



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
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ABTA SETS SIGHT ON MICE MARKET

Story on Page 2



Best wishes for this evening Desrie!

Queen of Carnival 2024 Desrie Markham will represent Antigua and Barbuda in the 61st edition of the Jaycees Queen Show that will be staged at Carnival City this evening commencing at 8p.m. Antigua and Barbuda will be seeking to retain the title, currently held by Ischikelle Corbin.

ABTA positions itself to capitalise on MICE tourism

Following the country's successful hosting of the SIDS 4 Conference in May, the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority is seeking to tap into the MICE Market.

Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Events (MICE) tourism is popular within the industry globally. The Dominican Republic and Jamaica are two Caribbean states that have tapped into the niche market, with the DR dubbing its destination the "Best MICE Destination in the Caribbean" and Jamaica launching its programme with the aim of increasing tourism revenue.

The ABTA, in its continued quest to diversify the tourism product, is joining the growing number of destinations in entering the MICE Market.

"One of the reasons why Antigua and Barbuda had not been able to tap into that market successfully, particularly for the large conferences, was we didn't have a major conference facility," explained Colin C. James, Chief Executive Officer of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority.

Now, with the successes of SIDS 4 and the recent announcement that Antigua and Barbuda will host the 55th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) next year, Mr. James said his teams are working to promote the destination as the ideal place for MICE.

"We are targeting the MICE Market to ensure we can get those opportunities. Prior to that I think Royalton [Resorts]



Colin C. James

had the other largest facility that could have taken small conferences. But when it comes to thousands that was the challenge," he pointed out.

The ABTA CEO stated that certain mechanisms are already in place that will allow for Antigua and Barbuda to venture into the niche market, chief among them is a modern conference facility at the American University of Antigua, with the capacity to host thousands of delegates. He also pointed to accommodation and transportation.

"SIDS has shown us that we have the room stock. We can host them, we can move them around with the transportation, we have a first-class international airport with direct flights from a lot of the major metropolises and so, we have the foundation to support that type of tourism business," Colin C. James assured.

As part of their marketing strategy, the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority is targeting the summer months for MICE, since this time of year is considered a slow period within the industry.

The first major MICE event is in the planning stages. CEO Colin James said more information will be made available once it is finalised.



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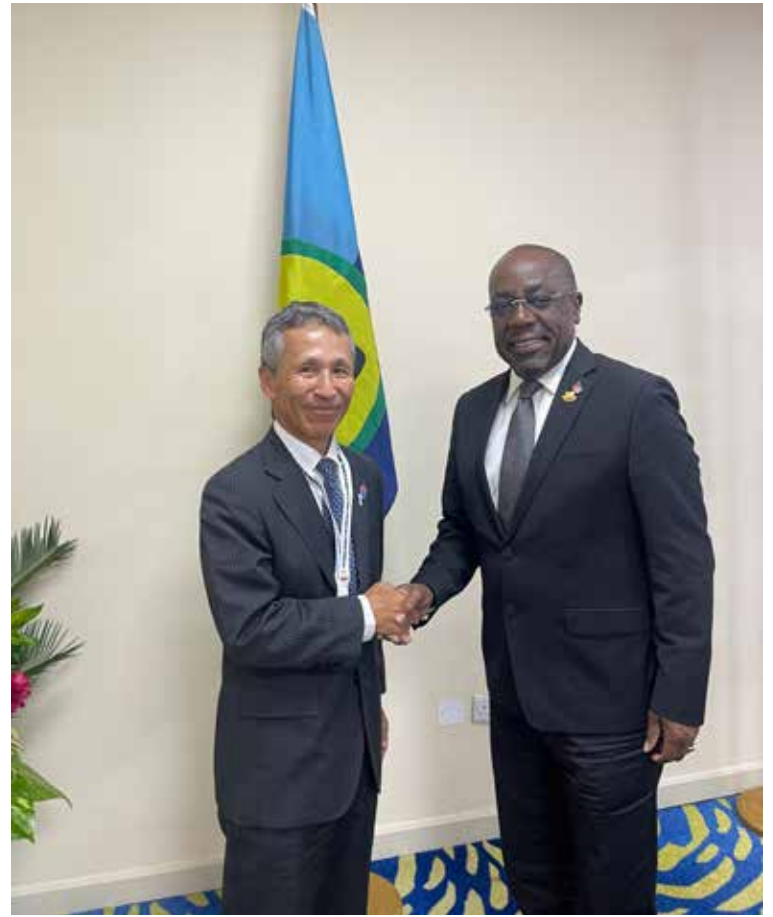
Antigua and Barbuda and Japan engage in bilateral discussions

Antigua and Barbuda and Japan on Tuesday held bilateral discussions on the margins of the 47th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community in Grenada.

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Barbuda Affairs, E.P Chet Greene,

engaged in dialogue with His Excellency Mr. Yutaka Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan surrounding opportunities for trade and investment between both countries.

Minister Greene praised the outstanding relations between both *cont'd on pg 4*



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Local News



cont'd from pg 3
 countries and thanked Japan for its timely support given towards the successful hosting of the 4th United Nations International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4).

