

TRADE WATCH



The Official E-letter of the Caribbean Export Development Agency

CARIBBEAN
EXPORT

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January, 2008

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FROM THE EDITOR

NEW EDITION

Dear Readers,

I am pleased to greet you in this first issue of Trade Watch for 2008 and to be able to briefly review the **Caribbean Export Development Agency's (Caribbean Export's)** achievements in 2007 and share with you some of our plans for the year ahead of us.

Caribbean Export's mission is to provide quality trade development and trade promotion services to increase the competitiveness of Caribbean companies. Its focus is on the following four objectives:

- Greater integration of CARIFORUM countries into the multilateral, regional and bilateral trading arrangements
- Enhanced competitiveness of CARIFORUM firms
- Strengthening the capacity of CARIFORUM trade support institutions
- Coordination of regional initiatives and strengthening of regional networks for trade and investment

Amongst the activities facilitated by **Caribbean Export** during 2007 were:

1. Participation by 10 CARIFORUM companies in a Caribbean Pavilion at the Summer Fancy Food Show in New York in July, resulting in significantly increased exports.
2. Co-Hosting with the Curacao Coordinating Committee of the 14th Caribbean Gift and Craft Show 2007 at the World Trade Centre in Curacao from September 27-30. This attracted 251 exhibitors from 21 countries and 245 trade buyers from 26 regional and international markets.
3. Commitment in excess of 0.5 million Euro to assist 41 groups of regional companies in export marketing initiatives through an EU-funded matching grant scheme.
4. Preparation of Strategic Marketing Plans for the Promotion of Professional Services for 4 member states (Barbados, Dominica, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago) with the assistance of the Commonwealth Secretariat.
5. Signature of the Financing Agreement for the Phase 2 of the 9th EDF Caribbean Trade and Private Sector Development Programme. This will make some 7 million Euro of additional funds available to assist the region in 2008 and 2009.
6. Collaboration with Trade facilitation Office (TFO) Canada, Trade Readiness Capacity Building Project

During 2007, **Caribbean Export** also said farewell to Taiana Mora Ramis, outgoing Executive Director. Ms Mora had worked for the Agency both at Head Office in Barbados and the Sub-regional Office in the Dominican Republic for some eleven years.

In November, I returned to Barbados after nine years with the International Trade Centre in Geneva and took over from Ms Mora as Executive Director. For me it has been a return home in more than one respect, since I worked with **Caribbean Export** for almost five years in the early 1990's.

Caribbean Export's plans for 2008 are still taking shape, but include a significant increase in staff to help implement the second phase of Caribbean Export's 9th EDF programme. The focus of this project will be on:

- The promotion of market expansion and diversification of products and services
- Capacity building for the public and private sector business organizations of the region
- Support for greater cooperation between the trade and business interests of CARIFORUM and of the DOMs and OCTs (French and Netherlands Antilles)
- Support to Caribbean business for the improvement of the regulatory environment for their development in the region and to facilitate foreign direct investment
- Assistance with European Partnership Agreement (EPA) implementation.

These activities will be in addition to the regular work of the agency, such as the organization of regional participation in Summer International Fancy Food Show in New York in June and the Caribbean Gift and Craft Show to be held in

Barbados, October 2-5. This event, which will celebrate its 15th anniversary, is expected to have several new features and to be bigger and better than ever.

Caribbean Export has also agreed to host the new secretariat for the Caribbean Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (CAIPA). **Caribbean Export** staff will be recruited and assigned to develop activities in support of investment promotion.

I invite you to remain tuned in to Trade Watch, so as not to miss important announcements of the other activities planned during the year, which will be of interest to you. Continued success to all in 2008!

