

# PM TO ADDRESS MVI ISSUES BEFORE LEADING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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# Local News



## PM Browne to address MVI issues before leading financial institutions

Prime Minister Gaston Browne is in Marrakech, Morocco, where he is one of the main speakers at today's (Wednesday) launch of the Report of the High-Level Panel on the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) on the margins of the 2023 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Prime Minister Browne, who is Co-Chair of the High-Level Panel of the MVI, has been working since March 2022 with experts and Co-Chair, Former Prime Minister of Norway, Erna Solberg, on developing



the MVI framework, which includes the new MVI index – a global-level assessment tool, and the enlightening Vulnerability and Resilience

Country Profiles (VRCP), serving as a valuable complement to the MVI. The panel has also outlined governance mechanisms to

ensure the MVI's effectiveness.

Prime Minister Browne said that this is another opportunity for Small Island Developing States to again engage with developing countries and the international community on the ongoing efforts in support of the MVI within the framework of the World Bank Group and the IMF.

The event brings together participants from the Annual Meetings and the media, providing a platform for robust conversations. The MVI event is expected to contribute to another sig-

*cont'd on pg 3*

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*cont'd from pg 2*

nificant gathering focused on the Debt Crisis in SIDS and the imperative for immediate action in the lead-up to the fourth International Conference on SIDS, also to be held in Marrakech. According to Prime Minister Browne, the SIDS-focused events will serve as a valuable platform to deliberate on potential areas where developing countries, particularly SIDS, could receive enhanced support.

Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations Amina Mohammed said that Prime Minister Browne's participation in the launch event will add substantial value to the discussions and will also convey a resounding message from the UN system to the broader international community about the urgent need to reconsider the approach to accessing and allocating development assistance, including concessional finance.

Prime Minister Browne has al-

ways advocated that measuring a nation's progress and well-being should not be confined to Gross National Income (GNI) per capita alone. He said the limitations of this traditional metric are especially evident in countries facing substantial external shocks and stressors, compounded by their lack of resilience.

While the international community, including the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), acknowledge the inadequacy of GNI per capita, in capturing the multifaceted development challenges of developing nations, the missing piece of the puzzle has been a reliable and universally accepted measure of vulnerability.

The MVI now fills this crucial void. It presents a new quantitative benchmark designed to measure structural vulnerability and lack of resilience across multiple dimensions of sustainable development at the national level.

Importantly, the MVI is not intended to replace GNI per capita; rather, it complements it, offering a deeper understanding of a country's development requirements, including its need for concessional financing.

The launch takes the form of a High-Level panel which will also include, Co-Chair of the High-Level Panel, Erna Solberg; Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations, Chola Milambo; Deputy-Secretary General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed and Brookings Institute's, Dr. Louise Fox, Technical lead for the High-Level Panel.

Accompanying Prime Minister Browne to the World Bank/IMF Meetings and the Launch of the MVI Report are Debt Manager, Peter Abraham Jr.; Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Aubrey Webson; Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Tumasie Blair; and First Secretary Claxton Duberry.



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## Nigel Bascus suffers fire loss

Political hopeful, Nigel Bascus, suffered significant losses on Tuesday when his home was destroyed by a fire. His motor vehicle was also seriously damaged by the blaze.

Bascus, a fisherman by trade, reported that his fishing gear also went up in the blaze.

The St. John's Fire Station reported receiving the call at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday and responded immediately. However, they could do little to save the wooden structure.

The fire tenders from St.

John's had support from the All Saints Fire Station and local truckers who ensured a ready supply of water. Despite this community effort, the fire loss was complete.

Bascus refers to himself as the 'Missing Link – Voice of the people'.

An investigation is now underway to determine the cause of the fire.

It was the 203rd fire call received at St. John's Fire Station so far, this year. Overall, there have been 326 fire calls reported to the nation's fire departments this year.

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## Farming community reports 'minimum damage' from Philippe

The farming community in Antigua has reported minimal damage from the effects of tropical storm, Philippe which impacted Antigua and Barbuda last week.

Following a tour of the farming areas last weekend, led by Minister, E.P. Chet Greene, agricultural officials say the losses from the storm were relatively low in terms of crop damage.

This is because the storm came when many farmers were preparing their land for the new farming season, and consequently did not have much produce in the ground.