The Minister also

thanked Japan for its long-standing support during the 40 years of diplomatic relations, which has contributed to the socioeconomic development of Antigua and Barbuda.

The support of Japan in the fisheries sector was highlighted and the

Foreign Affairs Minister during his meeting, requested upgrades to the existing fisheries complexes, to maximize on trade and storage capacity for the government.

Minister Greene also requested from the Japanese delegation technical

support in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

Additionally, he expressed gratitude to the Japanese Government for its donation of reverse osmosis plants to Antigua and Barbuda, which has greatly assisted in the increase of water production throughout the country.

Ambassador Matsubara extended commendations to Minister Greene for Antigua and Barbuda's successful hosting of SIDS4.

He stated that Antigua and Barbuda displayed tremendous leadership on the global stage and further brought focus to the issue of climate change and the plight of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The Ambassador stated that Japan would continue to support Antigua and Barbuda in the area of water conservation through its donation of desalination plants.

He further mentioned that Japan will continue to assist Antigua and Barbuda with the issue of sargassum.

Ambassador Matsubara used the opportunity to extend an invitation to Minister Greene to attend the Eighth Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of CARICOM and Japan in December, 2024.

Both parties also discussed candidatures, the appointment of an Honorary Consul, and upgrades to the existing West Bus Station Terminal.

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Stricter measures for CIP not likely to affect passport ranking

Government spokesman Ambassador Lionel 'Max' Hurst believes there will be no negative impact to Antigua and Barbuda's passport ranking as a result of stricter measures that were implemented to strengthen Citizenship by Investment Programmes in parts of the OECS.

The Henley Passport Index for 2024, lists Antigua and Barbuda's travel document at 26th globally in its power rank, allowing its holders to travel visa free to 104 countries. But a decision by Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saint Lucia to collaborate in order to strengthen their CBIs by exchanging best practices, due diligence processes and intelligence related to potential security or compliance risks has some wondering if it will affect the country's passport ranking in any way.

The Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister expressed optimism that the country's CIP will remain



strong, noting that the adjustments made in collaboration with four other countries were done to strengthen their programmes.

"We know that what we have done under our CIU has been extremely strict and that the issuance of citizenship through a person who have indicated their interest that the examination has been very intrusive.

"So, we anticipate that the Antigua and Barbuda citizenship will continue to be sought after, precisely because it is so thorough," Hurst said.

Last week's Cabinet Notes detailed that Minister of Finance and Corporate Governance, Prime Minister Gaston Browne, said the programme (CIP) has done "significantly well" between January to June, 2024. It was noted that the new US\$200,000 minimum price, likely spurred interest in Antigua and Barbuda's programme, ahead of its 1st July, 2024 implementation.

Ambassador Hurst noted that Antigua and Barbuda will make the most of its CIP while it lasts without compromising its standards.



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‘Remember to Empower!’ Emancipation Watchnight takes center stage

The Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Support Commission has announced the 16th annual Watchnight Gathering will take place this evening at the Botanical Gardens commencing at 7:30 pm.

The free event, continues a cherished tradition symbolising the anticipation enslaved Africans felt as they awaited news of their freedom. This evening promises a rich tapestry of music, libation, drumming, messages, songs, iron band performances, and more, celebrating freedom, faith, community, and resilience.

This year, the feature address will be delivered by Ambassador Dr. June Soomer, a distinguished St. Lucian and Chairperson of the Permanent Forum for People of African Descent (PFPAD). PFPAD is a United Nations General Assembly consultative mechanism aimed at improving the safety and quality of life for people of African descent and other relevant stakeholders.

Ambassador Soomer, the former Secretary General of the Association



Janae Jackson

of Caribbean States (ACS), has been serving as the Chair of The UWI Global Campus Council since January, 2024. She is also a member of the St. Lucia National Reparations Committee and holds a PhD in History from The UWI, where she was the first female to earn this degree from the Cave Hill Campus. Her illustrious career includes serving as St. Lucia’s ambassador to the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and CARICOM, with responsibility for diaspora affairs from 2008-2016.

Janae Jackson from the Commonwealth of Dominica will also be in at-



Ambassador Dr. June Soomer

tendance this evening as one of the featured artists. Jackson, a talented calypsonian and full-time attorney, captivated the ABRSC with her performance at the recent Organization of American States Symposium themed ‘People of African Descent in the Americas.’ She performed “Echoes of the Mill,” a song written and composed by her father, Ian Jackson. Ms. Jackson is the reigning Calypso Queen of Dominica, a three-time winner of the Dominica Broadcasting Station (DBS) Christmas Song Contest and a celebrated vocalist, having won ‘Best Lead Vocalist’ in the Rex Nettleford Choir Festival in Jamaica. She is an executive member and mezzo-soprano of Dominica’s National Choir, The Sixth Form Sisserou Singers and has represented her country at the Music Model & Talent Showcase (MMTS) in The Bahamas.

This evening will also feature performances by Antigua Dance Academy, Annia Matthew (Anni), Rashid Walker, King Zacary, Nyabinghi Drummers, Queen B, Kimmy, and the Point and Police Iron Bands.

The Emancipation celebrations will continue with the annual Emancipation Day Church Service at the Green Bay Moravian Church on Thursday, 1st August, 2024 at 6 am.



