


NEW COVID CASES BACK TO ZERO!

SEE PAGE 13



At first glance it looks like the standard fare of an agricultural expanse showing the signs of harvesting what still has the look of a natural paradise, despite being cultivated and therefore hardly pristine. But what this picture really depicts is farm sabotage in which crops are just slashed for spite, out of malice, revenge, jealousy or whatever – making mere praedial larceny look like child's play. Our photo is of such an occurrence in faraway Guinea, in Africa. Palestinians are said to also employ similar tactics against the olive groves and other crops of Israeli settlers against whom these occupied Middle Eastern people are woefully outmatched. But here in Antigua? Why would anyone want to chop down a farmer's citrus and coconut trees, seeing how Citrus Greening and Lethal Yellowing, respectively, have almost wiped them out already from our land? READ THE STORY ON PAGES 10-11

- INSIDE:**
- Veteran ambassador reassigned to Geneva
 - Worse than theft – farmer Alvin Christian suffers vicious sabotage!
 - Barbados, SVG being mauled by pandemic

Unite for action to jointly tackle climate change

by **WANG Erdong**
(Charge d'Affaires ad interim, Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Antigua and Barbuda)

We have only one and shared Earth. By controlling carbon emissions, we are not just protecting the Earth, but also protecting ourselves and our shared future.

Due to natural and geographical conditions, island countries such as Antigua and Barbuda are at the forefront of suffering the consequences of rising sea levels and extreme climate events.

China empathizes with Antigua and Barbuda and acknowledges its concerns. With regard to climate change

and China's carbon emissions, I would like to make the following observations:

First, some countries try to shift the responsibility of emission reduction to developing countries, restrict the latter's right to development, and solidify the wealth gap. This is morally evil.

Carbon emissions

should be counted not only in terms of total quantity, but also per capita. The fact that China has large carbon emissions is not a result of some Chinese people living a luxurious life. It is because China harbors the world's largest manufacturing sector and massive supporting infrastructure, which produce goods not only

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KEEP ANTIGUA CLEAN

for the Chinese, but for the whole world.

Westerners cannot on one hand enjoy goods “Made in China”, and on the other hand wantonly blame China for its carbon emissions.

I grew up in rural China. A wealthy westerner can produce more carbon emissions in a few hours of one morning than a person in my hometown could for the entire day. One can neither apply the same emission reduction standards to a white-collar financier in Wall Street and a blue-collar worker in St. John's.

Some Western media have linked Chinese people's meat consumption to carbon emissions, saying that the increase in meat consumption in China has stimulated the global livestock industry, which has further led to a large amount of carbon emissions produced by animals such as cattle and pigs.

As a matter of fact, the average consumption of meat in the United States is 120kg per person per year; European countries 60-80kg; Chi-

na about 30kg; and just 16kg in Kenya which has an abundant meat market.

It is unfair to ask for the same level of meat consumption reduction from poor countries whose people only have meat a few times a year, as from the United States and European countries whose people have steak and pork on their dining table every day. It is immoral for those western politicians – under the pretext of “saving the environment” – to claim that it is better for the Chinese not to eat meat, and demand that the Chinese “reduce their dependence on meat and dairy products”.

Second, developed countries should naturally shoulder the main responsibility of carbon emission reduction. Countries have been emitting carbon not just for one day, and the impact of this emission on the climate is also cumulative.

Industrialized countries with high cumulative emissions per capita bear greater responsibility for climate change and should shoulder more emis-

sion reduction obligations. Instead of “burning bridges” and limiting development of the developing countries, they should provide more financial and technical assistance to the latter. Developed countries pledged to jointly provide the developing countries with USD 100 billion annually by 2020 for mitigation and adaptation. Look how much of this promise has been fulfilled!

Third, China does not need external forces to press it for reducing carbon emission. Unlike some Western countries that might go back on their words due to government changes, once the Chinese government has made a commitment, it will honor and fulfill it responsibly.

We have resolutely reined in the irrational development of energy-intensive and high-emissions projects, and decided not to build new coal-fired power projects abroad. Through great efforts at increasing vegetation coverage, China now has the highest growth in forest coverage and

the largest area of man-made forests. By the end of 2020, China's forest coverage rate reached 23.04%.

We are pursuing green and low-carbon development and encouraging green and low-carbon ways of life. By the end of 2020, China's carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP had fallen by about 48.4 percent from 2005 levels, exceeding the previous target of 40-45 percent reduction. Steady progress has been made in the construction of urban public transportation – mainly buses and subways – while roads and facilities friendly to cycling and walking are expanding in urban areas.

We are optimizing the energy mix, increasing energy efficiency and the share of new energy in the energy mix. Preliminary calculations show that in 2020, non-fossil energy contributed 15.9 percent to China's total energy consumption, a significant increase of 8.5 percentage points compared with 2005.

In July 2021, China launched the world's



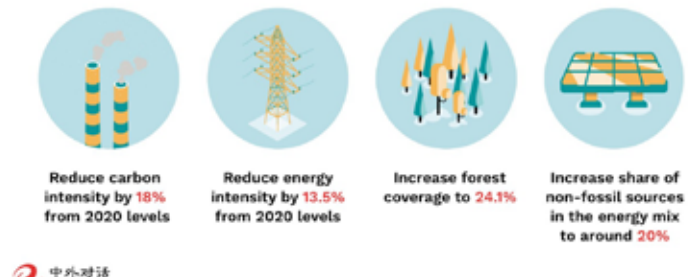
largest carbon emission trading market. The trading system aims to limit and put a price on carbon emissions with a market covering key industries such as electricity, steel, chemicals and cement. The Chinese government has promised to peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.

Along the way to achieve these goals, China faces three major challenges: First, we still have a rigid demand for energy in order to advance industrialization and urbanization; Second, the pressure of controlling and reducing coal consumption is high. In 2019, the share of coal in China's primary energy consumption dropped to

57.7%. Nonetheless, compared with the European Union, the United States and Japan which peaked below 30%, the gap still exists; Third, we commit to moving from carbon peak to carbon neutrality in a much shorter time span than what many developed countries might take. It will take 71 years for the EU, 43 years for the US, 37 years for Japan, and only about 30 years for China.

China, like Antigua and Barbuda, is also a major victim of global climate change. Extreme weather events occur frequently, such as heavy rain and floods in the south, and extreme heat and drought in the north. China understands and attaches importance to the

The Five Year Plan's climate-related targets for 2025



special concerns and legitimate demands of small island states in addressing climate change, and will work with Antigua and Barbuda to jointly address climate change.