“We have reports of avocados being blown down from the trees at a time when they were not quite ready to

be picked. A few farmers reported that they had onions in the ground, with the expectation that they would be ready for early in the New Year. These were washed away by the run-off water and these farmers will have to replant,” Chief Extension Officer, Owolabi Elabanjo reported.

According to the agricultural official, the most common problem reported by the farmers had more to do with the flood waters washing away their topsoil which would require replacement, before planting new crops.

He explained that the farmers had prepared the banks for planting and these were affected by the flood waters caused by Philippe.

He noted that farmers in the Christian Valley area were the ones who sustained much of this damage.

Tropical Storm, Philippe, dumped up to eight inches of rain in parts of Antigua.

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT  
 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
 ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA  
 CLAIM NO. ANUHCV: 2017/0372  
 BETWEEN:  
 BESTECH LTD  
 Claimant  
 AND  
 KAREN PRINCE  
 Defendant

TO: Mrs. Karen Prince  
 Gambles  
 St. John's  
 Antigua

TAKE NOTICE that Cumberbatch & Associates has applied to be Removed as Counsel for the Defendant in the mentioned matter.

You may obtain copies of the Notice of Application, Affidavit in Support and Draft Order for the appearance in Court on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, at the High Court of Justice, Parliament Drive, St. John's, Antigua, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from Mondays to Thursdays and 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Fridays or at Cumberbatch & Associates, Upper Long Street, St. John's, Antigua.

Dated this the 10<sup>th</sup>, day of October, 2023  
 Cumberbatch & Associates  
 Attorneys-at-Law

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# Patrice Skerritt: Regional Director at British Airways PLC takes the ABHTA spotlight

British Airways PLC’s Regional Director of Airports for Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, St. Kitts, and the Turks and Caicos, Patrice Skerritt, is this week’s feature in the Antigua and Barbuda Hotel and Tourism Industry’s Unveiling Hospitality Professional Series.

Patrice Skerritt boasts a rich tapestry of knowledge and experience, spanning over 15 years in the dynamic realms of Tourism and Aviation.

Her passion for aviation ignited at an early age, listening intently to “Movements at Coolidge Airport” on the radio. Patrice meticulously memorized flight

## Unveiling Hospitality Professionals

**Patrice Skerritt**  
British Airways



numbers and departure times, fostering an enduring

fascination with travel.

While her formal career commenced as a Teacher at Princess Margaret Secondary School, Patrice swiftly recognized that her true calling lay within the Ministry of Tourism. There, she embarked on her rewarding journey in the hospitality sector, a decision that would ultimately shape her destiny.

Thirteen years ago, a pivotal moment beckoned when Patrice responded to a job posting for a managerial role at British Airways. With that step, she embarked on a transformative journey that has become an integral part of her story. Today, Patrice holds the esteemed position of Regional Director – Air-

ports, overseeing Customer Service and Airport Operations in Antigua, St. Kitts, Turks & Caicos, and Aruba.

Patrice fondly reminisces about an early British Airways campaign that implored travelers, “Upgrading isn’t about changing cabins, it’s about changing airlines – Upgrade to British Airways.” This resonating mantra continues to define her daily approach to work, where providing exceptional service is not just a duty but a way of life.

The Unveiling Hospitality Professional series is now in its fifth week of focusing the spotlight on the remarkable talents within the hospitality sector of Antigua and Barbuda.

**IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT  
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

**Claim No. ANUHCV: 2015/0047**  
**IN THE MATTER of an ex parte application for an Interim  
Protection Order pursuant to Section 6 of the Domestic  
Violence Act 2015**

**BETWEEN:**

**LUIS HERNANDEZ**  
Claimant/Respondent  
**AND**  
**SHEREE MANNING**  
Defendant/Applicant

**TO: Mr. Luis Hernandez**  
Crosbies  
St. John’s  
Antigua

**TAKE NOTICE** that Cumberbatch & Associates has applied to be Removed as Counsel for the Claimant/Respondent in the mentioned matter.

You may obtain copies of the Notice of Application, Affidavit in Support and Draft Order for the appearance in Court on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, at the High Court of Justice, Parliament Drive, St. John’s, Antigua, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from Mondays to Thursdays and 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Fridays or at Cumberbatch & Associates, Upper Long Street, St. John’s, Antigua.