Yours sincerely,

Philip A. W. Williams
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Caribbean Export Development Agency

CARIBBEAN EXPORT DIGEST

EU-CARIBBEAN FURNITURE PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Representatives of regional furniture and decorative complementary items sectors from Barbados, Belize, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and Trinidad and Tobago will meet in the Dominican Republic on March 10-12 to establish favourable conditions for cooperation agreements between Italian, Spanish, French, Dutch, German, and Greek Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) in the sectors. This meeting will be held at the Hotel Dominican Fiesta, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Five Caribbean partners, namely the **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)**, 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), and four European partners; Italian Giftware Association, Chamber of Kavala, Greece, INTERCO Aquitaine, France, La Union de Exportadores de Muebles y Afines del Centro de Espana, Spain are collaborating in this venture.

According to Alan Ramirez, Deputy Executive Director, **Caribbean Export**, "Approximately 37 Caribbean and 18 European SMEs have pre-registered to participate in the Partnership Meeting. We are confident in the positive outcome of the event and we look forward to meet all the potential participants in March."

For further information on the Partnership Meeting, please contact Caribbean Export's officials Sam Kruiner at E-mail: skruiner@carib-export.com, or Romily Thevenin at E-mail: romily@codetel.net.do. Also visit <http://www.carib-export.com/CEDA-PROINVEST/index.html>

EXPORTING SERVICES TO CANADA

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 business and professional services sector is the fastest growing segment of the global economy. This seminar is

an opportunity, for the region's services providers to learn about how exporting services is different from the export of goods, and especially to learn more about entering the Canadian market.

Health and wellness tourism is growing at unprecedented rates in Thailand, Malaysia, India and many parts of Eastern Europe. Why not the Caribbean? This is a challenge facing the region. According to Veona Maloney, **Caribbean Export's** Manager, Core Services, "The strategy session will provide participants with an opportunity to gain a better understanding, share best practices and discuss ideas and opportunities. Subject matter experts and country delegations will present their perspectives and focused work groups will strategise on what is required to make health and wellness tourism a reality in the Caribbean."

In May, a delegation of up to 10 Canadian organisations will participate in a trade mission to scope out opportunities for partnering and promoting health and wellness tourism in the Caribbean. According to Diane Girard, TFO Canada's Senior Associate and Service Sector Specialist, "The Canadian demand for health and wellness tourism is going to explode in the years to come and the timing could not be better to make sure that the Caribbean is a primary destination."

Service firms and business support organizations (BSOs) wishing to participate in the seminars should contact Veona Maloney at E-mail: vmaloney@carib-export.com.

CARIBBEAN PAVILION AT SUMMER FANCY FOOD

The flavour, taste and aroma of Caribbean food and culture will be on display at the 54th edition of the Summer International Fancy Food and Confection Show. According to Sam Kruiner, Caribbean Export Development Agency's (Caribbean Export), Show Coordinator, "The Caribbean Pavilion provides exhibitors (exporters and potential exporters) with the opportunity to exhibit and promote their products in addition to attracting buyers from across North America." Mr. Kruiner also stated that, "Buyers often seek out the Caribbean Pavilion to discover what is new, to track companies and to meet existing and new suppliers. The Pavilion is also a 'must see' for the trade press who provides the exhibitors additional publicity in the media and specialty publications."

The Show to be held from June 29 - July 1 at the Jacob Javits Centre in New York, is the largest and the single most important forum for exporters to meet trade buyers in the mainstream New York market and take advantage of this window of opportunity to promote their products. Total Food Store and C-Store sales for the market are estimated to be \$US55 billion dollars in 2006. In addition, there is a large ethnic (Caribbean) community in the New York area with a structured importer/distributor network reaching many of the small and medium size retailers and supermarkets in this area. This all justifies participation at the 54th edition of the Show will be held from June 29 - July 1, this year at the Jacob Javits Centre in New York.

The most successful specialty food exporters in the Caribbean have established a foothold in this market by participating in this Show over the last 14 years that Caribbean Export had been coordinating participation. The companies continue to support the need for a Caribbean Pavilion and agree that exhibiting as a regional group allows maximum exposure and promotional benefits.

