Health and Wellness Sector from across the region including the OCES, Belize, Haiti and Jamaica will meet in Jamaica on May 15th to discuss strategic inter-sectoral linkages and institutional and business partnerships. This meeting follows the Caribbean Health Tourism & Spa Symposium which will be held on May 13th and 14th.

Participants include operators and producers, and members of relevant industry associations such as the Caribbean Herbal Business Association and the Caribbean Spa and Wellness Association. The key facilitator of the meeting is Denzil Phillips author of the study entitled "A Review of the Caribbean Health & Wellness Industry".

The meeting is coordinated by the Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) under the 9th Economic Development Fund (EDF) Caribbean Regional Trade and Private Sector Development Program CRTPSDP) of the European Commission, in association with the Center for the Development of Enterprise (CDE).

For additional information on the meeting please contact Tonika Sealy at E-mail: tsealy@carib-export.com

CARIBBEAN EXPORT'S BOARD MEETING

The 18th Meeting of the Board of Directors of the **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** under the chairmanship of Mr. Samuel J. Chandler, Permanent Secretary (Trade), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Barbados, is scheduled for May 18th at the Grand Barbados Beach Resort. The highlight of the meeting will be the submission of the Agency's 5 year Business Plan to the Board for approval.

DECLARATION OF THE CARICOM-DR BUSINESS FORUM

The Co-Presidents and members of the CARICOM-DR Business Forum met for their first bi-annual meeting of 2007 on April 18th, at the Santo Domingo Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, under the chairmanship of James Moss-Solomon, representing the CARICOM private sector and José Manuel Armenteros representing the Dominican Republic private sector.

The primary objectives of the meeting which was sponsored by **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** were:

- Discussion and adoption of resolutions relating to problems that have arisen in the implementation of the DR-CARICOM Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- Definition of specific actions to be taken by the Business Forum to strengthen intra and extra-regional trade and investment relations.

The meeting, sponsored adopted the following resolutions:

- Request CARIFORUM Ministers for the immediate reactivation of the Joint Council and Committees.
- Facilitate an improved circulation of business persons in the region.
- Recommend the Services negotiations as one of the priority issues to be discussed at the next Joint Council meeting.
- Support the creation of the CARIFORUM- EU Business Forum using the CARICOM-DR Business Forum as a platform for the new Forum.
- Recommend Ministers to evaluate the establishment of commercial representation offices of CARIFORUM in selected European capitals
- Examine in the future intra - CARIFORUM trade statistics, including Services, and excluding petroleum and gas products

CSME NEWS

COTED MEETINGS

The 23rd Meeting and the 23rd Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) of CARICOM, will be held on May 18th, 2007 in Saint Lucia. The meeting will focus on issues pertaining to extra-regional trade and the implementation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). This meeting will be preceded by the Meeting of Officials Preparatory to the 23rd Meeting and the 23rd Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) on May 16th. For further information visit: www.caricom.org.

CARICOM/EC SIGN CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

The European Commission and the CARICOM Secretariat signed a Contribution Agreement on April 20th. The Agreement is the first of its kind to be signed within the CARIFORUM-ACP relationship, and presents a new approach in the Caribbean- European Union relationship. The basic tenet of the Contribution Agreement is that - unlike previous arrangements - the rules, regulations and procedures to be used to govern implementation of activities specified in the Agreement, are generally those of the Implementing Agency and not the Granting Agency.

The Contribution Agreement is valued at 36 million euros, or approximately US\$46.8 million. The work programme for the first year of the Agreement is valued at more than 16 million euros or about US\$21.0 million. The budget of the work programme provides for staff, capacity building, technical assistance, meetings/seminars and workshops, equipment and supplies and training. For further information visit www.caricom.org.

TRADE POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

CARIBBEAN TRADE MINISTERS ASSERT POSITION ON WTO NEGOTIATIONS

Caribbean Ministers of Trade and Mr. Pascal Lamy, Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) met in Jamaica on April 13th, 2007 to discuss the Doha Round. This was one of several meetings which Mr Lamy convened with trade ministers across the globe in an attempt to encourage the completion of the Doha Round by the end of the year. The meeting was attended by trade ministers of CARICOM, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, as well as representatives from the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery, the CARICOM Secretariat and the OECS Secretariat.

