

A&B UPDATES G-77 COUNTRIES ON CASE BEFORE ITLOS

Story on Page 2



The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda continues to celebrate their 55th anniversary of police week this year, with many officials going into the various communities to distribute care packages to residents. *Story on page 8.*

Antigua and Barbuda updates G-77 countries on the case before the ITLOS

Antigua and Barbuda is among Group of 77 and China (G-77) countries that are attending a meeting of this group that is taking place in Havana, Cuba, from September 15 to 16.

Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene, is representing Honourable Gaston Browne, Prime Minister at the meeting. Greene used the opportunity to provide the rationale for the move by Antigua and Barbuda and Vanuatu to ask the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) to render an opinion on the issue of culpability for contributing to the causes of climate change.



Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene

“Excellences the Caribbean is highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels, more frequent and severe hurricanes, and droughts. These events can cause significant damage

to infrastructure, disrupt agriculture, and displace communities,” the Foreign Minister explained in brief remarks to the gathering.

He noted that for decades, Small Island States have been emphasizing

these truths in international gatherings concerning climate change, including at successive Conferences of the Parties to the UNFCCC with very limited or adequate responses.

“This historic proceeding before ITLOS is the first inter-State case addressing the international legal obligations of States about climate change. The request to ITLOS is complementary to and in support of the initiative of Vanuatu, to have the UN General Assembly request an Advisory Opinion on climate change from the International Court of Justice (ICJ),” he further ex-
cont'd on pg 3

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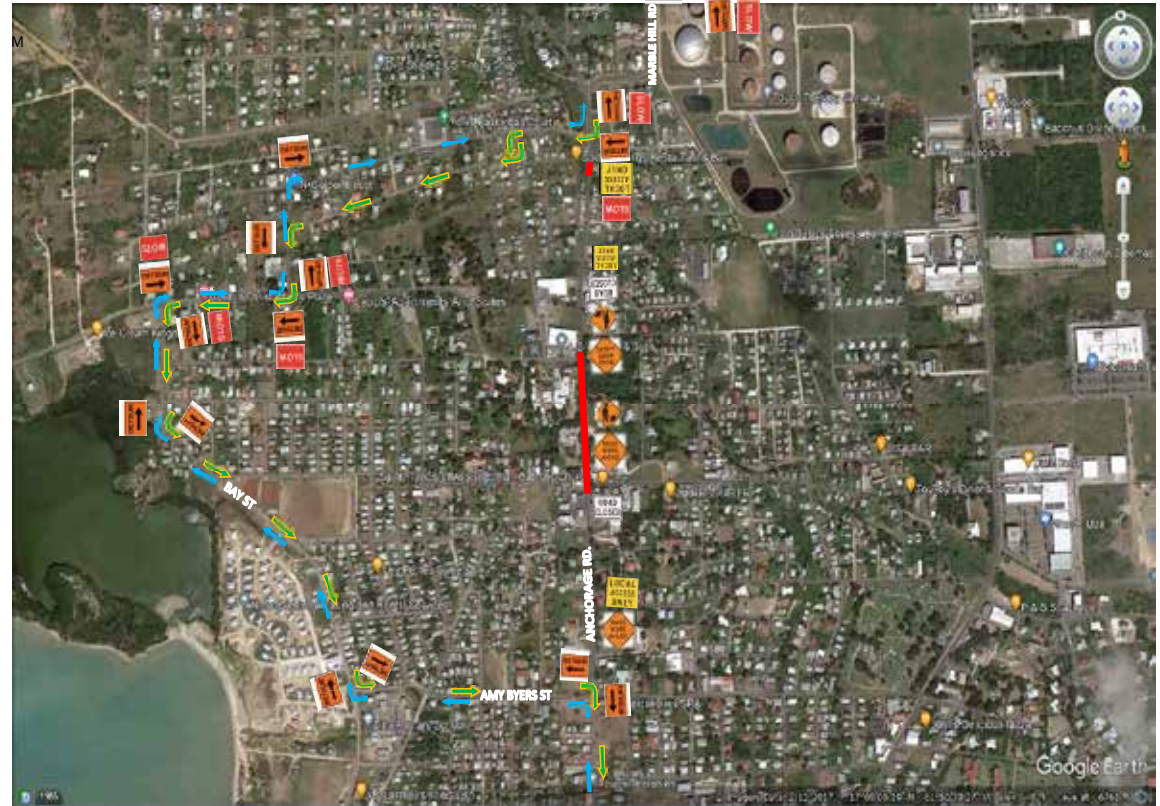
The Ministry of Works has announced that traffic diversions are being implemented in a section of the Anchorage Road to facilitate on-going roadworks.

In a media statement overnight, it said, "Notice to stakeholders and the general public of continued work on Anchorage Road between the junction of Marble Hill Road and Dickenson Bay Street for the remainder of the month of September and into October, which will cause delays and inconvenience."

It added that Special Notice is given that on Friday 15th September to Monday 18th September, the work will cause closure of the section of Anchorage Road between Fort Road and KFC.

"Please note that the Fort Road Junction will be closed during this phase, and motorists who usually use the section of Anchorage Road to travel to and from St. John's are asked to divert through Bay St. in Villa, by following the Di-

DIVERSION PLAN ON ANCHORAGE RD FOR ROAD WORKS BETWEEN A.S BRYDEN AND KFC



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version Signs.

"Please note also that the entrance to KFC, and Percival's Service Station, off Anchorage Road, will be affected," it added.

Vehicular Traffic travelling South towards St. Johns, after passing the Marble Hill Road Junction shall follow the Diversion

Signs, right, then third left, then first right, then straight ahead to the next left, then straight to Fort Road (in a Westerly direction), then left on Bay St., then left in front of Villa School, and straight ahead to rejoin Anchorage Road.