Companies interested in participating at the 15th Caribbean Pavilion at the Show should contact Sam Kruiner, Tel: (246) 436-0578, Fax: (246) 436-9999, E-mail: skruiner@carib-export.com.

CGCS 2008 - CELEBRATING HAND MADE DESIGNS

As the Caribbean Gift and Craft show (CGCS) prepares to celebrate its 15th anniversary from October 2nd - 5th 2008, at the Sherbourne Conference Centre in Barbados, the **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)**, the show's organizers, is highlighting the pivotal role of design.

According to the CGCS 2008 Show Manager, Veona Maloney, "This year's theme **Celebrating Handmade Designs and Caribbean Traditions** is recognition that a handcrafted product often has a story, inspiring origin, or close connection to the designer. Respect for and dedication to quality, design and creativity, sets handcrafted items apart from the mass-produced merchandise because the artistry is tangible." Ms Maloney also added that "CGCS 2008 will showcase the inspiring handcrafted products and cultures of the English, French, Spanish and Dutch Caribbean and the fascinating stories of our artisans."

New categories of exhibits with a special focus on untapped design talent, a restructured Best of Show awards, special packages for trade buyers, the launch of the 15th anniversary show magazine and directory are just some of the show's attractions for this year according to Ms Maloney.

Prospective exhibitors and trade buyers interested in participating in this year's celebrations are invited to contact: Veona Maloney at E-mail: vmaloney@carib-export.com or visit www.caribbeangiftandcraft.com.

SERVICES ASSOCIATIONS DATABASE

The **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** is developing a database of services associations. The database includes associations in the following sectors: Accounting, Architects, Business Development Services, Education, Engineering, Entertainment, Health and Wellness, Entertainment, Legal Services, Management Consultants, Medical Services, and Tourism. To be included in this database, organisations are requested to complete the Company Registration Form below and return to Cora Lowe at Fax; (246) 436-999, E-mail: clowe@carib-export.com

[Click Here to Download Company Registration Form](#)

CSME NEWS

THE CCC APPOINTS MEMBERS

The CARICOM Competition Commission (CCC) has been established in Suriname, under Article 171 and 172 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. The Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission (RJLSC) has appointed 7 Members: Dr. Kusha Haraksingh (Trinidad and Tobago) - Chairman; Mr Patterson Keith Herman Cheltenham, Q.C. (Barbados); Dr Trevor Michael Augustine Farrell (Trinidad and Tobago); Mr Hans Rudolf Lim A Po (Suriname); Dr Maureen Paul (Dominica); Dr Barton Umax Adolphus Scotland (Guyana); and Ambassador A. B. Stewart Stephenson (Jamaica).

The Commission's main functions within the CSME are to apply the rules of competition, promote and protect competition, co-ordinate the implementation of Competition Policy, monitor anti-competitive business conduct, promote establishment of national Competition Institutions and harmonisation of Competition Law as well as to advise the Council for Trade and Economic Development on Competition and Consumer Protection policies.

(Source: CARICOM Secretariat)

CRITI LAUNCHED IN SURINAME

The Caribbean Regional Information and Translation Institute (CRITI) was launched in Paramaribo, Suriname on Thursday January 17 with a burst of firecrackers in the presence of the President of the Republic of Suriname His

Excellency Drs Runaldo Venetiaan.

In his feature address, President Venetiaan alluded to the challenges posed to integration of the Caribbean Region by the difference in languages and culture and welcomed the CRITI as a key development in removing these obstacles.

CRITI will facilitate official intra-CARIFORUM and intra-CARICOM communications at political and technical levels in the four (4) official languages of CARIFORUM. The Institute is being established at a time when trade expansion and the movement of capital and services will require information and translation services to be provided to the private sector to facilitate trade, commerce and investments. CRITI will also offer a translation and information service to professional bodies, and the general public on a cost recovery basis as part of its long term sustainability strategy.