EMANCIPATION
190
WATCHNIGHT

“REMEMBER
TO
EMPOWER”

Wednesday July 31st
7:30pm - Midnight
Botanical Gardens

VACANCY - SALES CONTROLLER

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority is now seeking applications from suitably qualified persons for the position of Sales Controller:

The Sales Controller is responsible for leading the Corporate and Retail sales teams and functions in the Telecommunications Business Unit. This includes setting sales quotas, creating sales plans, analyzing data, managing the relationships with key corporate customers, monitoring sales zones and building the sales teams through training, mentoring and implementing performance interventions to maximize their potential for success.

Key tasks include, but are not limited to the following:

- Meeting marketing and sales financial objectives by forecasting requirements, preparing budgets & scheduling expenditures, analyzing variances and initiating corrective actions;
- Developing sales plans by forecasting and developing sales quotas, projecting sales volumes and profit for existing and new products, analyzing trends, establishing pricing strategies while monitoring costs, competition, supply and demand;
- Completing sales audits, identifying trends, determining improvements and recommending changes;
- Achieving marketing and sales objectives by planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating advertising, merchandising, and trade promotion programs including developing field sales action plans;
- Developing and sustaining rapport with key accounts by creating and maintaining a portfolio of corporate customers; exploring their specific usage patterns to recommend service plans that best fit their needs while anticipating new opportunities for business;
- Managing the relationships with outside vendors and re-sellers of our products and services;
- Managing the remuneration schemes and performance of sales teams including setting & monitoring of targets, issuing assignments & sales calls, formally assessing performance of teams and individuals routinely;
- Preparing comprehensive monthly reports to include growth trends, customer churn & receivables by product line.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Marketing, Business Management (or related field) from a reputable tertiary institution;
- Three (3) to five (5) years work experience in a senior sales role;
- Demonstrated ability to successfully lead a sales team.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities:

- Experience in planning and implementing sales strategies and customer relationship management;
- Proven leadership experience managing and directing a sales team with the ability to inspire and motivate them to achieve targets;
- Dedication to providing outstanding customer experiences;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- A high degree of flexibility; the ability to work under pressure and to deadlines; the ability to work additional hours and/or perform additional duties in the event of planned/unplanned outages, storms and emergencies.

Interested persons are asked to apply in writing to:

The Human Resources Manager
Antigua Public Utilities Authority
P.O. Box 416
Cnr. High Street & Independence Avenue
St. Johns, Antigua
OR Email: hr@apua.ag

Deadline for application is Wednesday 7th August, 2024

** Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged **
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Hamlet and Anyandjuh dominate Teenage Pageant

Sir Novelle Richards Academy and Saint Joseph's Academy dominated the ECAB Mr. and Ms. Teenage Pageant held on Monday evening at Carnival City and won the titles in their respective categories.

13 contestants, drawn from public and private schools competed in Personality and Aspiration, Performing Talent, Uniform Re-Creation and Interview segments.

At the end of the evening, Gabrielle Hamlet of Sir Novelle Richards Academy and Mandela Anyandjuh of Saint Joseph's



Mr. and Miss Teenage 2024 Gabrielle Hamlet and Mandela Anyandjuh.

Academy copped several Personality and Aspiration, Best Uniform Re-Creation and Best Interview.

In the pre-judged segments, she won Ms. Photogenic.

SJA's Anyandjuh was awarded Best Uniform Re-Creation and in the pre-judged segment, Best Photogenic.

Aniah Laurent of Princess Margaret School was adjudged 2nd runner-up, while Anya Hull, secured the 1st runner-up spot for Clare Hall Secondary School.

In the male category, Drayton Payne of Glanvilles School secured the 2nd runner-up spot and Ja'Quan Christopher of Clare Hall Secondary, 1st runner-up.



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Port Security Manager

Key Responsibilities

- Team Management:** Lead and manage a team of security officers and oversee contracted security firms, ensuring adherence to standards and optimizing security operations.
- Stakeholder Relations:** Collaborate with internal departments, cruise lines, agents, and local authorities to develop effective security strategies and maintain strong relationships.
- Security Policy Development:** Create and enforce security policies and procedures, translating organizational strategy into actionable security goals.
- Security Coordination:** Monitor security systems, conduct regular inspections, and integrate security protocols across departments.
- PFSO Duties:** Conduct comprehensive security surveys, develop and implement the port facility security plan, ensure adequate training, and coordinate with ship security officers.

Minimum Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in security management, law enforcement, or a closely related field.
- Minimum of Ten years of experience in law enforcement, security services in maritime security, or regulatory compliance, or an equivalent combination of experience and training.

Other Key Requirements

- In-depth knowledge of security principles, practices, and local security policies and regulations.
- Strong ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Excellent Customer Service skills

Accounts Officer

Key Responsibilities

- Accounts Payables Management:** Oversee and manage the accounts payable process, including the verification, processing, and reconciliation of invoices and payments.
- Vendor Relations:** Build and maintain positive relationships with vendors and suppliers, addressing any payment-related inquiries and resolving discrepancies.

Financial Record Keeping: Maintain accurate records of all transactions, ensuring compliance with company policies and accounting standards.