Vehicular Traffic travelling north from St. Johns

towards Marble Hill Junction and beyond, shall divert left on to Amy Byers Street and proceed straight along this road to Bay St., then turn right on Bay St., and proceed along this road to Fort Road., turning right on Fort Road to the first left turn, then proceeding straight along this Road to the Tee junction when a right turn will be made, and proceeding straight along this road to the Anchorage Road.

C O Williams and APUA are offering sincerely regrets for the inconvenience. The roadwork is a part of the Second Road Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project being carried out by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda.

cont'd from pg 2
 plained.
 Greene expressed the view that as vulnerable states already suffering from the impact of climate change, the need for their voices to be heard is greater now more than ever.
 "Therefore, our engagement within the global community requires effective coordination along with strong and committed support from partner countries. It is for this reason that I take this opportunity to express Antigua and Barbuda sincere appreciation for the commitment made by a number of countries here at this gathering to provide support to my government as we prepare to host the Fourth International Small Island and Low-Lying Coastal Development States(SIDS) Conference in 2024," he added.
 Foreign Minister Greene is accompanied by Anthony Liverpool, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and His Excellency George Goodwin, Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda to the Republic of Cuba,.

'The Launch' of Sen. Dwayne George's candidacy is on Sunday

The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party will officially launch the candidacy of Senator Dwayne George for the upcoming by-elections in the St. Mary's South constituency at the Bolans Playfield on Sunday.

The event will mark the ABLP's bid to regain the St. Mary's South seat it lost in the January 18 General Elections. The winner of the seat had to resign as there were questions about the legality of his nomination.

The launch will have a party atmosphere as there will be several top local artists performing as well

as speeches from senior officials of the ABLP. These include Political Leader and Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, Party Chairman, E.P Chet Greene, Sir Molwyn Joseph of the neighbouring St. Mary's North constituency as well as Education Minister, Daryll Matthew and Utilities Minister Melford Nicholas. Senator George is expected to give his maiden political address at the event.

Recent polling indicate that Sen. George is viewed favourably by a growing number of constituents since the announcement that he

will be the ABLP's standard bearer in the by-election.

Sen. George, a resident of Bolans, has been making an impact with his commitment and generosity in the constituency. He has been making donations to schools, families, teenagers and the elderly. With his personal motto: George Win, You Win, Sen. George has made a pledge that if elected he will donate the first six months' salary to the constituency for community outreach.

Sen. George, a lecturer at the Antigua State College prior to his decision to



Senator Dwayne George

enter the realm of elective politics, has spent the last several weeks aggressively canvassing voters in the constituency seeking their support in the by-election.



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ABHTA to host Hospitality Job Fair on World Tourism Day

The Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA) will host a Hospitality Job Fair on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, in celebration of World Tourism Day. The event will take at the Multi-purpose and Exhibition Centre at Perry Bay.

In a media release, the ABHTA said the event is in alignment with the United Nations focus on investing in people for World Tourism Day 2023, thereby recognizing the critical importance of human capital in the tourism industry. According to the United Nations, the global tourism workforce will require millions of hospitality graduates annually until 2030, with an additional 800,000 jobs per year requiring specific vocational training.

Chairman of the ABHTA, Craig Marshall, emphasizes the significance of this initiative, stating, "What better way to celebrate World



Tourism Day than by opening up the industry to potential employees throughout Antigua and Barbuda. This year's event will feature twenty-six (26) businesses eager to fill positions across various sectors of their operations. We are also delighted to welcome our partners from the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority and the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute, who will be showcasing their services."

Job seekers attending the

fair will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of positions, including Culinary, Food and Beverage, Maintenance, Housekeeping, Tour Guides, Administrative Team, Watersports, Tour Guides, and Adjunct Lecturers.

To streamline the process, job seekers are strongly encouraged to pre-register to secure an interview time slot. Pre-registration can be completed by contacting the ABHTA office at 462.0374/4928, by visiting our website www.antiguahotels.org or by using the following link <https://antiguahotels.org/abhta-hospitality-job-fair/>

Participating companies include:
 Ana's on the Beach Restaurant and Art Gallery
 Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute
 Antigua Village "A Condominium Beach Resort"
 Antigua Yacht Club Marina

Resort
 Awesome Development Ventures
 Barbuda Cottages/Uncle Roddy's Bar and Restaurant
 Blue Waters Resort and Spa
 Carlisle Bay Resort
 Cocobay Resort
 Colombian Emeralds Antigua
 Galley Bay Resort and Spa
 Goddard Catering Group (Antigua) Ltd.
 Hermitage Bay Resort
 Hodges Bay Resort and Spa
 Jolly Beach Antigua
 Pineapple Beach Club
 Royalton Antigua
 Sandra's Beach Shop Bar and Grill
 Siboney Beach Club
 South Point Hotel Inc.
 St. James's Club and Villas
 Tamarind Hills Antigua
 The Escape at Nonsuch Bay Resort
 The Inn at English Harbour
 The Rendezvous Company Ltd.
 The Verandah Resort and Spa



“Please put into action what you have learnt here”

Immigration officers have been asked to ‘put into action the things that they learnt’ at a just-concluded three-day workshop conducted by a representative of the Canadian government.

Permanent Secretary with responsibility for Immigration, Hildred Simpson, made the appeal to the officers as she gave closing remarks at the training ses-



Participants at the conclusion of the workshop for Immigration Department's officers

sion on Thursday at the Sir John E. St. Luce Conference

Centre. “I am very sure that our officers have learnt quite a bit and we look forward to you putting into action what you have learnt. I know that some of you may have been familiar with some of the subject matters at the workshop but I hope that you also learnt new things and those that you knew before would have been concretised,” she urged.

