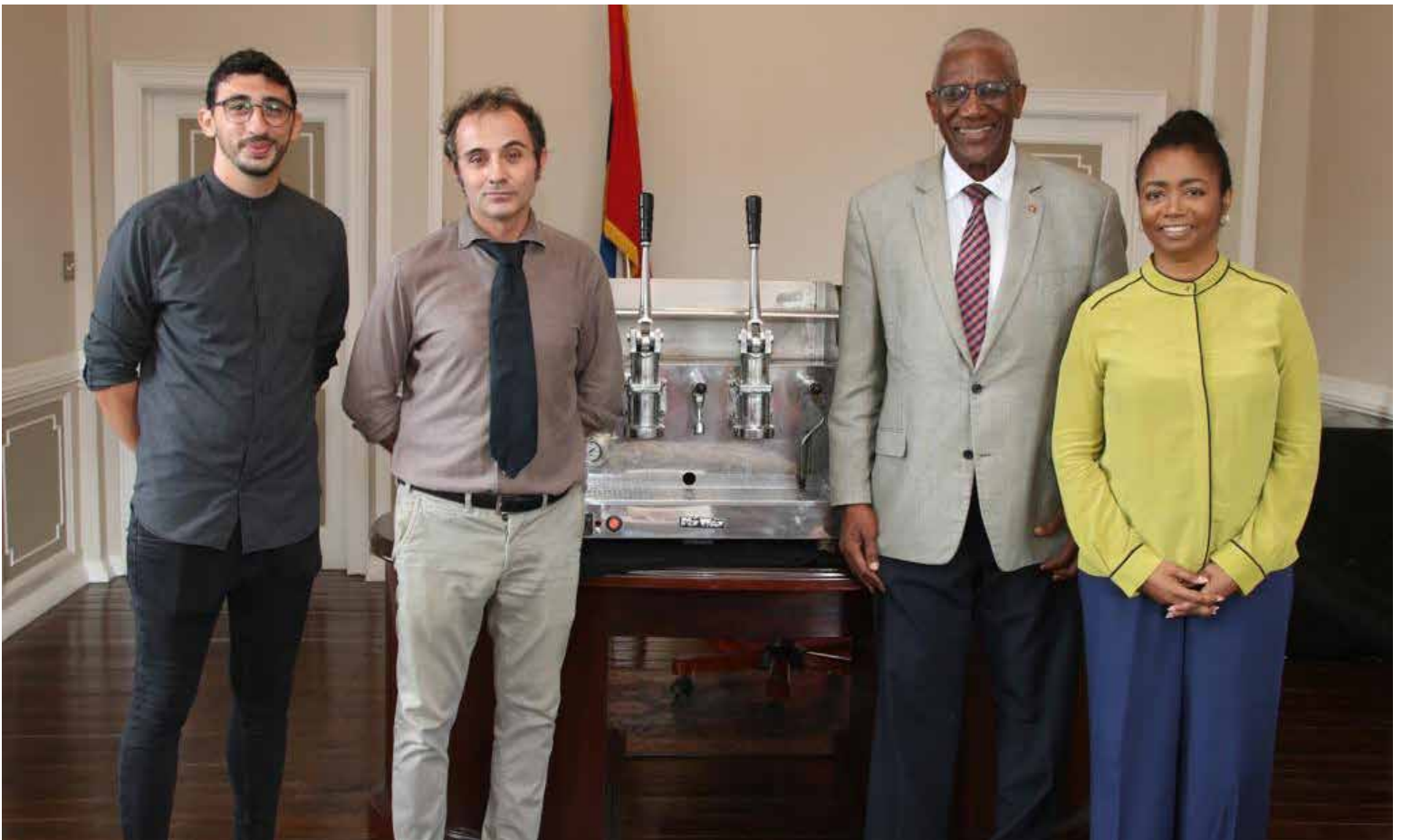


AMB HURST CONCERNED ABOUT CARICOM SPLIT ON COMMONWEALTH SG

Story on Page 2



Cambusa Restaurant owner and consultant, Alessandro Moncada (second from left), accompanied by Demi Chef, Michele Strazzeri, (extreme left) presented a traditional coffee machine to Their Excellencies Governor General Sir Rodney and Lady Williams (right) last week. Their Excellencies expressed their appreciation for the donation and the offer of further assistance from Mr. Moncada to support the Government House restoration initiative.

Hurst reacts to T&T's endorsement of Jamaica's SG candidate

Trinidad and Tobago's declaration of support for Jamaica's Kamina Johnson-Smith for the post of Commonwealth Secretary General has prompted a response from Saint John's.

Antigua and Barbuda's former Ambassador to the United States and the Organisation of American States (OAS), Lionel 'Max' Hurst, has criticised the disintegration of the CARICOM bloc on the issue of the Commonwealth Secretary General. He has also hinted that to contradict the established norm, could place the region at a disadvantage.

"The CARICOM prides itself for moving as a block. In the UN, the OAS, the Commonwealth, our conjoining has given us heft beyond our tiny population size.

"If we abandon this approach in international fora, we will become the grass on which the elephant fight. It is consensus that has propelled us above our weight," Ambassador

Hurst declared.

The Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister called the decision taken by the larger countries Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago "unfair", especially when smaller states do not hesitate when called upon to lend support to their causes.

"Scotland is a candidate from Dominica and Antigua. We are frequently called upon to support Jamaica and Trinidad. Why can they not reciprocate when that post means a lot to the smaller members? It is not fair for Jamaica to put forward a candidate to challenge our candidate, and for Trinidad to announce its support to the 54 states of the Commonwealth."

On his return to Port-of-Spain from Guyana on Sunday, Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley, during a press conference at Piarco International Airport, revealed Johnson-Smith as the candidate his country will support.



Ambassador Lionel 'Max' Hurst

He told reporters that Baroness Patricia Scotland is not a true representative of the Caribbean.

"It was our turn to be afforded the chairmanship, but when that came about in the Malta meeting, CARICOM supported an individual who — while being Caribbean by birth having spent two years here — in fact had lived all her useful life in the United Kingdom, had risen to the level of attorney general of the United Kingdom, and had in fact become a baroness in the British Parliament.

"It was always the position of Trinidad and Tobago that such a person was not really a representative of CARICOM to represent us when it was our turn to lead.

"That position was not shared by our other colleagues; however, the election did have CARICOM's support."

Mr. Rowley said Sunday that the country's position has not changed and as such, they will support Jamaica's minister of foreign affairs and foreign trade.

"It is Trinidad and Tobago's position that we will remain consistent and therefore our support for one of the CARICOM candidates will be in support of Minister Kamina Johnson-Smith, the Foreign Minister of Jamaica who is representing one of the CARICOM possibilities, going forward," Prime Minister Rowley said.

<p>Tue 24 Day</p> <p>85° </p> <p>Partly cloudy skies. High around 85F. Winds E at 10 to 15 mph.</p>		<p>Tue 24 Night</p> <p>76° </p> <p>Partly cloudy skies early will become overcast later during the night. Low 76F. Winds ENE at 5 to 10 mph.</p>	
<p>10% </p> <p>E 11 mph</p>	<p>23% </p> <p>ENE 8 mph</p>	<p>Humidity 67%</p> <p>UV Index Extreme</p>	<p>Humidity 79%</p> <p>UV Index 0 of 10</p>
<p>Sunrise 5:33 am</p> <p>Sunset 6:34 pm</p>	<p>Moonrise 1:45 am</p> <p>Moonset 1:50 pm</p> <p>Waning Crescent</p>		

Peanut butter recall being investigated

The Prices and Consumer Affairs Division has begun investigating whether a peanut butter brand being recalled in the United States is on the shelves of grocery stores in Antigua and Barbuda.

