

Prime Minister Browne Attends MEDays Forum in Morocco

Story on page 2



Chinese Diplomat Welcomed.

Newly appointed Chinese Ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda, Jiang Wei, met with their Excellencies Sir Rodney and Lady Sandra Williams on Monday, during a courtesy call at Government House.

Story on page 6

Local News

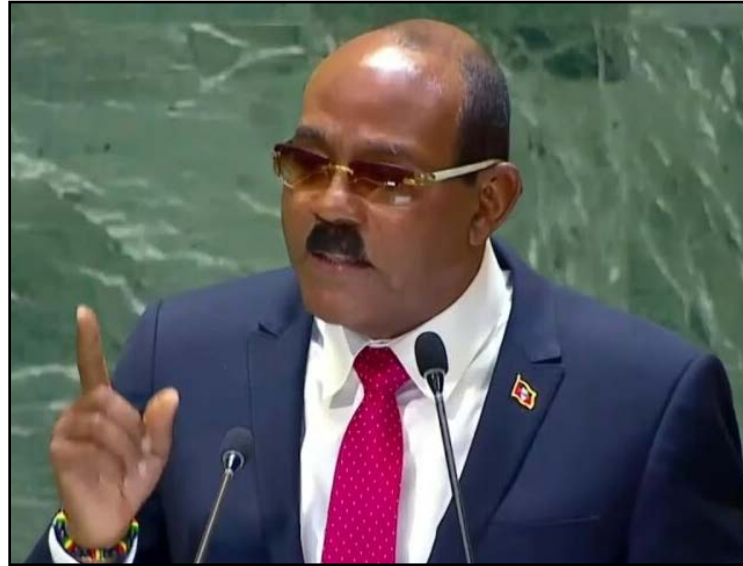
Prime Minister Gaston Browne attends MEDays 2025 Forum in Morocco

Prime Minister. Gaston Browne is in Morocco today attending the 17th edition of the MEDays Forum, to be held from 26–29 November 2025 in Tangier, under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI.

MEDays 2025 convenes under the theme “Fractures & Polarization: Reinventing the Global Equation”, bringing together more than 300 high-level speakers, including Heads of State and Government, ministers, Nobel laureates, corporate leaders, and international experts, as well as over 7,000 participants from more than 120 countries.

In an era defined by geopolitical rivalries, economic fragmentation, and evolving global governance, the MEDays Forum is widely regarded as the “Forum of the South”, offering a strategic platform where emerging and developing nations can voice their perspectives and shape a more inclusive international order.

Prime Minister Browne’s participation underscores



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

Antigua and Barbuda’s commitment to strengthening South-South cooperation, engaging in high-level diplomacy, and advocating for a global architecture that reflects the interests of small states — especially Small Island Developing States (SIDS) — in an increasingly multipolar world.

The Prime Minister will engage in discussions on global governance, economic sovereignty, climate resilience, and development finance — all critical issues for Antigua & Barbuda and other SIDS.

By attending MEDays,

Prime Minister Browne reaffirms that small nations like Antigua & Barbuda have a seat at the table of global decision-making.

Additionally, the forum’s focus on investment, geopolitics, and multilateral cooperation aligns with government’s drive to attract foreign direct investment, promote sustainable development, and strengthen ties with Africa and other Global South partners.

As a climate-vulnerable SIDS, Antigua & Barbuda can leverage MEDays to push for more equitable and effective global

financial mechanisms, debt sustainability, and climate finance solutions.

“In a world of deepening polarization and rising uncertainty, Antigua & Barbuda must not only adapt — we must advocate. MEDays 2025 gives us a platform to project our priorities, especially climate resilience and economic equity,” said Prime Minister Gaston A. Browne.

The MEDays Forum was founded in 2008 by the Amadeus Institute, and has grown into a strategic diplomatic, economic, and intellectual hub, particularly for countries from the Global South.

The 2025 edition features over 50 sessions on geopolitics, economics, energy, climate, and governance, including the MEDays Investment Summit, which promotes strategic public-private investment in Africa and beyond.

The forum is held at the Palais des Arts et de la Culture, Avenue Mohammed VI, Corniche Malabata, Tangier, Morocco.



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Gender Affairs Director Calls for Stronger Male Allyship in Fight Against Gender Violence



Jamie Saunders

Executive Director of the Directorate of Gender Affairs, Jamie Saunders, has highlighted the importance of a people-centered approach when dealing with matters of gender-based violence.

He said conversations around gender equality have become “tribalistic,” adding that a people-centered, equitable approach is needed. While the data shows women are disproportionately affected by gender-based violence, Saunders stressed that male victims must not be overlooked.

Saunders highlighted long-standing cultural norms that shape how men and boys respond to conflict, pointing out that men are often socialised to suppress vulnerability, with anger positioned as the only acceptable emotion.

“This is how we have socialised men. You can’t be vulnerable, and the only emotion that is acceptable is anger.” He added that such expectations can lead to violent outbursts, disrespect, and poor conflict management in relationships, workplaces and families.

Saunders stated that respect, emotional intelligence and positive conflict-resolution skills are central tools for healthier interpersonal relationships.

According to the Executive Director of the Directorate of Gender Affairs, systems of patriarchy—often discussed in relation to women—also alienate and disadvantage men.

“We try to get men to understand that they’re not being blamed. Patriarchy impacts men as well.” He posited that involving men as partners, rather than adversaries, is essential for reducing conflict and fostering safer communities.

Beyond the social impact, Jamie Saunders pointed to the heavy financial cost of gender-based violence on national economies. Citing a UN Women study, he said countries such as Jamaica lose millions of dollars annually due to domestic abuse. These losses stem from victims missing work, hospital expenses, police intervention, and lengthy court proceedings.

“All of these things have a cost. When they add up, they can actually be in the millions.”

Despite the challenges, Saunders reported signs of progress. He said more men are now receptive to the message and willing to engage in prevention efforts. Adopting non-violent conflict strategies benefits men directly by helping them avoid legal trouble, toxic relationships and unsafe environments, the Gender Affairs executive added.

He stated that reducing gender-based violence requires broad support and a clear understanding that allyship is both a moral responsibility and a practical necessity, arguing that men’s participation is essential to creating a more peaceful and inclusive society.