Simpson expressed the ministry’s appreciation to the Canadian government

for offering its assistance through the facilitator, Pier-Luc Beausejour, of the Embassy of Canada to the Dominican Republic..

“It’s a global village; we are small in Antigua and Barbuda but what affects the small countries also affects the large nations so we know we have to collaborate with others. That is why we are so grateful that Canada has seen it fit to assist us,” he exclaimed.

Attendees at the workshop were drawn mainly from the immigration officers who are assigned to the VC Bird International Airport and the E-Visa section of the Department of Immigration. There were also representation from the Citizenship by Investment Unit.

How to detect fraudulent documents and how to identify imposters through various interviewing techniques were some of the subject matters covered at the workshop.



Natalie Charles is presented with a certificate by CIO Katrina Yearwood



Facilitator, Pier-Luc Beausejour (third from left) and Chief Immigration Officer, Katrina Yearwood (on his right) with Senior Management team at the Immigration Department

Police give back to community

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda continues to use the activities of the annual Police Week to forge stronger bonds with members of the society.

As part of this initiative, members of the force continue to celebrate their 55th anniversary of police week this year, with many officials going into the various communities to distribute care packages to residents.

“This community initiative which started several decades ago, has significantly improved over

the years. A large number of packages were distributed to show appreciation to those who served and worked closely with the police, while making a meaningful contribution to the nation.

“The packages consist of toiletries and a wide variety of non-perishable items. Many of the items were donated by local businesses,” a release from STRATCOM stated.

Commissioner of Police, Atlee Rodney has expressed appreciation to the corporate citizenry and business community as



well as those faithful individuals who have been supporting police week to make it successful each year.

Police officers who took part in the drive said it was quite a heartwarming experience, while at the same time adding true value to this year’s theme: “With Pride and Dignity, We are Working Together With Our Community”.

Assistant Superintendent Rodney Ellis, along with Inspectors Natalie Baltimore, Gwendolyn Joseph-Gomes, Francis Dinnard, and several others were taken part in the community project.

The 2023 police week celebrations will conclude on Sunday, September 17, with a family fun day and sporting activities at Ffryes Beach.

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Section 12 of the Act

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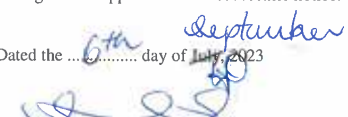
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CANCELLATION OF OBSOLETE ENTRY

TAKE NOTICE that an Application for the cancellation of Instrument No. 2818/2002 Entry # 1 registered in the Incumbrances Section of the Land Register for the above-mentioned parcel was filed in the Land Registry on the 26th day of July, 2023 by Joy Dublin, Senior Counsel, Attorney General's Chambers of Government Office Complex, Parliament Drive, St. John's, Antigua on behalf of the Attorney General of Antigua and Barbuda of Attorney General's Chambers of Government Office Complex, Parliament Drive, St. John's Antigua.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you wish to object to the application for cancellation of Obsolete Entry you must within the period of one (1) month from the Second Publication of this notice in the newspaper inform the Registrar of Lands in writing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in the absence of any objection to the said Application, the Registrar of Lands may proceed to grant the application without further notice.

Dated the 6th September day of July, 2023


REGISTRAR OF LANDS



King Sproket completes the three-peat



King Sproket

Constable Ewart Nedd, who goes by the stage name, Sproket, has completed a three-peat in the annual Police Calypso Competition held as part of Police Week, 2023. The Police Calypso Competition Results sparked both joy and camaraderie within the ranks as well as warm feelings from the community.

1. No. 178 Const. Ewart Nedd (King Sproket) song "The Meeting"

2. No. 517 Const. Shamar Smith (Singing Birdy) song "State the Facts"

3. No. 80. Const. Shania Samuel (Lady Ace) song "Price to Pay"

Cpl Fitzroy Langley (De Trooper) Most Improved song "Alphanearo"

ASP. Verbin Peters (De Instructor) Best Social Commentary song "Breaking News"

Most improved Calypsoian is Constable Fitzroy Langley (De Trooper)

Best Social Commentary ASP Verbin Peters (The Inspector)

Second Runner Up No. 80 Constable Shania Samuel (Lady Ace)

First Runner Up Constable Shamar Smith (Singing Birdy)

Police Calypso Monarch Constable Ewart Nedd (King Sproket)- Third time crowned King

This year's theme for Police week is "With Pride and Dignity, We are Working Together with our Community"

St. Kitts-Nevis names Antiguan Adlai Smith as DPP

The Attorney General of St. Kitts and Nevis has filled the vacant position of Director of Public Prosecutions with the appointment of Adlai Smith to the position.

Smith, a former Crown Counsel from Antigua and Barbuda, has been appointed to lead the crucial department. Smith's application, submitted through the Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission's website, underwent a rigorous selection process, culminating in his successful interview in July.

His imminent relocation from Antigua to St. Kitts marks a pivotal moment for Antigua's legal framework. Notably, Smith's professional journey included an application for the DPP role in Antigua and Barbuda. However,



Adlai Smith

reports suggest that his application was met with silence from the relevant authorities, potentially linked to past conflicts with former Antigua and Barbuda DPP, Anthony Armstrong.

In his new role, Smith will collaborate closely with another experi-

enced Antiguan, LaToya Lake, who has presided over St. Kitts and Nevis' forensics department for the past three years. This strategic partnership promises to fortify the country's legal infrastructure, signaling a new chapter for justice in the twin-island nation.