We stand ready to make efforts in the following directions:

- To take concrete measures in helping Small Island Developing States (SIDS) cope with climate change and address their fundamental concerns.
- To assist small island states in advancing sustainable development strategies, and increase input in technology transfer and personnel training with a view to enhancing their capacity to meet the climate challenges.
- To further open up markets for small island states and create favorable conditions for their economic development.
- To use China's South-South Cooper-

ation Fund on Climate Change with a funding of RMB 20 billion yuan to support other developing countries in addressing climate change, including enhancing their capacity to use funds from the Green Climate Fund.

As Chinese President Xi Jinping mentioned in his written statement at the World Leaders Summit at the 26th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, how to respond to climate change and revive the world economy are challenges of our times that we must meet.

Guided by the vision of a community of life for man and Nature, China stands ready to work with all parties to jointly tackle the climate challenge and protect the planet, the shared home for us all.

Baptist Academy again at the top

The Education Ministry has revealed the names of the top three students in the 2021 Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) examinations.

Pia Nichols earned the top spot with 17 grade ones.

Avein Joseph was the second-placed student with 16 grade ones and one grade two.

Kofi Brown placed third with 15 grade ones and two grade twos.

All three high performers hail from the Baptist Academy of Antigua.

The Education Ministry has praised the stellar performance of the students, especially amid the travails of the COVID-19 pandemic.



The Apex CSEC performer for 2021, Pia Nichols from the Baptist Academy of Antigua.

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Ambassador Colin Murdoch gets new assignment to WTO, Geneva

One of Antigua and Barbuda's longest-serving ambassadors, Colin Murdoch, has been transferred from his position as senior advisor in the Office of the Prime Minister to become the OECS Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva, Switzerland, with effect from 1st November 2021.

Mr. Murdoch -- first appointed as ambassador in 1997 -- served in various positions in government including Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Trade, Ambassador to Cuba, as well as OECS Commissioner.

The OECS mission in Geneva is staffed by nationals from various OECS member states. The OECS maintains missions in Brussels, Morocco and Geneva.

As Head of the OECS mission in Geneva, Ambassador Murdoch will be responsible for coordinating the OECS position on various international trade issues, and lead negotiations with other WTO delegations -- especially for the upcoming MC12, the WTO Trade Ministerial which opens at the end of November in Geneva.



OECS Commissioner and long-serving Permanent Secretary, Ambassador Colin Murdoch, is off to head the OECS diplomatic and trade mission in Geneva, Switzerland.

"There is no doubt that this is a challenging assignment," Ambassador Murdoch said, "and there is a lot going on at the WTO right now that OECS countries need to pay attention

to. Ultimately, it is the WTO that determines what things cost in the supermarket and, therefore, we need to make them listen to us."

Couple eyes expansion after tasting hydroponic farming success

Traditionally, when persons think of agriculture, they think of soil-based crop farming.

But new technologies have become available where persons can now make use of other methods like hydroponics systems.

Hydroponics involves growing plants without the use of soil by using mineral nutrient solutions in an aqueous solvent.

In Antigua, the husband-and-wife team of Alfred and Sherrie-Ann Brazier make use of a hydroponics system to grow lettuce and other crops.

The Braziers are co-owners of Shaade Hydroponics based at Royal Gardens.

They began building the system in December 2020, completed it on March 31st 2021, and were able to harvest their first crop from the system during the last week of April to

the first week in May – about five weeks after they finished building it – and now they are harvesting every week.

The capacity of the system is 2,964 plants each month, which is 741 plants a week. Each week they are all sold and the rotation continues.

The Braziers also make use of a dodge bucket system where they grow peppers, basil, thyme and cilantro. They propagate their own seeds on a seeding table which is part of the partially automated system.

Shaade Hydroponics caters to supermarkets, small shops, restaurants, walk-in traffic from their community and other areas.

Alfred Brazier says they began Shaade Hydroponics because his wife had enrolled in a course about hydroponic systems at the Gilbert Agricultural & Rural Develop-



Scenes of cultivation at Shaade Hydroponics.

ment Center (GARDC) in October 2020.

Before Sherrie-Ann Brazier began this course, her husband had no interest in hydroponics. But with her reading and researching every night, he also began to read the literature and eventually felt it was something he could see himself doing.

Alfred Brazier began doing extensive research on everything he could find pertaining to hydroponics or aquaponics. That December, he realized he had not yet figured what to get his wife

for Christmas. That's when he thought, 'Why not build her a hydroponics system?'

He began drawing different layouts and also consulted with Extension Officer in the Ministry of Agriculture Ika Fergus, through whom he met Wayne Gardner who operates an aquaponics system. They became friends and Gardner guided Alfred Brazier on how to put the system together.

According to Mr. Brazier, one very important consideration during his research was how to market the



products – especially marketing them to a particular clientele. He also made sure to educate himself on the benefits of the system, since many persons are either unfamiliar with (or just plain not sold on) the concept of hydroponics. Brazier wanted to be able to engage his costumers and provide them with insight as to what hydroponics is, and its benefits.

He catalogued the entire journey of Shaade Hydroponics, including drawings, on their Facebook and Instagram pages. To him, the most intimidating part of the project was the plumbing work, as he knew very little about this aspect. But once he drew it and understood the concept of how the system works, he was confident that he could it.

This has in fact turned out be the part of the project of which he is most proud.

The Braziers also included their children throughout the process, and they (the young ones) are also able to explain in detail how the system works. Alfred Brazier believes more persons should involve their children, especially when it comes to agriculture.

One of the major challenges he encountered was leaf miners. He had to discard up to 1,500 bags of lettuce due to damage by these insect pests which rendered the product unfit for sale.

Brazier had to explain this to his costumers and, happily, every one of them stuck with him. He strongly urges and encourages persons in business who are go-

ing through difficulties to be honest with their customers, follow up throughout the process, and always ensure high quality products for their costumers.

The Brazier's have plans to expand and build another system. What they have in mind is a drip system. They also hope to plant some rooted crops like chive, sweet potato, etc. Once they have made the space, it is their intention to create an aquaponics system without giving up on their hydroponics systems, as both

have their benefits.

As he progressed and thought of expansion, Alfred Brazier consulted with Wayne Gardner on different crops. Myrrh, for example, grows better in hydroponics than aquaponics system.

“For anyone who would want to get into hydroponics, do your research. It's a rewarding venture ... When you look at the start-up cost, it will be high, but the time in which you recoup your investments is relatively quick,” said Mr. Brazier.

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION FORM P7

Rule 15

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
(Probate)

In the Estate of Bridget Evangeline Faustina Samuel also known as Bridget Evangeline Faustina Adams late of Buckleys Village, St. John's, Antigua, Deceased


ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

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TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by TREVOR ADAMS of 4392 Annas Retreat, St. Thomas, USVI 00802 for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant who is the son of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 16th day of August, 2020.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant shall file an objection within fourteen (14) days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 2nd day of November, 2021.