During the meeting, according to the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM), Caribbean officials reiterated, inter alia, that small and vulnerable economies (SVEs) like those of the Caribbean should be afforded special and differential treatment and stated their commitment to continue to participate actively in the Round. They reminded the Director General of the need to ensure that the negotiations are genuinely multilateral to prevent the domination of the process by a few powerful countries and emphasised that new contributions will be evaluated in the context of their past contributions. Furthermore, any additional contributions must be commensurate with gains and the capacity of Caribbean economies to undertake implementation and adjustment.

CONSENSUS REACHED ON EPAS

The European Union (EU) and the African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States reached agreement on the common objective of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) during a recent informal dialogue on the pro-development agenda of the EPA. The consensus reached is that the common objective of the EPA was to fight poverty, promote sustainable development in the ACP and to foster greater meaningful participation of ACP States in the global economy. The meeting involved trade ministers from 30 ACP countries and the EU development Ministers from 27 EU Member States.

Specifically it was agreed that:

- Appropriate development provisions must be incorporated in the text of the EPAs.
- The implementation phase of the EPA should be monitored to assess the development impact of the EPA. To this end, appropriate monitoring mechanisms should be developed.

The EU also promised to improve market access to ACP exports, however from a CARIFORUM perspective, the structuring of market access is yet to be finalized. In addition, agreement still needs to be reached between CARIFORUM and the EU in the EPA negotiations relating to the approach to trade liberalization, the binding commitments on EC development cooperation, the modalities for services negotiations and good governance in taxation. For further information on the strategy of the region's EPA negotiation visit www.crnw.org.

WTO BEGINS INVESTIGATION ON EU BANANA TARIFFS

After successfully delaying the World Trade Organization's (WTO's) panel compliance investigation related to the European Union (EU) tariff scheme for African and Caribbean producers of bananas, under WTO rules the EU will be unable to block the review requested by Ecuador for a second time.

Despite the EU's argument that adjustment made to the banana tariff to 176 euros per ton has aligned the tariff levels with WTO rules, Ecuador claims that the new EU tariff schemes continue to hurt the Ecuadorian banana industry, where the tariff has cost Ecuador 98 million Euros. Ecuador is claiming that it has lost 3 to 4 percent of its EU market share since last year, while African Caribbean and Pacific ACP exports to Europe have increased by 20 percent.

While African and Caribbean countries like Cameroon, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic have backed the EU as third parties, Ecuador is strongly supported by Latin and Central American countries like Panama, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala.

However, an Associated Press news report indicates that the United States, a complainant of the EU's banana tariff in the past, has been ambiguous in its response on this matter. The US has not offered to support Ecuador as a third party in this case, but as sources indicate, the US has renewed its call for the EU to come under a tariff-only banana regime.

NEW TRADE DISPUTES DATABASE

A new tool to monitor and consolidate information on trade disputes was launched by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on April 24th 2007 at the Santiago Chamber of Commerce, Dominican Republic. The Integrated Database of Trade Disputes for Latin America and the Caribbean (IDATD), is designed to provide easy access to full, updated information and documentation on the entire trade disputes process, from initial filing to final enactment.

The data base offers a general overview of trade disputes and of the comparative procedural and jurisprudence systems within diverse trade bodies. This material forms part of the technical training and institutional capacity-building activities included in the administration of treaties and disputes, and of ECLAC's outreach to civil society in the area of trade policy.

The data base is available in English, <http://idatd.eclac.cl> and Spanish (Base de Datos Integrada de Controversias Comerciales de América Latina y el Caribe, BADICC), <http://badicc.eclac.cl>

MARKET NEWS

EU EXPORT HELPDESK ONLINE SURVEY

The Commission of the European Union has commissioned an evaluation of its free online-service Export Helpdesk for Developing Countries. Since 2004, the web-portal offers exporters from developing countries comprehensive information on how to access the EU market, including standards and regulations, taxes and preferential trade agreements, as well as statistics and further sources of information

To further improve the service, the EU Commission invites users of the Export Helpdesk to participate until May 21 in an online survey now available on the Helpdesk website <http://exporthelp.europa.eu> . The survey assesses user-satisfaction and experience with the Helpdesk and takes about 7-12 minutes to answer. All indications will be handled strictly confidentially.