Local News

Former Senator Caleb Gardiner donates sports equipment to UWI FIC Sports Club

Former Senator and Diplomat, Caleb Gardiner, reaffirms his unwavering commitment to Antigua and Barbuda's youth by generously donating a comprehensive selection of sports equipment to the University of the West Indies (UWI) Five Islands Campus Sports Club. Gardiner's contribution aims to foster athletic development and strengthen camaraderie among students through sports.

A proud alumnus and former Guild President of the UWI Five Islands Campus, Gardiner's devotion to the institution's mission of providing quality education and holistic growth opportunities shines through this donation.



It underscores his dedication to nurturing young talent not only in Antigua and Barbuda but also across the wider Caribbean region.

The extensive sports equipment collection provided by Gardiner includes

everything from footballs to basketballs. This substantial contribution promises to enrich the sporting journeys of UWI Five Islands Campus students, equipping them with the resources needed to excel in their chosen disci-

plines while promoting unity and teamwork.

Gardiner expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Project Jaguar, Green Energy Management, and The Courier Store - Courier Service for

cont'd on pg 11



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their crucial roles in making this philanthropic endeavour possible. Their involvement exemplifies a shared commitment to youth development and growth in Antigua and Barbuda, reinforcing the values of teamwork, discipline, and dedication.

Project Jaguar and Green Energy Management, long-standing proponents of community development initiatives, align their sponsorship with their core values, investing in the future leaders of Antigua and Barbuda.

The Courier Store - Courier Service, renowned for its efficiency and reliability in shipping solutions, played a pivotal role in ensuring the safe and timely delivery of the sports equipment, highlighting the significance of collaboration in meaningful community projects.

The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus extends its heartfelt appreciation to Caleb Gardiner, Project Jaguar, Green Energy Management, and The Courier Store - Courier Service for their invaluable support. President of the UWI Five Islands Campus Sports Club, Joshua Gardiner remarked.

“This generous donation will undoubtedly enhance the overall campus experience and contribute to the holistic development of our students. Michelle Paige, Vice-President of the Guild Council stated, “We are truly grateful for Caleb Gardiner’s commitment to the University and to the student body. His journey

is truly an inspiration to us all and propels students to be planted in purpose.”

Caleb Gardiner remains steadfast in his dedication to empowering the youth of Antigua and Barbuda, making a profound and positive impact on their lives through his continued initiatives and philanthropic efforts.



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- Supporting supervisory and executive staff by performing any assigned accounting and clerical tasks and keep sensitive information confidential.
- Assist senior accounting personnel with tasks conducted within the accounting department.
- Input or type documents or items that the accounting department is responsible for, including checks, invoices, vouchers, accounting statements, other reports and records.
- Reconcile various expenditure reports to source documents; distribute and file financial documents and reports.
- Prepare routine entries and post financial transactions, reconcile entries and internal ledgers to financial reporting system reports.
- Handle cash and cash related transactions, issue receipts, record and type money listing, and balance cash fund.
- Enter cash transactions in ledgers and reconcile cash reports and prepare bank deposits.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A diploma in Business or Accounting.
- Minimum of three (3) years' experience in an accounting or finance field.
- Ability to operate as an effective tactical and strategic thinker.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office and QuickBooks.
- Exceptional written, oral, and interpretation skills.
- High degree of attention to detail and multi-tasking.

Applications may be submitted via email : hr@sjdcanu.com
 Deadline for Applications : September 28th 2023

George at work in SMS



George at work in SMS



Opinion

Some small island states seek climate justice in landmark case

By Sir Ronald Sanders

On September 11 in Hamburg, Germany, a significant legal proceeding began that could redefine the parameters of climate justice for small island states. This case, slated to run until September 25, will unfold at the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea (ITLOS).

Background: The ITLOS Proceedings

ITLOS, which is composed of 21 distinguished judges, is currently reviewing an advisory opinion request from the Commission of Small Islands on Climate Change and International Law (COSIS). The central issue is the obligation of states to combat pollution linked to climate change and its ensuing marine repercussions, such as rising ocean temperatures, sea level elevation, and ocean acidification.

By its conclusion, 19 inter-governmental and civil society organizations will have presented their testimony to the tribunal, supported by evidence—both written and oral—from 31 nations.

History is being made

At no other time in history has the deleterious effects of climate change on small states been given such meaningful international attention. The results of this case will be watched carefully, particularly by the

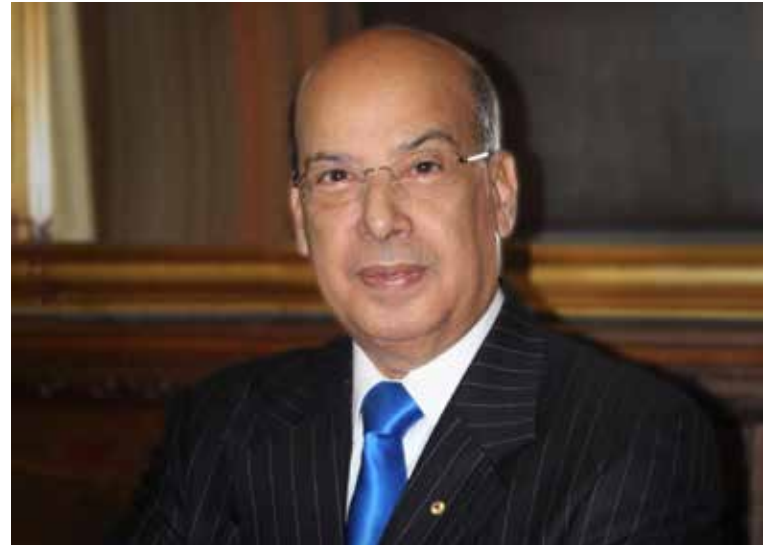
world's greatest contributors to the harmful impacts of climate change. Those countries have used the annual United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP) to tie-up any real progress on considering, let alone accepting and paying for, the loss and damage being wreaked on small island states.