(Source: CARICOM Secretariat)

TRADE POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

EPA TO BE REVIEWED

The Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) of CARICOM has taken the decision to have an independent review of the recently concluded Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between CARIFORUM And The European Union (EU). The Council called for reflection on the process of preparation and approach to future external trade negotiations in order to inform the region's strategy for the anticipated bilateral trade negotiations now under consideration.

According to Dr Edwin Carrington, Secretary General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) "The outcome of the independent review is expected to be considered by a Reflections Group comprising Senior Officials of Member States, the CARICOM and Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariats, the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery and stakeholders from across the Community." The recommendations of this group will be considered by a special meeting of COTED on External Trade Negotiations in Guyana on February 28-29.

The EPA between the CARIFORUM and European Union (EU) countries was initialled by Negotiators on December 16, 2007 and a ministerial signature is expected some time in April 2008. The agreement is unprecedented as it not only covers goods, but also includes services, investments and people mobility. Under the Agreement, the EU liberalised 90 per cent of its service sectors, while CARIFORUM has opened up about 75 per cent for the developing Caribbean countries and 65 per cent for those classified as lesser developed countries or LDCs. The agreement entered into effect on January 1.

For additional information on the EPA please click on the links provided below:

[Full text of the Caribbean-EU EPA](#) , (Agritrade News Alert- 25 January 2008)

[Highlights re Services and Investment in the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement](#) (Source CRNM)

[Getting to Know the EPA: Provisions on Agriculture](#), (CRNM, January 22, 2008)

[The EPA: Fact vs. Fiction](#). (Issue 1, 2008, CRNM)

[The EPA: Fact vs. Fiction](#) (Issue 2, 2008, CRNM)

[What is in the EPA for the Private Sector](#) (CRNM, Private Sector Trade Note- December 19, 2007)

[EU's Economic Partnership Agreements \(EPA\) with the ACP](#) (ITC, World Trade Net Business Briefing, Supplement 2, December 31, 2007)

MARKET NEWS

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND CANADA START FTA TALKS

Representatives from the Dominican Republic (DR) and Canada have begun the first of five rounds of talks aimed at reaching a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two nations. The talks were held in Ottawa last month, according to the Head of the Dominican-Canadian Chamber of Commerce (DCCC), Eduardo Dominguez.

The DR is an important and established trade and investment partner for Canada. Two-way merchandise trade between Canada and the DR totaled US\$277 million in 2006, according to the Canadian government. Of this, most are imports from Canada. Canadian investments in the DR are worth over US\$2 billion.

The FTA with Canada will be based on a similar agreement already in place with Costa Rica, but with a much wider scope, according to the DCCC. The first items on the agenda will include intellectual property and all the aspects relating to copyrights and market access.

PRODUCT NEWS

PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

Cultural industries in the African Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP) will soon benefit from a programme geared at the promotion of ACP culture and cultural industries. The programme, managed and implemented by the ACP Secretariat with the assistance of a Programme management Unit (PMU), is funded under the Intra-ACP Funds of the 9th European Development Fund (EDF).

The objective of the programme is to contribute to the development and restructuring of the cultural sector in the ACP member states, through the promotion of an enabling environment for enhancing creativity, cooperation and exchanges, independently and viability, as well as the safeguarding of cultural diversity and fundamental cultural values.

For further information on the programme visit the ACP Secretariat website: www.acp.int.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING MATERIALS, Tools & Equipment are available. Contact: Quinton Walcott, # 7 Westbury Park, Johnson St., Gasparillo, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. Tel: (868) 719 9109, (868) 359 3179, E-mail: quintonwalcott@hotmail.com

LEGAL SERVICES are available with specializing in media, entertainment, telecoms and intellectual property.