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PM Signals Intention to Legally Pursue US Law Firm for Defamation

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has revealed that his attorneys in the United States will be going after a law firm for defamation and that former leader of the United Progressive Party, Harold Lovell, may not be spared.

Writing on his Facebook page last evening, the head of government posted that his US attorney “will send a pre-action letter within 48 hours, to US Law Firm, David Boies, Partner Boies, Schiller, Flexner; demanding a payment of US\$ 10M for defamation with their Alfa Nero Fabrication”.

Efforts to ascertain whether Prime Minister Browne had followed through were unsuccessful.

The law firm, which the head of government intends to pursue legally, was retained in the United States by Yulia Guryeva-Motlokhov, daughter of U.S.-sanctioned Russian billionaire Andrey Guryev, who has fought unsuccessfully to gain possession of the Super Yacht Alfa Nero, which was left languishing in Falmouth Harbour for close to a year, and which was subsequently sold by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda.

Yulia, who claimed she is the rightful owner of the vessel, was unsuccessful in the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court and thus turned to the United States Court System for redress. She



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

retained the law firm Martin De Luca, with Boies Schiller Flexner LLP, as they sought to unearth information related to wire transfers and other transactions over a five-year period from the prime minister, his wife and his son. Additionally, they were seeking the same information from West Indies Oil Company Ltd, Fancy Bridge Ltd., a Hong Kong-based investment firm that owns shares in the oil company and PDVSA.

The lawyers claimed they were seeking to uncover whether any alleged backroom deals for personal enrichment took place in the sale of the Alfa Nero. The vessel was sold to a Turkish conglomerate for US\$40 million. However, they claimed that approximately ten million dollars were

missing from the sale.

In March, Prime Minister Gaston Browne engaged his attorneys in Antigua and Barbuda and the United States of America on the way forward following the decision of a Federal Judge in New York to grant a request made by Yulia Guryeva-Motlokhov for access to his financial records and those that were involved in the sale of the super yacht Alfa Nero.

The matter was subsequently challenged and a ruling was handed down which outlined that the applicant had “failed to meet the statutory requirements for relief” under 28 U.S.C. § 1782. As a result, the Court quashed the subpoenas in their entirety, vacated its earlier ex parte order that had authorised the subpoenas, and directed the applicant’s counsel to arrange the prompt destruction of any material already produced.

Justifying his latest action, Prime Minister Gaston Browne claimed, “Harold Lovell and the other members of the UPP hierarchy, have colluded with foreigners to assassinate my character, to enhance their prospects in the upcoming polls”.

He added, “They will surely pay big money, for this dastardly, coward, and wicked act”.



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ANTIGUA CARNIVAL

Government Officials Welcome New Chinese Ambassador, Praise Decades of Transformational Support from the PRC

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has officially welcomed Her Excellency Ambassador Jiang Wei, the newly appointed Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, during credential presentation ceremonies to Governor-General, His Excellency Sir Rodney Williams, Prime Minister Gaston Browne, and Minister for Foreign Affairs the Hon. E.P. Chet Greene. In her introductory remarks, Ambassador Jiang reaffirmed China's commitment to deepening what she described as a "long-standing and fruitful partnership" built on mutual respect, shared interests, and cooperation across nearly every sector of national development. She expressed confidence that her tenure would open new opportunities for collaboration and strengthen what Governor-General Williams described as "the ironclad friendship between the two countries."

Prime Minister Gaston Browne welcomed the new Ambassador and emphasized that Antigua and Barbuda's development over the past several decades has been directly influenced by China's consistent and meaningful support.

He highlighted several milestone contributions, noting "China has assisted in practically every area of national development—from infrastructure and ports to healthcare, education, information technology, and institutional



Prime Minister Gaston Browne and Her Excellency Ambassador Jiang Wei

strengthening. The expansion and modernization of our hospitals, deep-water harbor, our national university campus buildings, and the hundreds of scholarships awarded to our young people are lasting testaments to that partnership."

The Prime Minister underscored that China is now widely recognized as Antigua and Barbuda's leading development partner, a sentiment also echoed by Foreign Affairs Minister E.P. Chet Greene, who noted that cooperation between the two nations spans education, infrastructure, economic development, healthcare, housing, and public administration.

During the ceremony, Prime Minister Browne reaffirmed Antigua and Barbuda's clear and unwavering support for the One-China Principle, noting that the position is not only longstanding but based on respect for territorial sovereignty and international norms.

Drawing a parallel to Antigua and Barbuda's own constitutional reality, the Prime Minister stated "Just as Barbuda is an integral part of one nation—Antigua and Barbuda—so too is Taiwan a province within one China. Our position is rooted in principle and mutual respect."

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1983, China has supported Antigua and Barbuda's national development in numerous priority areas, including:

- Construction of major public buildings and infrastructure
- Hospital modernization and medical support
- Scholarships and university facilities
- Support for information and communications technology
- Major port expansion and transportation upgrades
- Assistance in community development and public services

Governor-General Sir Rodney Williams noted with appreciation that Antigua and Barbuda was among the earlier nations to recognize the People's Republic of China

Local News

PAGE 7

and has benefited significantly from the shared commitment of both governments and leaders over the past four decades.

Sir Rodney Williams and Prime Minister Browne expressed confidence that Ambassador Jiang's appointment will strengthen bilateral cooperation, expand trade and investment ties, deepen cultural and educational exchanges, advance development initiatives aligned with Antigua and Barbuda's national priorities and reinforce collaboration through China-CELAC and other regional frameworks



Foreign Minister Chet Greene says that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda looks forward to continued cooperation with the

Government of the People's Republic of China and reaffirms its commitment to a future built on partnership, shared prosperity, and mutual respect.



TOWN HALL MEETINGS

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THURSDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER, 2025
 Five Islands — UWI Campus — 6:30PM

WEDNESDAY, 3RD DECEMBER, 2025
 Golden Grove Extension — Mount Zion Baptist Church — 6PM

WEDNESDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 2025
 Grays Green — Multi-Purpose Centre — 6PM

PRESENT AT THE MEETING WILL BE: THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ST JOHNS, OFFICER IN CHARGE OF GRAYS FARM POLICE STATION, HEAD OF THE CID, MEMBER OF THE POLICE PROSECUTION TEAM AND THE COMMUNITY POLICING COORDINATOR.