Reconciliation: Perform regular reconciliations of accounts payable ledgers, ensuring accuracy and resolving any discrepancies in a timely manner.

Reporting: reports on accounts payables and other financial matters as required by the Financial Controller.

Process Improvement: Identify and implement

process improvements to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of the accounts payables function.

- Inventory Management:** Oversee and manage inventory records, ensuring accuracy and consistency in stock levels. Coordinate with relevant departments to monitor inventory usage and maintain adequate stock levels.

Minimum Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, or a related field.
- At least two years of experience in accounts payables or a similar financial role.

- Proficiency in accounting software and Microsoft Office Suite, particularly Excel.

Other Key Requirements

- Strong attention to detail and accuracy.
- Excellent organizational and time management skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Strong communication skills and a proactive approach to problem-solving.

Marketing & Communications Manager

Key Responsibilities

- Media Relations:** Cultivate and maintain relationships with media outlets, develop press releases, and manage media inquiries.
- Social & Digital Media:** Implement social media strategies, create engaging content, maintain a content calendar, and manage online reputation.
- CSR Initiatives:** Develop and promote CSR programs supporting local communities and sustainability.
- Brand Management:** Ensure consistency of the GPH and ACP brand identity, and develop brand-building strategies.

- Port Event, Advertisement Management & Coordination: Plan and execute port-related events, coordinate logistics, and promote events through various channels.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Marketing, Communications, or related field; advanced degree preferred.
- Experience in marketing and communications, preferably in tourism or hospitality.
- Strong media relations, social media management, and digital marketing skills.
- Excellent written and verbal communication.
- Experience in CSR initiatives and event management.
- Creative thinking and problem-solving abilities.

Interested candidates are invited to apply by submitting their resume and cover letter addressed to:

**The General Manager,
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Regional News



Caribbean leaders cautious about results of Venezuelan elections

CMC - Caribbean Community (CARICOM) leaders on Monday took a cautious approach towards the results of the presidential elections in Venezuela where officials there said the incumbent, Nicolas Maduro, had retained power.

Guyana's President Dr Irfaan Ali, told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC) that an election has a number of components, including the operations and arrangement before the polls.

He said other components would include "the elections itself on election day and of course, the mechanisms after the election, the mechanisms to ensure that the votes are counted" and that "there is a credible process of verification".

Ali said that there is also the need for a credible process "that allows persons to request what the law entertains — recount and so on.

"So those are all competence of the election. We are not pronouncing, we cannot pronounce one way or the other. As I said, we don't have details before us. But those are the components that we support in any democratic elections," Ali told CMC.

Guyana and Venezuela have a long running border dispute with both countries now awaiting a ruling from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the matter.

Dominica's Prime Minister, Roosevelt Skerrit, said



as far as Roseau is concerned "the entity which oversees and governs the elections in Venezuela, has indicated that President Maduro and his party have been re-elected.

"And therefore, we extend our congratulations as we do in all elections anywhere in the world, our congratulations to President Maduro on his re-election. We look forward to working with him for the next six years on a bilateral and multilateral basis," he told CMC.

Skerrit said that Venezuela continues to be a very important player in the hemisphere, from a number of vantage points "and we congratulate the Venezuelan people for conducting themselves in a largely peaceful and event-free election process.

"And I think democracy will continue to reign and my hope and prayer is that we can all respect the results and continue to work with Venezuela and its people ... overcome its own challenges, and of course, working on addressing global issues. And so we, from Dominica stand-

point, extend our congratulations to President Maduro."

According to partial results announced by the head of the National Electoral Council (CNE), Elvis Amoroso – who is a close ally of Maduro – with 80 per cent of ballots counted, Maduro had 51 per cent of the vote, compared to 44 per cent for his main rival.

However, the opposition dismissed the CNE's announcement as fraudulent and promised to challenge the result.

It said its candidate, Edmundo González, had won with 70 per cent of the votes and insisted he was the rightful president-elect. Opposition parties had united behind González in an attempt to unseat Maduro after 11 years in power.

Western countries have called on Venezuela to ensure that Sunday's poll was free and fair and transparent.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has expressed his scepticism after the result was announced, saying the United States had

"serious concerns that the declared outcome does not reflect the will or the votes of the Venezuelan people".

In addition, the UK Foreign Office also expressed concern over the results and has called for the "publication of full, detailed results to ensure that the outcome reflect

But Prime Minister Skerrit told CMC "in every country, you will have this issue of free and fair elections and who won and who hasn't won?

"I mean, you had that in the United States a few years ago. You know, even today, that there, there are millions of Americans who believe that President Biden did not win. We believe that President Biden won; we believe that there we a free and fair elections United States.

"And I think that, you see there's a growing phenomenon among opposition parties who seem to have some kind of support externally, that they don't need to work. They simply sit at their homes on Facebook or social media or on a radio programme, don't seek to impact the lives of people while in opposition and believe that there is some external entity will be able to place them as a government of that country. "

Skerrit described politics as "hard work" adding it is about people.

"Politics is about impacting people's lives in a positive

cont'd on pg 14

THE Repair
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Regional News



15-hour chase leads to major cocaine drug bust in DR waters

Multiple law enforcement agencies in the Dominican Republic have intercepted more than a ton of cocaine off the coast of La Altagracia province.