Contact: Kayanne E. Taylor, Managing Partner, 3 Musgrave Avenue, Kingston 10, JAMAICA, Tel: (876) 927 4126, Fax: (876) 927 4126, E-mail: redesigninglegal@aol.com, Website: www.redesigninglegal.com

MEDICINES are available. Contact: Lucrecia Puente, Administrator, Turey No. 115, Cacique, Santo Domingo, REPUBLICA DOMINICANA, Tel: (809)707-6434, Fax: (809) 508-3741, E-mail: lucrecia.puentes@gmail.com

TRAINING, coaching and business development for individuals and enterprises are available. Contact: Sherrilene M. Collymore, Managing Director/Qualitator, Southways, Christ Church, BB17136, BARBADOS, Tel: (246) 428-4239, Fax: (246)428-4239, E-mail: smc@hq-2.com, Website: www.hq-2.com

CARIBBEAN Basin growth opportunities are sought. Contact: Mark Glusing, Director, Infinite Holdings Group Inc. E-mail: info@infiniteholdingsgroup.com, Website: infiniteholdingsgroup.com

TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT for fiber optic, CATV and wireless communications products, system integration and training services are available. Contact: Mr. Bobby Persad, Director, Sunrise Communications, 8 Rickson Street, Eldorado, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. Tel: (868) 662-4135, Fax: (868) 662-4135, E-mail: bobbypersad@sunrisetrinidad.com, Website: <http://www.sunrisetrinidad.com>

WORLDWIDE PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES, business news, bidding consultancy, marketing services, event and conference hosting, and marketing and outsourced business development are available. Contact: Mitesh Matani, Manager -International Business Development , Euclid Infotech Pvt Ltd, 401, Dimple Arcade, Thakur Complex, Kandivali (E), Mumbai - 400 101, INDIA. Tel: (Board Line) +91-22-28540403 ext.843, (Direct Number) +91-22-66023843 , Fax : +91-22-2854 1637 Cell : +919820947911, Skype ID : miteshm2, E-mail: mitesh.m@tendersinfo.com; mitesh.matani@gmail.com, Website www.tendersinfo.com

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS FEBRUARY - APRIL, 2008

PAN COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE ON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TRADE

Experts from Commonwealth countries will meet in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur this month to discuss ways of increasing Commonwealth exports of professional services.

The February, 19-21 meeting, known as the Pan Commonwealth Conference on Professional Services Trade, is jointly organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Government of Malaysia under the theme: "Enhancing Global Competitiveness." It will take place at the J W Marriot Hotel.

Professional services broadly refers to all services exports except travel and tourism and is one of the most diverse and dynamic sectors worldwide. It includes services in health, education, information technology and banking, among others. While transportation and travel dominate global services trade, professional services accounted for about \$1.3 trillion in 2006.

It is hoped that the conference will deepen innovation in different services areas, and raise awareness about the importance of the sector for national development. The Conference is targeted at senior officials from the private sector, associations, trade promotion organisations and governments from the Commonwealth. Experts and analysts from key international trade and services organisations will also be present.

Mr. Philip Williams, Executive Director, **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** will be attending the conference and will present the paper, "Promoting CARIFORUM Services Exports: High Potential, But Many Challenges".

For further information on the conference contact Commonwealth Secretariat Tel: +44 (0)20 7747 6385/6 Fax: +44 (0)20 7839 9081, Email: info@commonwealth.int, Website: www.thecommonwealth.int.

FEBRUARY 2008

4-6 - WTO/IDB-INTAL/CRNM TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR TRADE NEGOTIATORS - REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT FOR CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

For further information contact: CRNM, Website: www.crn.org

7-8, 2008 - NEGOTIATING TRADE AND DIRECT FOREIGN INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS

This workshop, focuses on negotiation skills and theory as they apply to bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral trade negotiations within the context of the WTO and Foreign Direct Investment. For further information contact: Sir Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy and Services, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, BARBADOS, Tel: (246) 417-4805-7; E-mail: src@cavehill.uwi.edu; Website: www.shridathramphalcentre.org