COME OUT AND OFFER YOUR SUGGESTIONS, ASK QUESTIONS AND VOICE YOUR CONCERNS.



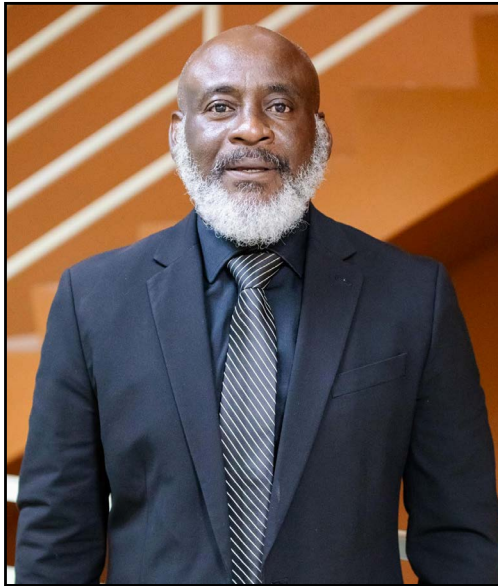
Two ABEC Executives Selected as Observers of General Elections in Saint Vincent and The Grenadines and Saint Lucia

Two executives of the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission (ABEC) have been selected as observers of general elections in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Saint Lucia.

They are Supervisor of Elections, Ian Hughes, and Commissioner Clovis St. Romain.

In making the announcement, ABEC said St. Romain will serve as a member of the mission to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on 27th November, 2025, in support of CARICOM's continued commitment to promoting free, fair, and transparent electoral processes across the Caribbean.

Supervisor of Elections, Ian Hughes, has been selected to serve as Chief of Mission for the CARICOM Election Observer Mission to the General Elections in St. Lucia on 1st December, 2025. As Chief of Mission, he will provide leadership and oversight to the observer team, ensuring its



Supervisor of Elections, Ian Hughes



Commissioner Clovis St. Romain

work is carried out in accordance with CARICOM's established guidelines and principles of impartiality.

Commenting on the appointments, Chairman of ABEC, H.E. Arthur G. B. Thomas, stated: "Our continued selection for these missions, signals recognition of the trust reposed in us and our ongoing efforts to build capacity within the organization. We view each deployment as both

an affirmation of our institutional credibility and an opportunity to further enhance the technical competencies of our team."

ABEC affirmed its commitment to supporting regional democratic processes, declaring that the participation of St. Romain and Hughes reflects the Commission's expertise, professionalism, and ongoing contribution to strengthening electoral systems across the Caribbean.



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Boundaries Commission announces date for another public consultation on proposed constituency boundary changes

The Boundaries Commission of Antigua and Barbuda, a creature of the Constitution, has announced the date for the second of what is likely to be a series of consultations on proposed constituency boundary changes ahead of the next general elections constitutionally due in 2028.

In a media release, the Boundaries Commission is inviting members of the public to participate in the consultations on the proposed boundary changes.

“The Boundaries Commission of Antigua and Barbuda extends respectful greetings and takes this opportunity to inform you that we are currently undertaking a comprehensive review of constituency boundaries across the country. This review is a critical part of our constitutional mandate to ensure equitable representation and fair electoral processes,” the release stated.

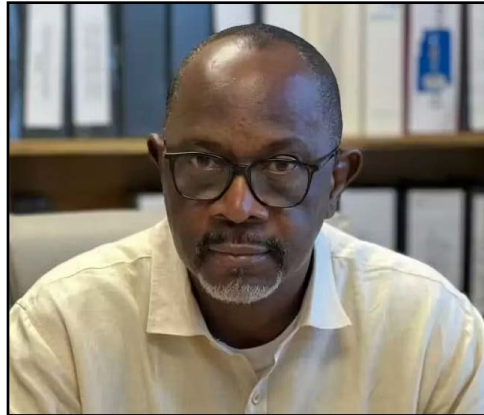
It said that as part of its commitment to transparency, inclusivity, and civic engagement, it is inviting key interest groups to participate in consultations that will inform its assessment and eventual recommendations.

“Your organization plays a vital role in our national democratic framework, and we value your input,” it declared.

Details of the first consultation are as follows,

- Date: 12th December, 2025
- Time: 4:00pm
- Venue: John E. St. Luce Finance & Conference Centre
- Topic: Considerations for proposed Constituency Boundary Adjustments

According to the Boundaries Commission, this consultation is primarily about getting the public’s thoughts about how the boundaries should be



Boundaries Commission Chairman, Danley Philip

revised and what it required for doing so. “Your contributions are important and will form part of our agenda moving forward. In addition, your perspective will help ensure the process reflects the realities and concerns of the communities affected,” the release added.

Commission Chairman, Danley Philip, said the consultation seeks to gath-

er ideas and submissions from individuals and groups in the society from which it will compile its report and recommendations which go before the parliament of Antigua and Barbuda for consideration and adoption.

He said the Commission has listened to the public and it senses that the public wants to ensure that there is parity in the number of voters per constituency as well as to maintain ‘social cohesion’ in the makeup of the constituencies.

Members of the public with questions and queries are asked to contact Chairman Mr. Danley Philip at 4648565 or Secretary Ms. Nicole Edwards at 4645286.

“We look forward to your valuable participation and thank you for your continued commitment to democratic governance in Antigua and Barbuda,” the Commission stated.




“Feel the Magic of Christmas Only on Pointe FM 99.1”
Pointe FM “Season of Sound” Advertising Package
Campaign Name: “Season of Sound”

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Total Mentions: 66 Investment.

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Feature Details
Spot Count 66 total spots over 6 weeks (11 per week)
Spot Length 15 sec
Air Time Between 8 AM and 10 PM (prime listening hours)
Rotation Evenly distributed across weekdays and weekends
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Barbuda Honours Trailblazing Preschool Educator Mrs. Bernice Lewis

In a heartfelt celebration of dedication, service, and love for early childhood education, Mrs. Bernice Lewis of Barbuda was recently honoured for her extraordinary contribution as the island's first preschool teacher.