DR/CAFTA AGREEMENT

Business persons will be informed on how to take advantage of the Dominican Republic-Central American Free Trade Agreement which was implemented March 1, 2007. Several conferences and trade shows are scheduled for Florida and Puerto Rico throughout September and November. In September, Enterprise Florida, Florida's Trade and Investment Agency, is organizing a conference aimed at expanding Florida's role in the DR-CAFTA. At that event, participants from the region are being invited to utilize a matchmaking system devised to bring potential partners together to do more business.

This event will be followed by the annual Miami Herald Conference, aimed at expanding Puerto Rico's role in the DR-CAFTA signatory countries scheduled for the Puerto Rico Convention Center, from November 5-9. The DR-CAFTA will also be a major discussion theme at the annual Miami Conference on the Caribbean, scheduled for December. For further information on these events visit <http://www.caftagroup.com> and <http://www.floridaenterprise.com>

In related news, the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR) has issued notice that, effective April 17th, the Dominican Republic is eligible for retroactive duty treatment as provided in Section 205 of the DR-CAFTA Implementation Act. Section 205 provides that US importers may claim retroactive duty treatment for imports of certain textile or apparel goods entered on or after 1 January 2004, and before the entry into force of DR-CAFTA from signatory countries that are willing to provide reciprocal retroactive duty treatment or an equivalent benefit for US textile and apparel goods. The USTR has determined that the Dominican Republic will provide an equivalent benefit.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

SPANISH / ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS (of written and otherwise recorded material); interpretation; proofreading; language and culture training and business facilitation services are available. Contact: Chrystal Joachim , Bilingual Consultant / Managing Director, 134 Sister's Road, Hardbargain, Williamsville, Trinidad. Tel: (868)489-6354, Fax: (868)656-8193, E-mail: spanishmama@hotmail.com
Web: -

DISTRIBUTORS, joint or license manufacturers are required for Blue Giant Fish Burgers, Instant Fish Cakes, and Jacques Perry Tartar Sauce. Contact: Vanavah Edwards, Marketing Director, EPL Building, Kendal Hill, Christ Church, Barbados. Tel: (246) 428-9316, Fax: (246) 428-3798, E-mail: sms_inc@caribsurf.com

PAPER CONVERTING COMPANY has sacks for cement and other construction products, paper bags for flour, sugar and animal products available for sale. Contact: Ilonka Calderon, Customer Approacher, Av. San Cristobal No.2, Ens La Fe, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Tel: (809)565-5518 ext 272, Fax: (809)563-0697, E-mail: ilonkac@indusnig.com.do, Website: www.indusnig.com.do

KANGEN HEALING WATER is available. Contact: Augustine Martin, Distributor, 1045 Jefferson Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11221, USA. Tel: (347) 350-5876, E-mail: kornerstone_ent@lycos.com

HR/PAYROLL OUTSOURCING SOLUTIONS and HRMS/HRIS enterprise software package are available. Contact: Patrick Sambo, Managing Director, AntHill Consultancy©, Ivory Shell Drive 16, Guana Bay, St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles. Tel: (+599) 543 6361, Fax: (+599) 543 6361, E-mail: patrick@anthillconsultancy.com, Website: www.anthillconsultancy.com

SUNSCREEN LOTION, lotions, shower gel, men & women's fragrances, cookies, fruit, beers, rum, flavored alcohol and non alcohol drinks, and hair gel are available. Contact: Hans-Peter Roser, Manager, Rcid(Roser'S Carribean International Distributors), Bluff Lane, Pembroke, Hamilton HM09, Bermuda. Tel: (441) 296-8224, Fax: (441) 296-8224, E-mail: royalflush@tbinet.bm

ROTI SKINS are available. Contact: Jainath Ramdan, JR's Import and Export Business. Tel: 755-6794/482-4628, E-mail: rramdan@hotmail.com

TRAINING, Consultancy, Industrial Relations services available. Contact: B.A.G. Consulting Ltd, Anthony Rocheford, General Manager/Safety Specialist, E-mail: fullstop@caribsurf.com, Website: www.bagconsultingltd.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENTS MAY - JULY