The US-based Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said the recall of JIF peanut butter, a product manufactured by the J. M. Smucker Company, is due to potential salmonella contamination.

According to the FDA, “the recalled peanut butter was distributed nationwide in retail stores and other outlets,” and includes products with lot code 1274425 – 2140425, which is included alongside best-if-used-by



date.

When contacted yesterday, a representative of the Price and Consumer Affairs Division said the department is aware of the recall and has launched an investigation to ascertain whether the contaminated products are being sold to local consumers and

if so, to remove them from distribution.

Once the investigation is complete, the public will be notified as to whether or not the recalled peanut butter has been found in the country.

Among the affected products are JIF 16 Ounce Creamy Peanut Butter,

with Universal Product Code (UPC) 5150025516 and JIF 16 Ounce Crunchy Peanut Butter, with UPC 5150025537.

The complete list of contaminated JIF products is available on the FDA’s website.

If consumers find JIF peanut butter products that reflect the codes listed by the FDA in their homes, they are urged to immediately discard them.

Salmonella is spread mainly through food and causes illness which can, in some cases, require hospitalisation.

Salmonella can even result in death in certain circumstances.

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Health department focusing on food safety ahead of Carnival

As the build up to Carnival 2022 gathers momentum, the health department is increasing its vigilance of COVID-19 protocols, as well as the preparation and handling of food that will be consumed by the public.

Chief Health Inspector, Sharon Martin, said these are areas of concern for her department now that Carnival 2022 has been officially

launched, and with the announcement that as many as 87 fetes have been approved for the season.

“We have been focusing on proper food handling practices and procedures during our several workshops planned ahead of major events such as Sailing Week, Independence and Carnival,” Martin reported.

Just last week, a food



Chief Health Inspector, Sharon Martin.

handlers’ workshop was concluded for those who will be involved in the preparation and sale of food during the Carnival period.

“We are likely to have another two or three before we conclude this training in July,” she added.

According to the Chief Health Inspector, the department will emphasise the importance of maintaining food at a proper temperature over a particular time, in order to keep it safe for consumption.

She stated that food borne diseases can become a problem if the food is not stored under the right conditions. Storing such food for service another day, even if it is frozen, will not eliminate the problem, she explained.

Over the Carnival period, inspectors from the Central Board of Health (CBH) will conduct daily, and in

some cases, nightly, inspections of the operations of vendors at various carnival venues. They will ensure that people handling food are in possession of a food handler’s certificate and that food service is being offered in compliance with the department’s requirements.

With regard to COVID-19, the Chief Health Inspector noted, while the government has relaxed some protocols, patrons attending Carnival events should take steps to protect themselves now that cases are again on the increase.

“It may not be practical to ask a person attending a fete to wear a mask, or to practice social distancing, but that person can still wash his or her hands and adopt measures to keep themselves safe during the carnival season,” Martin noted.



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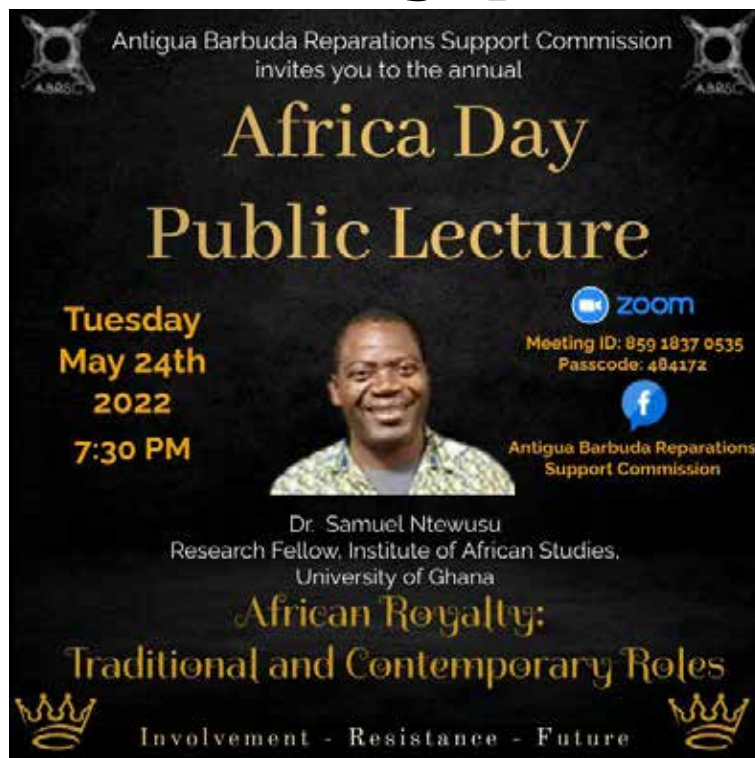
Reparations Commission hosts virtual Africa Day public lecture

Antigua and Barbuda will join the international community in celebrating African Liberation Day/ Africa Day on 25th May.

To commemorate the event, the Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Support Commission will host a virtual Public Lecture under the theme, *African Royalty: Traditional and Contemporary Roles*, today from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

This year, the ABRSC has invited Dr. Samuel Nteuwusu, a Research Fellow at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana. Dr. Nteuwusu is also the-coordinator of the research programme “*Society and Change in Northern Ghana: Dagomba, Gonja, and the Regional Perspective on Ghanaian History*”.

The interactive lecture’s focus on African Royalty aims to bring awareness and knowledge about the signif-



Antigua Barbuda Reparations Support Commission invites you to the annual

Africa Day Public Lecture

Tuesday
May 24th
2022
7:30 PM

Dr. Samuel Nteuwusu
Research Fellow, Institute of African Studies,
University of Ghana

*African Royalty:
Traditional and Contemporary Roles*

Involvement - Resistance - Future

Meeting ID: 859 1837 0535
Passcode: 484172

icance of African Monarchy in the growth and development of African societies.

According to Anthony Liverpool, Vice-Chair of the ABRSC, “This informative lecture presentation will serve to highlight the fact that African societies have been

led by Kings and Queens for centuries...and that our heritage as Africans is rich, with examples of a structured culture and way of life.

“We now need to embrace the efforts to re-educate ourselves and set the stage for our children to become more

educated about our African History.”

The multi-platform public lecture will be broadcast via Zoom, using the Meeting ID: 859 1837 0535, Passcode: 484172. It can also be accessed via Facebook at Antigua Barbuda Reparations Support Commission.

It will be rebroadcast on state media house, ABS, at a later time.

Since 1972, Antigua and Barbuda has joined in African Liberation Day celebrations, which were initially organised by Antigua Caribbean Liberation Movement.

Over the years, the ABRSC has staged an annual public lecture on or around 25th May. The lectures have featured numerous prominent Caribbean and International academics and activists, including Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr. Ralph Gonsalves.

British High Commission St. John’s donates supplies to secondary schools

Winners of the British High Commission’s Commonwealth Secondary Schools’ Competition received their prizes for their performances at a recent reception aboard Her Majesty’s Ship, Medway.

Their winning pieces were also shared with the nation via various national media platforms.

A final donation of essential school supplies to

their various institutions in their honour by the British High Commission completed their rewards.

On Friday 20th and Monday 23rd May, Resident British Commissioner to Antigua and Barbuda, Lindsay Thompson, presented the principals of the Antigua Grammar School and the Pares Secondary School with supplies for their En-

cont’d on pg 6



US Embassy to offer tap dance workshop this week

Antiguans and Barbudans will have the opportunity to be introduced to tap dancing during a workshop that is being organised and sponsored by the Barbados-based US Embassy.

Grammy Award Winning Tim and the Space Cadets cast member, Alex MacDonald, will facilitate the workshop this Thursday at the Princess Margaret School's auditorium.