Mrs. Lewis began her pioneering journey in 1978, becoming a cornerstone in the development of early childhood education in Barbuda. She served with distinction until her retirement in 2000. Now at 80 years old, she remains the only retired preschool teacher still living on the island, a testament to her resilience and the profound impact she has had on generations of Barbudans.

The ceremony was filled with emotion as Mrs. Lewis received special recognition from Minister of Foreign Affairs and Barbuda Affairs, E.P. Chet Greene and Bonnietha John a true daughter of the soil and also one of the ABLP caretakers who also works for the Barbuda Affairs ministry and who is based in Codrington.

John, who also has much love for the people of Barbuda as they have distinguished themselves as hard working, is committed to honour those who have made outstanding contributions to developments in the sister island.

It was with this in mind that she saw it fit to recognize those individuals such as Mrs Lewis whose life-work has been exemplary.

Both Minister Greene and John presented Mrs Lewis with a token of appreciation on behalf of the ministry, expressing deep gratitude for her unwavering commitment to shaping young minds and nurturing the foundation of Barbuda's future leaders.

Witnesses described the moment as deeply touching, with Mrs. Lewis moved to tears by the unexpected honour and ministerial presence. Her joy, humility, and enduring spirit resonated throughout the gathering, reminding all in attendance of the immeasurable



value of educators who dedicate their lives to service.

Community members, former students, and well-wishers praised Mrs. Lewis not only as a teacher but as a mother figure, mentor, and pillar of strength who supported families and uplifted her community for decades.

This recognition stands as a powerful reminder that educators like Mrs. Bernice Lewis are national treasures; keepers of wisdom, compassion, and legacy.

Submitted by: Bonnietha John, Barbuda



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Antigua Barbuda
**FESTIVALS
COMMISSION**

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2026**
NIGHT ONE

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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

**THE DEPARTMENT OF CREATIVE INDUSTRIES REMINDS EVERYONE THAT THE
CHRISTMAS HOME AND BUSINESS LIGHTING COMPETITION 2025 REGISTRATION IS
STILL ONGOING.**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Monday, 17th November 2025 – *St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda.....*
The Department of Creative Industries is reminding the public that registration for the Christmas Home and Business Lighting Competition 2025 is still ongoing.

The competition aims to evoke the spirit of the season through the creative, dazzling lighting displays of our 2025 competitors. The Department encourages all interested Home and Business owners to register for the competition by Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

Registration Forms are available Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Department of Creative Industries Headquarters on Old Parham Road, upstairs in INET, or at the National Festivals Office, 1st Floor, Cecil George-John Building, Redcliffe Street and Corn Alley.

Pre-judging will commence on December 20th and 21st, 2025, while the final displays will be judged on December 28, 2025. Winners will be announced via Good Morning Antigua, Barbuda on Friday, January 5th, 2026.

Home entries will be categorized and judged according to the zones – East, West, North, and South. All Home participants will receive a 100% waiver on electricity service from December 15th, 2025, to January 15th, 2026, Duty-Free concessions on Christmas Lights and/or Decorations, and a Cash component for the top three winners in each zone, as outlined below.

- **First Place - \$ 3,000.00 XCD**
- **Second Place - \$ 2,000.00 XCD**
- **Third Place - \$ 1,000.00 XCD**

Business entries will receive a 50% waiver on electricity service for December 2025, DutyFree concessions on Christmas Lights and or Decorations and a Cash component for the top three winners as outlined below.

- **First Place - \$ 3,000.00 XCD**
- **Second Place - \$ 2,000.00 XCD**
- **Third Place - \$ 1,000.00 XCD**

Register now to be a part of the joy and splendor of Christmas 2025.

END.

Local News

London and Level Up Team Partner with R. Mims World Group to deliver essential care items to Bendal Primary School

In a demonstration of community support and compassion, Terri London and the Level Up Team, in partnership with Ralph Mims of the R. Mims World Group, fulfilled a promise to the Bendal Primary School by donating a variety of essential care items to students.

This marks the first donation of its kind to the school—one specifically designed to support children who may face unexpected personal emergencies during the school day. The donation included sanitary napkins, lotions, deodorant, and dental floss, all of which will remain at the school for students who need them.

Terri London spearheaded this initiative with the goal of ensuring that no child has to leave school early, miss classes, or feel embarrassed due to a lack of basic hygiene supplies. “Students should always feel comfortable and confident in the learning environment,” London emphasized. “These items are here to make sure they can stay in school and focus on their education.”

The atmosphere at Bendal Primary



Some of the personal care items donated by London and Level Up team to Bendal Primary School

School was one of gratitude as teachers and administrators welcomed the thoughtful contribution. The donation not only meets immediate needs but also reflects a broader commitment to student welfare across the constituency.

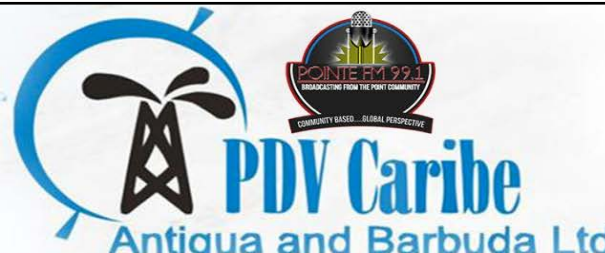
Guided by its motto, “It’s nice to be nice,” the Level Up Team continues to live by its message of kindness and community upliftment. London added, “Our team cares deeply about the wellbeing of every child, and we will continue to do our part to support families and strengthen our schools.”



A female student accepts donation on behalf of the Bendal Primary School from Terri London and the Level Up Team

This collaboration between the Level Up Team and the R. Mims World Group underscores the power of partnership in building stronger, more supportive communities.





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(Births, Deaths, Marriages, Adoptions, Deeds, Bills of Sale, etc.)

NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Dated: 25th November 2025

CLOSURE OF OFFICE

Please be advised that the Antigua and Barbuda Civil Registry will be closed on **Thursday the 27th of November, 2025, at 12 noon to the public.**

This is to facilitate our Harvest Thanksgiving Lunch which is one of the events being held in recognition of our **5th Anniversary**. This fundraising event is also in aid of our annual charity projects.