**Dated this the 10<sup>th</sup>, day of October, 2023**  
**Cumberbatch & Associates**  
Attorneys-at-Law

# Rotarians continue mental health awareness programme

Rotarians in Antigua (Rotary Club of Antigua, Rotary Club of Antigua Sundown, and the Rotaract Club of Antigua) staged their 3rd annual Scavenger Hunt activity this past Sunday.

A statement from the combined clubs said the activity forms part of ongoing efforts to raise awareness about mental health, social stigma associated with mental health and mental health education.

The event attracted the participation of several teams, who wore green printed T-shirts. Green is the colour used to show support for those who are battling mental health issues.

At the end of the exciting event, Team KRAVE

emerged as the winning team, followed by SWAT, DOUBLE TROUBLE and HERD OF NERDS respectively.

Clinical Psychologist, Alaina Gomes, made a presentation at the end of the activity, encouraging persons to play a more active role in recognizing mental health challenges.

“Start becoming more aware of your emotions, thoughts and behaviours. Start recognizing when there are stressful conditions and begin implementing activities and strategies in your life that will allow you to inject air into your life”, she emphasized.

She also urged persons to incorporate positive activities such as exercise,

journaling, colouring and taking breaks as part of strategies to maintain good mental health.

The data shows that

1 in 5 people in the English-speaking Caribbean, will experience mental health-related symptoms in their life.



## Adult education, CXC available at SPEC

Residents of St. Paul and neighbouring communities who need to further their education now have an opportunity to attend classes at the St. Paul's Empowerment Centre, located in Liberta.

Member of Parliament, E.P. Chet Greene said the classes have commenced, following requests from some residents for a programme, to enable them to upgrade their education.

“This educational programme is my way of responding to the needs of the people I represent, who are desirous to become more competitive. For some, it represents a lifelong ambition of equipping themselves for the world of work, job promotions, assisting their children, achieving matriculation requirements for tertiary training or simple self-fulfilment,”

the representative noted.

According to Greene, the educational programme represents a commitment by a caring MP to create pathways to community and national development and the simple realization of human worth.

Classes are available free of cost to all participants, as Greene has decided to subsidize the cost of the programme. He added that he is happy to be partnering with professionals from the area, who will teach the classes, except in the case of Spanish.

“Other opportunities will follow, including further training with UWI, as well as technical vocational programmes targeting young males of the St. Paul's community,” he added.

“Preparing my people for life is, has been and continues to be an inte-



Member of Parliament, E.P. Chet Greene

gral part of my life's work and mission,” he declared.

The classes are in Mathematics, English, Social Studies, Physical Education and Spanish.

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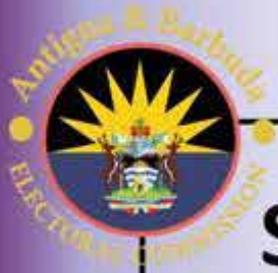
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## UN agree on plan to advance rural women's rights in the Caribbean

CMC - Three United Nations agencies have signed a two-year joint work plan to accelerate progress in gender equality and the empowerment of rural women in Latin America and the Caribbean. (LAC)

UN Women said it has collaborated with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in signing the agreement.

“Rural women face multiple obstacles to gaining independence and economic stability. In crises, rural women are most affected by poor access to resources, services, and information, the heavy burden of unpaid household and care work, and discriminatory traditional social norms,” UN Women said, adding that, globally, rural women represent one-third of the population and 43 percent of the agricultural labor force.

FAO said women account for more than 20 per cent of agricultural employment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The action plan proposed by these three UN agencies is structured around two areas, namely high-level political and policy advocacy to accelerate the reduction of the gender gap in access to productive resources to achieve food and nutritional security in LAC, within the framework



of Sustainable Development Goals 2 (Zero Hunger) and 5 (Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment).

The second priority is to promote rural coverage of care services, sexual and reproductive health, and gender-based violence in the region and the production of data and information on rural women in the framework of agri-food systems, incorporating data on their physical, economic, and decision-making autonomy.

UN Women said the joint work would be developed with an intersectional approach, prioritising indigenous peoples and afro-descendants, age and human mobility factors, and mobilising resources necessary to make joint actions feasible in the territories and communities.