MAY 1, 2007 - CREATIVE INDUSTRIES FORUM 2007

Creative Industries Forum 2007 "Vision 2012: Building Competitiveness through Creativity" May 1, 2007, Terra Nova Hotel, Kingston, JAMAICA. Contact: Jo-Anne Ramsaran, E-mail: jram saran@jamprocorp.com, Tel: (876) 978-3337

MAY 4-6, 2007 - FEMMES, CREATION & PRODUCTION 2007

Femmes, Creation & Production 2007, May 4-6, 2007, HAITI. E-mail: vitalvoiceshaiti@yahoo.com

MAY 8-10, 2007 - THE CARIBBEAN HOTEL & TOURISM INVESTMENT CONFERENCE (CHTIC)

The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Investment Conference (CHTIC), May 8-10, World Trade Center, CURAÇAO. Contact: Caribbean Hotel Association, 1000 Ponce de León Ave., 5th Floor, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00907, Tel: (787) 725-9139, Fax: (787) 725-9108. Website: www.caribbeanhotelassociation.com

MAY 9-13 - SALON FOIRE DE GUADELOUPE (THE REGIONAL TRADE FAIR)

Salon Foire de Guadeloupe (The Regional Trade Fair), May 9-13, 2007, Complex World Trade Centre - CWTC, GUADELOUPE. Contact: Jarry / Baie-Mahault, Sept Mag Communication, Tel: (590) 590 26 60 50, Fax: (590) 590 26 61 93

MAY 21-15 - MEDIATION WORKSHOP

Mediation Workshop, May 21 - 25, 2007, Savannah Hotel, BARBADOS. Contact: Aythawn International Law Chambers, #17 Pine Road, Belleville, St. Michael, Barbados. Tel: (246) 435-0839, Fax: (246) 435-0879, E-mail: aythawninternational@yahoo.com.

MAY 14-16 - STEP CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE 2007

STEP Caribbean Conference 2007, May 14-16, 2007, The Westin Casuarina Resort, Grand Cayman, CAYMAN ISLANDS, Producer: Springstreet Communications Inc.

Contact: Barb Crompton, Conference Manager, 925 Jacarandah Drive, Newmarket, ON, Canada L3Y 5L2, Tel: (905) 836-7812, Fax: (905) 836-8297

MAY 15 - CARIBBEAN HEALTH AND WELLNESS SECTOR

Representatives from the regional health and wellness sector including the Caribbean Herbal Business Association, the Caribbean Spa and Wellness Association and representatives from related sectors such as interior design, handicraft, craft, furniture and producers of health food products will have the opportunity to validate and discuss the various elements of a proposed three-year road map for the development of the Caribbean's Health and Wellness Sector at Caribbean Health and Wellness Sector Meeting, May 15, 2007 Jamaica Hilton Hotel, JAMAICA.

For additional information on the meeting please contact: Tonika Sealy, Technical Advisor, New Sectors, Caribbean Export Development Agency, Tel: (246) 436-0578, Fax: (246) 436-0578, E-mail: tsealy@carib-export.com, Website: www.carib-export.com.

MAY 16 - OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF CGCS, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Official Launch of CGCS, Trinidad And Tobago, Seminar Room B, Mezzanine Floor, The Centre of Excellence, Macoya Road, Tunapuna, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. Contact: Undeane Ashby-Grimes Caribbean Export Development Agency, Tel: (246) 426-0578, Fax: (246) 436-9999, Email: ugrimes@carib-export.com

MAY 16 - 18 - 23RD MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (COTED)

23rd Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED), May 16-18, 2007, SAINT LUCIA. Website: www.caricom.org.

MAY 16-19 - THE TRADE AND INVESTMENT CONVENTION 2007

The Trade & Investment Convention 2007 takes place from May 16th to 19th, 2007 at the Centre of Excellence in Macoya, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. TIC networks global decision-makers, giving participants the opportunity to discover joint venture and business partnership prospects, and unleashing trade potential by promoting linkages between the Caribbean, the Americas, Asia and Europe.