The successful interdiction was the result of “intense monitoring and interdiction work,” as described by officials.

Acting on intelligence reports, Dominican authorities launched a comprehensive operation utilizing air, sea, and land resources to track suspicious activity approaching Dominican territory.

“After more than 15 hours of intense chase,” the authorities stated, “the acting



1032 packages of cocaine discovered in the Dominican Republic. Photo: National Directorate for Drug Control

units managed to intercept several nautical miles south of Bayahibe municipality, a 30-foot-long boat with two men on board and 40 bags, containing packages of cocaine.”

The operation not only

netted a substantial quantity of drugs but also led to the seizure of equipment potentially used in trafficking operations. Officials reported confiscating “two GPS devices, a satellite radio, several fuel cans, two outboard

engines of 200 horsepower each, one refrigerator with water and edibles and other evidence.”

Two Colombian nationals were apprehended during the operation. They have been handed over to the Public Prosecutor’s Office of the Permanent Care Jurisdiction of La Altagracia province, where they are expected to face coercive measures in the coming hours.

The Public Prosecutor’s Office and the National Directorate for Drug Control (DNCD) are continuing their investigation into what they described as a “frustrated international drug trafficking operation.”

cont’d from pg 12

way. And people who are sincere about representing the interests of people must demonstrate that not to wait to come into government to do so but to do so as part of their life experiences.

“And so you’ll always have those issues. I think the issues which the people of Venezuela may raised in respect to the election and election results, I believe are matters that they should be allowed to deal with and within their own constitutional and legal framework.”

He reiterated that if the electoral entity that is responsible for overseeing elections in Venezuela, has indicated that “the elections have been conducted freely and fairly and they have shared the results with not only the Venezuelan people, but all of us.

“Who am I to question it, you know? Who am I to question it? And I’m not in a position to question the results. We have to go with the with the results that

have been reported by the entity,” the Dominican Prime Minister said.

His St. Lucian counterpart, Phillip J Pierre said he is “very happy that the elections took place” and had been free of violence.

“The results that have been declared say that President Maduro has won. I can’t make any firm statement, in terms of what is out now is that President Maduro has won.

“I hope after all the audits are done, after the independent observers give their reports, I’m sure that you get to a position where the result can be sustained and the results can be accepted by the world.

“What’s important is that peace, Venezuela must have peace. Venezuela can’t continue to be in a situation where the people are suffering. And I always, I’ve always made that point, it is the people of Venezuela who suffer”.

He said that if the election observers

and the audit of the polls show that Maduro has won.

“I think the results should be accepted, and Venezuela allowed to operate, as it should operate, to benefit the people of Venezuela”.

Asked whether he believed that CARICOM should be commenting on the elections, Pierre replied that the 15-member regional integration grouping has always been a good neighbour to the South American country.

“CARICOM is the one that brokered the agreement or the deal between Venezuela and Guyana. So, I think CARICOM will have its say.

“But I guess for now, as far as I’m concerned when all the reports come in, the results will show that the initial remarks or the initial count is correct and Venezuela will be allowed to take its rightful place in the world to do what it must do to help advance mankind,” he said.



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Harris says 'path to the White House' runs through Georgia

Kamala Harris is bringing her newly-minted presidential campaign to Georgia, a state that some Democrats now consider up for grabs in the closely contested election.

The vice-president held a star-studded campaign rally in Atlanta on Tuesday featuring a performance by pop star Megan Thee Stallion and rapper/singer Quavo. Democratic Senators Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock also attended.

The possibility of Democrats winning in the battleground state was a stretch one month ago, but some analysts now believe a new face on top of the ticket and a fresh burst of energy may change everything.

Ms Harris replaced Mr Biden as the presumptive Democratic nominee after the president announced he was withdrawing from the race.

"It has been a reset button in so many ways," Amy Morton, the CEO of Georgia-based consulting firm Southern Majority, told the BBC.

"It completely changed the landscape of Georgia."

Taking the stage in Atlanta to a raucous crowd on Tuesday evening, Ms Harris said the momentum in the race was shifting.

She described her "people-powered" campaign as the underdog in the race, but pointed to how Mr Biden carried the state in 2020.



"I am very clear the path to the White House runs right through this state," she said.

Swing states like Georgia, which Mr Biden won by the narrowest margin in 2020, are fiercely contested because they can lean either to Republicans or Democrats and play a decisive role in presidential elections.

It's a state Republicans are looking to flip back red.

Donald Trump will also be campaigning in Atlanta on Saturday - at the same venue as Ms Harris - to cement his support in the swing state.

Congressman Hank Jackson, a Georgia Democrat, told BBC News an "explosion of enthusiasm has been unleashed" since Ms Harris stepped up as the nominee, adding that she had "activated... all demographics" in the state. Democrats in Georgia depend heavily on strong turnout among black voters, a state with one of the highest African American populations in the country.

Polls were suggesting that the state was drifting

away from Mr Biden, University of Georgia Professor Charles Bullock told BBC News.

The state is on Ms Harris's "watch list", he added, noting she has made more than a dozen visits.

