

# TRADE WATCH



The Official E-letter of the Caribbean Export Development Agency

CARIBBEAN  
**EXPORT**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

February, 2008

### **CARIBBEAN EXPORT DIGEST**

- [CGCS 2008 TO BE LAUNCHED IN JAMAICA](#)
- [PROMOTING CARIFORUM SERVICES EXPORTS: HIGH POTENTIAL, BUT MANY CHALLENGES](#)
- [TAKING THE CARIBBEAN ACCESSORIES AND DECORATIVE MARKET TO NEW LEVEL](#)

### **CSME NEWS**

- [CARICOM, CANADA, HAITI MOVE ON CSME PROJECT](#)

### **TRADE POLICY DEVELOPMENTS**

- [EPA TAKES CENTRE STAGE](#)
- [CARIBBEAN BASIN TRADE PARTNERSHIP ACT \(CBTPA\) TO BE EXTENDED](#)
- [EU LOSES ON BANANAS AGAIN](#)

### **MARKET NEWS**

- [JEA AND USAID SIGN CLUSTER AGREEMENT](#)

### **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

- [BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES](#)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- [UPCOMING EVENTS MARCH - MAY, 2008](#)

### **NOTICES**

- [IICA APPOINTS REPRESENTATIVES](#)
- [ECLAC VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR](#)
- [FULBRIGHT FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP](#)
- [SENIOR PROJECT OFFICER, REGIONAL STATISTICS](#)

### **PUBLICATIONS**

- [CARIBBEAN EXPORT PUBLICATIONS](#)

## **CARIBBEAN EXPORT DIGEST**

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### **CGCS 2008 TO BE LAUNCHED IN JAMAICA**

The **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** is pleased to announce that the official launch in Jamaica of the Caribbean Gift and Craft Show (CGCS) 2008 will take place on Monday March 17th from 10:00 am to

12:00 noon in the Somerset Suite, Courtleigh Hotel. This launch will poignantly observe an historic landmark - fifteen years of providing opportunities and a forum for Caribbean artisans to do business among themselves and with leading regional and international buyers.

The Caribbean Gift and Craft Show, which has established itself as the premier regional trade show for the sector, will celebrate its fifteenth anniversary at the Sherbourne Conference Centre in Barbados, from October 2nd - 5th. The Theme of the Show is "Celebrating Handmade Design and Caribbean Traditions."

Over 250 exhibitors from 30 countries in the greater Caribbean and 300 trade buyers are expected to attend the show. CGCS 2008 will showcase over 23 categories of craft, art, gifts, apparel and fashion accessories. The show has traditionally attracted a large number of exhibitors, trade buyers and officials from across the Caribbean, including Jamaica, and Caribbean Export will seek to increase the level of participation this year.

FirstCaribbean International Bank will again be this year's major corporate sponsor and will join Caribbean Export in promoting this event.

The Jamaica launch, the first in a series, is one of the promotional activities planned in key markets. These activities have been designed to stimulate interest in the show and to encourage potential exhibitors and trade buyers, to register early and capitalise on the special "early bird" booth rates. Attractive airfare and accommodation arrangements are also being offered to show participants.

For further information on the launch contact A. Gene Hylton at e-mail: [gylton@jti.org.jm](mailto:gylton@jti.org.jm) or Cora Lowe at e-mail: [clowe@carib-export.com](mailto:clowe@carib-export.com). Visit [www.caribeangiftandcraft.com](http://www.caribeangiftandcraft.com) for further details on the Show.

## **PROMOTING CARIFORUM SERVICES EXPORTS: HIGH POTENTIAL, BUT MANY CHALLENGES**

The following is an extract of a presentation presented by Mr Philip A. W. Williams, Executive Director, **Caribbean Export Development Agency** at the Pan-Commonwealth Conference on Professional Services Trade, on February 19-21, 2008 in Malaysia. The complete presentation can be found on [www.carib-export.com](http://www.carib-export.com).

