



PRESS RELEASE

ANNOUNCING THE OAS SEMINAR SERIES ON THE CARIBBEAN

“Bringing the Caribbean’s Sustainable Development Agenda to Washington”

The Department of Sustainable Development of the OAS has conceived of a Seminar Series that aims to: (a) raise awareness within the OAS and among Washington-based development partner agencies, of the contemporary development issues and challenges occupying the attention of Caribbean governments and regional, inter-governmental agencies; (b) build an understanding of the Caribbean’s Sustainable Development Agenda; and (c) catalyze a stronger, deeper and more strategic and collaborative response among Washington-based institutions to the Caribbean’s development agenda.

The Seminar Series will comprise six (6) bi-monthly seminars to be held during 2007. Each Seminar will be of four (4) hours duration and will feature structured presentations by a panel that will include senior Caribbean Government officials, representatives of regional intergovernmental organizations in the Caribbean and senior officials of development partner institutions based in Washington D.C. The presentations will be followed by a facilitated discussion session among panelists and participants.
The First Seminar

The first Seminar scheduled for January 18th, 2007 at the *Salon Guerrero Conference Room* of the OAS on 17th St. & Constitution Ave., NW, will feature Dr. Kenrick Leslie and Dr. Neville Trotz, Executive Director and Technical Advisor respectively, of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre and Mr. Walter Vergara of the Latin America and Caribbean Division of the World Bank. The Seminar will address the theme: *Climate Variability and Climate Change: The Caribbean Response*. The panelists will, inter alia, review the more recent scientific opinion and research on Global Climate Change; highlight the manifestations of the phenomena in the Caribbean region; and review the outcomes of planning and adaptation programmes in the Caribbean.

Subsequent seminars will feature Sir Dwight Venner, Governor of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank; Mrs. Angela Cropper and Dr. John Agard of the Cropper Foundation; and Dr. Len Ishmael, Director-General of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

Participation in the Seminar is open to officials of Washington-based institutions that are engaged in the Caribbean region.

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