For further details contact: Khazana Rasool B.B.A., TIC Sales Co-ordinator, Trinidad & Tobago Manufacturers' Association, Level 2, TTMA Building, 42 Tenth Avenue, Barataria, Trinidad, W.I. Tel #: (868) 675 8862, Fax #: (868) 675 9000, Cell #: (868) 758 1070, E-mail: tic@tma.com, Website: www.tic-tt.com

MAY 18 - COCKTAIL RECEPTION AND OFFICIAL LAUNCH, CGCS BARBADOS

Cocktail Reception and Official (Barbados) Launch of the Caribbean Gift and Craft Show (CGCS) 2007 Featuring Caribbean Fashion Rhythms, May 18, 2007, Island Inn Hotel, Aquatic Gap, St. Michael. Contact: Undeane Ashby-Grimes, Technical Assistant, Caribbean Export Development Agency, Tel: (246) 426-0578, Fax: (246) 436-9999, Email: ugrimes@carib-export.com

MAY 18 - CARIBBEAN EXPORT BOARD MEETING

The Board Meeting of the Caribbean Export Development Agency, May 18, 2007, Grand Barbados Beach Resort, Barbados. Contact: Wendy Graham, Assistant, Executive Director, Caribbean Export Development Agency, Tel: (246) 426-0578, Fax: (246) 436-9999, E-mail: wgraham@carib-export.com

MAY 21-24 -9TH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

9th Annual Caribbean Conference on Sustainable Tourism Development (Health and Wellness: Communities, Environments & Economies), May 21-24, 2007, Westin Casuarina Resort & Spa in Grand Cayman, THE CAYMAN ISLANDS. Contact: CTC-9, Caribbean Tourism Organization, 80 Broad Street, 32nd Floor, New York, NY 10004, Tel: (212) 635-9530, Fax: (212) 635-9511, Website: <http://www.onecaribbean.org/information/categorybrowse.php?categoryid=946>

MAY 25-28 - BMEX 2007

It's BMEX time again and the Barbados Manufacturers' Association (BMA) is CELEBRATING MANUFACTURING! BMEX is the event of choice for showcasing your products and for launching new products. BMEX will be held on Whitsuntide weekend May 25 - 28, 2007 at the Sherbourne Conference Centre, BARBADOS. Companies interested in participating may contact the BMA secretariat at Tel: (246) 426-4474; Fax: (246) 436-5182 or by email: bmex-products@caribsurf.com. For further details please visit the BMEX website at www.bmex.com.bb

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED SEMINAR SERIES

The Business Development Company Limited will be hosting a series of four Seminars entitled "Gearing up for regional trade - Tools for making effective business decisions". The dates for the seminars are May 22, June 26, July 17 and September 18, 2007. For further information contact: Ms Annelle Joachim and Ms Shivaughn Edoe at Tel: (868) 623-5507, Fax: (868) 625-8126

MAY 30 -31 - ERGONOMICS WORKSHOP

Ergonomics Workshop May 30 -31, 2007, DC Conference Centre, BARBADOS. Contact: HIPS Corporate and Special Occasions Planners, Tel: (246) 437-2710, E-mail: dncyrs@yahoo.com, Website: www.bagconsultingltd.com

MAY 31 - JUNE 2 - HOT PEPPER WORKSHOP

Caribbean stakeholders in the Agro-processing Sector of the Hot Pepper Industry will transfer information, ideas, techniques and contacts in respect of business opportunities in the market at a workshop on May 31-June 02 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Jamaica. The workshop coordinated by the Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) in association with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) aims at stimulating renewed interest and commitment to regional networking and national clustering.

For additional information on the meeting please contact: Cora Lowe, Research and Communication Officer, Caribbean Export Development Agency, Tel: (246) 436-0578, Fax: (246) 436-0578, E-mail: clowe@carib-export.com, Website: www.carib-export.com.

JUNE 3-6 - THE 27TH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN INSURANCE CONFERENCE

The 27th Annual Caribbean Insurance Conference, June 3-6, 2007, St. Kitts Marriott Resort & Royal Beach Casino, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS. Contact: Janelle Thompson, Marketing and Communications Specialist, Insurance Association of the Caribbean Inc (IAC), IAC Building, Collymore Rock, St. Michael, Barbados. Tel: (246) 427-5608/5609, Fax: (246) 427-7277, E-mail: janelle@iac-caribbean.com, Website: www.iac-caribbean.com.