Denise Parillon
Jonas Parillon & Co. Inc.
Attorney at Law of the Applicant

Filed by Jonas Parillon & Co. Inc., Attorneys-at-Law, whose address for service is Sir Sydney Walling Highway, St. John's, Antigua, e-mail: denisejpar@yahoo.com and telephone number: (268) 562-6530.

Veteran farmer hit by horrific crop sabotage



Pictures show tree crops deliberately cut down on farm.

Many farmers in Antigua and Barbuda are often faced with praedial larceny, veteran farmer Alvin Christian – last week Wednesday became a victim of something even worse: the willful destruction of his long-term or perennial tree crops.

Christian – a according to a press release from the Ministry of Agriculture – arrived on his farm to an extremely devastating sight where the majority of his citrus plants and coconut trees were destroyed.

According the statement, “His farm is one of ... few in the country which still grows citrus fruits in abundance, and he had just recouped after suffering major coconut tree losses to the lethal yellowing disease.”

An exasperated Alvin Christian is quoted as saying: “It is extremely disheartening in a time when food security is such a serious thing and at a time when there are so many diseases that are destroying various plants, invasive spe-

cies of insects and other diseases we are encountering as farmers ... to have somebody destroy so blatantly the very thing we need for survival, it’s crazy.” The Agriculture Ministry says there are extra security measures that farmers can put in place to protect themselves from these acts of violence.

However, Christian says, everything comes with a cost and it is a question of whether one’s economic returns from farming are sufficient to bear the cost of such security.

In any case, Christian adds, farmers should not be placed in situations where they are left with no choice but to implement such measures.

“Why should we have to do that nature of security in agriculture when the livelihood of everyone is dependent on food, whether you’re directly involved in the sector or not? Why do we want to destroy ourselves,” Christian asked.

The Ministry of Agriculture notes that such criminal acts are even more disheartening, given a significant increase in food costs that is anticipated because of shipping challenges worldwide, and also because the country is already under-producing in relation to its consumption.

Christian says he is most desirous of finding out what motivated the intruders to commit such a despicable act.

He however hopes it will not dishearten other farmers and they will continue pressing on in their efforts to arrest Antigua and Barbuda’s food security problem.

Rather than be demotivated, the veteran farmer wants all involved in the sector to remain hopeful in spite of the negativity that such heinous acts can cause.



Diabetes Week – 100 years since discovery of insulin!

The Antigua and Barbuda Diabetes Association (ABDA) will be celebrating its annual Week of Activities from 7th November to 14th November 2021 under the theme “Access to Diabetes Care; If Not Now, When?”

Below is the scheduled list of events for this historical week of activities which also coincides with the milestone of 100 years since the discovery of insulin, a groundbreaking discovery in the management of diabetes.

The Week of Activities also includes World Diabetes Day on Sunday 14 November 2021.



WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

7th – 14th NOVEMBER 2021



**ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
DIABETES ASSOCIATION**

**“Access to
Diabetes
Care:
If Not Now,
When?”**



world diabetes day
14 November



INSULIN AT
100















7th
Worship Service
8 AM | St. John's Cathedral

8th
Media Day | Various Media Houses

Launch of Exhibition on Insulin and Monitoring of Urine and Blood Glucose levels.
10 AM | The National Public Library

9th
Community Outreach Project
All Day | Barbuda

10th
Monthly Meeting-Educational Session
5:30 PM | ZOOM

12th
Public Screening for Diabetes
8 AM | MBS Headquarters

13th
Walk for Diabetes
5:30 AM | Rotary House to Fort James and back

14th
Educational Session for Health Professionals
4 PM | ZOOM
MBS Headquarters

COVID Dashboard Update for 4th November 2021

The most recent report received by the Ministry of Health, Wellness & the Environment revealed NO new laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Tuesday 2nd November 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Thirty-eight (38) samples were processed.

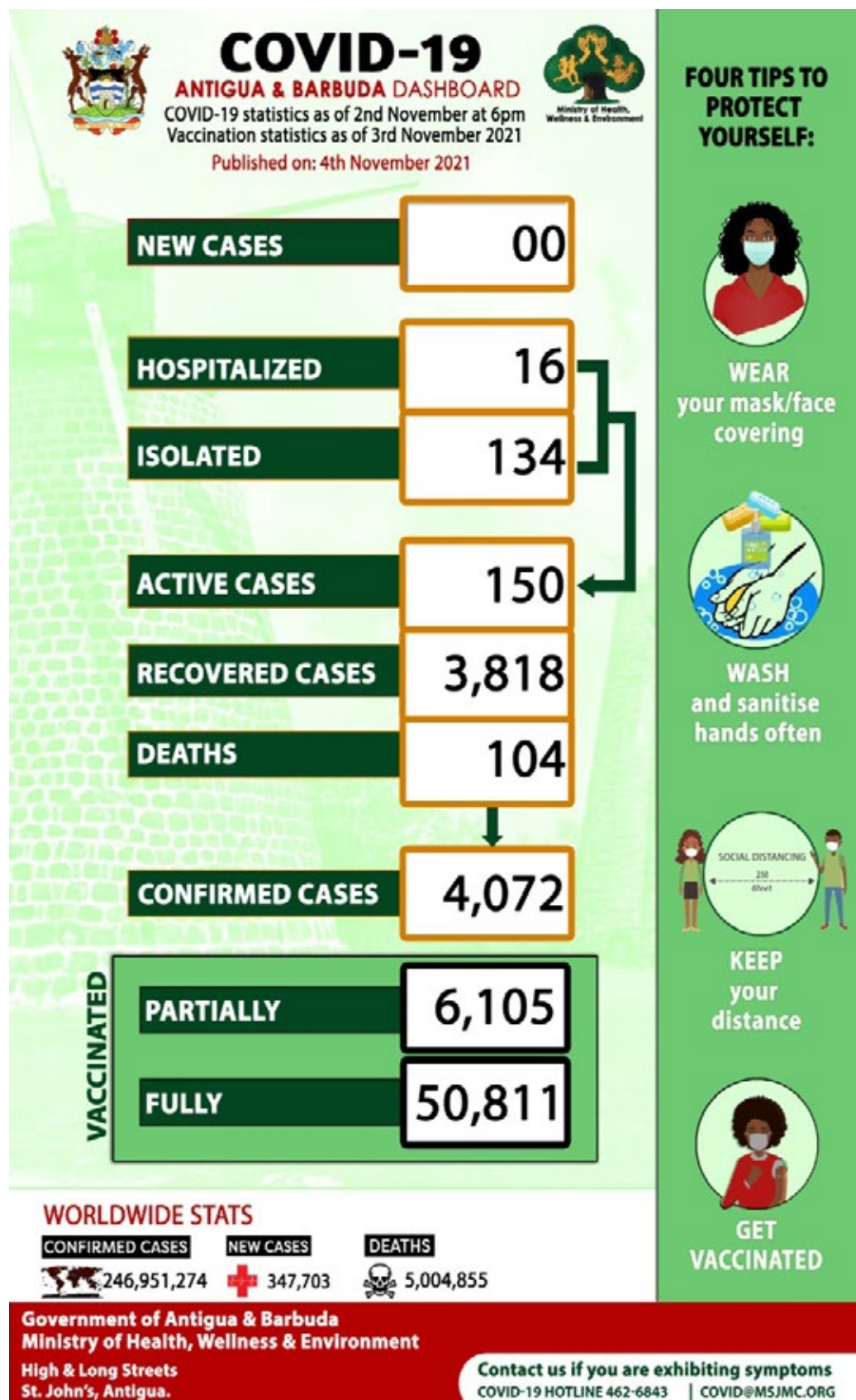
Ten (10) recovered cases were recorded, increasing the total to 3,818.

Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is 4,072; which is inclusive of 150 active cases.

There are 16 hospitalized cases: nine (9) mild; four (4) moderate; and three (3) severe.

Meanwhile, Antigua and Barbuda has fully vaccinated 50,811 individuals, while 6,105 have only received their first dose.

The dashboard has been updated to reflect these changes.



Leaders of smaller islands stand up amid climate destruction and unkept promises



By Sir Ronald Sanders

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States and the Organization of American States. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London and Massey College in the University of Toronto. The views expressed are entirely his own)

COP26 in Glasgow offered no hope to small island states which continue to face destruction and extinction.

COP26 was always going to be nothing but a theatrical performance, well-choreographed by the world's industrial-

ized nations that want to give the impression that they are actually taking strong and enforceable action to curb Climate Change.

As I write, the formal meeting has not ended. The fanfare is completed; principal actors have made obligatory presentations and left the stage to the negotiators. But the script is already written. All that was going to be offered has been put on the table and it amounts to more promises without binding and enforceable commitments – and no money that could make a difference.

Representatives of small and developing states attended with lit-

tle hope and even less expectations. Yet, they were determined to raise their voices again, hoping that, at last, they might be heard.

Barbados' Prime Minister Mia Mottley was impressive when, at the opening ceremony, she declared that a 2-degree Celsius rise in global temperature would be a "death sentence" for island and coastal communities. The President of Palau, Surangel S. Whipp, Jr, was equally strident, saying: "You might as well bomb our islands instead of making us suffer only to witness our slow and fateful demise." But, in truth, the leaders of industrialized nations who attended came with their positions already taken. The strategy was clearly to make more promises to ward off criticism, even though previous promises remain unfulfilled.

Among the earlier promises were that they would pay US\$100 billion annually into a global fund to help developing countries adapt to climate change and mitigate further rises in temperature.

The other broken pledge was that they

would ensure that the global temperatures were kept to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The world is now on track for a minimum of 1.9° Celsius if major polluting countries honour the commitments they have made. At that point, small islands and low-lying coastlands will be in calamitous conditions.

All that the industrialized nations have done is to extend the pledges for meeting commitments to 2050 and 2070, while maintaining or increasing their greenhouse gas emissions in the short to medium term. This means that over the next two decades, small island states and countries with low-lying coastlands will suffer significant erosion and other extreme weather conditions that will hurt their economies, displace people from their habitats, and cause civil disruption as employment is reduced and poverty increases.

There were three major commitments arising from the conference. "The Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use" is not transparent. It has

no binding obligations for financing and no enforceable date has been set. Deforestation is already a global environmental and humanitarian crisis. Action should be taken now, or the absorption rate of CO2 by forests will continue to decrease significantly, thus accelerating the pace of Climate Change.

A pledge to cut methane emissions is also not transparent and not enforceable. In any event, China, India and Russia are major methane emitters and they have made no commitments, even though methane is the second most abundant greenhouse gas after carbon dioxide.

On coal production - one of the greatest drivers of greenhouse gas emissions - while 40 countries agreed to phase it out, no such commitment was made by the major coal producing countries: China, India, Australia and the US.

Given those realities, however much COP26 may be hailed (as were past COP meetings), it

delivered little for small island states except an initiative by a few countries - including Australia, India and the UK - to help them build climate resilient infrastructure. Enough details are not yet available to determine the efficacy of this initiative which has drawn limited participation by rich countries.

The most significant event for small states surrounding COP26 was one which two of them took to establish a Commission of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) on Climate Change & International Law. The two countries - Antigua and Barbuda and Tuvalu - have since been joined formally by Palau, while other small states are settling internal procedures to join the collective action.

In announcing the establishment of the Commission on the first day of COP26, Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, explained that all efforts to get polluting countries to address the loss and damage that they have

inflicted on small states have been ignored. "We are pursuing the matter in the international legal system on the basis that he who damages must provide restitution. In other words, the polluter must pay."

Director-General of the Commonwealth Foundation and international lawyer Dr. Anne Gallagher hailed the Commission's establishment as a "wonderful, welcome and overdue development" since "the existing rules of international law have not been utilized to their full extent to hold countries to account for actions that they know are causing damage and continue to cause damage".

The first act of the Commission - which is supported by a team of experienced international lawyers - will be "to request advisory opinions from the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) on the legal responsibility of States for carbon emissions, marine pollution, and rising sea levels".

Kausea Natano, the Prime Minister of Tuvalu - whose island is facing extinction - summed up the objective of forming the Commission: "For us, climate justice is a matter of survival. It is time to put words into action, to save small island states, and to save the world from *impending* disaster." There are, of course, sceptics of this bold move by small countries; but the initiating leaders have nothing to lose by standing-up for justice for their nations. The alternative is to sit by while their countries suffer interminable damage and losses to the detriment of their people - and that's the very least of it.

So hail the leaders of Antigua and Barbuda, Tuvalu and Palau for their courage, resolve and leadership, at a time when all three qualities are needed.

Responses and previous commentaries: www.sirronaldsanders.com

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COVID-19: High level of transmission continues in Barbados

Barbados Today - The COVID-19 pandemic in Barbados shows no sign yet of slowing down, public health experts acknowledged on Wednesday, even as some people still consider it a hoax.

Within the past few days, Barbados' positivity rate – the number of positive cases from the total number of tests – has increased exponentially to over 1,500 cases per 100,000 population or about 20 percent, said Senior Public Health Officer Dr. Arthur Phillips who noted a continuing high level of viral transmission.

A positivity rate this high is usually considered by international public health agencies as a pandemic gone out of control.

With the winter tourist season about to figure heavily in the island's desperate bid for an economic rebound, the positivity rate is exactly at the point that the United States Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) would consider a Level 4 risk and urge its citizens to avoid the destination.