Grammy Award winning dance educator, Alex MacDonald

hour tap dance programme.

A day later on Friday, a free concert will be held, featuring Tim and the Space Cadets at the UWI Open Campus on Queen Elizabeth Highway.

Director of Culture, Khan Cordice, said he welcomes the workshop, as it provides another opportunity for residents to acquire a new skill and learn from Fine Arts and Entertainment professionals.

Alex, an experienced dance educator, will lead participants through the one

Active COVID-19 cases close in on 200

The most recent report received by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment revealed forty (40) new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Thursday 19th May, 2022 at 6pm.

Fifty-five (55) samples were processed. Twenty-eight (28) recovered cases were recorded.

Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is seven thousand nine hundred and eighty-two (7,982); which is inclusive of one hundred and ninety-three (193) active cases.

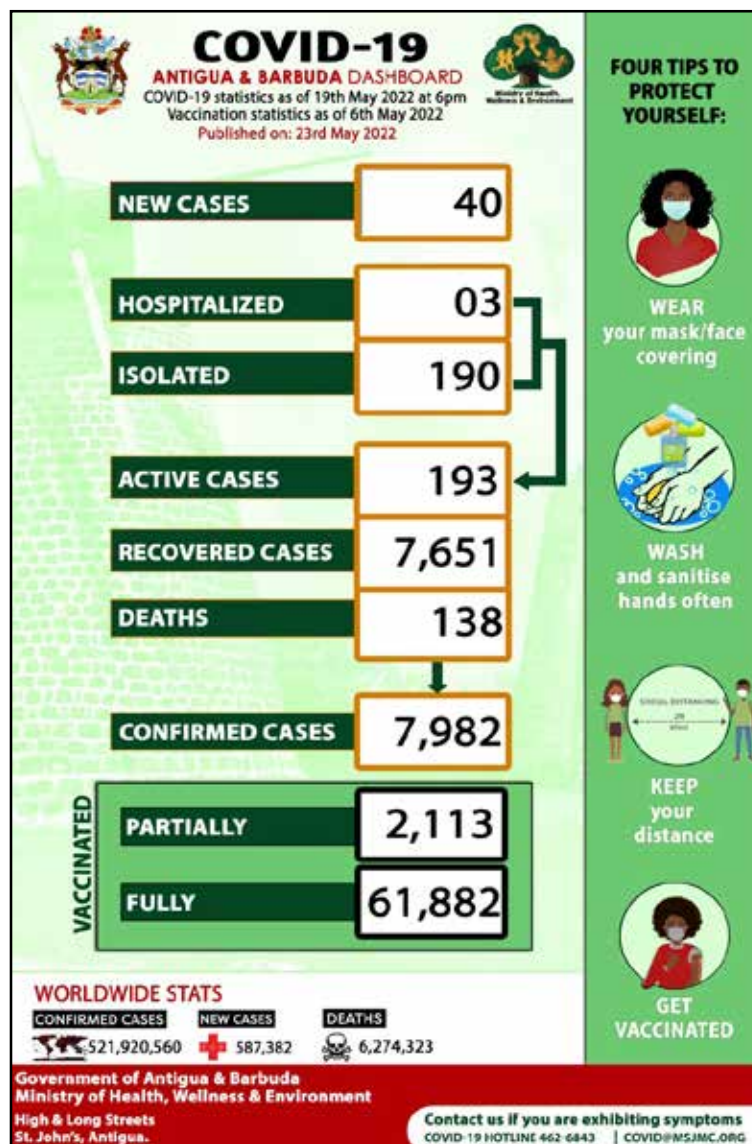
There are three (3) hospitalised cases; one (1) severe and two (2) mild.

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English, Art and Social Sciences departments in the names of Deandre Farrell, Jean Klaude Burnette and Ajante Fraser of the Antigua Grammar School and Shamar Hylton and Shemario JnPaul of the Pares Secondary School.

Both institutions were extremely grateful to the British High Commission for its donations and celebrated the students' excellent performance.

Ms. Thompson said, "I'd like to congratulate the winning students, and their supportive teachers for encouraging and nurturing such fantastic entries. I'm delighted that Antigua Grammar School and Pares Secondary School are able to benefit from their considerable efforts."





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ADDICTION COUNSELING, AND MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY.



Britain's Queen Elizabeth leaves after watching the Royal Windsor Horse Show Platinum Jubilee Celebration at Windsor Castle, in Windsor Britain, May 15, 2022. REUTERS/Henry Nicholls

Does the Commonwealth have a future after Queen Elizabeth?

By Sarah Mills

As Queen Elizabeth celebrates her 70th year on the throne, there are questions about whether the Commonwealth of Nations, which she was instrumental in creating and remains one of her proudest achievements, has a future when her reign is over.

The Commonwealth evolved out of the British empire, and Elizabeth became its head in 1952 when she became queen, three years after the London Declaration formally created the voluntary association in its current form.

Now it is one of the world's biggest international organisations, made up of 54 countries, almost all of which were former colonies of the United Kingdom, covering some 2.5 billion people or about one third of the world's population.

The 96-year-old queen has always been at its heart, but there are suggestions it has already become outdated and irrelevant.

"I think perhaps the Commonwealth has historically run its course," said Philip Murphy, professor of British and Commonwealth History at the University of London. "And what you're really seeing now is the ghost of an organisation."

Commonwealth members range from wealthy nations such as Britain, Australia, New Zealand and Canada - who still all have the queen as their head of state - to populous India, as well as tiny Pacific republics such as Nauru.

Supporters say it provides a network to foster international cooperation and trade links, with a focus on promoting democracy and development, and addressing issues such as

climate change.

So, when Barbados cut its ties with the British monarchy last year when the Caribbean nation became a republic, it was keen to remain part of the Commonwealth.

"The Commonwealth is beneficial to many Caribbean nations as well as many African nations and it links us into countries like Australia and New Zealand and Canada," said Barbados-based David Denny, general secretary for the Caribbean Movement for Peace and Integration, a non-government organisation.

The organisation was regarded as playing a significant role in helping to end apartheid in South Africa, and Murphy says it has uses for smaller, less powerful members. But he remains unconvinced of its wider benefit.

cont'd on pg 9

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“The Commonwealth talks about the importance of promoting democracy, tackling climate change, tackling gender inequality,” he told Reuters. “But the Commonwealth isn’t necessarily a logical framework internationally in which to deal with any of those problems.”

Where the organisation could have a role, Murphy says, is in dealing with the legacy of the British empire and colonialism, with a new purpose of dealing with issues such as reparation and restitution.

‘Massacred’

“We were massacred and killed for the economic development of Britain,” Denny said.

“The nation states within the Commonwealth should demand reparation for that sufferation from the royal family, from the British government, all of the British companies that would have benefited from slav-

ery and the exploitation of our African people throughout the Commonwealth nation states.”

Another question the organisation will have to address is who will lead it, with Denny arguing it should not be the British royals, despite Commonwealth leaders agreeing in 2018 that Elizabeth’s son and heir Prince Charles should be her successor although the role is not hereditary.

Charles’s eldest son Prince William, after a difficult tour of the Caribbean nations earlier this year when he faced protests, calls for reparations and an apology for slavery, suggested he might not get the job.

“Who the Commonwealth chooses to lead its family in the future isn’t what is on my mind,” said William. “What matters to us is the potential the Commonwealth family has to create a better future for the people who form it, and our commitment to serve and support as best we can.”

However, in the meantime, there is no question of the importance of the organisation to its current head.

“Today, it is rewarding to observe a modern, vibrant and connected Commonwealth that combines a wealth of history and tradition with the great social, cultural and technological advances of our time,” Queen Elizabeth said in her annual message to the Commonwealth in March.