JUNE 5 - DOING BUSINESS WITH COSTA RICA SEMINAR

Existing and potential exporters of goods and services and person interested in conducting business with Costa Rica in general, are invited to attend a "Doing Business with Costa Rica Seminar" scheduled for June 5th at the Savannah Hotel, Barbados. The Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) is organising the seminar under the 9th Economic Development Fund (EDF) Caribbean Regional Trade and Private Sector Programme (CRTPSDP) of the European Commission, in partnership with the Barbados Investment and Development Corporation (BIDC). The half-day seminar is targeted at small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in the manufacturing and services sectors

To register to attend the seminar complete the REGISTRATION FORM and return to Ms Undeane Ashby Grimes at e-mail: ugrimes@carib-export.com; Tel: 246-436-0578; Fax: 246-436-9999

JUNE 5 & 7 - CHOICES CAREER & EDUCATION EXPO

CHOICES Career & Education Expo, June 5 & 7, 2007, Kingston - Tuesday June 5, 2007 - Hilton Kingston, Mandeville - Thursday June 7, 2007 - Golf View Hotel, JAMAICA. Contact: Angela deFreitas, General Manager, CHOICES Career Advice, 100 Shortwood Road, Kingston 8, Jamaica, W.I. Tel: (876) 925-0804/876-924-7473, E-mail: info@choicesonlinejm.com, Website - www.choicesonlinejm.com / <http://www.choicesonlinejm.com/choicesexpo/howtoparticipate.asp?Loc=2>

JUNE 8-9 - SALON DE LA FORMATION PROFESSIONNELLE (THE EDUCATION EXPO)

Salon de la formation professionnelle (The Education Expo), June 8-9, 2007, Palais des Congrès de Madiana - Schoelcher, MARTINIQUE. Contact: Mme Guillaume Tel: (596) 596 61 09 24. Producer: Open Soft System, Tel: (596) 596 61 16 32, Cel: (596) 696 22 79 46, Fax: (596) 596 61 18 99, Email: open-soft@wanadoo.fr,

JUNE 8-10 - CARIBBEAN FASHIONWEEK 2007

Designers will present their collections to an international audience of press, fashion editors, buyers, showroom outlets, celebrities and members of the public at Caribbean Fashionweek 2007 June 8-10 2007, at the National Indoor Sports Centre, JAMAICA. Further details on the event contact: Romae Gordon, Fashion Director CFW, Pulse, 38a Trafalgar Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica, Tel: (876) 960 1320/ 968 1089-90 Fax (876) 968 1185, E-mail: info@pulsecaribbean.com or visit the CFW website, www.caribbeanfashionweek.com.

JUNE 19-21 - NOVATECH/MADINTECH 2007

Information and Communication Technology is recognised as not only a factor for balanced economic and social development and the creation of innovative enhancement of services in the interest of all, but also a factor for territorial competitiveness and attractiveness. It constitutes the essential elements for efficient and successful sustainable development policies.

The use of such technology should also assist the small island territories linking the Caribbean Basin to overcome the structural handicaps hindering their development. To draw the maximum from this potential for expansion, it is also important to foster the development of networking between Europe and the Caribbean Region. The fostering of exchange and partnerships between businesses operating in the sector will be the focus of ICT Conference and Exhibition NOVATECH/MADINTECH 2007, June 19-21, 2007 organised by the Regional Council of Martinique.

Interested Caribbean ICTs should contact: Maguy MARIE-JEANNE, Direction des Relations Internationales et de la Coopération, Conseil Régional de Martinique, Rue Gaston Defferre-Cluny, 97 200 Fort de France, MARTINIQUE. Tel: (0596 or 011 596 596) 59 64 69 /59 80 49/ 59 6440, Fax: (0596 or 011 596 596) 59 64 14/84

JUNE 24 - 27 - CANTO 2007

CANTO 2007, 23rd Annual Conference and Trade Exhibition "Leading Connectivity through ICTs" June 24-27, Sherbourne Conference Centre, St. Michael, BARBADOS. Organised by the Caribbean Association of National Telecommunication Organizations, Co-hosted by Cable and Wireless (Barbados) Ltd. For further information please visit <http://www.canto.org/23conf/conferenceinfo>