COSIS: A response to unkept promises

The origins of this request to ITLOS for an advisory opinion began two years ago, in the margins of the COP 26 meeting in Glasgow. The leaders of two small island states from two different parts of the world, took a decision to form an inter-governmental organization that would use the international legal system to seek justice for the considerable impact of Climate Change on their countries.

The Prime Ministers of Antigua and Barbuda in the Caribbean and Tuvalu in the Pacific, Gaston Browne and Kausea Natano respectively, frustrated by the lip service being paid by the world's major contributors to climate change, and the broken promises of every previous COP meeting, decided that they would seek an Advisory Opinion from ITLOS.

Consequently, they launched the Commission of Small Island States on



Sir Ronald Sanders

Climate Change and International Law (COSIS) as an international organisation within the framework of the UN. They were subsequently joined by several other small states, including the Bahamas, St Lucia, St Kitts-Nevis and St Vincent and the Grenadines, and by Vanuatu, Palau and Niue. What each of these small islands faces is a real and present threat to their existence.

The gravity of the problem

In the opening presentation to the Tribunal on behalf of COSIS, Prime Minister Browne explained the gravity of the situation. He said: "It is no exaggeration to speak of existential threats, when some of these nations may vanish in the foreseeable future because of rising sea levels. The scientific evidence leaves no doubt that this situation has arisen because of the failure

of major polluters to effectively mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. This inaction, this failure of political will, has brought humankind to a perilous juncture with catastrophic consequences."

The Prime Minister's argument is not mere theory; the science is clear and irrefutable. The primary culprits are the major polluters who have, thus far, shown a staggering lack of political will to remedy their actions.

Why go to ITLOS?

Small island nations are primarily maritime states. They depend on the ocean not just for sustenance, but as a crucial part of their heritage and identity. The ocean is also a vital carbon sink. With increasing ocean temperatures reaching record highs this summer, all nations must act now to safeguard this critical component of Earth's climate system.

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ITLOS, the guardian of the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, is the natural venue to seek legal clarity on the obligations of states to protect our marine environment.

Compensation and the Principle of Equity

One of the most glaring injustices is that while small island states contribute the least to climate change, they suffer the most from its ravages. The situation calls not just for mitigation but also for compensation. The concept of loss and damage must be squarely addressed.

We are not just talking about climate change adaptation but also about building resilience against future threats. All these require substantial financing. If justice is to be served, major polluters must be held financially accountable.

The Advisory Opinion:

A Beacon of Hope

By going to ITLOS, the countries of COSIS are not seeking to rewrite laws; they are seeking clarity on exist-

ing ones. This Advisory Opinion from ITLOS can serve as a benchmark, a guidepost, for international actions going forward.

The Hour of Decision

The world is at a fork in the road of human history. On one hand, inaction and the continuation of empty promises, leading to existential loss for small island states. On the other, immediate, effective action informed by international law.

As climate change continues to simultaneously burn our world, while flooding it; as Climate change upends weather patterns, ruining food production, and creating water shortages; as glaciers melt and the levels of seas rise, drowning small islands and eroding coastal areas; as people are displaced from their natural habitats and seek refuge on other shores, small island states are the first to suffer; but they will not be the last. All are involved and all will be consumed.

On behalf of all small island states, COSIS' approach to ITLOS is an effort to tip the scales towards jus-

tice and survival. But its plea is not just for small states; it is for the health of a planet which every nation shares.

A decision by ITLOS is unlikely to be delivered until early next year. There is a great volume of legal and technical submissions for the 21 judges to consider.

But, already, there is cause for celebration that COSIS – a group of courageous small island states – stood up for the rights of their people, and ITLOS listened, giving validity to their concern. There is also cause for lamentation that other island states, with just as much to lose, chose to stand silent on the sidelines.

(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. Responses and previous commentaries: www.sirronald-sanders.com)



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BVI: Sargassum seaweed causes water interruption on Virgin Gorda

The presence of Sargassum seaweed created some challenges in the distribution of water supply for Virgin Gorda in the British Virgin Islands.

In a statement, the Ministry of Communications and Works advised that the Sargassum Seaweed at Handsome Bay inhibited the operation of the water production of the Desalination Plant. In turn, the distribution of water was disrupted to customers in the Valley, Virgin Gorda.

The Handsome Bay Water Plant Company, Aqua Design, advised that due to



Sargassum seaweed.

the overwhelming amount of Sargassum Seaweed, the pre-filtration system of the open sea intake was inundated and partially blocked,

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Grenada: Russians granted citizenship under CBI programme

CMC - Most of the foreign nationals who were granted Grenadian citizenship in the first six months of this year under the island's Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programme, are from Russia, Richard Duncan, the Chairman of the Citizenship by Investment Committee has said.

Under the CBI, citizenship is afforded to foreign investors in return for making a substantial contribution to the socio-economic development of Grenada.

For the period January to June 2023, the Grenada government approved 2011 persons to be granted citizenship according to the latest data released by the Ministry of Finance in August.

"The overwhelming majority, maybe 90 per cent of the applicants approved so far are in the area of Russian nationality," Duncan said during an interview with the weekly television programme "The Bubb Report".



Grenada Citizenship by Investment.

Grenada's CBI programme was officially launched in 2014 and the programme has earned millions in revenue for the island.

Duncan described the first six months of 2023 as a windfall with the island earning revenue of EC\$157 million (One EC dollar=US\$0.37 cents) from approved applicants.

In March this year, Oleg Frier, Grenada's former ambassador to the Russian Federation had his license revoked among the

list of international marketing agents allowed to conduct business on behalf of the island's Citizenship by Investment Programme.