“The collaboration between FAO, UN Women, and UNFPA will contribute to addressing gender inequalities and food and nutrition insecurity, com-

plementing actions that support the empowerment processes of rural women in Latin America and the Caribbean,” said FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean, Mario Lubetkin.

“We will work together to reduce gender gaps in access to productive resources, improve women's economic autonomy and climate resilience, and achieve more sustainable and inclusive agri-food systems throughout the region,” he added.

UN Women Deputy Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean, Cecilia Alemany, said the action plan with FAO and UNFPA is “aligned with UN Women's regional strategy to achieve economic autonomy and access to comprehensive care systems for rural women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

“For UN Women, it is

essential that all efforts by governments in the region to reduce poverty, inequality, and hunger, as well as productive, agrifood and environmental policies, incorporate a gender perspective and address the discrimination faced particularly by rural, indigenous, Afro-descendant and women in mobility situations,” she said.

Susana Sottoli, UNFPA Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, said guaranteeing the autonomy of rural women is “a priority task that cannot be postponed, and it is a task that we must do jointly.”

She said the signing of this agreement “contributes and gives meaning to previous actions.

“It is very important to strengthen this type of collaboration at the regional level,” Sottoli said. “The situations and problems we work with are complex, as they reflect multiple dimensions and, therefore, require collective efforts.

“All sustainable food systems are deeply rooted in the daily lives of families and especially of women in the sense that issues such as maternal mortality have had setbacks in the region, returning to basic situations where women die in childbirth or postpartum, which is closely related to the nutritional situation of women,” she added.

# Iconic Michael Jackson jacket goes up for auction

By Ruth Comerford

An iconic jacket once worn by pop star Michael Jackson is set to go up for auction in London in November.

The item featured in a Pepsi commercial in 1984 and is among more than 200 pieces of music memorabilia being sold.

The black-and-white leather jacket, which was custom-made for Jackson for the commercial, is listed for between £200,000 (\$245,000) and £400,000.

It came from the first in a series of ads for the soft drink that featured the superstar.

The commercials are chiefly remembered now because, during one filming session, Jackson's hair caught



fire and he suffered burn injuries after a pyrotechnic malfunction.

However, he was wearing a different jacket on that occasion.

The item will be auctioned by cos-

tume and prop vendor Propstore, along with George Michael's La Rocka jacket, which he wore while duetting with Aretha Franklin in 1987.

Also up for grabs is a beehive hairpiece used by Amy Winehouse in 2007 for the music video of You Know I'm No Good, which featured on her last album Back To Black.

Other memorabilia going under the hammer include items relating to David Bowie, Elvis Presley and The Beatles.

A Gibson guitar that belonged to AC/DC's Angus Young could fetch up to £120,000, while a belt buckle that belonged to John Lennon is estimated at up to £60,000.

Mark Hochman, director of music and posters at Propstore, said bidding would be "highly competitive".

"For many of these exclusive lots, it is the first time they have been offered for sale to the public," he said.

Memorabilia belonging to Michael Jackson has previously sold for thousands.

The black fedora hat that he wore just before performing his famous moonwalk dance for the first time in 1983 sold at an auction in Paris last month for €77,640 (£67,088; \$82,280).



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# Regional News



## Dominican Rep to reopen border with Haiti for essential trade

The Dominican Republic government said Monday it will temporarily allow trade of essential products, including food and medications, on its border with Haiti. But it said it will maintain a ban on the entry of Haitian citizens amid a dispute over the construction of a canal targeting a river that runs through both countries.

The measure will come into force on Wednesday starting at 8 am in four border provinces in an effort to facilitate the trade of products aimed especially at children, the government said in a statement.

The announcement comes weeks after the Do-



Haitians wait to cross the border between the Dominican Republic and Haiti in Dajabon, Dominican Republic, Friday, November 19, 2021. (AP Photo/Matias Delacroix, File)

minican Republic announced the closure of all land, air and sea borders with Haiti in a dispute about construction of a canal on Haitian soil that would divert waters from the

Massacre River in order to alleviate a drought that affects the Haitian Maribaroux plain.

This generated a diplomatic crisis between both

countries that share the Caribbean island of Hispaniola.