JUNE 24-29 - US COMMERCIAL SERVICE IMPORTER/INVESTMENT TRADE MISSION

The US Commercial Service in partnership with the Florida Foreign Trade Association will be hosting an importer/investment trade mission to Miami and Tampa between June 24-29, 2007. The Trade Mission will include One-on-One business meetings, an Orientation seminar with topics such as: How To Do Business with US Companies, Financing Imports/Exports, Freight Consolidations and a Networking Reception. Interested persons should contact. Michelle Hustler-Small, Senior Project Officer, Barbados Coalition of Service Industries, 14 Pine Plantation Road, Wildey, St. Michael, Barbados, Tel: (246) 429-5357, Mobile: (246) 234-2307, Fax: (246) 429-5352, E-mail: msmall@bcsi.org.bb / info@bcsi.org.bb

JUNE 27-29 - 3RD TOURISM HUMAN RESOURCES CONFERENCE

3rd Tourism Human Resources Conference, June 27-29, 2007, GUADELOUPE. Contact: Ms. Yvonne Armour-Shillingford or Ms. Marvelle Benn, Tel: (246) 427-5242, Fax: (246) 429-3065, E-mail yarmours@caribtourism.com or mbenn@caribtourism.com OR Comité du Tourisme des Îles de la Guadeloupe, 5 Square de la banque, B.P. 555, 97166, Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe, Tel: 590-590-820930, Fax: 590-590-838922, E-mail: th.gargar@lesilesdeguadeloupe.com, Website: www.onecaribbean.org

JULY 17-18 - REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENHANCING TRADE COMPETITIVENESS OF SMES THROUGH STANDARDIZATION AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

Regional Conference on Enhancing Trade Competitiveness of SMEs through Standardization and Conformity Assessment, July 17-18, 2007, TTBS Auditorium, Tunapuna, Trinidad and Tobago. Contact: Kenneth Mullin, Executive Secretary, CROSQ, Tel: (246) 437-8146, Fax: (246) 437-4569, E-mail: crosq.caricom@crosq.org, Website: www.crosq.org

OTHER EVENTS

FOIRE DE PARIS, April 27-May 8, 2007, COMEXPO PARIS, Website: www.foiredeparis.fr

2nd Annual Central Florida's Caribbean American Business Expo 2007, June 1-3, 2007, Central Florida Fair & Exposition Park (Fairgrounds), Orlando, Florida. Tel: (407) 835-3617, Fax: (407) 445-2294, E-mail: guenetroberts@yahoo.com

Interfood China 2007, Canton, CHINA, June 7-9, 2007. Website: <http://www.faircanton.com/interfood2007>

Caribbean & Latin America Trade and Travel Symposium, June 8, 2007. Website: www.ctshowcase.org

VINEXPO, The International Wine and Spirits Exhibition, June 17-21, 2007, FRANCE. Website: www.vinexpo.com

Salon International De L'aeronautique Et De L'espace, International Paris Air Show, June 18-24, 2007, Le Bourget, FRANCE. Contact: E-mail: sie@salon-du-bourget.fr, Website: www.paris-air-show.com

Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Conference, June 17-29, Hyatt Regency, Miami Florida. Tel: (305) 443-3040, Fax: (305) 443-3005

Business & Diplomatic Protocol Training Seminar, June 18-19, 2007, Holiday Inn Brussels City Centre, Brussels, BELGIUM. Contact: The School of Protocol, Ltd, Celovska 122, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, Tel: +386 1 505 7187, Fax: +386 1 514 1380

The 2007 New York Venture Summit, June 19-20, 2007, NEW YORK, Tel: (718) 447-0817, Email: iwant2present@youngstartup.com

Trade Mission to Miami, Florida, June.24-29, 2007 Tampa, FLORIDA. Hosted by : US Commercial Service and Florida Foreign Trade Association. Contact: Doreen Weekes , Tel: (246) 227-4068, Fax: (246) 228-6084, E-mail: Doreen.weekes@mail.doc.gov

53rd Summer International Fancy Food Show 2007, July 8 - 10, 2007 at the Jacob K Javits Center, New York. Website: www.specialtyfood.com

We are very interested in your feedback; please email your comments to tradewatch@carib-export.com