In the fifteen Member States of CARIFORUM, as elsewhere in the developing world, trade in services is quickly overtaking trade in goods. During the 1980s and 1990s, the region has moved steadily from being an agriculture-based economy, to greater dependency on manufacturing and tourism, with admittedly varying degrees of speed and success. In the last decade, there has been an increasing recognition of the importance of services (i.e. other than tourism) and efforts have been made to tap into this growing global market. However, progress has been spasmodic, driven more by opportunistic foreign investment (e.g. in off-shore medical centres), than by any national or regional strategy, being pursued systematically. Notable exceptions to this would be Barbados' success in the area of financial services and the progress of Jamaica and Barbados in the area of back office operations, principally with data entry.

There is a significant range of service products on offer from the region and of export opportunities available, now heightened by recent initialling of the European Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the Caribbean region. Unfortunately, the region's service exports are not keeping pace with global growth. In many cases, significant export opportunities are still to be developed and in other areas, the region has only tapped into small niche markets.

The most frequently identified opportunities are in the following six areas of Professional Services:

- . Health and Wellness
- . Education
- . Business Development services

- . ICT
- . Construction-related services
- . Production Services for the Entertainment Industry

With respect with the health and wellness sector, the **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** and the Trade Facilitation Office (TFO) Canada will present a one day seminar titled "Exporting Services to Canada" (on March 31), and a strategy session on "Promoting Caribbean Health and Wellness Tourism" (on April 1 and 2) in Barbados. The seminar will be held at the Accra Beach Hotel and Resort, Barbados. For further information on the seminar, contact Veona Maloney at E-mail. [vmaloney@carib-export.com](mailto:vmaloney@carib-export.com).

## **TAKING THE CARIBBEAN ACCESSORIES AND DECORATIVE MARKET TO NEW LEVEL**

The PROINVEST Sector Partnership meeting for Furniture and Accessories will offer great opportunities for manufacturers of handcrafted products, particularly those in the accessories and decorative items category. The meeting to be held from March 10-12 at the Hotel Dominican Fiesta, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, will bring together firms from Italy, France, Greece and Spain to establish joint ventures, outsourcing, sourcing and other business opportunities with Caribbean firms.

"The firms from the (European Union) EU will range from buyers of regional souvenirs items - to differentiate themselves from the Asian products already in the market, to companies wishing to manufacture products and construct hotels in the region and companies wishing to source regional products", indicated Alan Ramirez, Deputy Executive Director of the **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)**.

The meeting is sponsored by the European Commission through the PROINVEST Programme. The partners from the Caribbean are Belize Trade and Investment Development Service (BELTRAIDE), Guyana Office for Investment (GOINVEST), Jamaica Manufacturers Association (JMA), Confederacion Dominicana de la Pequena y Mediana Empresa Inc (CODOPYME). The European partners are, Italian Giftware Association, Chamber of Kavala, Greece, Interco Aquitaine, France, and La Union de Exportadores de Muebles y Afines del Centro de Espana, Spain.

Mr. Ramirez also indicated that this important PROINVEST meeting forms part of **Caribbean Export's** support to the gift and craft sector. This year, the Agency is also coordinating the Caribbean Gift and Craft Show which will be held in Barbados from October 2 -5, the Canadian Trade Readiness Capacity Building Project in collaboration with Trade Facilitation Office (TFO) Canada and the launching of craft catalogue in coordination with the Caribbean Hotel Association.

"Companies from the Caribbean can start identifying benefits of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) by initiating special arrangement that could facilitate business and investment with Europe. The EU is an integrated market of 27 countries. The interest of these European companies in our region is a demonstration of the potential of this market and the recognition of the quality of the region. When a buyer from Greece thinks of our countries as a good source of raw material and finished products, our companies need to participate and benefit from these opportunities", concluded Mr. Ramirez.