In a campaign strategy memo, Harris campaign chair Jen O'Malley Dillon lists Georgia as one of several Sun Belt states - as well as North Carolina, Arizona and Nevada - where the campaign plans to focus efforts ahead of November.

Before Mr Biden dropped from the race, Ms Morton, a Democratic political consultant in Georgia, said she was concerned about voter turnout, finding many throughout Georgia to be less engaged than when they broke records in 2020.

But now "that's changed completely", she says. "We've gone back into all of our planning to calculate for higher turnout because enthusiasm on the ground is so much more apparent than it was in the beginning of June."

Ms Morton said she had seen upticks in volunteer signups and social media engagement for down ballot candidates too since Ms Harris entered the race.

Ms Morton said she thought those margins would only increase, specifically among Georgia voters.

But there is still strong support for Trump in the state.

Georgia is "Trump country", said Marjorie Taylor Greene, a Republican congresswoman from the state. She posted details about his Saturday event on Twitter and claimed Ms Harris was a "radical extremist".

Ms Harris has been facing attacks over handling the crisis at the southern border as vice-president. Although Georgia is far removed, the murder of Laken Riley, a 22-year-old nursing student allegedly killed by a Venezuelan who had entered the US illegally, made the issue of immigration more important to Georgian voters.

On Tuesday, she responded to the attacks saying she would resurrect the border security bill that Trump helped kill, and sign it into law.

She also touted her experience as a prosecutor and the best to take on Trump.

"I know Donald Trump's type," she said as the crowd chanted "lock him up".

"I will proudly put my record against his any day of the week," she added.

Thirty-nine police officers injured in Southport unrest

Thirty-nine police officers have been injured during a protest in Southport hours after a vigil took place to remember the victims of a knife attack in which three children were killed, the North West Ambulance Service said.

Earlier, Merseyside Police said eight officers sustained serious injuries including fractures, lacerations, a suspected broken nose and concussion.

Other injuries included one officer being knocked unconscious, as well as some suffering head and serious facial injuries. Three police dogs were also hurt, with two having bricks thrown at them.

The protest, which police said was believed to involve English Defence League supporters, began only a few streets away from Wednesday's vigil location, near to a mosque on St Luke's Road in Southport.

Those involved threw bricks at the mosque, set fire to cars and wheelie bins and caused damage to a local convenience store, police said.

In total, 27 officers were taken to hospital, and 12 were treated and discharged at the scene, the ambulance service said.

As a result of the disorder, a 24-hour section 60 Order has been introduced in the area, giving officers enhanced stop and search powers to stop individuals, police said, adding that it will be in place until 19:54 BST on Wednesday.

A section 34 Order has also been introduced, allowing police to direct people who are engaging in antisocial behaviour or are "likely to become involved in such behaviour".

Merseyside Police said extra officers will remain in the area "to provide a visible presence and reassure communities.

In addition, a small number ambu-



Merseyside Police said bottles and wheelie bins were thrown at officers.

lance resources will remain at the scene on St Luke's Road and will continue to support the police.

Assistant Chief Constable Alex Goss said it was "sickening" that this was happening within a "devastated" community.

He said the force has faced "serious violence" in the Merseyside town, and he was "so proud to have witnessed off-duty officers parade back on duty to support their colleagues who had displayed such courage whilst under constant and sustained attack."

ACC Goss also thanked officers from Greater Manchester Police, Cheshire Police, Lancashire Police and North Wales Police for providing mutual aid and support.

He added the protest involved many people "who do not live in the Merseyside area or care about the people of Merseyside".

"Sadly, offenders have destroyed garden walls so they could use the bricks to attack our officers and have set cars belonging to the public on fire, and damaged cars parked in the Mosque car park," he said.

"This is no way to treat a communi-

ty, least of all a community that is still reeling from the events of Monday."

A 17-year-old boy has been arrested on suspicion of murder and attempted murder after Monday's attack on a children's dance club in Hart Street.

ACC Goss said: "There has been much speculation and hypothesis around the status of a 17-year-old male who is currently in police custody, and some individuals are using this to bring violence and disorder to our streets.

"We have already said that the person arrested was born in the UK, and speculation helps nobody at this time."

PM Sir Keir Starmer said on X that the people of Southport were "reeling" after the "horror inflicted on them yesterday".

He said that those who had "hijacked the vigil for the victims with violence and thuggery" had insulted the community and would "feel the full force of the law".

Families living nearby told the BBC they feared for their safety as stones flew past and police officers rushed to put on riot gear and pick up shields.

"I can't believe this is happening in

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India beat Sri Lanka in Super Over to sweep T20 series

SRI LANKA (Reuters) - India's bowlers struck late blows before the world champions beat Sri Lanka in a Super Over in the final Twenty20 of their three-match series in Pallekele on Tuesday for a clean sweep under new coach Gautam Gambhir and captain Suryakumar Yadav.

Washington Sundar, who claimed two for 23 earlier, bagged two wickets in the sudden death scenario as Sri Lanka managed only two runs in four balls and the tourists completed the win in style with Suryakumar hitting a boundary from the first ball.

Earlier, chasing 138 for a consolation win on a crumbling pitch, Sri Lanka lost quick wickets after Kusal Mendis made a steady 43 to put them within touching distance of victory.