“That the Commonwealth stands ever taller is a credit to all who have been involved.”

Murphy said he suspected it would survive, but with even less attention that it attracts now.

“I think it will stagger on,” he said. “I don’t see the will to draw a line under it, and I don’t see who would really have the authority to do that. I think the danger is that it will just gradually become less influential, less important and less interesting to its citizens.”



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TUESDAYS

CDB president calls for multi-instrument financing for sustainable development in the Caribbean

By *Santana Salmon*

President of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), Dr. Gene Leon has restated the need for a multi-faceted suite of financing instruments to drive sustainable development in the Caribbean as the region braces for exogenous shocks from the Russia-Ukraine conflict and other global events.

“In the Caribbean, we are still reeling from the ravages wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are just beginning to see some faint light in the tunnel ahead.

“Although growth in the region is expected to rebound to around six percent in 2022 ... several threatening storm clouds have already formed that may significantly dampen this encouraging outlook,” he said as he addressed the 52nd Regular Meeting of the Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions’ (ALIDE) General Assembly on Thursday.

The CDB President cited the fallout from the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, including rising energy prices, increasing inflation, worsening food insecurity, and the monetary tightening in advanced economies as developments that could negatively impact the region’s sustainable development agenda.

He disclosed that developing countries require between three and five trillion US dollars in annual investment to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) according to estimates from the UN Global Compact Action Platform on Financial Innovation for the SDGs. Dr. Leon emphasised that marshalling



CDB President Dr. Gene Leon

the necessary investment will require mobilisation of financial resources, strategic, collaborative partnerships, and a strong focus on implementation.

In outlining the way forward, the seasoned economist contended that an allocation from the US\$650 billion in Special Drawing Rights (SDR) approved by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in August 2021 could be utilised for sustainable development financing.

He proposed that developed countries channel two percent of their excess SDR holdings to Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to support targeted initiatives that will address the integration of the twin issues of stabilisation and long-term sustainable development.

“MDBs are well placed to play this integrative role by forging an internal and temporal consistency among the three key policy frameworks in use: I refer to the debt sus-

tainability framework of the IMF, the investment-growth nexus of the World Bank Group, and the Resilience Building Approach of the United Nations. This unifying perspective is key to providing viable, inclusive, and sustainable solutions for transformative development,” he explained.

Dr. Leon also called for deeper functional cooperation among development institutions in the Caribbean and Latin America and emphasised the need for partnerships with the regional and international private sectors and the regional public sector to achieve common transformative development goals.

“The overarching objective would be to support broad economic development and enhance resilience in our countries through investments in projects aligned with the SDGs and associated with carbon-competitive energy, climate-resilient infrastructure, digitalization, and economic diversification,” he said.

Pfizer says three COVID shots protect children under five

By Lauran Neergaard

Three doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine offer strong protection for children younger than 5, the company announced Monday.

Pfizer plans to give the data to U.S. regulators later this week in a step toward letting the littlest kids get the shots.

The news comes after months of anxious waiting by parents desperate to vaccinate their babies, toddlers and preschoolers, especially as COVID-19 cases once again are rising. The 18 million tots under 5 are the only group in the U.S. not yet eligible for COVID-19 vaccination.

The Food and Drug Administration has begun evaluating data from rival Moderna, which hopes to begin offering two kid-sized shots by summer.

Pfizer has had a bumpier time figuring out its approach.

It aims to give tots an even lower dose — just one-tenth of the amount adults receive — but discovered during its trial that two shots didn't seem quite strong enough for preschoolers.

So researchers gave a third shot to more than 1,600 youngsters — from age 6 months to 4 years — during the winter surge of the omicron variant.

In a press release, Pfizer and its partner BioNTech said the extra shot did the trick, revving up tots' levels of virus-fighting antibodies enough to meet FDA criteria for emergency use of the vaccine with no safety problems.

Preliminary data suggested the three-dose series is 80% effective in preventing symptomatic COVID-19, the companies said, but they cautioned the calculation is based on just 10 cases diagnosed

cont'd on pg 12



A nurse holds a vial of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11, right, and a vial of the vaccine for adults, which has a different coloured label, at a vaccination station in Jackson, Miss., Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022. (AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis, File)



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5:00PM-7:00PM (WOMEN ONLY HOURS)

Sunday
10:00AM-3:00PM

Health & Wellness



cont'd from pg 11

among study participants by the end of April.

The study rules state that at least 21 cases are needed to formally determine effectiveness, and Pfizer promised an update as soon as more data is available.

The companies had already submitted data on the first two doses to the FDA, and BioNTech's CEO, Dr. Ugur Sahin, said the final third-shot data would be submitted this week.

"The study suggests that a low, 3-microgram dose of our vaccine, carefully selected based on tolerability data, provides young children with a high level of protection against the recent COVID-19 strains," he said in a statement.

What's next? FDA vaccine chief Dr. Peter Marks has pledged the agency will "move quickly without sacrificing our standards" in evaluating tot-sized doses from both Pfizer

and Moderna.

The agency has set tentative dates next month for its scientific advisers to publicly debate data from each company.

Moderna is seeking to be the first to vaccinate the littlest kids. It submitted data to the FDA saying tots develop high levels of virus-fighting antibodies after two shots that contain a quarter of the dose given to adults.

The Moderna study found effectiveness against symptomatic COVID-19 was 40% to 50% during the omicron surge, much like for adults who've only had two vaccine doses.

Complicating Moderna's progress, the FDA so far has allowed its vaccine to be used only in adults.

The FDA is expected to review Moderna's data on both the youngest age group, plus its study of teens and elementary-age children. Oth-

er countries already have expanded Moderna's shot to kids as young as 6.

While COVID-19 generally isn't as dangerous to youngsters as to adults, some children do become severely ill or even die.

And the omicron variant hit children especially hard, with those under 5 hospitalised at higher rates than at the peak of the previous delta surge.

It's not clear how much demand there will be to vaccinate the youngest kids.

Pfizer shots for 5- to 11-year-olds opened in November, but only about 30% of that age group have gotten the recommended initial two doses.

Last week, U.S. health authorities said elementary-age children should get a booster shot just like everyone 12 and older is supposed to get, for the best protection against the latest coronavirus variants.

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Barbados lifts COVID-19 tests requirement for vaccinated travellers

CMC – The government of Barbados has announced that effective this Wednesday, May 25, vaccinated travellers

During a press conference on Saturday, Prime Minister Mia Mottley said that the government felt comfortable in recognizing the downward trajectory in cases of COVID-19.

“I have therefore been advised by the Ministry of Health that all persons who are vaccinated and are coming into Barbados will no longer need to come in with any kind of test results. So, we are removing testing for vaccinated passengers coming into Barbados. Unvaccinated passengers will



Prime Minister Mia Mottley

still have to test,” she said.

The Prime Minister added that mask-wearing will be optional in outdoor settings.

“Outdoor mask wearing will become optional but indoors and on public

transport, masks will still be required.

“If you’re drinking, if you’re talking, obviously you know you remove your masks indoors to be able to facilitate those things.”

Concerning mask wear-

ing in schools, the Prime Minister said this remains unchanged.

The Prime Minister, however, stressed that if any new variant of the disease presented itself, measures to help combat the infection rate would be re-introduced.

“If another variant presents itself that causes us concern, believe you me you don’t have to ask what the Government will do, because we will press brakes again, but at this point in time everything is moving in the right direction and allows us, therefore, to be cautiously optimistic and to make the necessary changes we need to make.

US Coast Guard repatriates 43 migrants to Cuba

CMC – The United States Coast Guard says the crew of its cutter Bernard Webber crew on Saturday repatriated 43 Cuban migrants to their homeland following four interdictions off the Florida Keys.

