

CARIBBEAN DIASPORA LAUNCHING AND CONFERENCE

Crowne Plaza Hotel

Trinidad

PROGRAMME

September 30, 2008

8:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. -

REGISTRATION

Chair: Prof. C. Warde

8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m. -

Opening Remarks - Prof. Cardinal Warde, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

8:40 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. -

Greetings

Prof. Walter Erdelen, Assistant Director General, UNESCO (Natural Sciences)

Ms. Myrna Bernard- Director, Human Development, CARICOM

Mr. Nigel John, President, Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce

Mr. Riyad Insanally, OAS Representative, Trinidad and Tobago

Prof. Clement Sankat, Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of the St. Augustine Campus of the University of the West Indies

Mr. Neil Pierre, Director, UNECLAC

Dr. Floella Benjamin, Chancellor, University of Exeter, U.K. (Prof. B. Mootoo to read message)

Prof. Emeritus Harold Ramkissoon, Chair, CARICOM Steering Committee on S&T and Executive Secretary, CARISCIENCE

9:15 a.m. – 9:35 a.m. -

Keynote Address and Official Launch of the Caribbean Diaspora Association - The Hon Fitzgerald Jeffery, Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology & Tertiary Education, Trinidad and Tobago

9:35 a.m. – 9:40 a.m. -

Launch of the CARISCIENCE 10th Anniversary Fund - The Hon Fitzgerald Jeffery, Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology & Tertiary Education, Trinidad and Tobago

9:40 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.-

Vote of Thanks – Mr. E. Leopold Edwards, Secretary, National Coalition, Caribbean Affairs Inc., U.S.A.

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

- **COFFEE BREAK – Hosted by the Faculty of Science and Agriculture**

CONFERENCE

“The Role of the Diaspora in Caribbean Development”

RAPPORTEUR: Dr. Suren Gajraj

Session 1

Chair: Dr. Arnaldo Ventura

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Ministerial Round Table

- The Hon Fitzgerald Jeffery, Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology & Tertiary Education, Trinidad and Tobago
- The Hon Nigel A. Carty, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Information and Technology, St. Kitts
- The Hon Shaik Baksh, Minister of Education, Guyana
- Mr. Worrel Brooks, Education Planner, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Special Presentation

“Academic Entrepreneurship and Economic Competitiveness: The Role of the Modern University” - Dr. Harold J. Raveché, President, Stevens Institute of Technology

Session 2

Chair: Dr. Brian Tom

11:30a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

A Diaspora View

- *Prof. Suresh Narine, Director, Alberta Lipid Utilization Research Program
- *Prof. Cardinal Warde, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- *Mr. Chike Farrell, Chief Executive Officer, Caribbean Ideas Limited, U.K.
- *Mr. E. Leopold Edwards, Secretary, National Coalition, Caribbean Affairs Inc., U.S.A.

DISCUSSION

12:30 noon – 1:30 p.m.

LUNCH

Session 3

“Challenges Facing the Caribbean”

Chair: Dr. Lennox Chandler

1:30 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.

Keynote Addresses

Food Security

- Mr. Navin Chandarpal, Advisor on Sustainable Development to the President of Guyana

Energy Security

- Dr. Raymond Wright, Special Projects Manager, Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica

STI and Entrepreneurship

- Dr. Basil Burke, Entrepreneur and Executive Consultant, ELGAE Associates

Public Health

- Dr. Brian Tom, Medical Statistician, Medical Research Council Biostatistics Unit, United Kingdom

DISCUSSION

2:40 p.m. -3:10 p.m. - “Remittances, Development and Investments” - Prof. Bengt Henoch, Jönköping University, Sweden

3:10 p.m. – 3:25 p.m. - **COFFEE BREAK- sponsored by the Faculty of Science and Agriculture**

PLENARY CLOSING SESSION

Chair: Prof. Ishenkumba Kahwa

3:25 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. - “Enhancing Caribbean Competitiveness” - Mr. Ram Ramesh, CFA, CL Financial

3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. - **Rapporteur’s Report**

4:15 p.m. – 4:20 p.m. - **Closing Remarks** –Prof. Cardinal Warde

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. - Meeting of the Diaspora Association

Chair: Prof. Harold Ramkissoon

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. - CARISCIENCE 10th Anniversary Award Ceremony
Dinner Address - The Hon Fitzgerald Jeffery, Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology & Tertiary Education, Trinidad and Tobago - **“Recent Developments in S&T in Trinidad and Tobago”**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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 Ministry of Science and Technology and Tertiary Education

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