18-19 - REGIONAL INVESTMENT FORUM

The forum will be held at the Grand Barbados Beach Hotel. The objective of this forum is to acquire support for agribusiness opportunities that promote viable linkages between the agriculture and tourism sectors. For further information please contact: Lana Spooner, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Office in Barbados, Tel: (246) 427-4740, Fax: (246) 429-3509, E-mail: iica.bb@iica.int

FEBRUARY 25-29 - TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PETROLEUM CONFERENCE 2008

Trinidad and Tobago Petroleum Conference 2008, February 25-29, 2008. Hilton Trinidad Conference Centre, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, Tel: (868) 652-5613, E-mail petroconf@stcic.org, Website: <http://www.stcic.org/index.php?categoryid=66>

28-29 - SPECIAL COTED ON EXTERNAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, GUYANA. For further information visit: http://www.caricom.org/jsp/secretariat/meeting_calendar.jsp?menu=secretariat

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 01, 2008 - EXPO INDUSTRIA

EXPO INDUSTRIA is the largest exhibition of the Costa Rican industrial sector. The event gathers exhibitors from various sectors including: metal-mechanics, plastics, food, raw materials and service industry as well as other manufacturing industries. The event is being hosted by the Costa Rican Chamber of Industry (CICR) in collaboration with PROCOMER. The Expo will be held from February 28-March 01, 2008 at the Hotel Ramada Plaza Herradura Convention Centre, COSTA RICA. For further information Contact: Juan Carlos Martinez-Piva, E-mail: jcmartinez@procomer.com, Website: www.expoindustrial.co.cr.

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 or visit, www.costaricansight.com

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 OR, Sam Kruiner, Tel: +1 (246) 436-0578, Fax: +1 (246) 436-9999, E-mail: skruiner@carib-export.com, Website: www.carib-export.com

27-28 - 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) in 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; Website: www.shridathramphalcentre.org

APRIL, 2008

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, incorporating three consecutive days of strictly business-to-business activity, with one day (Saturday) reserved for 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 (868) 675 8862. <http://www.ttma.com>

OTHER EVENTS

FEBRUARY 22-25, 2008 - 3RD INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (IDO) CONFERENCE

The 3rd International Conference on Global Warming and Climate Change (GWCC 2008) will take place in London on February 22-25. The conference would be held at Hyde Park Hotel, 15 Sussex Place, Hyde Park, London W2 2SX, United Kingdom and is expected to provide the answers to those two important questions, about global warming and climate change. What Do We Know? What Can We Do?

IDO has set up an Access Fund to support the travel costs and all-round air fare cost for participants who are unable

to raise sufficient funds on their own. For further details on how to qualify for the access grant Fax: +448704799217 or email: mukapa@idorg.org. For more information on registration/Call for Papers contact Ms. Stella Gray, Tel: +447031944459, Fax: +448704799217, E-mail: registration@idorg.org.

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, 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 or Email: info@cruiseshipping.net for further information.

PUBLICATIONS

CARIBBEAN EXPORT PUBLICATIONS

Download the following publications all published by **Caribbean Export** as part of our HELP WITH EXPORTING services.

- Doing Business with Costa Rica
- Export Marketing - How to Prepare to Export Successfully and Promote your Products through Trade Fairs
- CARICOM - Cuba Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement Explained
- Trade Watch Newsletter

Your views and comments on our publications are always welcome. Please complete the Readership Survey Questionnaire and return to Cora Lowe at Fax; (246) 436-9999, E-mail: clowe@carib-export.com.

CARICOM'S TRADE IN SERVICES: 2000-2005

This is the second volume of the report which highlights statistics on International Trade in Services for Member States of the Region. It is a publication of the Statistics Sub-programme of the CARICOM Secretariat and can be accessed from the website at the following link, http://www.caricomstats.org/Files/Publications/Trade_in_ServicesV2.pdf.

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