But with nine needed off 12 balls, Kusal Perera fell to Rinku Singh for 46 and Ramesh Mendis departed shortly after, and the hosts lost two more wickets in Suryakumar's final over where they needed six to win.

Chamindu Wickramasinghe held his nerve and scampered for two runs off the last delivery to force a Super Over but Sri Lanka's challenge faded from there.

Asked to bat first after rain delayed



Members of the Indian team pose with winners' trophy after defeating Sri Lanka in a three-match Twenty20 series in Pallekele, Sri Lanka, Tuesday, July 30, 2024. (AP)

the toss, a much-changed India lost half their side for 48 runs inside nine overs as Maheesh Theekshana claimed two wickets to spark the collapse but Shubman Gill steadied the ship with a patient 39.

Vice-captain Gill, back in the team after missing the last match with a neck issue, was stumped while attempting to charge Wanindu Hasaranga and the spinner had Riyan Parag caught in the deep for 26 three balls later to leave India at 105 for seven.

Theekshana then bowled out Sundar for 25 in the final over and Mendis ran

out Mohammed Siraj to restrict the tourists to only 137 for nine.

The teams will play a three-game One-Day International series in Colombo starting on Friday, with Test and ODI skipper Rohit Sharma and batting stalwart Virat Kohli returning to the Indian squad.

The duo, along with all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, had quit T20s following India's World Cup triumph last month. Sri Lanka named new T20 captain Charith Asalanka as skipper of the ODI team earlier on Tuesday, replacing Kusal Mendis.

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Southport," one young woman shouted from the front of her car as she tried to drive her young daughter away.

The disorder began after hundreds of protesters gathered near a local mosque attacking the front of it, throwing bricks, bottles, fireworks and rocks, many with hoods up and scarves hiding their faces.

Merseyside Police said

those behind the violence had been fired up by social media posts which incorrectly suggested an Islamist link to Monday's stabbings.

The Home Secretary Yvette Cooper had earlier warned about disinformation linked to the attack.

The suspect has no known links to Islam.

Ms Cooper later said it was "appalling" that police officers in Southport were

facing attacks from "thugs on the streets who have no respect for a grieving community".

"I think everyone should be showing some respect for the community that is grieving and also for the police who are pursuing an urgent criminal investigation now, and who showed such heroism and bravery yesterday in the face of these horrific attacks," she said.

In a statement on X, Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner Emily Spurrell also said she was "absolutely appalled by the disgraceful scenes of violence".

"This is a community which has faced unimaginable tragedy, and it is grieving. Such behaviour is abhorrent and only causes further harm and suffering," she added.

Hughes says CFU Club Shield gives players opportunities

President of the Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades FC Chester Hughes said the players are getting several opportunities via the Antiguan team's participation in the current Caribbean Football Union (CFU) Club Shield Championship in Willemstad, Curaçao.

The Grenades, who are making their debut in this year's competition, reached the quarter-final stage of the tournament by beating the Guyana Defence Force 6-2 in the preliminary round and snatching a 2-1 victory against SV Real Rincon of Bonaire in the Round of 16 at the Stadion Rignaal Jean Francisca.

Hughes said the players are being exposed to a higher level of competition and are getting the opportunity to showcase their talent for possible recruitment by scouts of other clubs.

"The players get featured, they get the necessary promotion, they are playing at a higher level of football, they are playing against their peers from the rest of the region, they are able to test and to see how they match up against other clubs and other people of like mind in the football fraternity," Hughes stated.

"So it's a lot of opportunities for them. Not only that, the real opportunity in this competition is that you have clubs that may be



The Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades football team at the Sandals Royal Curaçao Resort in Santa Barbara Estate, Porta Blancu, Willemstad, Curaçao. (Grenades FC)

scouting for better players to recruit. So there are a lot of opportunities for our players as well as all the other players that are participating in this competition."

The Grenades were slated to face defending champions SV Robinhood of Suriname in the quarterfinals on Tuesday night.

SV Robinhood opened their CFU Club Shield campaign on Sunday with a 4-1 victory over AS Étoile De Matoury of French Guiana to secure their place in the quarter-finals.

SV Robinhood won the Caribbean Club Shield during the past two editions, in 2019 and again in 2023. Robinhood also won the 2023 CONCACAF Caribbean Cup.

The 2024 CONCACAF

Caribbean Cup will be the second edition of the CONCACAF Caribbean Cup, the first-tier annual international club football competition in the Caribbean region.

It is contested by clubs whose football associations are affiliated with the Caribbean Football Union (CFU), a sub-confederation of CONCACAF.

Ten teams from four CFU member associations qualified for the tournament. Eight teams from four nations qualified based on results from their domestic leagues, and the remaining two teams qualified from the 2024 CFU Club Shield.

The winners of the 2024 CONCACAF Caribbean Cup qualify for the 2025 CONCACAF Champions Cup Round of 16, and the

second and third-place teams qualify for Round One.

Hughes said if Jennings Grenades are able to qualify as one of the two teams from the current CFU Club Shield, the players will get more opportunities for recruitment by professional clubs at the CONCACAF Caribbean Cup, which will take place from August 20 to December 5.