On Tuesday, there were 436 new positive cases reported out of 2,265 tests conducted, and two COVID-19 suf-



ferers died.

The positivity rate has ballooned beyond 25 cases per 100,000, the figure in May before the highly infectious Delta variant struck, Dr. Phillips told a forum with COVID-19 Public Advisor David Ellis on Wednesday morning. "In terms of what has been happening and what is happening currently in Barbados with COVID, we are still seeing a very high level of transmission and that level is continuing to increase," he said.

"We would normally define more than 500 cases per 100,000 population as a very high level. People may remember back in January and March we would have spoken to the idea of 25 cases per 100,000 as a threshold that we were aiming for to get below and we have been for the past few days above 1600-1700 cases per 100,000 population;

and of course we have established that Delta, the highly transmissible variant is circulating in Barbados."

As of Monday, only around 47 percent of the entire population was fully vaccinated, with that number increasing to 55 percent out of those eligible to take the vaccines, currently age 12 and older.

But with large numbers of people continuing to be infected daily, Dr. Natalie Greaves – a lecturer in public health at the University of West Indies – said the time had come for people to stop referring to COVID-19 as a hoax.

She called on Barbadians to act responsibly and follow the protocols.

"We know that coronavirus exists," said Dr. Greaves. "It is amazing to me that persons are still saying that COVID is not real and that it's essentially a whole hoax; that

is not the case.

"I think those persons who have been ill can attest to that and the public health practitioners and the persons at Harrison's Point – and just the global evidence base – would let everyone know that we have to put that kind of argument aside now, and accept that this is a condition that needs to be treated aggressively and managed at a population level and an individual level as well. So I would want to use this opportunity to implore persons to take a moment of pause."

She said much of the apparent vaccine hesitancy is due to people "seeding doubt about things that have a strong scientific basis".

Dr. Greaves said she was also concerned about the belief among young people that they are immune to COVID-19.

"The other thing that I'm still getting a lot of is ... persons ... thinking that because they are young they are immune and therefore ... don't need to wear ... masks; they can still lime wherever they lime; and they are not keeping their physical distancing; not sanitizing," she said.

UNICEF: Gangs in Haiti are targeting schools and students

AP — UNICEF has warned that schools in Haiti are increasingly at the mercy of gangs, with children becoming targets of robbery or ransom.

The agency said that at least seven schools in the capital of Port-au-Prince have been forced to pay unidentified gangs in exchange for security in the past two months and that additional institutions have been threatened.

“More and more fear at school means less and less learning,” UNICEF said.

“Gangs are rapidly turning temples of knowledge into theatres of violence.”

The warning on Tuesday came a few days after authorities said gang members killed a university professor they had recently abducted.

Patrice Derenoncourt worked at the Faculty of Social & Political Economics of the University Notre-Dame of Haiti in Port-au-Prince.

In addition, US and Haitian authorities are still trying to secure the release of 17 missionaries from a US religious organisation who were kidnapped on October 16 near the capital.

The 16 Americans, one Canadian and their Haitian driver were abducted by the 400 Mawozo gang



Police patrol the streets in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Thursday, October 28, 2021.

whose leader has threatened to kill them if his demands are not met.

There are five children in the group, including an 8-month-old.

“While we wait on God to bring resolution to this very difficult and trying

circumstance, we believe that God has heard and is hearing our prayers,” Ohio-based Christian Aid Ministries said in a statement Tuesday.

Haiti is struggling with a resurgence in gang-related kidnappings which

had diminished following the July 7 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse and a magnitude 7.2 earthquake that struck southwestern Haiti in mid-August, killing more than 2,200 people.

Jamaica: Lobbyist says LGBTQ gangsters are victims of the system

Jamaica Gleaner - Equality for All Foundation Jamaica has blamed Jamaica's social and justice systems for distressed members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) community falling prey to gangs in recent years.

LGBTQ+ people have often been kicked out of their homes because of their sexual orientation and live in storm drains and gullies in the Corporate Area and are referred to as 'gully queens'. The police have cited some of them as the purveyors of both petty and hard crime.

Over time, such as in 2012, several cross-dressers have been cited as suspects in an illegal lottery scam and taken into custody.

Interim executive director of Equality for All Foundation, Glenroy Murray said that many LGBTQ+ persons are at risk because of homelessness and a lack of intervention from the State.

"We don't have a national homelessness policy in Jamaica, for example. We don't have shelters that are operating fully across all parishes. There are many drop-in centres now, and they are more, and we've seen an increase



in investment. But that kind of social-service investment is not where it needs to be, and that was extremely exposed in the middle of COVID, and I think that's also a part of the conversation," Murray said.

Emphasising that accused persons from the LGBTQ+ community were no different from other Jamaican alleged perpetrators of crimes, he advocated that more investment be pumped into support systems for the vulnerable to make lawlessness less attractive.

Murray argues that the Government has not done enough to intervene meaningfully in the lives of the incarcerated.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Na-

tional Security, Courtney Williams said Jamaica's recent rate of recidivism – the inclination of convicts to reoffend – averages approximately 40 percent. The island's Vision 2030 target is to reduce recidivism to 10 percent.

"When we talk about criminality within the LGBT community, I don't think it should be divorced from criminality in Jamaica in general; so, in other words, if someone commits a crime, you respond to criminality. However, a big part or a big challenge within the criminal justice system is [that] its rehabilitative element is oftentimes lacking," he said.

Murray believes Equality for All Foundation Ja-

maica has a role to play in the rehabilitation of LGBTQ+ persons who have run afoul of the law. But the State, he said, bears a greater responsibility.

"As an advocacy organisation, our mantra is that our role is not to do the work of the Government. It's to support the Government to be able to interface with the community in a way to do their jobs adequately; because the truth is, when you look at the State and the ability of the State and the resources of the State, they're backed by taxes, and that means they have a wider reach than we will ever have," Murray stated.

He also said that Equality for All was willing to work with the police at various levels to be able to mainstream a certain type of approach to LGBTQ+ persons who are accused of crimes.

Murray cautioned that there is no automatic correlation between LGBTQ+ persons in gangs with mental illness – suggesting that vulnerability, in any form, is a condition that gangsters seek to exploit. Such vulnerabilities may include social and economic factors.

COVID makes SVG unsafe to tourists; higher vaccination rate needed – Finance Minister

IWN SVG - In 2020, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the rest of the Caribbean region were wary of allowing tourists to enter because they were bringing COVID-19 into the region.

Now, those same tourists – having been vaccinated against the virus – are wary of coming to the region because of the low vaccination rate, says Minister of Finance Camillo Gonsalves.