The Dominican government also said it will reinforce the country's military presence on the border to make access to its territory more difficult for gang members who could flee Haiti as a multinational force arrives in the troubled Caribbean nation after approval by the UN Security Council.

"We will indefinitely maintain the closure of the border to immigration to prevent the transit of people from Haitian territory," the government said, adding it will also indefinitely extend the suspension of visas to Haitian citizens.

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## CARICOM to conduct survey on mental health among Caribbean youth

CMC - The Guyana-based Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat Tuesday said it is launching a survey on the mental health and well-being issues experienced by young people across the region.

The survey is being undertaken in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and coincides with World Mental Health Day being today under the theme "Mental Health is a universal human right".

The Secretariat said that the survey results will inform activities associated with achieving Goal #3 of the CARICOM Youth Development Action Plan to improve the health and holistic well-being of adolescents and youth and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Target Three and Four.

Deputy Programme Manager, Youth Development at the CARICOM Secretariat, Michele Small-Bartley, said that the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), would utilise the results from the data analysis to develop a programme that will seek to build the capacity of youth practitioners and leaders across the Community.

Specifically, the programme would assist practi-



tioners in identifying mental health and psychological signs and symptoms among youth, she said, adding that the trainees would act as first responders to assisting youth with challenges that may lead to mental health, psychological or emotional issues.

The Deputy Programme Manager said that the survey is being implemented at a critical moment for the region, as mental health and youth dominate discussions and agendas of regional and international conferences, including the upcoming 2023 UN Climate Change Conference (COP 28).

"Exposure to environmental issues associated with climate change and social and economic challenges, further exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19 occurring at the member

state level, has affected young people's ability to navigate their pathway successfully.

"These issues have heightened youth vulnerability, making them more susceptible to psychosocial, emotional and mental health issues."

A study by UNICEF in 2020 conducted in Latin America and the Caribbean revealed that 27 per cent of youth respondents were experiencing anxiety, while 15 per cent were depressed. Additionally, one in every two young persons lacked the motivation to do their usual activities. Notably, 43 per cent of females expressed dissatisfaction with the future, compared to 31 per cent of males. Three in every four felt the need to ask for help.

The CAR-

ICOM-UNICEF survey results would be integral to formulating strategies to build the capacity of youth to identify, manage and seek solutions to these mental health issues.

In addition, Small-Bartley shared that the project will commence with collecting data using a survey instrument that measures depression, general anxiety, well-being, and support. The CARICOM Secretariat and UNICEF will jointly generate and publish the report in the public domain from the collected and analysed data.

The initiative's overarching goal is to build Caribbean Youth's resilience to cope with challenges that may lead to psychological issues for better mental health outcomes, the Secretariat added.



Police were out in force in Guatemala City on Monday after arson attacks on a building.

## Guatemala paralysed as pro-democracy protests run into second week

By **Vanessa Buschschlüter**

Tension is rising in Guatemala, where protests by supporters of President-elect Bernardo Arévalo have run into a second week.

The protesters are demanding the resignation of Attorney-General Consuelo Porras. They accuse Ms Porras of plotting to prevent Mr Arévalo, who has promised to fight corruption, from taking office. Some of the protests, which had been peaceful until now, turned violent on Monday.

Masked men threw stones and broke windows at a demonstration outside the National Palace of Culture in the capital, Guatemala City.

Efe news agency said that the peaceful protest had been “infiltrated” by about 200 troublemakers, who threatened the protesters and members of the press with sticks and clashed with police.

A government official, Napoleón Barrientos Girón, later confirmed that

the violence had been caused by “groups of infiltrators”. “We’re chasing and capturing them,” Mr Barrientos said.

The clashes came on the eighth consecutive day of protests by supporters of Mr Arévalo, who won the presidential election by a landslide in August.

Just hours after his overwhelming win, the party he heads, Movimiento Semilla (Seed Movement), was suspended by Guatemala’s Supreme Electoral Tribunal.

His party’s suspension has widely been viewed as an attempt to stop Mr Arévalo, a political outsider who has campaigned against corruption, from being sworn in as planned in January.

Mr Arévalo himself has described it as a “coup d’etat”. His supporters have since taken to the streets to demand that Consuelo Porras, the attorney-general they say is behind efforts to block Mr Arévalo, be removed from her post.