We are celebrating under the theme -

"5 Years of Purpose, Perseverance, and Progress"

For any further information please contact us at **Tel: 562 9687/88.**

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lamir R", is written over a horizontal line.

Registrar

Regional News

Dominica Police Force honors 37 officers, wrapping Police Week 2025



The Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force (CDPF) has recognized 37 outstanding police officers during a ceremony held at the State House Conference Center on Sunday night.

The ceremony marked the end of Police Week 2025 under the theme: “Serving with Pride Protecting with Purpose.”

Finance Minister Dr. Irving McIntyre, who represented Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit, said policing in any democracy is a noble but demanding duty.

“It requires vigilance, professionalism, fairness and restraint,” he said. “It requires physical courage, moral character. It requires the ability to re-

main calm under pressure, compassionate in crisis and consistent in upholding the rule of law no matter the circumstances.”

He continued, “This is why tonight’s ceremony is so important. We honour those among you who have gone above and beyond. Those who did more than what was required who demonstrated exemplary teamwork, problem solving, leadership and public engagement. Those who, through their conduct and their commitment, have brought pride that you wear.”

To the awardees, Dr. McIntyre offered his heartfelt congratulations

“But I also want to say this, the awards you receive tonight are not only

for individual excellence, they are also symbols of responsibility. They serve as reminders that others look to you as examples,” he noted.

Furthermore, he told police officers that leadership in policing is not only about ranks, but about conduct, character and consistency in the execution of their duties.

Some of the awardees include:

-A.G Sergeant Garvin James for Investigator of the Year

– Sergeant Norman Alexander for Prosecutor of the Year (Out District)

-A.G Corporal Euley Baptiste for Outstanding Officer of the Year (Administration)

-Constable Emran Joseph for Outstanding Officer of the Year (Special Branch)

-A.G Sergeant Sherwin Mitchel for Corporal of the Year

-Sergeant Eddie Bellot for Outstanding Leadership (Traffic Department)

-A.G Sergeant Kemmany Peters for Outstanding Officer of the Year (St Joseph District)

-A.G Corporal Daniel Ormond for Outstanding Officer of the Year (Grandbay District)

-Constable Brendel Sanford for Outstanding Officer of the Year (Marigot District)

-Corporal Dion Moses for Outstanding Officer of the Year (Community Policing)

-A.G Sergeant Miguel Pascal for Outstanding Officer of the Year (Criminal Investigation Department)

-Constable Zachariah Roberts for Outstanding Officer of the Year (Special Service Unit)

-SPL. Constable Albert Cuffy for Special Constable of the Year

-A.G Corporal Derickson Fountaine for Special Constable of the Year (Dominica News Online)

Jimmy Cliff's songs of hope and humanity leave lasting impact, leaders say

Jimmy Cliff, the legendary Jamaican singer who, alongside Bob Marley, helped bring reggae, ska, and rocksteady to the world, has died from a seizure and pneumonia on Monday at 81.

His wife, Latifa, announced on social media that he passed following a seizure caused by pneumonia, ending a 60-year career that elevated Jamaican music globally.

Born James Chambers on July 30, 1944, during a hurricane in St James, he moved to Kingston at age six. His father predicted musical success for the family – a prophecy that proved true. Known for hits like *You Can Get It If You Really Want It* and *Many Rivers to Cross*, as well as covers of Johnny Nash's *I Can See Clearly Now* and Cat Stevens' *Wild World*, Jimmy Cliff infused his music with humanitarian and socially conscious messages.

Latifa shared: "Jimmy, my darling, may you rest in peace."

Prime Minister Dr Andrew Holness saluted the icon on his passing.

"Today, Jamaica pauses to honour the life of the Honourable Jimmy Cliff, OM, a true cultural giant whose



music carried the heart of our nation to the world," he said. "Through timeless songs, ... Jimmy Cliff told our story with honesty and soul. His music lifted people through hard times, inspired generations, and helped to shape the global respect that Jamaican culture enjoys today."

Jimmy Cliff rose to national fame at 14 with the song *Hurricane Hattie* and recorded more than 30 albums.

In 1965, Island Records' Chris Blackwell invited him to the United Kingdom, where he stayed until 1969.

His post-return album, *Jimmy Cliff*, featured classics like *Wonderful World*, *Beautiful People*,

Many Rivers to Cross, and *Vietnam*. The album cover caught the attention of director Perry Henzell, leading Jimmy Cliff to star in *The Harder They Come*, which introduced reggae to international audiences. The film portrayed some of the grittier aspects of Jamaican life, and redefined the island's cultural identity beyond tourism.

Opposition Leader Mark Golding also paid tribute, noting that Jimmy Cliff "occupied a special space in Jamaican popular music and culture", describing his sound as incomparable, his identity unmistakably his own, and his 60-year career as "remarkable".

He highlighted Cliff's global reach, particular-

ly in South America, and recalled his iconic 1997 performance during Jamaica's FIFA World Cup Qualifying campaign.

Jimmy Cliff collaborated with artistes including the Rolling Stones, Elvis Costello, Annie Lennox, and Paul Simon. He won Grammy Awards for *Cliff Hanger* (1984) and *Rebirth* (2012), and received Jamaica's Order of Merit for his contributions to music and culture.

Culture Minister Olivia Grange described him as a "global ambassador for Jamaican music" and "a pioneer whose work shaped ska, rocksteady, reggae, and soul"

Former Prime Minister P.J. Patterson, a close friend, called him "an iconic pioneer" whose creative genius ensures his immortality.

Even as he faced declining eyesight, Jimmy Cliff expressed his enduring passion: "I'm still hungry. I want it. I've still got the burning fire that burns brightly inside of me ... I still have many rivers to cross!"

Jimmy Cliff had two children – daughter Lilty and son Aken. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Regional News

Entertainer Squash sentenced to two years and three months in US prison

Dancehall artiste Andrae ‘Squash’ Whittaker was today sentenced to two years and three months’ imprisonment after pleading guilty in federal court in Miami to possessing a firearm while living in the United States illegally.