## **CSME NEWS**

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### **CARICOM, CANADA, HAITI MOVE ON CSME PROJECT**

The first meeting of a Tripartite Committee established to oversee the implementation of a Haiti CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) Project was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at the CARICOM Secretariat Headquarters, Georgetown, Guyana. The Tripartite Committee comprises representatives of Haiti, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat and was established under a CARICOM/Canada Contribution Agreement which was signed last October 15 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

The Contribution Agreement includes two components one of which is the Haiti/CSME project and the other seeks to strengthen the administrative, functional and participatory effectiveness of the CSME. The objective of the Haiti CSME programme is to help Haiti strengthen its capacity to function effectively within the regional economic integration process of the Caribbean Community encapsulated in the CARICOM Single Market and Economy. Haiti's Parliament ratified the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas last October and Foreign Minister His Excellency Jean Renald Clerisme presented the published Notice of Ratification to the Chairman of the Caribbean Community Council of Ministers, on 7th February clearing the way for the country's full participation in the CSME.

**Source CARICOM Secretariat**

## **TRADE POLICY DEVELOPMENTS**

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### **EPA TAKES CENTRE STAGE**

In what has been a continuing effort by regional and European representatives to disseminate information about the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) a series of seminars were held in the region and the Dominican Republic to discuss the Agreement. Officials took time out to discuss the innovative nature of the EPA and to dispel some of the concerns and rumors about the agreement.

According to Ambassador Dr. Richard Bernal, Director of the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM) "The ball is now in the region's court as to how it intended to make full use of the opportunities presented under the EPA." He also stated that the region benefited from a longer adjustment period to prepare for the arrangements as well as more developmental assistance and pledges from Europe to help with fiscal reform.

As for the release of the EPA final document, officials say that it is almost ready to be published, once it has been translated into French, Dutch, Spanish and English.

### **CARIBBEAN BASIN TRADE PARTNERSHIP ACT (CBTPA) TO BE EXTENDED**

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has reaffirmed the June, 2007 request by CARICOM Heads of Government to the President of the United States of America, to extend the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) to all Member States of the Community and to make permanent the preferences available under the Act. Assistant Secretary-General, Trade and Economic Integration at the CARICOM Secretariat, Ambassador Irwin LaRocque, reiterated the request at a hearing of the United States International Trade Commission (USITC) on the Caribbean on Tuesday, January 29, 2008.

The public hearing at the Commission's building in Washington D.C, was entitled Caribbean Region: Review of Economic Growth and Development and was a direct result of the Conference on the Caribbean which was held in Washington last June. The Commission was asked to conduct this hearing by the United States House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee which is led by the Congressman Charles Rangel. Five Member States of CARICOM, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts/Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago also participated in the hearing. Secretary-General of the Organisation of American States, His Excellency Jose Miguel Insulza as well as representatives of the Caribbean Hotel Association (CHA) and the United States private sector also made

presentations.

Assistant Secretary-General LaRocque told the panel that the revitalised CARICOM-United States Trade and Investment Council (TIC) was expected to play an important part in the furthering of the enhanced trade and economic relationship. In his oral submission he outlined five main areas which could be considered as elements for a more mature CARICOM/US trade and economic relationship:

1. CARICOM/US trade relations should be enhanced and placed on a permanent and more predictable footing. One way of achieving this would be for the US to lock-in the CBTPA preferences which expire in September this year into permanent legislation under CBERA and include all CARICOM Member States as beneficiaries. In addition, the US should broaden the categories of CARICOM products eligible for preferential access to its markets.
2. The services sector, the fastest growing sector in the region, contributing between 60 to 90 per cent of the economic output, needed to be explicitly provided for in any future CARICOM-US trade relations.
3. There was a role for the US, as one of the Region's long standing partners, as CARICOM seek to promote the transformation of its economies through their access to the resources and technical assistance to be provided by the CARICOM Development Fund.
4. The US to support capacity-building assistance provided by CARICOM to allow regional industries to capitalise on export opportunities. This should include training and technical assistance to address sanitary and phytosanitary requirements and other technical regulations and standards applied by the US.
5. Any new and enhanced trading relationship between CARICOM and the US should take into account the differences in the level of development between the two parties and among CARICOM countries themselves.