Ms Porras argues that Mr Arévalo’s

party was not properly registered, but critics point out that she only launched her investigation into the party after Mr Arévalo’s strong showing in the first round of the election secured him a spot in the run-off.

The protests intensified last week as demonstrators blocked key roads across the country. The blockades have caused fuel and food shortages in some regions, as well as paralysing traffic on major highways.

In a televised address to the nation, the outgoing president, Alejandro Giammattei, called on protesters to lift the blockades, which he said were “illegal, generate supply shortages [and] put Guatemalans’ lives at risk”.

He also asked Mr Arévalo to sit down with mediators sent by the regional body Organization of American States (OAS) to ensure a peaceful handover of power on 14 January, when President Giammattei’s term in office ends.

## Zimbabwe MPs lose seats because of fake letter

Fifteen opposition MPs in Zimbabwe have filed a court appeal saying they were tricked into losing their parliamentary seats.

The losses came after a man falsely claiming to be the party's secretary said the MPs were no longer members.

On receipt of the fake letter, Zimbabwe's parliamentary speaker declared the 15 seats vacant.

Resultant by-elections could hand ruling party Zanu-PF the majority it needs to amend the constitution.

Monday's letter was signed by "Sengezo Tshabangu", who claimed to be the secretary general for Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC), Zimbabwe's main opposition party.

It was littered with grammatical errors.

CCC leader Nelson Chamisa asked speaker Jacob Mudenda to disregard the letter, saying the party had no secretary general and had not expelled or recalled any MP.

"The conduct of Mr Tshabangu is in fact a wanton violation of our laws and a clear act of criminality," Mr Chamisa wrote.

Despite the opposition leader's request, Mr Mudenda, a Zanu-PF MP, declared the 15 seats vacant in a letter to the electoral commission.

The affected CCC MPs



*The CCC complained of intimidation tactics during campaigning.*

filed a court appeal on Tuesday.

"We will not accept such disdainful conduct against our constitution and our democracy," said Promise Mkwanzu, spokesman for the CCC.

The case is likely to worsen political tensions, which have been running high in the southern African country since controversial presidential elections in August.

Mr Chamisa, 45, lost to incumbent 81-year-old president Emmerson Mnangagwa in a race that international observers said fell short of democratic standards.

Zanu-PF, who have been in power for more than 40 years, secured a majority in parliament, but fell a

few lawmakers short of the number required to change the constitution.

The CCC alleged that since the election, more

than a dozen people affiliated with its party, including MPs and councillors, have been arrested on spurious charges.



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## Pakistan sink Sri Lanka with record World Cup chase

INDIA (Reuters) - Pakistan made it two wins from two World Cup matches as batsmen Mohammad Rizwan and Abdullah Shafique hit centuries in a record run-chase to set up a six-wicket victory over Sri Lanka in Hyderabad on Tuesday.

Chasing a daunting 345 after Kusal Mendis and Sadeera Samarawickrama smashed tons to put Sri Lanka in a commanding position, the 1992 champions got over the line in 48.2 overs thanks to Rizwan's 131 not out and Abdullah's 113.

Ireland had held the previous record for the highest run chase in World Cups with 329 against England in 2011.

"Whenever you perform for your country and the performance is like that to win the match, it leaves you speechless," said player of the match Rizwan, who smashed eight fours and three sixes in his 121-ball knock.

It was also the first time in a World Cup match that four centuries had been hit and Mendis got the ball rolling with a blistering knock



Pakistan's Abdullah Shafique, left, and his batting partner Mohammad Rizwan run between the wickets during the ICC Cricket World Cup match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka in Hyderabad, India, Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023. (AP)

after being dropped on eight on 18 by Imam-ul-Haq. after Shaheen Shah Afridi and

*cont'd on pg 17*

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## Business volleyball league to serve off today

Eleven teams will battle for supremacy in this year's Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Business League Competition.

Reigning back-to-back champions APUA INET will be among the teams participating in the round-robin league competition, which will commence at the indoor volleyball facility at the YMCA Sports Complex this evening (Wednesday).

The Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank (ECAB), which claimed the runners-up position last year, will be aiming to improve on their 2022 second-place finish by winning the title this year.