The US Coast Guard said a Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater C-130 Hercules law enforcement aircrew alerted Coast Guard Sector Key West watchstanders of a rustic vessel on Tuesday, about 40 miles south of Long Key, Florida.

The US Coast Guard also said that a Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations law enforcement air crew alerted Coast

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PM Ralph Gonsalves urges CARICOM not to attend Summit of the Americas

Loop - It is the view of the Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, that until there is the inclusion of all nations in the Americas, CARICOM ought not to attend next month's Summit of the Americas.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines has therefore finally declared its hand and is urging the 15 member CARICOM grouping not to attend unless it's inclusive.

The prime minister says he has written letters to the Chairman of CARICOM, Belize's John Briceno, and Secretary-General of CARICOM, Dr. Carla Bennet, regarding the upcoming Summit of the Americas.

He noted that during a meeting of CARICOM in Belize in early March this year, there was consensus that CARICOM would decline the invitation to this year's summit in Los Angeles if Cuba was excluded and, and if Venezuelan opposition leader, Juan Guaido, was invited in place of President Nicholas Maduro.

"I was fine with that particular consensus; I don't see any basis for us to change from what the consensus was. I know that the matter in the minds of some persons has become



Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr. Ralph Gonsalves

more complicated because the US recently rolled back unilaterally some of the more egregious follies of the Trump era."

While Nicaragua was not specifically mentioned in CARICOM's discussions, PM Gonsalves said the same issue is at stake.

A second position he pointed out in the correspondence is that the USA, as the host, cannot unilaterally decide who to invite or not.

Gonsalves noted that the US has spent significant time, through its foreign emissaries, encouraging heads of government in the Americas to attend

the June summit even if Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua are excluded.

Coupled with the relaxation of sanctions on Cuba and renewed dialogue with Venezuela however, Gonsalves does not believe that those initiatives constitute a genuine thawing of relations.

"We are now in the year 2022. Why are we so consumed about all these battles? Some old battles from the 20th century?

"There are so many challenges to talk about in our hemisphere. We want to exclude people? How does that make sense?"

cont'd from pg 13

Guard Sector Key West watchstanders of a rustic vessel the following day, on Wednesday – about 50 miles south of Islamorada, Florida.

Later in the day another vessel was spotted, about 45 miles south of Big Pine Key, Florida, and another was seen 65 miles south of Marathon, Florida.

"The Coast Guard and

our partners have increased air and surface patrols in the Florida Straits, Windward and Mona Passages," said Petty Officer Nicole J. Groll, Coast Guard District Seven.

"These waterways are dangerous, unpredictable and the risk for loss of life is great."

The Coast Guard said it repatriated the 48 Cuban migrants on Thursday

at the interdictions off the Florida Keys.

Since October 1, 2021, the US Coast Guard said its crews interdicted 1,952 Cubans compared to 5,396 in Fiscal Year 2016, 1,468 in Fiscal Year 2017, 259 in Fiscal Year 2018, 313 in Fiscal Year 2019, 49 in Fiscal Year 2020 and 838 in Fiscal Year 2021.

Last month the Belize government said it had

seen an "upsurge" in the number of Cubans entering the country illegally since reopening the land borders on February 7, hoping to make their way into the United States.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, and Immigration said the Cubans are among other nationals, entering Belize via irregular means.

Ukraine says 87 killed in strike on barracks, worst military loss of war

Reuters – Kyiv acknowledged its worst military losses from a single attack of the Ukraine war on Monday, saying 87 people had been killed last week when Russian forces struck a barracks housing troops at a training base in the north.

The announcement that scores had been killed in a single strike demonstrated Russia's ability to inflict huge losses on Ukraine, even far from the front. President Volodymyr Zelenskiy disclosed the toll during a speech on Monday by video link to business leaders in Davos, Switzerland.

Ukraine had previously said at least eight people were killed in the May 17 attack, while giving few details. The toll was more than double the number killed
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A view shows destroyed facilities of Azovstal Iron and Steel Works during Ukraine-Russia conflict in the southern port city of Mariupol, Ukraine May 22, 2022. Picture taken with a drone. REUTERS/Pavel Klimov

Russian sentenced to life in Ukraine's first war crimes trial

AP – A Ukrainian court sentenced a 21-year-old Russian soldier to life in prison Monday for killing a civilian, sealing the first conviction for war crimes since Moscow's invasion three months ago.

Sgt. Vadim Shishimarin pleaded guilty to shooting a 62-year-old man in the head in a village in the north-eastern Sumy region in the early days of the war.

He testified that he shot Oleksandr Shelipov after being ordered to do so. He told the court that an officer insisted that Shelipov, who was speaking on his cell phone, could pinpoint their location to Ukrainian forc-



Russian Sgt. Vadim Shishimarin listens to his translator during a court hearing in Kyiv, Ukraine, Monday, May 23, 2022. The court sentenced the 21-year-old soldier to life in prison on Monday for killing a Ukrainian civilian, in the first war crimes trial held since Russia's invasion. (AP Photo/Natacha Pisarenko)

es.

Ukrainian prosecutors are investigating thousands of potential war crimes, as

the world has pushed for Russia to be held accountable for its invasion. Russian forces bombed a theatre

where civilians were sheltering and struck a maternity hospital.

In the wake of Moscow's withdrawal from towns around Kyiv weeks ago, mass graves were discovered and streets were strewn with bodies in towns such as Bucha.

The war's effects have also been felt well beyond Ukraine, pushing energy and food prices higher. The United Nations said the conflict has helped push the number of people displaced worldwide to the highest level on record, with more than 100 million people driven from their homes across the globe.

Ethiopia launches crackdown on journalists and activists

AP – Ethiopian security officials are conducting a massive operation across the country that has led to the arrests of more than 4,500 people in one region alone. The crackdown on journalists, activists and others, dubbed a “law enforcement operation,” came into effect after the administration of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on May 20 cited the need to “protect citizens and ensure the survival of the nation.”

On Monday morning, security officials in the north-western Amhara region announced the arrests of more than 4,500 people. Desalegn Tassew, head of peace and security in the region, told state media outlets the arrests were made “to uphold law and order, deal with criminal activities and get rid of outside enemies.”

Rights groups are expressing alarm. Tigist Shumye, a sister of prominent Ethiopian journalist Solomon Shumye, told The Associated Press he was arrested at his home by people in civilian



Federal police officers stand guard at Meskel Square on April 29, 2022 in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

clothing on May 20. “They were not willing to tell us who they were. They even detained me for two hours, just because I am a sister to a journalist,” she said.

Some political parties and media outlets in the country have been accusing Ethiopia’s government of conducting “abductions,” a practice that some activists call a new tactic. Some Amhara activists claim that the Fano armed group that has been implicated in atrocities in the country’s Tigray war is

also targeted.

Some journalists are leaving the country amid threats and intimidation by the government and non-state actors, both online and offline. Recently, Ethiopian officials revoked the licence of a journalist accredited to work for The Economist.

Earlier in May, the Ethiopian Mass Media Professionals Association called on the government to end the imprisonment of journalists, citing an increasing trend in arbitrary arrests. “Govern-

ment security forces’ endless assault against the media ... might traumatise the industry for the time being, but eventually such practice will cost the government itself,” it said in a statement.

Ethiopia’s deadly war has subsided in recent months after the government announced a humanitarian truce and Tigray forces accepted it. But killings, rights violations and mass arrests are being reported in several parts of the country, notably in the Oromia and Amhara regions.

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in a similar attack on a Ukrainian training base in Yaraviv in the west in March.

“History is at a turning point... This is really the moment when it is decided whether brute force will rule the world,” Zelenskiy said in his address, calling for maximum economic sanctions on Russia.