The USITC, an independent, non-partisan, fact-finding federal agency, will provide an in-depth description of the current level of economic development in the Caribbean basin at the regional level and the country level. The country level overview will include country profiles of the 18 CBERA countries that are not part of the Central American Free Trade Agreement including the Dominican Republic (CAFTA-DR). The USITC will also provide an overview of the economic literature on potential Caribbean development and will summarize the literature assessing the direction of future Caribbean development. The report is expected to be submitted to the Committee by May, 2008.

Currently, only seven Member States are beneficiaries under the Act which entered into force in 2000 and allowed duty free entry to designated products from those Member States of the Community.

**Source: CARICOM Secretariat**

## **EU LOSES ON BANANAS AGAIN**

A WTO dispute panel has supported a complaint from the US against the EU's tariffs on imported bananas. The EU's preferential market access for bananas from its former colonies in the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) group has been the subject of numerous disputes dating back over a decade, pitting Brussels against the US and several Latin American countries. This most recent dispute concerned the EU's introduction in 2006 of a tariff of 176 euros (\$258) per tonne along with a 775,000 tonne duty-free quota for ACP bananas. The EU lost a similar dispute with Ecuador last December.

The US itself is not a significant exporter of bananas to the EU. However, several US-based multinationals, such as Chiquita, have plantations in Latin America whose bananas are affected by the EU tariffs. The panel's decision could potentially open the door to US retaliation in the form of extra duties on European goods. The EU will be able to appeal the ruling.

## MARKET NEWS

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### JEA AND USAID SIGN CLUSTER AGREEMENT

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Jamaica Exporters Association (JEA), through the Competitiveness Company, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for US\$300,000 on February 12, at the JEA in Kingston. This MOU allows for a 12 month Sustainable Cluster Project, which is aimed at implementing sustainable clusters in several businesses in Jamaica.

Under the agreement, the JEA, through the Competitiveness Company, will be focusing on the ornamental fish cluster (agri-business), which is newly established; the sauces and spices cluster (also agri-business); and entertainment and culture cluster, with the music sub-cluster initiatives being led by Jamaica Signature Beats (JSB).

The agreement is expected to result in improving and increasing revenues to the cluster members, provide an organisational framework that leads to sustainability of the clusters, strengthen the cluster's supply chains and, increase knowledge, understanding and co-operation within the industries.

A cluster includes all the related and supporting industries involved in the production and delivery of a specific product or service. The Competitiveness Company was formed in 2005 by the JEA as a subsidiary, with the aim of creating an in-house centre of expertise in competitiveness on which the private and public sectors can draw.

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**COOKWARE**, electrical household products, cosmetics, hats and caps, cigarette lighters, jewellery, sunglasses, umbrellas, fountain pens, photo albums, cameras, GSM hand sets, telephone boxes, leather products, footballs, electronics, games and toys are required. Contact: F.K.O.Abiola, A. Kastle and Company, 3, Catholic Mission Street, Lagos Island, NIGERIA. Tel: +2348034156411, E-mail: [kastlegen@yahoo.com](mailto:kastlegen@yahoo.com)

**FRESH GINGER** (root) is available. Contact: Alice Amafo, Financial Advisor, Maroon Products Company, Ramlakhanstraat 44, Paramaribo, Suriname, S.A., E-mail: [tenciamafa@yahoo.com](mailto:tenciamafa@yahoo.com)