"Once you would have come out in the top two teams, you go on to the CONCACAF Caribbean Cup Championship, where you will get the opportunity to play against professional clubs. Those professional clubs would see the talent and probably offer contracts to individuals who they would want to acquire their talents," Hughes said.

Sports News



Coley sees positives despite defeat to England in test series

BIRMINGHAM, England (Reuters) - West Indies suffered a whitewash in their Test series against England, which ended in a heavy defeat in the third match at Edgbaston on Sunday, but coach Andre Coley said there were significant positives to take from the tour. The West Indies squad have only a few days off before they reassemble in Trinidad to prepare for the start of a two-Test series against South Africa next week.

side, there would have been a lot said about this being a walkover," Coley said of the series against England.

"Obviously, we should have competed better, but we did show a lot of fight during the series.

"From a batting standpoint, I was very pleased with our scoring rate, tempo, especially in the second Test," the coach said.

As for the bowlers, Coley said English conditions had taught a young attack a lot about adjusting their



Andre Coley

"With a young emerging

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CWI congratulates Sir Clive on being conferred the Order of the Caribbean Community

Cricket West Indies (CWI) has extended its heartfelt congratulations to Sir Clive Lloyd, the legendary former West Indies captain, who was conferred with the prestigious Order of the Caribbean Community (OCC) at the 47th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), held in Grenada on Sunday, July 28, 2024.

Dr. Kishore Shallow, President of CWI, attended the opening ceremony, where Sir Clive Lloyd was recognized for his extraordinary contributions to cricket and his enduring legacy as a leader and ambassador of the sport.

“On behalf of Cricket West Indies, I am immensely proud to extend our warmest congratulations to Sir Clive Lloyd on being conferred with the Order of the Caribbean Community,” said Dr. Shallow.

“This honour is a fitting tribute to a man who has not only exemplified excellence on the cricket field but has also been an unwavering pillar of inspiration and leadership for the Caribbean and the world. Sir Clive’s contributions to cricket and his dedication to the development of the sport are truly unparalleled.”

Sir Clive Lloyd, who captained the West Indies team to two consecutive World Cup victories in 1975 and 1979, has been a towering figure in the cricketing world.

His achievements have left an indelible mark on the history of the game, and his influence extends far beyond his playing days and the cricket boundary, as he continues to inspire future generations of cricketers.

Dr. Shallow further remarked, “Sir Clive’s legacy is one that resonates deeply with every West Indian. His



Sir Clive Lloyd (Credit: Office of the Prime Minister of Grenada) leadership, determination, and sportsmanship have set the standard for what it means to be a true champion. to his enduring impact on our region and the sport of cricket. We are honoured to celebrate this moment with him.”

“This recognition by CARICOM is a testament

The OCC is the highest honour bestowed by the Caribbean Community, recognizing individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the development and integration of the region.

Sir Clive Lloyd’s receipt of this honour underscores his role as a unifying figure and a beacon of Caribbean pride.

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lengths and handling crowd pressure.

“Those were significant positives that we can take from this series, as we approach to South Africa series,” he added.

The first Test against South Africa starts in Port of Spain on August 7, with a second Test in Guyana from August 15-19.

Coley said the focus going forward was “the process.”

“You’re not going to get great performances every day,” he added.

“But one thing you can actually have some control over is going through your processes every single day and giving yourself the best chance of performance.”

The West Indies have won two of the last 11 Tests and are home for the first time in more than a year since losing a two-Test series to India.

Antiguan swimmers to attend two events next month

Several swimmers will represent Antigua and Barbuda at the Goodwill Games Swim Meet at the Rodney Heights Aquatic Center in Gros Islet, St. Lucia, during the middle of next month.

Vice President of Pools of the Antigua and Barbuda Swimming Federation (ABSF) Kem Warner said a team of eight swimmers will be carrying Antigua and Barbuda's flag at the August 16-18 meet, which is geared for young developing swimmers who missed qualifying for the CARIFTA Games in the Bahamas and CCCAN Games in Mexico ear-



Ellie Shaw



Aunjelique Liddie



Tivon Benjamin

lier this year.

The Antiguan swimmers are Elianna Spencer, Kaylee Warner, Alysia Watkins, Isabel Nicholas, Tristan Nicholas, Christopher Walter, Zahid Derrick, and Jadon Green.

A team of five swimmers will also be representing Antigua and Barbuda at the PanAm Aquatics Age Group Swimming Championships in San Juan, Puerto Rico, from August 22-25.

They are Alandra Dublin, Aunjelique Liddie, Ellie Shaw, Espirit Shaw, Tivon Benjamin, Naeem De Souza, Jai Sindhi, and Alex Bazzoni.

Two additional swimmers, en-

dorsed by the ABSW, will also be attending the meet in Puerto Rico as representatives of the Vipers Swim Club of Antigua and Barbuda.

They are Neil Noronha and Jamie Tranter.

The meet in Puerto Rico will be a qualifying event for the 2025 World Aquatics Junior Swimming Championships in Singapore from July 11 to August 3, and the 2025 Pan American Junior Games in Asuncion, Paraguay, from July 11-25.

Ellie Shaw and Jadon Wuilliez are currently representing Antigua and Barbuda at the Olympic Games in Paris, France.