In the latest fighting at the battlefield, Ukraine said on Monday it had held off

a Russian assault on Sievierodonetsk, an eastern city that has become the main target of Moscow’s offensive since it finally seized Mariupol last week.

Russian forces tried to storm Sievierodonetsk but were unsuccessful and retreated, Zelenskiy’s office said. The city, on the Siverskiy Donets River, has been the main Russian target in recent days as Moscow tries to encircle Ukrainian forces and fully capture Lu-

hansk and Donetsk provinces.

With Moscow having captured Mariupol last week after a three-month siege but losing territory elsewhere, the war in Ukraine is entering what some Western military analysts describe as a new phase: a major Russian push to capture the eastern region known as the Donbas, before Moscow is expected to shift to defending and imposing its rule over territory it controls.

Biden's Asian economic talks include 13 countries, and no China

Reuters – President Joe Biden launched his plan for U.S. economic engagement in Asia on Monday, leaving it to the 13 founding countries to work out how to enforce their agreements and if China could ever join.

Biden is unveiling the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) in Tokyo on his first trip in office to Asia.

The White House says the deal offers no tariff relief to the countries that join, including India, Malaysia and the Philippines, but provides a way to sort through key issues from climate change to supply chain resilience and digital trade.

Washington has lacked an economic pillar to its Indo-Pacific engagement since former President Donald Trump quit a multinational trans-Pacific trade agreement, leaving the field open to its key competitor China to expand its influence.

“The future of the 21st Century economy is going to largely be written in the Indo-Pacific - in our region,” Biden said at a launch event in Tokyo. “We’re writing the new rules.”

Biden wants the deal to raise environmental, labour and other standards across Asia. The other initial founders are Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the United States.

But those founding countries will need to negotiate what standards they wish to abide by, how they will be enforced, whether their domestic legislatures will need to ratify them and how to consider potential future members, including China, officials told reporters.

“This will enhance access to



U.S. President Joe Biden arrives at Osan Air Base for travel to Japan, in Pyeongtaek, South Korea, May 22, 2022. REUTERS/Kim Hong-Ji/Pool/File Photo

sources of finance and technology,” said Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, who joined the launch event by video. “It is still a work in progress, with detailed consultations planned in the near future.”

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo told reporters that the IPEF presents Asian countries with “an alternative to China’s approach to these critical issues”.

China has expressed no interest in joining IPEF. Many of the standards Washington wants would make such a deal unpalatable to Beijing, a U.S. official said.

Also left out of the initial talks is Taiwan, which wanted to join.

Biden’s national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, told reporters on Air Force One that Taiwan would not be a part of the IPEF launch but that Washington is looking to deepen economic ties with the self-govern-

ing island, which China claims.

The IPEF is an attempt to salvage some part of the benefits of participation in a broader trade agreement like the one Trump quit, which is now known as the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership and was then known as TPP.

“TPP, as it was envisioned, ultimately was something that was quite fragile,” U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai said of the deal some feared would threaten U.S. jobs. “The biggest problem with it was that we did not have the support at home to get it through.”

China applied in September to join the successor to TPP, and when Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida met with Biden privately on Monday, he said he told the U.S. president that Washington should re-join the trade deal.

Pakistan cuts Usman Qadir for ODI series against West Indies

AP – Pakistan has dropped leg-spinner Usman Qadir and hard-hitting batters Asif Ali and Haider Ali for next month's limited-overs international series against the West Indies.

“Usman, Asif and Haider remain in our plans for the shortest format as we have a series of T20s lined up this year, including the T20 World Cup,” chief selector Mohammad Wasim said in a statement on Monday.

Wasim said the return of vice-captain Shadab Khan and Mohammad Nawaz from injuries resulted in Usman's absence for the ODI series. Both players missed Pakistan's last ODI series at home against Australia.

Rawalpindi will host the three one-day games, which are part of the Cricket World Cup League, on June 8, 10 and 12.

The 16-member squad will meet for a training camp starting June 1, with Haris Rauf, Hasan Ali, Mohammad Rizwan and Shadab Khan joining from their English county teams.

For the first time in more than two years, Pakistan will be playing without



Umair Asif (left) Haider Ali (centre) and Usman Qadir

the restrictions of a biosecure bubble that had become part of life for players during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wasim said the lowered restrictions meant additional players could be called into the squad in case the team management required any replacement.

“We have decided to give the best chance to our side to collect maximum points and strengthen our chances of progressing directly for the pinnacle

50-over tournament,” he said of the World Cup. “We have retained the same core of players so they further establish themselves in the format. I hope this bunch will continue the form they gained from the Australia series.”

The selectors have included uncapped wicketkeeper-batter Mohammad Haris in the squad as backup for Mohammad Rizwan, and retained the three openers Abdullah Shafique, Fakhar Zaman and Imam-ul-Haq.

Netball Jamaica to host World Cup qualifiers

Netball Jamaica launched the Netball World Cup Qualifier for the Americas Region last Thursday at the NCB Wellness and Recreation Centre in Kingston.

The qualifier will take place between October 15-22 at the National Indoor Sports Centre also in Kingston.

Eight countries from the eighteen-member region will join Jamaica for six days of competition in the

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Justin Thomas takes PGA from uninspiring to unforgettable

AP – Justin Thomas wrapped his arms around the 27-pound Wanamaker Trophy after winning his second PGA Championship, and thousands of fans ringing the 18th green amid the setting sun at Southern Hills showered him in adulation.

Good thing they woke up in time for his Sunday charge.

For nearly four full days, the year's second major had been a major snooze, the cast atop the leaderboard a list mostly made up of also-rans searching for a moment of stardom. The golf itself was unspectacular, too, as everyone from Abraham Ancer to Tiger Woods ground their way around a Perry Maxwell classic that was both forbidding and unforgiving.

Heck, even the eventual champ shanked one off the tee on Sunday.

"Just cold shanked it," Thomas said. "Don't really know how else to say it. It



Justin Thomas holds the Wanamaker Trophy after winning the PGA Championship golf tournament in a playoff against Will Zalatoris at Southern Hills Country Club, Sunday, May 22, 2022, in Tulsa, Okla. (AP Photo/Eric Gay)

was the best bogey I've ever made in my life."

Cameron Young tried to move up the leaderboard during the final round, then left his chances of victory in a fairway bunker on the 16th hole. Will Zalatoris hung on for life as iron shots found creeks and shrubs and very little short grass.

Chile's Mito Pereira had a career-changing moment staring him in the face until a fateful shot on the 18th hole.

That's about the time the PGA Championship went from uninspiring to unbelievable.

Thomas matched the biggest comeback in PGA

Championship history, set by John Mahaffey in 1978 at Oakmont, where he also rallied from seven down before winning in a playoff over Tom Watson and Jerry Pate. And his final-round 67 matched the lowest round of the day, ultimately helping him end a 14-month winless stretch.

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hope of becoming one of two countries that will qualify, along with Jamaica, for next year's Netball World Cup in Cape Town, South Africa from 28th July to 6th August.

Joining Jamaica are Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, the Cayman Islands, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and The Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and the USA.

Olivia Grange, Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and

Sports in Jamaica is the patron of the qualifier. She congratulated Netball Jamaica for taking the bold step of hosting the qualifier and committed JD\$12,000,000 from the government to the organisation to help cover the cost of staging the event.

Netball Jamaica's president, Tricia Robinson, welcomed the opportunity to host the event, which has never before been held in Jamaica.

Marva Bernard, president of the Americas Region, promised that the

regional governing body stands ready to support Netball Jamaica, which was awarded the qualifier two years ago. She said that she expects very competitive matches which will serve to improve netball in the region.