“We have been able to argue in the past that St. Vincent and the Grenadines is safe in terms of crime; it’s safe in terms of other types of disease; you can walk at night; you can leave your car open, and these sorts of things. But we will not be able to argue honestly, currently, that we are safe in terms of COVID and it is going to be a disadvantage until we address it. It is as simple as that,” Gonsalves said Sunday on WE FM.

Speaking on Issue at Hand, the finance minister spoke of the protocols that Minister of Tourism Carlos James and his team have put in place so that cruise ships would feel comfortable coming to SVG.

“Because the last thing a cruise ship wants — remember all the bad press

that cruise ships got at the beginning of COVID, ‘these floating ships full of COVID passengers’ — is to leave port with all their passengers COVID negative and have one of their passengers pick up COVID on a trip and spread it at the buffet table on the cruise ship. They don’t want that.”

Highlighting the importance of vaccination, the minister spoke of the impact of the pandemic on visitor arrivals to the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union since the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said that for the first six months of 2019, the OECS received 3 million visitors and made EC\$3.5 billion from these visitors.

In 2020, during the same period, it was 1.6 million visitors.

“And this year, for the first six months of the year, we received 164,000 visitors. That is across the whole Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States ... You are going from \$3.5 billion to less than \$1 billion. It is devastating ... the impact of COVID in the region.”

Gonsalves said the more tourism-dependent countries in the region saw economic decline of 20% and 25% in one year.



St. Vincent and the Grenadines Minister of Finance, Camillo Gonsalves.

“Never in the history of these countries’ existence have they shrunk that far that fast; and now, as the world begins to reopen, the thing that stands between us and recovery is COVID.

“A few months ago, we were worried – we in St. Vincent and the Grenadines; we in St. Lucia; we in Antigua; we in Grenada – we were worried about welcoming them because they are the ones who had COVID, the foreigner.

“Why are we letting them in? We have to lock down. We have to keep them out. We have to test them. We have to quarantine them. Lock them away for two weeks’ and all these kinds of things because we were worried about them coming to us. ‘What are they bringing?’ The situation

is completely reversed now.

“They are worried about coming to us because they are coming from countries that are 70% and 80% vaccinated. They are coming from places where they have received two shots and a booster, and they are coming to countries now where the vaccination rate is low and the infection rate is high and the uncertainty is great.”

The minister said that if he as a tourist in England and the United States knows that they were in lockdown when the vaccine rate was 20%, “Why would I leave my country where the vaccine rate is 80% and come to a country where the vaccine rate is 20 percent?”

WHO warns that Europe is once again at epicentre of pandemic

BBC - Europe is once again "at the epicentre" of the COVID pandemic, the World Health Organization (WHO) has warned as cases soar across the continent.

At a press conference, WHO Europe head Hans Kluge said the continent could see half-a-million more deaths by February.

He blamed insufficient vaccine take-up for the rise.

"We must change our tactics from reacting to surges of COVID-19 to preventing them from happening in the first place," he said.

The rate of vaccination has slowed across the continent in recent months. While some 80% of people in Spain are double-jabbed, that number is lower in France and Germany - at 68% and 66% respectively - and lower still in some central and eastern European countries. Only 32% of Russians were fully vaccinated by October 2021.

Mr. Kluge also blamed a relaxation of public health measures for rising infections in the WHO's European region which covers 53 countries including parts of Central Asia. So far, the WHO has



Vaccination rates have plateaued in Germany as cases rise.

recorded 1.4 million deaths across the region.

The WHO's technical lead on COVID-19, Maria Van Kerkhove, said over the past four weeks cases across Europe had soared over 55%, despite an "ample supply of vaccines and

tools". Her colleague, Dr. Mike Ryan, said Europe's experience was a "warning shot for the world".

It came as Germany recorded almost 34,000 daily COVID cases in the past 24 hours, a record rise.

While the COVID

numbers in Germany are below the UK's latest daily case numbers of more than 37,000, public health officials are worried that a fourth wave of infection could lead to a large number of deaths and [place additional] pressure on the health system. In the past 24 hours 165 deaths have been recorded, up from 126 a week ago.

Lothar Wieler of Germany's RKI institute spoke of terrifying numbers. "If we don't take counter-measures now, this fourth wave will bring yet more suffering," he said. Among the many Germans who have not been vaccinated are more than three million over-60s, seen at particular risk.

But as Hans Kluge pointed out, the surge in cases is not confined to Germany.

The most dramatic rises in fatalities have been in the past week in Russia where more than 8,100 deaths were recorded; and Ukraine, with 3,800 deaths. Both countries have very low rates of vaccination, and Ukraine announced a record 27,377 new cases in the past 24 hours.

A year on, Ethiopia decimated by civil war

Al Jazeera - On November 4, 2020, the Ethiopian military was deployed to Tigray to squash forces loyal to the northern region's governing party, the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF), in response to what the government said was an attack on federal army camps.

The operation was meant to be swift, but a year later the conflict has expanded beyond the region's frontiers, causing a full-blown humanitarian crisis and leaving the country in a seemingly inescapable quagmire as the rebels claim to have made advances towards the capital, Addis Ababa.

Since hostilities began, there have been mass rapes and massacres of civilians on a large scale. As far back as January, aid agencies were sounding alarms about how much worse the situation could get.

Continued fighting, bureaucratic hurdles and aid blockades have since led to a continuing famine affecting hundreds of thousands of people. More than two million people have been displaced from their homes and tens of thousands more have died.

The declaration of a nationwide state of emergency by the federal government on Tuesday has triggered fears of more instability. The



United States embassy in Addis Ababa has also issued a travel advisory, warning its citizens to avoid travel to Ethiopia.

"The conflict had been portrayed as a law enforcement operation that would last a few weeks," said Awet Welde-michael, a Horn of Africa security expert and history professor at Queen's University, Ontario. "A year later, we've since seen it degenerate into a brutal war to crush and erode Tigray, and where talk of elimination of entire ethnic groups has been normalised."

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed had declared the war over on November 28 after federal forces captured Tigray's capital, Mekelle. Basking in the triumph and clad in camouflage and a red military beret, the Nobel Peace Prize winner travelled to the city a few weeks later to congratulate a gathering of his military commanders.

But the victory lap

turned out to be premature. Within months, the tide of war turned and Tigrayan forces eventually regained most of the territory they lost and continued to launch counteroffensives in the neighbouring Amhara and Afar regions.

Allied fighters from the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) – at war with the Ethiopian army in the Oromia region since 2019 – now openly patrol entire districts in the region and have reportedly threatened to march on Addis Ababa.

"Amhara special forces launched counter-offensives on our positions in Kemise, but we repulsed them," Odaa Tarbii, spokesman for the OLA, told Al Jazeera on Wednesday. "With regards to the transition, OLA and its allies will work on stabilising the country to avoid possible chaos."