**CANE AND BAMBOO FURNITURE**, nibbi furniture, tibisiri craft, batik and tie dye, leather craft, paintings, sculptures, wooden decorative products, wooden office furniture, general arts and crafts, ceramic and pottery, Guyanese souvenirs, antique furniture and also books on interior decorating are available. Contact: Karen Bacchus, General Manager, New Era Business Enterprise, 162/163 Lamaha Street, North Cummingsburg, Georgetown, Guyana. Tel: 592-226-2355, Tel: 592-226-8263, Fax: 592-227-6681, E-mail: [new-era@guyana.net.gy](mailto:new-era@guyana.net.gy) or [newerabusiness@yahoo.com](mailto:newerabusiness@yahoo.com)

**The Caribbean Export Development Agency assumes no responsibility for any liability arising from the pursuit of the opportunities listed above.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS MARCH - MAY, 2008**

### **MARCH 2008**

#### **6-7 - COSTA RICA INSIGHT 2008, 5TH SUMMIT ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

A meeting ground for technology leaders, the summit will see experts of international stature analyse the latest trends in the world of technology using conferences and round tables. Attendees will also have the opportunity to become acquainted with innovations in software, hardware, networks and telecommunications, and interact with venture capital investors and establish important local and international business contact. For further information contact: Mr. Juan Carlos Martinez-Piva at E-mail: [jcmartinez@procomer.com](mailto:jcmartinez@procomer.com) or visit, [www.costaricainsight.com](http://www.costaricainsight.com)

#### **7-9 - AGROFEST, 2008**

Agrofest will be held from March 7-9, 2008 at Queen's Park, Bridgetown, BARBADOS. Agrofest will provide an opportunity for all commodity groups, large establishments, small and medium sized enterprises and entrepreneurs to showcase their products, by-products and services. It will also offer a variety of entertainment for the whole family while being educational. For further information Contact: James Paul, The Barbados Agricultural Society, The Grotto, Beckles Rd., St. Michael, BARBADOS, Tel: (246) 436-6683 / 84, Fax: (246) 435-0651, Email: [agrofest@caribsurf.com](mailto:agrofest@caribsurf.com)

#### **10-11 - SYMPOSIUM ON SERVICES EXPORT OPPORTUNITY FOR CARIBBEAN FIRMS UNDER THE EPA**

The Sir Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy and Services, UWI, Barbados in collaboration with the OAS Department of Trade, Tourism and Competitiveness is hosting the Symposium on Services Export Opportunity for Caribbean Firms under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) on March 10-11 at Grand Barbados Beach Resort, BARBADOS. For further information contact: The Sir Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy and Services, UWI Cave Hill, Tel: (246) 417-4805-7; E-mail: [src@cavehill.uwi.edu](mailto:src@cavehill.uwi.edu); Website: [www.shridathramphalcentre.org](http://www.shridathramphalcentre.org)

#### **10-12 - E-U PARTNERSHIP MEETING - FURNITURE AND COMPLEMENTARY DECORATIVE ITEMS**

E-U PARTNERSHIP Meeting - Furniture and Complementary Decorative Items, March, 10-12, 2008, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Contact: Romily Thevenin, Caribbean Export Development Agency, Santo Domingo, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, Tel: +1(809) 531-6565, Fax: +1 (809) 473-7532, Email: [romily@codetel.net.do](mailto:romily@codetel.net.do) OR, Sam Kruiner, Tel: +1 (246) 436-0578, Fax: +1 (246) 436-9999, E-mail: [skruiner@carib-export.com](mailto:skruiner@carib-export.com), Website: [www.carib-export.com](http://www.carib-export.com)

#### **12-13 - ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION - BUSINESS LOANS AND FINANCE FAIR**

The fair is open to providers of business loans, grants, venture capital funding, joint venture funding, subsidies, proposal writers and accounting and project service providers. For further information contact: The Secretary, St. Vincent and the Grenadines Small Business Association, P.O. Box 2343, Kingstown, ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES, Tel: (784) 456-6666, E-mail: [svgsba@gmail.com](mailto:svgsba@gmail.com)