The immediate past president of the world governing body for netball, it was then the International Netball Federation, Molly Rhone, endorsed the qualifier in Jamaica and pledged her support to the local organising committee.

Kurt Zouma: West Ham defender prosecuted for three animal welfare offences

BBC – West Ham defender Kurt Zouma will appear in court after being accused of three offences under the Animal Welfare Act for allegedly harming his cat.

Zouma's brother Yoan, who plays for Dagenham and Redbridge, has been accused of two offences following an RSPCA investigation.

Yoan, 23, filmed 27-year-old Kurt kicking and slapping one of his pets.

The Zouma brothers are set to appear at Thames Magistrates' Court on Tuesday for a first hearing.

After the video appeared in February, the RSPCA removed two cats from Kurt's home and began liaising with Essex Police about the incident.

The RSPCA continues to care for the two cats.

Kurt is accused of two counts of causing "unnecessary suffering" to the cat by kicking it in the abdomen and



Kurt Zouma plays for Premier League side West Ham while Yoan Zouma is at National League side Dagenham & Redbridge slapping it in the head.

He is also alleged to have failed to protect the cat from "pain suffering, injury or disease".

Yoan is accused of two counts of "aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring" Kurt to commit the offence of caus-

ing unnecessary suffering to the cat.

Kurt was fined a reported £250,000 and was dropped by a number of sponsors, but continued to play for the Hammers.

Yoan has not played for Dagenham and Redbridge since 29 January.

Naomi Osaka unsure on Wimbledon after ranking points decision

BBC – Four-time major winner Naomi Osaka is not sure she will play Wimbledon, saying that without ranking points it is "more like an exhibition".

The ATP and WTA stripped the points after Wimbledon banned Russian and Belarusian players over Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Osaka did not criticise the move but said earning points was a motivation.

"The intention of this

measure was good, but the execution is all over the place," she said.

"I feel like if I play Wimbledon without points, it's more like an exhibition.

"I know this isn't true, right? But my brain just like feels that way. Whenever I think like something is like an exhibition, I just can't go at it 100%.

"I didn't even make my decision yet, but I'm leaning more towards not playing given the current circum-

stances."

Former world number one Osaka, 24, was speaking after her first-round defeat by Amanda Anisimova at the French Open on Monday.

The Japanese player is 38th in the world rankings after taking several breaks from the sport last year to protect her mental health.

She missed Wimbledon, where she has never gone beyond the third round, as a result.

Players will receive

ranking points from the grass-court events held in the UK in the build-up to Wimbledon, which starts on 27 June.

Osaka is the highest-profile star to indicate she might not play at the All England Club. Poland's Iga Swiatek, who has a huge lead at the top of the WTA rankings, said: "For me, it's Wimbledon. It's one of the most important tournaments in the season. I'm OK playing without points.

Liberta crush Combined Schools to maintain winning form in ABCA two-day contest

PIC Insurance Liberta Black Hawks maintained their 100 percent winning record in the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's Two-Day competition over the weekend.

The Black Hawks were assured of a fourth win in as many matches after they crushed bottom team Massey United Combined Schools by 549 runs in a one-sided affair at Ball Beef in Liberta.

After obliterating Combined Schools for just 46 in their first innings, four batsmen hit centuries, as Liberta Black Hawks amassed 675 for seven declared.

Kofi James slammed 173, Tarek Charles made 109, Uri Smith struck 101 and Joshua Thomas cracked 100 not out.

Liberta then wrapped up the match as Combined Schools were bowled out for 80 in their second innings, with off-spinner Karima Gore picking up 5 for 18.

Empire Nation crushed Rising Sun Spartans by an innings and 101 runs at Rising Sun. After winning the toss and deciding to bat, opener Tyrone Williams Jr. hammered a century as Empire amassed 362 for 6, declared, off 63.3 overs.

Williams cracked 137 off 180 balls with 13 fours and 2 sixes in a shared second wicket partnership of 147 runs with Rasheed Henry, who contributed 49.

Allrounder Justin Athanaze chipped in, smashing a quick-fire 79 off 43 balls with 12 boundaries (6x6, 6x4).

Isiah Bruney captured 3 for 51 and Shane Burton picked up 2 for 63.

In reply, Rising Sun were dismissed for 126 in 27.4 overs. Micah McKenzie grabbed 3 for 26, Ja-vaughn James claimed 2 for 29 and Ajahrie Joseph captured 2 for 32.

Asked to follow 236 runs behind, Rising Sun could only muster 135, all out, in 26.1 overs in their second innings, with Burton on 64 off 50 balls with 6 sixes and 3 fours.

Athanaze snapped up 3 wickets for 4 runs in 5 overs of off-spin, while Joseph bagged 3 for 37 and McKenzie picked up 2 for 30.

Bolans Blasters claimed their first win of the competition when they overcame Jennings Tigers by 9 wickets at Bolans.

Sent into bat, Jennings made 198 all out in 40.2 overs in their first innings. Adrian Barron struck 56 off 41 balls and opener Cameron Miller made 51 off 55 balls. Miller shared a 94-run opening stand with Jahiem Africa who scored 36.

Dwayne Fordyce captured 5 for 73, off-spinner Shemar Pereira snapped up 3 wickets for 2 runs in 1.4 overs and Hughon Tonge picked up 2 for 28.

In reply, Bolans fell for 169 in 52 overs to give Jennings a first innings lead of 29 runs.

Captain Taiem Tonge top scored with 38. Matthew Miller captured 3 for 34, pacer Kenroy Browne took 2 for 21, Jedidiah Martin claimed 2 for 27 and Omarie Joseph picked up 2 for 45.

Jennings were unable to press home their advantage, however, as they tumbled 110 all out in 25.1

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Allrounder Kofi James hammered 173 as PIC Insurance Liberta Black Hawks crushed Combined Schools in the latest round of matches in the ABCA Two-Day Competition at Liberta over the weekend. (Photo courtesy ABCA)

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overs in their second innings.

Hughon Tonge captured 3 for 34 and Taiem Tonge took 3 for 38.

Set 140 runs for victory, Bolans achieved their target, reaching 143 for the loss of 1 wicket in 30.3 overs. Hughon Tonge hammered an unbeaten 84 off 89 balls with 13 fours and a six.

All Saints Pythons also pulled off a 9 wicket-win over Caribbean Union Bank (CUB) Bethesda Golden Eagles at Bethesda.

Bethesda tumbled to 117 all out in 45 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat. Chad Walsh top scored with 34 and captain Deran Benta got 31.

Kadeem Josiah took 3 for 20, Justin Robinson bagged 3 for 37 and Demetri Lucas picked up 2 wickets for 5 runs in 5 overs.

In reply, a 67-run last wicket partnership between number 10 batsman, Andra Samuel, and number 11 Robinson rescued All Saints and gave the Pythons a 46-run first innings lead over the Golden Eagles.

The pair came together with the Pythons, struggling at 96 for 9, and to take All Saints to their eventual first innings total of 163 off 44 overs.

Samuel hit a top score of 46 not out off 71 balls and Robinson contributed 16. Opener Michael Dover made 32 off 34 balls at the top of the

order.

Benta snatched four for 25, Kemari Clarke bagged three for 35 and fast bowler Kelvin Pitman captured 3 for 43.

Bethesda were then dismissed for 125 in 35 overs in their second innings. Josiah grabbed 5 for 37 and Lucas snapped up 5 for 38.

Set 80 runs for victory, All Saints wrapped up the match, scoring 83 for the loss of 1 wicket in 13.2 overs. Opener, T'ron Payne, made 34 not out, while Dover struck 33.

The other encounter between defending champions Pigotts Crushers and neighbours New Winthorpes Lions ended in a draw at Pigotts.