Such chaos was once considered a thing of the

past in Africa's second most-populous country, long considered a beacon of stability in the region, but now threatened to be engulfed by fighting across expanding territory – a stunning fall of grace for Abiy, two years after a Nobel Peace Prize coronation that won him praise and adulation.

Meanwhile, many towns and villages in the country's north remain inaccessible to aid agencies, even as food and medical supplies continue to dwindle amid alarming reports of widespread human rights abuses and starvation deaths.

"On many aspects of state functionality, the Ethiopian state has partially collapsed," Awet said. "When a state fails to deliver basic services to people, it is either a failed or a failing state. Unfortunately, this is where Ethiopia currently finds itself."

Japan to provide \$880 cash payout to minors as part of stimulus – newspaper



Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan, speaks during the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland, November 2nd 2021.

Reuters - The Japanese government and ruling coalition have agreed to provide a cash payment of 100,000 yen (\$878.73) to all children as part of an economic stimulus package to weather the pain of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Yomiuri newspaper reported on Friday.

The payout would cover all minors up to age 18 regardless of

household income for a budget of about 2 trillion yen, the paper reported. Prime Minister Fumio Kishida has promised to compile a “large-scale” stimulus package this month, aiming to pass through parliament an extra budget by the end of this year.

Key among the spending would be funding aimed at recovering from the pandemic, including re-

viving domestic tourism, he has said.

The cash payout was a campaign pledge from Komeito, the junior party partner in Japan’s ruling coalition for the election held Oct. 31, and is different from Kishida’s Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)’s drive to create a virtuous circle of economic growth and wealth distribution. (US\$1 = 113.8000 yen)

Drug violence sparks chaos at popular tourist resort in Mexico

(CNN) - A hotel in Mexico, popular with American tourists, was sent into chaos on Thursday amid reports of gunfire.

According to local authorities, a confrontation between drug dealers exploded into lethal violence on a nearby beach.

"There was a confrontation between members of hostile groups of drug dealers on a beach in Bahía Petempich, Puerto Morelos. Two of them lost their lives at the scene," the Quintana Roo state prosecutor's office tweeted.

No other serious injuries have been reported, it said. A tweet by the state secretariat of public security also emphasized that "there are no seriously injured or kidnapped tourists."

Puerto Morelos is a popular tourist area on Mexico's eastern coast, about 25km (15 miles) south of Cancun.

Several guests staying at the Hyatt Ziva Riviera Cancun told CNN they had been told to shelter in place for fear of a threat to the hotel. One said they had heard multiple gunshots while at the pool area and staff briefly led them into hiding.

"I was by the pool when multiple successive gunshots occurred. It went on for a little while and everyone dove for cover," said the guest.

"We manned the entrances to the basement and were given metal sticks, even a pedestal bathroom sink, to defend ourselves," the guest said.

The Hyatt hotel company said local staff are working with law enforcement.

"The safety and wellbeing of



guests and colleagues is always a top priority. We are aware of a developing situation at Hyatt Ziva Riviera Cancun. We understand the hotel team immediately engaged local authorities who are on the scene investigating the situa-

tion," a Hyatt spokesperson said Thursday.

The US Embassy in Mexico City is also "aware of the reports and the consulate in Merida is looking into the incident", a spokesperson told CNN.

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YOU THINK IT WE PRINT IT

School Call in!

Weekend Vaccination! Minors Only 12-17 years old

Saturday 6th Sunday 7th November Multipurpose Centre

OPEN from 9am to 3pm

Don't Wait Vaccinate!

Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment

SCHOOL VACCINATION DRIVE!

Effective 5th November 2021

The Ministry of Education in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Wellness and Environment has organized a school vaccination drive for eligible students as follows:

Friday 5th November	- Sir Novelle Richards Academy
Monday 8th November	- Antigua Grammar School
Tuesday 9th November	- Antigua Girls High School
Wednesday 10th November	- Princess Margaret School
Thursday 11th November	- Glanvilles Secondary School (9:00 am) Pares Secondary School (11:30 am)

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WILL BE ACCOMMODATED AT THE VILLAGE CLINICS DURING THEIR OFF DAYS AND AFTER SCHOOL FOR THOSE ENGAGED IN IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION:

Saints Clinic	- All Saints Secondary, Irene B Williams Secondary and Island Academy
Jennings Clinic	- Jennings Secondary, St Mary's Secondary School and Trinity Academy
Clare Hall Clinic	- Clare Hall Secondary School, Divine Academy, St Joseph's Academy, St. Anthony's Secondary and Christ the King High School
Downes Avenue clinic	- Ottos Comprehensive School, Baptist Academy and Seventh Day Adventist Secondary

ALL OTHER VACCINATION CENTERS WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 5:00PM TO ACCOMMODATE PARENTS WHO WISH TO UTILIZE THOSE CENTERS.

Weekend Vaccination

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th November 2021

9am- 3pm

Multipurpose Centre

First and Second dose of AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Sinopharm vaccines and single dose J&J vaccine.

Ministry of Health, Wellness and The Environment

T20 World Cup holders West Indies knocked out by Sri Lanka!

Defending champions West Indies have been knocked out of the Men's T20 World Cup after a 20-run defeat by already-eliminated Sri Lanka in Abu Dhabi.

Chasing 190 to win, West Indies finished on 169-8, with Shimron Hetmyer top-scoring with 81 not out and three bowlers taking two

wickets apiece. Earlier, Sri Lanka made 189-3 with Charith Asalanka making 68 from 41 balls and Pathum Nissanaka 51. It leaves England, Australia and South Africa fighting to progress in Group 1. Australia beat Bangladesh by eight wickets in Thursday's first game to move into second spot.

They will likely qualify if they beat West Indies on Saturday, but South Africa could progress if they beat England and overtake Australia on net run-rate.

England can still be eliminated, but it would take a massive defeat for that to happen.

Russia defeats France, US stops Spain to reach last four of BJK Cup finals

Russia became the first semi-finalists of the 2021 Billie Jean King Cup finals, winning a decisive doubles rubber to knock out France 2-1 and thus top Group A.

From the semifinals on, the competition will enter its knockout stages over the last two rounds. In the semis, Russia will face the United States, which defeated Spain 2-1 in the evening session to finish at the top of Group C.

With a semifinal spot at stake, defending champions France bounced back from being upset by Canada on Day 1 to start brightly. Fielding rising 20-year-old Clara Burel (who reached her first WTA Final in Lausanne this July) in the first singles rubber paid off.

Burel came from a set down to defeat Ekaterina Alexandrova 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 in 1 hour and 57 minutes.