Two of last season's strong contenders, third-place winners ICONS and fourth-place finishers Sandals, will also be making a return in this year's compe-



APUA INET's player Leena Gore holds the championship trophy alongside her team during the presentation ceremony at the end of the 2022 business league volleyball tournament at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday, December 3, 2022. (File photo)

tion.

Royalton, the only newcomer, will be making their debut appearance in the annual competition this year.

The rest of the participating teams will be aiming to improve on last year's performances.

They are the Media,

77 Bus, Nates Photography, Treasury Department, MEDSO, and the Antigua and Barbuda International Institute of Technology (ABIIT).

The 2023 business volleyball league will serve off with a double-header at the YMCA Sports Complex this evening.

ECAB will take on the Media at 6:30 pm, and Sandals will face ABIIT at 7:30 pm.

In Thursday's double-header, Nates Photography will meet ICONS at 6:30 pm, and 77 Bus will clash with the Royalton at 7:30 pm.

### cont'd from pg 16

He dominated Pakistan's bowlers earlier with 14 fours and six sixes to score 122 before Samarawickrama dropped anchor to make 108 as Sri Lanka posted 344 for nine in 50 overs, although they were restricted at the end by Ali (four for 71) and Haris Rauf (two for 64).

Mendis reached his century in 65 balls - the fastest by a Sri Lankan at the World Cup - flicking pacer Hasan Ali for a six off his legs to eclipse former skipper Kumar Sangakkara, whose ton had come off 70 balls against England in 2015.

Pakistan made a shaky start as Dilshan

Madushanka (two for 60) dismissed Imam and Babar Azam inside eight overs and Shafique was cautious early on before cutting loose to build a superb 176-run partnership with Rizwan.

Shafique, who replaced the out-of-form Fakhar Zaman, cracked 10 fours and three sixes and was primed to stay until the end on his World Cup debut, but he fell to Matheesha Pathirana after a stunning catch by substitute Dushan Hemantha. Rizwan was hit on his face and battled cramps after getting into the eighties but soldiered on for his third century, before guiding them home by hitting the winning runs.



THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, WELLNESS,  
SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION & THE ENVIRONMENT  
OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

In Collaboration with

**PAHO**



The PAHO/WHO recommended tool for surveillance of noncommunicable diseases and their risk factors.

The Ministry of Health, Wellness, Social Transformation and the Environment, in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), will be conducting its first STEPS survey.

## WHAT IS STEPS?

STEPS is a household survey, similar to the national census. It is a three step process aimed at collecting information on the health behaviors of Antiguan and Barbudans, and their risks factors for chronic diseases, NCDs like diabetes, hypertension, cancers and chronic respiratory diseases.

## WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

Persons aged 18-69 years will be identified to participate in the survey.

## WHY SHOULD YOU GET INVOLVED?

The information from STEPS will help to improve our national strategies and actions to decrease the burden of NCDs in our country. By getting involved you become a part of the solution.



You will be asked questions about your health and lifestyle practices.



Some simple measurements such as height, weight, waist-circumference and blood pressure will be taken.



Health professionals will take a urine sample, and a finger-prick blood sample will be taken for testing fats and sugar.



## Transport Board and Anjo Wholesale remain at the top of business basketball league

The Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board and Anjo Wholesale recorded wins in the latest round of matches

to join Sandals as leaders of the Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Busi-

ness League Competition.

Both teams claimed their sixth win in seven matches during a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex on Monday night.

The Board of Education snatched a narrow 70-68 victory against the Callan Shooters. Jesus Emmanuel scored 22 points, and Xavier "X-Man" Meade sank 17 points for the Board of Education.

Warren Bogle shot a game-high 30 points for the Callan Shooters, who lost for the fourth time in eight encounters.

Steven Matthew produced 25 points, and Andrew Venture scored 10 points to lead Anjo Wholesale to a

62-53 victory against reigning league champions, Eye Mobile Vision Care.

Devonte Carter and Kevin Pimental each produced 14 points, Lopez Adams scored 11 points, and Tajahron Davis converted 10 points for Eye Mobile Vision Care, which suffered their fifth loss in eight outings.

The business basketball league will continue with another double-header at the JSC Sports Complex this evening (Wednesday).

The Board of Education will face the Police at 6:45 pm, and Sledge O'Ballers will tackle Trimmingham Trucking Enterprises at 7:45 pm.