"The Grenada Citizenship by Investment Committee advises that Mr Oleg Frier is not a licensed Marketing Agent, nor a registered sub-agent of the Grenada Citizenship by Investment Programme," said a notice on the updated website of the CBI programme.

"He is therefore not authorised to market, promote

or disseminate information on the program, nor act on behalf of, or engage with current or potential applicants, or their authorised representatives," said the Notice. There are 59 international marketing agents for the CBI programme.

As of April 1 this year, Grenada stopped accepting applications from Russia and Belarus, joining North Korea, Iran, and Palestine as states around the world that are banned from participating in the local CBI programme.

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minimising the amount of seawater that could be processed.

As such, plant production had to be reduced to maintain adequate pressure to the equipment. Failure to maintain over 30 psi to the equipment could result in catastrophic equipment failure.

The Ministry was further advised by Aqua Design that the change in tide over the weekend shifted the Sargas-

sum Seaweed, allowing for increased plant production.

Plant operators will continue to monitor the intake condition and make the necessary adjustments while the long-term solution will be implemented within the upcoming months.

It was also stated that at this point, water production has resumed to normal operations.

The Ministry of Communications

and Works and multiple stakeholders are working together to try and alleviate this water supply challenge.

The Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, responsible for overseeing environmental protection and climate change, is embarking on developing sustainable solutions to prevent further seaweed infiltration into the system at Handsome Bay.

Hunter Biden indicted on three federal gun charges

By Bernd Debusmann Jr

President Joe Biden's son, Hunter, has been criminally charged with three counts of lying when buying a firearm, after a proposed plea deal collapsed.

The indictment marks the first time the child of a sitting president has been criminally prosecuted.

A planned plea bargain to resolve gun and tax-related charges he faced abruptly fell apart in July.

All three counts relate to Mr Biden, 53, allegedly lying on forms while buying a gun when he was a drug user.

Prosecutors allege he falsely claimed that he was "not an unlawful user of and addicted to any stimulant narcotic drug" when he purchased a Colt Cobra Special revolver at a Delaware gun store in October 2018.

At the time, Mr Biden was a heavy user of crack cocaine.

Under US federal laws, it is a crime to lie on such documentation, or possess a firearm while a drug user.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison, the justice department said in a statement. Actual sentences for federal crimes are usually less than the maximum possible penalties.

It is still unclear when and where Mr Biden's initial court appearance will take place.

Mr Biden's attorney, Abbe Lowell, suggested the charges had been influenced by "Republicans' improper and partisan interference in this process".

He said his client "did not violate the law" and that his brief possession of an unloaded gun was never a threat to public safety.

"But a prosecutor, with all the power imaginable, bending to political pressure presents a grave threat to our system of justice," said Mr Lowell.

Cornell Law School professor Ran-



dy Zellin told the BBC he believes that Mr Biden is unlikely to serve any time in prison and a plea agreement is likely.

"It's a nonsense case," he said. "Nobody got hurt. It's a victimless crime. He's never been in trouble before. Is this really how we want to waste judicial resources?"

In June, a two-part agreement was reached between prosecutors and Mr Biden's legal team, which later collapsed.

Under the terms of that agreement, he would have been charged with two misdemeanour counts for failing to pay his taxes on time in 2017 and 2018.

He would also have been forced to admit to illegal possession of a firearm and agree to drug treatment and monitoring to avoid a felony charge and potential imprisonment.

But US District Court Judge Maryellen Noreika said she could not "rubber stamp the agreement", adding that the proposed resolution of the gun-related offence was "unusual".

Thursday's charges are the first brought by justice department special counsel Davis Weiss, who was appointed by Attorney General Merrick Garland in August.

Mr Weiss' office had previously said

he was seeking to indict Mr Biden by 29 September.

The younger Mr Biden's legal woes have become a political lightning rod as his father seeks re-election, although he has never held a position in the White House or his father's administration.

Earlier this week, Republicans in the US House of Representatives announced an impeachment inquiry into President Biden.

Among the accusations being levelled against the elder Mr Biden are that he lied about his involvement in his son's business dealings while serving as vice-president from 2009-17.

Two tax investigators also claimed the justice department stymied the investigation into Hunter Biden's tax return. The department has denied the claims.

On X, the platform formally known as Twitter, House Oversight Committee chairman James Comer - the man leading the indictment inquiry - said the charges against Hunter Biden were a "very small start".

"But unless US Attorney Weiss investigates everyone involved in the fraud schemes and influence peddling, it will be clear President Biden's DOJ is protecting Hunter Biden and the big guy".

Greenland cruise ship pulled free after three days stuck in mud

By Dearbail Jordan

A luxury cruise ship that has been stuck in the mud in Greenland since Monday has finally been pulled free.

The Ocean Explorer and its 206 passengers and crew were rescued on Thursday by a Greenland research trawler after it was grounded within the Northeast Greenland National Park.

The boat's owner, SunStone, said there were no injuries to anyone onboard.

However, tour operator Aurora Expeditions said a small number of people had come down with Covid-19.

The Ocean Explorer became stuck in mud and silt above the Arctic Circle in Alpefjord, 1,400 km (870 miles) northeast of Greenland's capital Nuuk. A number of attempts were made to free the ship during high tide but they failed.

The Danish military's Joint Arctic Command said an inspection vessel had been due to arrive at the scene on Friday.

The ship was eventually dislodged "based on a pull" from a Greenland government-owned trawler called Tarajoq, which means "salt" in Greenlandic, as well as Ocean Explorer's own power.

SunStone said: "The vessel and its passengers will now be positioned to a port where the vessel's bottom damages can be as-



Several attempts had already been made to pull free the Ocean Explorer before Thursday.

sessed and the passengers will be taken to a port from which they can be flown back home."