Whittaker, who is from Salt Spring in Montego Bay, was arrested earlier this year during a police stop in Miami, Florida, where officers recovered a firearm from the vehicle in which he was travelling.

The police say the firearm was modified with a switch Jamaicans refer to as a “chip glock”.

Squash was later transferred to US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)



and later entered a plea agreement admitting to the firearm offence as an undoc-

umented immigrant.

His legal team has staunchly rejected the leader of an

organised criminal gang tag which came up during the judicial process

The sentencing brings an end to months of legal proceedings that have followed the entertainer since his February arrest.

Squash, known for hits such as Big Breeze and Shub Out, migrated from Jamaica several years ago but had been living in the US without proper documentation.

Following today’s ruling, Whittaker will begin serving his sentence in federal custody and is expected to face immigration action after completing his time.

His father, also present in the US, is reportedly in the custody of ICE. (Jamaica Gleaner)



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Malaysia to ban social media for children under 16 next year

Malaysia plans to ban social media accounts for people under 16 starting in 2026, joining Australia and a growing number of countries pushing tighter digital age limits for children.

Communications Minister Fahmi Fadzil said Sunday the Cabinet approved the move as part of a broader effort to shield young people from online harm like cyberbullying, scams and sexual exploitation.

He said the government is studying approaches taken by Australia and other countries, and the potential use of electronic checks with identity cards or passports to verify users' ages. He did not say when exactly the ban will be enforced.

"I believe that if the government, regulatory bodies, and parents all play their roles, we can ensure that the Internet in Malaysia is not only fast, widespread and affordable but most importantly, safe, especially for children and families," he said.

Since January, major social media and messaging platforms with at least 8 million users in Malaysia are required to obtain a licence as part of a broader tightening of state oversight over digital platforms.

Licensed platforms must implement age verification, content-safety mea-



sures and transparency rules, reflecting the government's push for a safer digital space.

Australia's parliament enacted the world's first ban on social media for children that will begin December 10, setting the minimum age at 16.

Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X and YouTube as well as message board Reddit and livestreaming service Kick face fines of up to 50 million Australian dollars (\$33 million) for systemic failures to prevent children younger than 16 from

holding accounts.

Australia's move is being closely watched by countries that share concerns about social media impacts on young children.

Denmark's government also announced earlier this month plans to ban access to social media for anyone under 15, though details on how the measures would be enforced remain unclear. Norway is also moving forward with a proposed law that would set a minimum age limit of 15 for accessing social media platforms. (AP)



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BBC leaders grilled by lawmakers over its standards after Trump threatened to sue



The BBC's chairman acknowledged Monday that it was too slow in responding over a misleading edit of a speech by US President Donald Trump but rejected claims that the broadcaster's impartiality was being undermined from within its own board.

Senior BBC leaders were quizzed by Parliament's Culture, Media and Sport Committee amid a major crisis at the publicly funded corporation after its director general and head of news both quit earlier this month and Trump threatened to file a billion-dollar lawsuit.

The BBC drew Trump's ire — and deep public scrutiny — after an internal memo compiled by one of its former external advisers was leaked to the British media. The memo criticized cases of alleged biased reporting over a documentary on Trump that was aired days before the 2024 US presidential election, as well as other BBC coverage including its stance on transgender issues, Gaza and race.

Chairman Samir Shah said the broadcaster should have acted much quicker in addressing the allegations.

The third-party production company that made the documentary — titled "Trump: A Second Chance?" — spliced together three quotes from a speech Trump gave on January 6, 2021, into what appeared to be one quote in which Trump urged supporters to march with him and "fight like hell."

The editing made it look like Trump was directly encouraging his supporters to storm the U.S. Capitol as Congress was poised to certify President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the 2020 election. Shah has acknowledged that the documentary gave "the impression of a direct call for violent action."

"I think there's an issue about how quickly we respond ... why do we take so much time?" he told lawmakers Monday. "We should have pursued it to the end and got to the bottom of it, and not wait, as we did, till it became public discourse."

The BBC said last week that Shah sent a letter to the White House saying that he and the corporation were sorry for the edit of the speech. But the broadcaster said it had not defamed Trump and rejected the basis for his lawsuit threat.

On Monday, Shah also defended board member Robbie Gibb, a nonexecutive

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director of the BBC's board who has been the subject of wide scrutiny because he was the director of communications for former Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservative government.

Critics have accused Gibb of pro-Conservative Party bias and political interference at the BBC.

"I think I've become weaponised in terms of how I'm perceived," Gibb said.

He rejected claims that a coup from within the BBC board forced the resignations of senior news leaders as "complete nonsense."

Last week Shumeet Banerji, a BBC board member, also said he was stepping down over "governance issues," sparking further questions about the corporation's leadership.

Asked whether his own position was in doubt, Shah said his priority was to "steer the ship" and find a new director general.

Earlier, lawmakers at the parliamentary session focused on questions about editorial standards raised by Michael Prescott, a former journalist and external editorial standards adviser to the BBC.

Prescott was the author of an internal note to BBC bosses that raised concerns about the editing of the Trump speech as well as other instances perceived as showing a left-leaning bias at the broadcaster. Among other things, it alleged that the broadcaster's reporters promoted a pro-trans agenda and warned about an anti-Israel bias in the BBC's Arabic service.

The Daily Telegraph newspaper published that note in early November, sparking the latest crisis.

In October, Britain's media regulator sanctioned the BBC for a "materially misleading" documentary on the lives of children in Gaza because it failed to disclose that the father of the teen narrator held a position in the Hamas administration. The regulator said the program potentially eroded trust in the broadcaster.

Prescott said he believed the BBC had "systemic" issues with tackling problems raised and described the corporation as defensive and dismissive of concerns raised about its reporting.

He said ex-BBC director general Tim Davie and other managers "had this blind spot on editorial failings." But he told the lawmakers he didn't think there was "institutional bias" at the broadcaster.

The 103-year-old BBC faces much greater scrutiny than other broadcasters and commercial rivals because of its status as a national institution

funded through an annual license fee of 174.50 pounds (\$230) paid by all households who watch live TV or any BBC content. The broadcaster is bound by the terms of its charter to be impartial.