Batting first, Pigotts made 200 all out in 47 overs.

Captain Elroy Francis Jr top scored with 77 off 88 balls with 10 fours and a six, while opener Vincent Shadrach Jr. got 30.

New Winthorpes' captain and fast bowler Nino Henry claimed remarkable figures of eight for 54 in 13 overs.

New Winthorpes then replied with 89 for 9 in 23.3 overs to give Crushers a 111-run first innings lead. Asher Murray-Cornelius top scored with 31.

Francis took 2 wickets for 2 runs in 2.3 overs, Malique Walsh captured 2 for 23 and Trevorson "Jango" Atley claimed 2 for 39.

Pigotts then declared their second innings at 182 for six off 39.1 overs to set New Winthorpes a victory target of 294 runs.

Francis again led the way with 63 off 65 balls, including 6 fours and 3 sixes, and Gurshum Phillip chipped in with 34 off 39 balls.

Henry captured 2 for 38 and Orandel Boston picked up 2 for 49.

New Winthorpes somehow managed to narrowly avoid defeat as they held on to reach 110 for 9 off 46 overs in their second innings when the match ended.

Boston, batting at number 8, and Kyian Joseph, at 10, were largely responsible for New Winthorpes salvaging a draw.

Boston was not out on 3 off 48 balls and Joseph made 15 off 45 balls.

The pair came together with New Winthorpes reeling at 86 for 8 to stage a match saving 24-run ninth wicket partnership by staying in the crease for most of the remaining overs.

Joseph was bowled by Francis with the penultimate ball of the final over, but last man S. Daniels, safely kept out the final delivery of the match to secure the draw for New Winthorpes.

Francis finished with 3 for 21 in 16 overs and Walsh captured 4 wickets for 4 runs in 8 overs.

Dun Bar Crew becomes the only team yet to lose in Over-40 league

Dun Bar Crew snatched a 1-0 victory over Up & Over FC to maintain their 100 percent record in the Antigua Over-40 Premier League at the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's Technical Training Centre at Paynters on Sunday.

A Conroy Thomas 36th minute conversion gave Dun Bar Crew their victory in the top of the table clash, making the Hoppers the only team yet to lose a match in the eight-team round-robin competition.

Both teams entered the match with a perfect 3-0 record, but Sunday's victory propelled Dun Bar Crew as sole leaders in the competition with a maximum 12 points from four outings.

However, the result could change, if the organisers, 40 Football268, uphold a protest that was filed by Up & Over FC after the match.

Up and Over has claimed that Dun Bar Crew broke a rule which

bars more than three players between the ages of 35 and 39 on the field of play at the same time during a match.

If the protest is dismissed, Up and Over FC will fall to second place with nine points after four encounters.

Having started the competition with two wins in their first two matches, Turf Masters were beaten for the second time in their following two matches.

After falling 2-1 against Dun Bar Crew in their previous outing, Turf Masters were beaten 2-0 by Tung & Ban on Sunday.

A 5th minute strike by Robin and a 14th minute conversion by Kelvin Simon, gave Tung & Bang their first win of the competition.

Legacy FC claimed their second successive win by prevailing 3-1 against Extraordinary Men.

Goals by Johnathan Lindsay in the 7th minute and Stefan Thomas in

the 11th gave Legacy FC a 2-0 half-time lead. Anthony Bethel pulled a goal back when he scored in the 71st minute for Extraordinary Men.

But a strike by Marlon Francis in the 81st minute restored Legacy FC's two-goal advantage and secured the team's second win in four matches.

West Ham FC also recorded their second win by beating bottom team, Golden Grove Masters, 2-0 in Sunday's final encounter.

Albert Barthley scored in the 26th minute and Egan Samuel produced a 42nd minute conversion to lead West Ham to their second win in four matches.

During the match, Garrymore Anthony of Golden Grove was sent off the field by referee Shernell Burton.

Anthony was given a red card for addressing the referee with abusive and insulting language during the match.

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has been sinking basically since its inception.

"Every time it sinks, it moves. Obviously, it cracks, and we have significant leaks, so we have to have a complete rethink about the pool and the location and where, if there is a pool at Coolidge, it would be based," Greaves told Pointe FM's Pointe On De Streetz.

"The current site, the structural engineers have looked at it several times, and advised us that any repair work would be very short-term and, in all likelihood, the pool is going to continue to sink, so there-

fore, continue to crack and leak. So it is a disappointment for us and, I'm sure, for the swimming community of Antigua.

"But we have now appointed master plan architects for the site at Coolidge Cricket Ground, looking into the whole redevelopment of the facilities there. So it is something we will be discussing and exploring with them over the next few months."

The Coolidge facility has been rehabilitated to hold regional first class matches and ICC sanctioned matches.

It is also being used to

host training and development camps. A cricket museum hall of fame, a small hotel and a media centre will also be established as part of redevelopment plans for the facility.

The purchase price of the facility was US\$7.5 million; however, the actual commercial value is at least double that amount.

The joint venture involved CWI contributing US\$4.5 million, while the government of Antigua and Barbuda contributed US\$3 million.

A resolution authorising the government to make the purchase was passed in the

Lower House of Parliament on 9th November, 2017, without debate or objections.

The cricket ground, once named after R. Allen Stanford, formed part of the local empire of the former businessman who became the subject of fraud investigations beginning in 2009.

He was convicted in 2012 and jailed shortly after for spearheading a massive Ponzi scheme.

The arrest of Stanford by US authorities in 2009 resulted in the Coolidge Cricket Ground's closure for approximately eight years.

The Antigua Athletic Club Pool may be unsalvageable

A swimming pool at the site that is now the home of Cricket West Indies (CWI) may soon become a thing of the past.

According to Chief Executive Officer of Cricket West Indies, Johnny Greaves, any plans to retain the pool might have to be scrapped during the redevelopment of the facility that was acquired after the fall of its disgraced Texan owner, R. Allen Stanford.

The properties acquired by CWI that were managed by the Stanford Development Company and included the Stanford Cricket Grounds, were renamed the Coolidge Cricket Ground (CCG), the Antigua Athletic Club where the pool was based, the Sticky Wicket Restaurant and its adjacent car park.

The properties were acquired through a joint venture between CWI and the government of Antigua and Barbuda. The purchase agreement for the 17.41 acres of the former Stanford Cricket Ground, was signed in September, 2017, and executed in February, 2020.

Coolidge Cricket Ground became the newest International Cricket Council (ICC) accredited international cricket venue on February, 15th 2021, and it is being developed into a multi-purpose cricket and events centre by CWI.

It is already the hub of the CWI's High Performance Player Development System.

However, the redevelopment be-



Swimmers using the pool at the Antigua Athletic Club in 2013. (Photo courtesy ABSF)

ing undertaken by CWI at the property, has negatively affected the Antigua and Barbuda Swimming Federation (ABSF).

The ABSF had an established relationship with the previous operators of the Antigua Athletic Club, in which they had been given access to the 25-metre pool as part of its national swimming programme, which gave athletes from three member clubs use of the facilities.

But the ABSF has been unable to use the pool since the Antigua Athletic Club went out of operation on 30th April 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Shortly after, CWI discovered the pool had developed a leak, which resulted in the ABSF not being allowed

to resume use of the facility.

Since May 2021, CWI and the ABSF have been engaged in dialogue in the hope of finding a solution to the problem.

Greaves said CWI has been advised by its engineers that repairing the pool will only offer a temporary solution to stopping the leaks. He said a decision will have to be made about relocating the pool or abandoning its restoration.

“The structural faults unfortunately weren't very good, especially the original pool that Stanford built was on the raised land with both grass mounds and banks, therefore it's not into the subterranean soil and bedrock. It's literally on raised soil, so the pool

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