Alexandrova had been fresh off a run to her first WTA 500 final in Moscow last week, though she lost it in a heartbreaker from 6-4, 4-0

up to Anett Kontaveit. Once again, the Russian could not hold on to a lead. Burel needed five set points to close out the second set, but rolled into a quick 4-0 lead in the decider and closed it out for her first career Top 50 win.

Energised by Burel's success, France's No.1 Alizé Cornet was also intent on overturning the odds to seal victory for her country. She had defeated Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova just once in eight previous meetings, but raced through eight of the last 10 points in the first set to take the lead.

But Pavlyuchenkova recovered to take control of the match, improving as it went on, scoring a 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 win in 2 hours and 23 minutes.

It would all come down to the last doubles rubber, where Russia once again proved its strength in depth. While Burel and Cornet had to pull double duty and team up for their second match of the

day, Russia fielded Veronika Kudermetova and Liudmila Samsonova. The fresher, more rested pair dominated proceedings throughout a 47-minute 6-2, 6-1 rout.

The United States will face Russia on Friday. The Americans – who have won the most Billie Jean King Cup titles in history, with 18 – notched two straight-set wins in the singles matches to build an insurmountable 2-0 lead over the five-time champions Spain.

Former World No.3 Sloane Stephens started the evening off strongly for the US, collecting a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Nuria Parrizas Diaz in 1 hour and 28 minutes.

The match was a returner's paradise with 12 of the 20 games going against serve, and it was 2017 US Open champion Stephens who ultimately triumphed by breaking Parrizas Diaz in the final game of each set.

Danielle Collins followed up with a dominant display to clinch



No.30 Collins from 37th-ranked Sorribes Tormo. But in their first meeting, Collins was fully in control, winning a staggering 83 percent of her service points and never faced a single break point in the clash.

The commanding victory continues a solid season for Collins, who won her first two WTA singles titles back-to-back this summer in Palermo and San Jose.

Spain got on the scoreboard at the end of the day by winning the

doubles match. Aliona Bolsova and Rebeka Masarova defeated Americans Caroline Dolehide and CoCo Vandeweghe 6-3, 6-4.

Spain's elimination in the group stages closes the career of former World No. 6 Carla Suárez Navarro who completed her farewell season this week in Prague.

The US vs. Russia semi-final will be a rematch of the 1999 Billie Jean King Cup final, which the Americans won 4-1.

the tie for the United States. Collins dismissed Sara Sorribes Tormo 6-1, 6-0 in just 59 minutes to seal matters for the Americans. Only seven spots in the rankings separate World

British athletes told to cut ties with US coach Rana Reider after sexual misconduct allegations

Leading British athletes have been told to cut ties with US coach Rana Reider while the US Centre for SafeSport investigates multiple complaints of sexual misconduct against him.

Reider has coached several elite track-and-field athletes, including British duo Adam Gemili and Daryll Neita.

His lawyer says no formal allegations have been made against his client. Ryan Stevens said it was "unfair to drag Rana's reputation through the mud" before an investigation had happened.

In a statement, UK Athletics told its athletes to "cease all association" with Reider until the investigation ends, even though the American, 51, told the Guardian the investigation was "news to me".

The statement read: "As part of UK Athletics commitment to ensuring appropriate conduct is consistent across all areas without any exceptions, we completed additional due diligence where issues have been raised about the support personnel of UK athletes.

"Following information from the US Centre for SafeSport that multiple complaints of sexual misconduct have been made against coach Rana Reider and that an investigation in the US is imminent, UK Athletics has informed UK athletes currently being coached by him to cease all association until the conclusion of this process."

Reider has established himself as one of the top track-and-field coaches in the world having



British sprinter Adam Gemili has worked with Rana Reider since 2017

overseen the success of several elite athletes, including Olympic 200m champion Andre de Grasse and four-time triple jump world champion Christian Taylor.

A former UK Athletics employee, Reider trains athletes at the Tumbleweed Track Club in Jacksonville, Florida, having recently moved his training base from the Netherlands.

Sprinters Gemili, 28, and Neita, 25, have been informed that their membership of UK Athletics' World Class Programme and associated funding will be suspended if they remain part of Reider's training group.

However, UK Athletics will work to secure alternative coaching for them.

The US Centre for SafeSport investigates claims of emotional, physical and sexual misconduct in sport, although the independent body has not released a statement relating to Reider.

The US Centre for SafeSport told BBC Sport: "The US Centre for SafeSport does not comment on matters to protect the integrity of the investigative process."



Israeli players line up for their national anthem at Hampden on 9 October

Scotland fined for jeering Israel national anthem and 'inappropriate flag'

FIFA has fined the Scottish FA more than £8,000 after fans booed the Israeli national anthem at Hampden Park.

The penalty also includes an inappropriate flag on display during Scotland's World Cup qualifying victory last month.

Steve Clarke's side twice came from behind to triumph 3-2 in front of a sell-out crowd in Glasgow.

Scott McTominay's stoppage-time win-

ner kept Scotland second in Group F.

A win in Moldova on 12 November would guarantee a spot in the play-offs with one game to spare in the qualifying campaign.

Explaining the breach of FIFA's Disciplinary Code, Article 16, the world governing body said it was due to: "Order and security at matches (disturbance during national anthems, use of objects - flag - to transmit a message that is not appropriate for a sports event)."



West Indies will play three T20Is and an equal number of ODIs in Pakistan from December 13-22.

PCB REVEALS WEST INDIES TOUR OF PAKISTAN SCHEDULE

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Thursday announced the schedule of the upcoming West Indies tour of Pakistan.

As per the schedule, the Windies will arrive in Karachi on December 9 to play three T20Is and an equal number of ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Super League matches in Pakistan.

The series will kick off from December 13 and will last till December 22, as per the Cricket Board.

The December ODIs will form part of Pakistan's fourth series in the Super League, which will see the top seven sides and the event host India qualify directly for the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 with the remaining two sides progressing from the qualifying event.

"After missing out on home internationals in September and October, the West Indies tour will formally kick-off of an

exciting and entertaining season of men's international cricket in Pakistan with HBL Pakistan Super League 2022 and Australia's first full series to follow," said PCB Chairman Ramiz Raja.

"The West Indies have always remained one of Pakistan cricket fans' favourite sides. I am hopeful that the NCOC will support this series by allowing maximum crowds so that the fans can watch live-in-action

their favourite players and back both the sides," he added.

SCHEDULE: 9 Dec – West Indies arrival in Karachi; 13 Dec – 1st T20I, Karachi; 14 Dec – 2nd T20I, Karachi; 16 Dec – 3rd T20I, Karachi; 18 Dec – 1st ODI, Karachi; 20 Dec – 2nd ODI, Karachi; 22 Dec – 3rd ODI, Karachi; 23 Dec – Departure.

IDEWS