Legal experts have stated that Trump would likely face challenges in taking a case against the BBC's documentary to court in the UK or the US. They argue that the BBC could demonstrate that Trump wasn't harmed, as he was ultimately elected president in 2024.

(AP)



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Thai woman's cremation stopped after knocking heard on coffin



A woman who was believed to be dead and about to be cremated at the Wat Rat Prakhong Tham Buddhist temple in the outskirts of Bangkok, Thailand, has been found alive by staff.

The temple's general manager Pairat Soodthoop was "startled" to hear a faint knock from the coffin, he told the Associated Press news agency.

Mr Soodthoop said he asked for the coffin to be opened and saw her "opening her eyes

slightly and knocking on the side of the coffin". "She must have been knocking for quite some time," he added.

The brother of the 65-year-old woman said local officials told him his sister had died. However, the temple's manager said the brother did not have a death certificate.

As Mr Soodthoop tried to explain to the brother how to obtain a death certificate, the temple's staff heard a faint knock coming from inside the

coffin.

Once it became clear the woman was alive, the temple's abbot (head of a Buddhist monastery) said the woman should be taken to hospital immediately.

A doctor later confirmed that the woman had been experiencing severe hypoglycaemia - a condition where blood sugar levels get critically low, local reports said.

The doctor ruled out the possibility that she had suffered respiratory

failure or cardiac arrest, according to the reports.

The younger brother said his sister had been bedridden for the last two years and as her health deteriorated she appeared to have stopped breathing on Saturday, according to the temple's manager.

The family had travelled from the province of Phitsanulok in Thailand for the cremation ceremony, making a nearly 500km (311 mile) journey. (BBC)

PMS drop points but continue to lead Under-16 Boys League

Defending champions Princess Margaret School (PMS) once again dropped points on Monday but continues to lead the Under-16 Boys Division in the Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, and Joma Caribbean Patrick C. Whyte Cup Secondary Schools' Football Competition.

Princess Margaret School, who are aiming to claim their third consecutive title, were held to a goalless draw by the Sir Novelle Richards Academy (SNRA).

The result allows Princess Margaret School to remain at the top of the standings with 22 points from nine matches. The Sir Novelle Richards Academy remains in fourth place with 16 points after recording their first draw in seven matches.

The Ottos Comprehensive School extended their unbeaten run by recording their seventh win in eight matches

with a 4-0 victory against All Saints Secondary School to join Princess Margaret School in first place with 22 points.

Ihkwan Henry had a double conversion with strikes in the third and 23rd minutes, and Robert Jeffrey also scored twice with goals in the 10th and 14th minutes for Ottos Comprehensive School.

All Saints Secondary School remains on nine points after suffering their fifth loss in eight matches.

The Antigua Grammar School remains in third place by advancing to 20 points by recording their sixth win in nine matches with a 2-0 victory against the Jennings Secondary School.

Kyonte Lewis had a 32nd-minute conversion, and Jayden Adams scored the other goal in the 43rd minute as Jennings Secondary School remains

on six points after suffering their fifth defeat in seven matches.

In other results, Irene B. Williams claimed their third win in seven matches via default against Pares Secondary, which failed to show up for their encounter.

The result allows Irene B. Williams Secondary to advance to nine points, while Pares Secondary remains on one point after suffering their fourth loss in five games.

St. Joseph's Academy claimed their fifth win in eight matches via default against St. Mary's Secondary School, which failed to show up for their encounter.

The result allows St. Joseph's Academy to advance to 15 points, while St. Mary's Secondary School remains on one point after losing for the sixth time in seven matches.



Sports News

TG Welding suffers rare loss in Mandy Premier League



Players of game Kimberly Anthony, left, and Melvin Charles of Buck and Sons Landscaping Services in their match against PEL Workers. (Photo the courtesy of the MPL)

TG Welding suffered a rare loss during the latest round of matches in the Mandy Premier League (MPL), Cool and Smooth, and Sherma Jackson Business Softball Cricket League at the Factory Grounds.

After winning all three previous matches in this year's competition, TG Welding was beaten for the first time in two years in a nine-run

defeat to the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force (ABDF) in the 10-over competition.

The Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force claimed their second win in three matches by making 71 all out in their 10 overs. Male player of the game Tron Payne hit 24, and Edwin Jackson made 11.

Dorian Grant snapped up

three wickets for five runs, Tyree Moore claimed two for 14, and Richie Thomas picked up one wicket for seven runs.

In reply, TG Welding were restricted to 62 for nine off their 10 overs. Richie Thomas struck 27. Julio Charles grabbed four wickets for 12 runs, Tron Payne took two wickets for four runs, and Ronell Jeffery claimed two wickets for six runs.

Buck and Sons Landscaping Services secured wins over Construction Solutions and PEL Workers to register an overall record of three wins and one defeat in four matches.

Buck and Sons Landscaping Services defeated Construction Solutions by nine wickets. Construction Solutions, who lost for the second time in three matches, were dismissed for 73 off their 10 overs.

Veston Lewis made 21. Male player of the game Charanlall Ramjohn bagged three wickets for seven runs, Andra Samuel captured two for 27, and Rodney Williams picked up one wicket

for four runs.

Buck and Sons Landscaping Services achieved victory by scoring 74 for one in seven overs. Denley Thomas hit 29, Charanlall Ramjohn scored 27, and Kadeem Henry made 13.

Buck and Sons Landscaping Services beat PEL Workers by 61 runs. Buck and Sons Landscaping, who were awarded 18 penalty runs due to the absence of a female player in the PEL Workers team, made 99 for six off their 10 overs.

Male player of the game Melvin Charles hit 34, and Charanlall Ramjohn scored 18. Alfred Jarvis grabbed four wickets for eight runs, Mark Wright claimed one for 13, and Karl Simon took one for 24.

In reply, PEL Workers were dismissed for 38 in 9.2 overs. Female player of the game Kimberly Anthony snapped up four wickets for three runs, Steve Martin claimed two wickets for three runs, and Melvin Charles captured one wicket for two runs.