There had been no pollution to the environment and no breach of the hull, it added.

The 112 passengers and 94 crew on the Australian tour operator's cruise had set off from Norway on 2 September and were due to return on 22 September.

Many of the passengers were from Australia, as well as New Zealand, the UK, South Korea and the US.

Steven Fraser and Gina Hill, a retired couple on board the Ocean Explorer, said passengers' spirits were high despite being stranded.

Mr Fraser, who caught Covid during the trip, told The Sydney Morning Herald: "It's a little bit frustrating, but we are in a beautiful part of the world.

"We're sitting right near the glacier when we open our window."

Aurora Expeditions said earlier this week that three people had contracted the virus but were being kept in isolation.

The Northeast Green-

land National Park is nearly the same size as France and Spain combined and is famed for its fjords, icebergs and mountains.

It is also home to wildlife such as polar bears, muskoxen and the elusive narwhal.

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China & Antigua and Barbuda Table Tennis Open a resounding success

The Antigua and Barbuda Table Tennis Association (ABTTA) hosted a successful “Friendship Paddle: China & Antigua and Barbuda Table Tennis Open” friendly tournament last Saturday to celebrate 40 years of diplomatic relations between the People’s Republic of China and Antigua and Barbuda.

The event, organized by the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China and the ABTTA, took place in the Cultural Room of the Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre at Perry Bay on September 9th. The tournament saw enthusiastic participation from players of all ages, showcasing their skills in a friendly and competitive environment.

ABTTA President



Minister Paul Chet Greene, right, and Chinese Ambassador H.E. Mme. Zhang Yanling, left, present Charles Bellot with the trophy for winning the Friendship Paddle table tennis tournament at the Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre at Perry Bay on September 9, 2023.

Charles “Chucky” Bellot expressed gratitude for the continued interest and support of the People’s Republic of China in energizing

and further developing the sport.

“It was a great day! I am encouraged by the presence and showing of the youth

players. Congratulations to youth players Sandra Joseph and Mekhi Simmons for their third-place finishes,” Bellot said.

“I want to put on record what I think is one of the great finds of the tournament: Miss Jolie George-Alexander. Jolie, who is a left-handed 14-year-old, immediately caught my eye. I was impressed with her composure and tactical approach to the game. It turns out that she plays tennis, so with her permission and that of her mother, I have already reached out to ABTTA President Cordell Williams to explore the possibility of having her train with us as well.”

Bellot, who won the tournament by beating fel-
cont’d on pg 21



Minister Paul Chet Greene (blue shirt) plays a game of table tennis against a Chinese player during the Friendship Paddle table tennis tournament at the Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre at Perry Bay on September 9, 2023. (Photos courtesy ABTTA)

Cricket Australia set to enforce neck protectors for all batters from next month

SYDNEY (AP) - Every Australian player in international and domestic cricket will be required to wear neck protectors while batting or face sanctions under new rules set to be imposed from Oct. 1.

Changes to Cricket Australia's playing conditions for the 2023-24 season, outlined on its website Thursday, will make it mandatory for batters in all sanctioned competitions to wear the neck protectors that are fitted to the rear of batting helmets when facing fast or medium pace bowling.

The changes will impact several of Australia's international batters, including David Warner, Steve Smith and Usman Khawaja, who do not currently wear the protectors when batting.

CA had previously recommended the use of neck protectors following the death of former test batter Philip Hughes in 2014, but several veteran players have been reluctant to take them up.

Smith, who was not wearing a neck guard when struck by Jofra Archer at Lord's in the 2019 Ashes series, said at the time that the extra protection made him "feel claustrophobic."

Hughes died in 2014 after being



Australia's captain Pat Cummins, center, holds the Ashes Urn as Australia retain the trophy on day five of the fifth Ashes Test match between England and Australia, at The Oval cricket ground in London on July 31, 2023. (AP)

struck on the back of the head by a sharply-rising delivery during a domestic Sheffield Shield match between New South Wales and South Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The 25-year-old Hughes was rushed to a nearby hospital but died two days later as a result of a traumatic head injury.

Cricket Australia will require players to wear the neck guards in interna-

tional cricket when representing national teams both home and away.

And although international umpires won't enforce the regulation like in domestic cricket, players could face sanctions under CA's code of conduct for a breach.

The regulation to wear neck protectors does not apply to batters facing slow or spin bowling, or to wicketkeepers and close-in fielders.

cont'd from pg 20

low veteran Mitchell Coates 3-2 in an exciting final, said it was never his intention to compete, but due to the open and unknown nature of the tournament, "we had to ensure that we were ready for any possible talent surprises from the Chinese community."

H.E. Mme. Zhang Yanling, Chinese Ambassador, addressed the gathering, expounding on the mutually beneficial bilateral relations

China and Antigua and Barbuda have enjoyed over the past 40 years.

During the opening ceremony, she presented six table tennis boards along with rackets, nets, and balls to the ABTTA, a gesture symbolizing China's commitment to strengthening ties through sports and people-to-people exchanges.

Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of Foreign Affairs, E.P. Chet Greene, echoed the sentiments, stating that

table tennis is one of the people-to-people exchanges resulting from the continued diplomatic relations enjoyed by both countries.

Minister Greene expressed confidence in continued good relations with the People's Republic of China and hoped that "Antigua and Barbuda will strive to become a powerhouse in table tennis in the region."

The event concluded with an awards ceremony, where the winners were

presented with their trophies by Minister Greene and Ambassador Zhang Yanling.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Anthony "Mamba" Liverpool, Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ambassador Lionel Hurst, and Director of Sports, Heather Samuel-Daley, also made presentations during the awards ceremony.