#### **13 - 14 - COMPETITION LAW & POLICY WORKSHOP**

The two-day Workshop will be held at The Shell Suite, The Solutions Centre, UWI, Cave Hill Campus, BARBADOS and is intended to provide participants with a working knowledge of the provisions of Competition Law and the technicalities of its enforcement. The workshop will therefore start with an introduction to competition law, and move on to focus on the specific prohibitions contained in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, as also reflected in the Barbados Competition Act and the OECS draft Model Competition Law. For further information contact: The Sir Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy and Services, UWI Cave Hill, Tel: (246) 417-4805-7; E-mail: [src@cavehill.uwi.edu](mailto:src@cavehill.uwi.edu); Website: [www.shridathramphalcentre.org](http://www.shridathramphalcentre.org)

## **25-28 - ELECTRONIC CONTENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

This program presented by AIIM International in association with Lorson Resources Ltd., will be held at Grand Barbados Resort, Aquatic Gap, St. Michael, BARBADOS. The training program will provide participants with globally recognized industry best practices to plan, design and implement comprehensive ECM solutions for corporate information management across disparate ICT systems. For full course outline, price and registration details please contact - IN BARBADOS: Emerson Bryan at 1.246.259.9222 , IN TRINIDAD: Lorson Resources Ltd. at 1.868.672.7002. Alternatively, email: [info@lorsonresources.com](mailto:info@lorsonresources.com), or visit: [www.lorsonresources.com](http://www.lorsonresources.com)

## **MARCH 31 - APRIL 02 - EXPORTING SERVICES TO CANADA**

The Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) and the Trade Facilitation Office Canada (TFO Canada) will present a one day seminar titled "Exporting Services to Canada" (on March 31st), and a strategy session on "Promoting Caribbean Health and Wellness Tourism" (on April 1st and 2nd) in Barbados. Service firms and business support organizations (BSOs) wishing to participate in the seminars should contact Veona Maloney at Tel: (246) 436-0578, Fax: (246) 436-999 or E-mail: [vmaloney@carib-export.com](mailto:vmaloney@carib-export.com).

## **APRIL, 2008**

### **25-26 - 5TH ANNUAL RE-DISCOVER THE CARIBBEAN SHOW**

The 5th annual Re-Discover The Caribbean Show will be held at the Sherbourne Conference Centre, Two Mile Hill, St. Michael, BARBADOS. Re- Discover The Caribbean is the region's only event, entirely dedicated to growing intra-Caribbean travel. National tourism offices and associations, individual and group hotels, activities and attractions, car rental agencies and airlines are welcome to participate. For further information Contact: Mr. Adrian Loveridge, Tel: (246) 428-2129, E-mail: [re-discover@caribsurf.com](mailto:re-discover@caribsurf.com) or visit Website: [www.re-discover.com](http://www.re-discover.com)

### **APRIL 30-MAY 03 - NINTH ANNUAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT CONVENTION 2008**

The Trade and Investment Convention 2008 will be held from Wednesday April 30 to Saturday May 3, 2008. The Convention will incorporate business-to-business and business-to-consumer activity, allowing for market research, testing, sampling, and other interactions with the general public.

TIC is geared specifically to building local, intra-regional and international trade, and is a key platform of the TTMA's effort to expand trade horizons for member manufacturers. The Convention includes exhibits by manufacturers, exporters and service providers, as well as financial institutions, investors, and regulatory agencies responsible for trade.

To register as a TIC 2008 Exhibitor, and to find out about special rates for TTMA Members, contact Khazana Rasool, TIC Sales Co-ordinator, at Tel: (868) 675-8862 or visit the Website: <http://www.ttma.com>

## **MAY, 2008**

### **1-4 - JMA/JEA EXPO 2008**

The Jamaica Manufacturers' Association Ltd. and Jamaica Exporters Association present JMA/JEA Expo 2008 - Buy Jamaica, Brand We Love at the National Arena, Kingston, JAMAICA. Interact with Jamaican Suppliers of good and services! Network with Jamaican Partners for new joint ventures! Explore outsourcing opportunities! Benefit from discounted Air and Hotel Packages!