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The Dredgers' batsman D'ahri Francis slammed an unbeaten century against TG's Welding & Fabrication Underdogs in the semifinals of the LL Supply Limited Island Boys Sports Club T20 Taped Ball Classic at Powells on Sunday, October 8, 2023. (Photo courtesy ABSCA)

## Dredgers and VIP to battle for IBSC T20 Tape Ball title

Dredgers or VIP will be crowned champions of the LL Supply Limited Island Boys Sports Club (IBSC) T20 Taped Ball Classic on Sunday.

Both teams will clash in the final of the 20-over aside competition at the Antigua Grammar School (AGS) playing field at 1 pm.

They advanced to the finals after recording impressive wins in the semi-finals at the Powell playing field.

Player of the game D'ahri Francis slammed an unbeaten century as the Dredgers crushed TG's Welding & Fabrication Underdogs by 163 runs.

Francis hammered 120 not out, which included 15 sixes and three fours, to help propel the Dredgers to 237 for four off their allotted 20 overs.

Melvin Charles scored 28, Mervin Higgins hit 26, and Jedediah Martin

made 21 not out. Michael Harilall captured two wickets for 54 runs.

Chasing 238 to win, the Underdogs crashed to 74 all out in 10 overs. Keif Baltimore made 18, and Charanlall RamJohn scored 15.

Justin Athanaze snapped up five wickets for 14 runs, Javaughan James claimed three wickets for 32 runs, and Glenton Williams picked up two wickets for 14 runs.

The VIP defeated Buckley's 3J's by six wickets. Buckley's 3J's won the toss and batted, scoring 130 all out in 14.2 overs. Richie Thomas hit a top score of 38.

Kadeem Josiah grabbed three wickets for 15 runs, Shaquan Reifer claimed three wickets for 27 runs, and Ozan Williams picked up two wickets for 16 runs.

The VIP achieved victory by scoring 132 for four in 9.2 overs. Michael Dover slammed 52, and Kenrick Scott hit 45.

Sunday's championship decider at AGS will be preceded by a third-place playoff between losing semi-finalists TG's Welding & Fabrication Underdogs and Buckley's 3J's at 10 am.

### cont'd from pg 22

Parker in the 16th minute, Jonathan Johnson in the 38th minute, Nadre Thomas in the 41st minute, and Chequane Armstrong in the 48th minute.

The Secondary Schools Football League will continue with the opening round of matches in the Girls Under-20 Division today at 3 pm.

Clare Hall Secondary will face Antigua Girls High School at King George, and defending champion Princess Margaret School will host Jennings Secondary School at the PMS playing field.

St. Anthony's Secondary School will take on the Ottos Comprehensive School at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos in the other encounter.

# Sports

DEWS

WEDNESDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2023

## PMS Under-14s off to winning start



The players of Antigua Grammar School (black uniform) and Princess Margaret School compete in the Under-20 Boys Division of the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools Football League at the PMS playing field in St. John's on Friday, October 6, 2023. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

The Princess Margaret School (PMS) made a successful start in defense of their Under-14 Boys Division of the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools Football League on Monday.

The youngsters of Princess Margaret trounced the Clare Hall Secondary 8-0 in the second match of a double-header at the PMS playing field.

The Antigua Grammar School hammered St. Joseph's Academy 5-0 in the first encounter. There were also opening game wins for the Ottos Comprehensive School and the All Saints Secondary School.

Ottos Comprehensive beat Jen-

nings Secondary 3-0 at Radio Range, while All Saints Secondary defeated the Pares Secondary School at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints Village.

But Antigua Grammar School and Princess Margaret School could only battle to a 1-1 draw in their opening game in the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys Division League.

Kimani Philip scored a second-half equalizer for Princess Margaret after an Ivan Grant conversion gave the Antigua Grammar School a 1-0 halftime advantage.

The Ottos Comprehensive School

and the Antigua State College started their campaigns by recording big margins of victory in their open encounters in the same division.

Jose "Naymar" Arias scored five goals, and Aquan Singh and Joylan Sinclair both converted hat-tricks as the Ottos Comprehensive School trounced newcomers Trinity Academy 17-0 at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos.

Antigua State College defeated Jennings Secondary School 4-0 at the Golden Grove playing field.

The goals were scored by Javaughn  
*cont'd on pg 21*