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Johnson shines, but West Indies U-19s lose to Sri Lanka

Despite a heroic 157 not out from Jordan Johnson, the West Indies Under-19s lost by seven wickets to Sri Lanka's Under-19s in the second Youth Test at Dambulla on Thursday.

Resuming from their overnight score of 251 for eight, with Johnson on 133 and Tamarie Redwood yet to score, the West Indies Under-19s added 26 to their total before being bowled out for 277 in their second innings.

Johnson scored 24 of the runs added, but Redwood



West Indies Under-19 batsman Jordan Johnson was named Player of the Series for his scores of 149, 52 and 157 not out against Sri Lanka Under-19s. Johnson received his trophy from match referee Ranjith Priyantha.

was run out for two, and De-shawn James run out without scoring, leaving Johnson on 157 not out.

Needing just 79 for victory, Sri Lanka made 81 for three from just 18.4 overs to secure victory. Sineth Jayawardene top scored with 30.

Rusanda Gamage was unbeaten on 21 and Ravishan De Silva hit 17 not out. The pair added 42 runs for the fourth wicket after the West Indies threatened briefly by reducing the young Sri Lankans to 39 for three.

Fast bowler Isai Thorne, who had one for 29, and Tarrique Edward, who took one for 16, were the wicket takers for the West Indies in the losing effort.

The West Indies Under-19s lost, but Johnson did not come away empty-handed. For his scores of 149, 52 and 157 not out, he was named Player of the Series.

Scores: West Indies Under-19s 127 and 277 v Sri Lanka Under-19s 326 and 81 for 3. Sri Lanka winning by seven wickets.

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Warriors beat Tallawahs to secure CPL Qualifier 1 berth

Guyana Amazon Warriors extended their unbeaten run in the 2023 Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL) and ensured a spot in Qualifier 1 with a seven-wicket victory over Jamaica Tallawahs at Providence on Wednesday night.

Winning the toss and opting to field first, the Warriors were resolute in their approach. Despite a fiery start by Brandon King, the Jamaica Tallawahs found it challenging to maintain their momentum, concluding their innings at 152 for five after 20 overs.

The home team's chase began with a dream opening partnership as Saim Ayub and Matthew Nandu combined forces to construct an impressive 112-run stand, firmly establishing the Warriors' dominance.

Ayub showcased his brilliance, amassing a remarkable 85 runs to steer the Guyana Amazon Warriors towards a comfortable victory.

Although the Jamaica Tallawahs suffered an early setback with the dismissal of Alex Hales, courtesy of Romario Shepherd's bowling, Brandon King showcased his prowess, crafting exquisite shots on his way to a half-century off just 29 balls.



Guyana Amazon Warriors Saim Ayub, right, makes his ground to avoid being run out during the 2023 Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL) match against the Jamaica Tallawahs at Providence in Guyana on Wednesday, September 13, 2023. (CPLT20/Getty Images)

However, the Guyana Amazon Warriors retaliated when Gudakesh Motie dismissed King, causing a slowdown in the Tallawahs' scoring rate.

Over a span of six middle overs, the Tallawahs struggled to find the boundary consistently, thanks in large part to the contributions of South African duo Dwaine Pretorius and Imran Tahir.

As the innings drew to a close, the Jamaica Tallawahs managed to reach a total above 150 runs.

Guyana Amazon War-

riors introduced CPL debutant Matthew Nandu, who, alongside Saim Ayub, formed an opening partnership that firmly tilted the game in the Warriors' favour.

Ayub reached his half-century from 34 balls, marking his third consecutive CPL fifty.

In the 13th over, Chris Green managed to dismiss Matthew Nandu, but Ayub continued to dazzle, accumulating 85 runs and guiding his side to the brink of victory before eventually losing his wicket.

Shai Hope and Odean Smith sealed the deal for the Guyana Amazon Warriors.

With this convincing win, the Guyana Amazon Warriors advanced to Qualifier 1, setting the stage for more thrilling CPL action.

Scores: Guyana Amazon Warriors: 155-3 (Ayub 85, Nandu 37; Springer 1-23, Irshad 1-27) versus Jamaica Tallawahs: 152-5 (King 52, Allen 21; Pretorius 2-33, Shepherd 1-19, Tahir 1-19). Result: Guyana Amazon Warriors win by seven wickets.

ABBA business league to tip-off on Sunday

The annual Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Cool and Smooth Business League competition will get under way this weekend.

Coordinator Carl "Bo-lie" Knight said the event will commence at the JSC Sports Complex on Sunday at 6:30 pm with a brief opening ceremony that will be followed by two opening night matches at the same venue.

Knight said 12 teams, two fewer than last year, will be participating in the 2023 tournament, including defending playoff champions Richie's Shooters, formerly Graphic Impact Shooters, and league champions Eye Mobile Antigua Vision Care.

This year's competition will also feature two new teams. They are H. Wright Promotions and Callar Shooters.

The league action will tip off with a double-header following the brief opening ceremony on Sunday, but triple headers will be played at the JSC Sports Complex each night, except on Fridays, until the competition concludes at the



The Graphic Impact Shooters, which won last year's Business League basketball playoff title. The team will compete this year as Richie's Shooters. (File photo)

end of November this year.

"We are going to play three games each night. We are going to play at 6:30, 7:30, and 8:30 each night. It will be 25 minutes running clock because in business league basketball, our aim is to let them play as many games as possible," Knight said.

"This is a good warm-up ahead of the association's leagues, so the players can get in shape for the national domestic competitions.

Knight said the business league All Star team, which is selected at the end of the competition, will embark on its customary good-

will tour, which will be another trip to St. Maarten in November this year.

"We were invited to visit last year, and we got another invitation to return to St. Maarten this year. We will be visiting St. Maarten for a series of games from November 22 to 28 this year," Knight said.