For further details contact: Contact: Berletta Forrester, Manager, Export Promotion, Tel: (876) 927-3369/ (876) 978-7755 ext. 2027/ (876) 922-8880/3/ (876) 960-4908, Fax: (876) 978-4341 / (876) 922-9205/ (876) 960-9869, E-mail:

[buyers@jmajeaexpo.com](mailto:buyers@jmajeaexpo.com) / [info@jmajeaexpo.com](mailto:info@jmajeaexpo.com) / [expo2008@cwjamaica.com](mailto:expo2008@cwjamaica.com), Website: [www.jamjeaexpo.com](http://www.jamjeaexpo.com)

## **21-24 - 9TH CTO CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT (STC-9)**

The theme of the conference is Communities, Environments and Economies. The conference will be held at the Westin Casuarinas Resort & Spa in Grand Cayman, the Cayman Islands. For further information Contact: Johnson JohnRose, CTO, Tel: 246-427-5242, or Theresa Oakes, KCT, Tel: 526-594-4100, E-mail: [T.Oakes@KTCpr.com](mailto:T.Oakes@KTCpr.com)

## **OTHER EVENTS**

### **MARCH 10-11, 2008 - BUSINESS AND DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL TRAINING SEMINAR**

The rules of international protocol are intended to maintain courtesy and politeness in international affairs; between governments, international organisations and their officials as well as between corporations, companies and their representatives. This comprehensive two-day seminar being held at Holiday Inn, Brussels City Centre Brussels, Belgium has been designed to develop and sharpen personal and professional skills. For additional information and assistance please contact Ms. Maya Gal, Programmes Coordinator at [maya.gal@europrotocol.com](mailto:maya.gal@europrotocol.com), Website: <http://www.europrotocol.com/en/protocol.html>

### **MARCH 10-13, 2008 - SEATRADE CRUISE SHIPPING CONVENTION**

The meeting place for quality cruise line decision makers and knowledgeable industry suppliers the Convention will be held at the Miami Beach Convention Centre, Florida, USA. Learn about innovative technologies. Visit the website [www.cruiseshipping.net](http://www.cruiseshipping.net) or Email: [info@cruiseshipping.net](mailto:info@cruiseshipping.net) for further information.

### **MAY 13-14 - CENTRAL FLORIDA'S THIRD ANNUAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN BUSINESS EXPO**

This year's Expo theme is "Sustaining the Florida Caribbean Strategic Link". The Expo provides an opportunity for all Caribbean Americans and their friends to sample the richness and diversity of Caribbean culture. Caribbean Businesses from throughout the region and local companies will be showcasing and selling their products and explore opportunities for mutually beneficial trade, investment and other economic relationships. The Expo will be held at the Central Florida's Fair and Exposition Park (Fairgrounds), FLORIDA, USA. For further details contact: Guenet Gittens-Roberts, Program Coordinator, Caribbean American Business Expo, Tel: 407-421-8118, Fax: 407-386-7925, Email: [guenetroberts@yahoo.com](mailto:guenetroberts@yahoo.com) or visit Website: [www.caribamericanexpo.com](http://www.caribamericanexpo.com)

### **SUMMER TRAINING COURSE: 15TH INTENSIVE SEMINAR ON THE EU, BRUGES, JULY 2008**

The Development Office of the College of Europe would like to draw your attention to the launch of its "15th Intensive Seminar on the European Union", taking place in Bruges during the month of July. The seminar offers a choice between three different programmes according to your availability and profile:

- the Classic three-week programme : 30 June-18 July 2008
- the Advanced two-week programme: 7-18 July 2008
- the Compact one-week programme: 7-11 July 2008

For further information and to register online for the different programmes, please visit the Intensive Seminar website: <http://is2008.coleurope.eu> or contact: Eveline Buyck, Development Office, College of Europe, Dijver 11, 8000 Brugge - Belgium, Tel: ( +32 (0)50 477 314/ É +32 (0)50 477 300  
BE 0409 518 855, E-mail: [ebuyck@coleurop.be](mailto:ebuyck@coleurop.be)

### **WORLD TRADE INSTITUTE COURSE PROGRAMME: SUMMER ACADEMY 2008**

The World Trade Institute (WTI) is offering education and training on international trade regulation. The Master of International Law and Economics (MILE) is an intensive one-year programme, which starts again in October 2008.

Applications are accepted until 31 March 2008. For more detailed information contact Director of Studies, Pierre Sauvé ([pierre.sauve@wti.org](mailto:pierre.sauve@wti.org)) or our Deputy Director of Studies Corinne Karlaganis ([corinne.karlaganis@wti.org](mailto:corinne.karlaganis@wti.org)) or Stefanie Allemann, Summer Academy Fellow, World Trade Institute, Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern, Switzerland, Phone: +41 31 631 3628, Fax: +41 31 631 3630, Email: [stefanie.allemann@wti.org](mailto:stefanie.allemann@wti.org)

### **MATTECH 2008**

EVERYONE involved in manufacturing are invited to experience the vast array of technologies and services available at MATTECH. The Expo will be held from August 20-21, 2008, Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami Beach, Florida, USA. This International Material Handling, Manufacturing & Packaging Technology, Logistics and Supply Chain Expo will provide participants with the latest technology and productivity innovations.

Register for free at <http://www.mattech.us> or contact Ian Howard at E-mail: [contact@infointermat.com](mailto:contact@infointermat.com) for further information.

## **NOTICES**

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### **IICA APPOINTS REPRESENTATIVES**

IICA has three new representatives in member countries: Gregg Rawlins of Barbados, an agronomist and agricultural economist, assumed his post in Trinidad and Tobago on January 7. Joseph Peltier of Dominica, an economist and development specialist, began in Barbados on February 1. The IICA Office in Mexico is headed by Gino Buzzetti, of Chile, an agronomist and sociologist. The three have ample experience in the agriculture sector.

Ena Harvey, former IICA Representative for Barbados, is now Hemispheric Specialist Agro-Tourism, IICA.

### **ECLAC VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is seeking the services of a Deputy Chief at the Professional Level - 5 and qualified Caribbean people are being encouraged to apply. Full details of the responsibilities, competencies and qualifications are available online at <https://jobs.un.org/Galaxy/Release3>.

### **FULBRIGHT FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP**

The application process for the Fulbright Faculty Development scholarship is now open to those who teach at the college or university level in Antigua/Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts/Nevis, St. Lucia, or St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Applicants should have a bachelor's degree and should write the GRE or GMAT exam as soon as possible but certainly no later than October 2008. For further information Juanita Lynch, U.S. Embassy, Bridgetown, Barbados, Tel: 246-227-4102, Fax: 246-429-5316, E-mail: [lynchjh@state.gov](mailto:lynchjh@state.gov), or visit the website: <http://www.laspau.harvard.edu/fbapp/index.html>

### **SENIOR PROJECT OFFICER, REGIONAL STATISTICS**

Applications are invited from interested and suitably qualified nationals of CARICOM Member States and Associate Members of the Caribbean Community to fill the position of Senior Project Officer, Regional Statistics. Full details on this position may be obtained from the following websites: [www.caricom.org](http://www.caricom.org), [www.caribank.org](http://www.caribank.org), [www.oecs.org](http://www.oecs.org) and [www.caribbeanjobsonline.com](http://www.caribbeanjobsonline.com)

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