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Lawes spins young Windies to 3-1 series lead over England

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada – A devastating spell of calculated spin bowling from Vitel Lawes helped to propel the West Indies Under-19s to a comprehensive 98-run victory over their English counterparts in the fourth Youth One-Day International (ODI) at the National Cricket Stadium on Monday, securing a commanding 3-1 lead in the seven-match series.

Set a challenging target of 281 for victory, England's batting lineup had no answer for the disciplined West Indies attack, crumbling to 182 all out in just 38.5 overs.

After inserting the host, England might have thought that they would have had an easy time, as they did in the third game against the visitors. But the young Windies side decided that they were going to apply themselves a lot better with the bat, which they did.

The opening pair of Tanez Francis of Antigua and Zachary Francis helped themselves to a half-century stand before Carter went to left-arm pacer James Minto for 34.

Despite Earsinho Fontaine scoring only three, the Windies kept up the scoring and pushed the score to 111 in the 24th over, before Francis fell to the spin of captain Farhan Ahmed for a well-played 51, which included five fours.

With Brendan Boodoo not contributing much with the bat at 121 for four, it was the over to captain Joshua Dorne and Jonathan van Lange to steer the ship. The pair shared in a remarkable 120-run fifth-wicket partnership, which spruced up the host score with three overs still left in the innings.

Dorne eventually fell for 80, after facing 108 balls and hitting six fours



Vitel Lawes

and a six, while van Lange ensured the momentum continued through the closing overs with 80 runs of his own, with four fours and four sixes.

The English bowlers toiled in the Grenadian heat as Luke Hands picked up three for 63, with Farhan Ahmed taking two for 37.

In reply, England's innings never truly found its footing. Apart from a resolute 78 from Ben Dawkins and a supporting 32 from Caleb Falconer, the batting card made for sorry reading, thanks to an opening burst from Shaquan Belle and the spin and guile

of Lawes later on.

Wickets fell at regular intervals, with the destroyer-in-chief being Lawes, whose mystery chinaman deliveries reaped a four-wicket haul for just 35 runs, ripping the heart out of England's middle order.

He was brilliantly supported by Belle, who claimed three for 34, as the two bowlers combined to ensure there would be no late drama.

With a 3-1 series lead, they now have two opportunities to clinch the series outright, with the fifth ODI set for the same venue on Wednesday.

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Former Lakers star Rick Fox enters Bahamian politics



Rick Fox

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Three-time NBA champion Rick Fox on Monday said he will run for a seat in the Bahamas' House of Assembly in an election due to be held no later than October.

"As a candidate and as a leader for the Bahamas I will demand transparency, honesty, integrity while demanding a level of excellence from all of us," Fox wrote on social media.

"This is bigger than party politics. This is the Bahamas versus the world. Imagine a nation where every Bahamian feels secure, safe, empowered, and proud."

Fox, who was born in Canada to a Bahamian father and Canadian mother, played 14 seasons in the National Basketball Association as a forward for the Los Angeles Lakers and the Boston Celtics.

Under the Bahamas' parlia-

mentary system, Fox will run to represent one of 39 constituencies but he did not specify which one.

Prime Minister Philip Davis will decide the date of the election, which must occur within five years of the last election in 2021.

Fox was not immediately available for comment on Tuesday. He won three NBA titles with the

Lakers from 2000 to 2002 and retired in 2004.

While in the NBA, he launched an acting career and has since starred in films and television shows like "Ugly Betty," "Greenleaf" and "One Tree Hill."

Fox has continued to live in the Los Angeles area but has a home in the Bahamas, where he was appointed ambassador at large for sports in 2022.

NOTICE

TO: Commissioner of Police
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TO: HIS WORSHIP, The Licensing Magistrate
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Notice: Application for Tavern License

I Adam N. Alexander Jr. With registered business situated at River Road Antigua and Barbuda DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the liquor licensing court to be held at the Magistrate's Court High street John's Antigua on Monday 5th January, 2025, For a Tavern License. This application is made pursuant to section (11) (3) of the Licensing (Intoxication Liquor) Act Cap, 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition, in respect of premises known as "River Run Restaurant Bar & Lounge." situated River Road in the parish of Cordrington Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 20th day of November. 2025

Adam Alexander
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ABFA names squad for 2026 CONCACAF Women's Championship



Players of the Antigua and Barbuda senior women's national football team.

The Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) has announced the national senior team (Benna Girls) squad for their opening match in the 2026 CONCACAF Women's Championship, which will also serve as the Confederation's qualifier for the 2027 FIFA Women's World Cup in Brazil.

The 22-member Antigua and Barbuda national senior team will launch their campaign in the qualifying round of the 2026 CONCACAF Women's Championship at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Thursday when they will face Nicaragua at home in their first qualifier in Group B at 4 pm.

The senior Benna Girls squad includes goalkeepers Anik Jarvis and Amyah Hodge, along with forwards Gabrielle De Suza, Nafisa Quashie, Kai Jacobs, and Keitonya Skepple.

Also included are midfielders Zolique Samuel, Shakea Ogarro, Kanika Buckley, Virginia Simon, Kevoncia James, Iresseia Allen, and Ozora Roberts.

Completing the squad are defenders Brianna Roberts, Denovia Jarvis, Jessica Powell, Risha Simon, Abisha Henry, Nia Coates, Karmellia Hughes, Carlene Thomas, and Kayla Melvin.

The Antigua and Barbuda women's team is competing

in five-team Group B alongside Jamaica, Guyana, Nicaragua, and Dominica.

Antigua and Barbuda are among 29 CONCACAF member associations—excluding the region's two highest-ranked nations (USA and Canada)—that will be competing in six groups in the preliminary stage of the competition, which will be played during the FIFA Women's International Match Windows in November 2025 and February and April 2026.

Antigua and Barbuda will play Guyana at home in their second qualifier at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on March 5, 2026.

The Antiguanians will travel to Kingston to face Jamaica's Reggae Girls on April 10, 2026, and will tackle Dominica on April 14, 2026.

The group winners will qualify for the CONCACAF Women's Championship, which will be played in November 2026, and serve as the Confederation's qualifier for the 2027 FIFA Women's World Cup in Brazil and the 2028 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles, California.

The ABFA also announced that the national senior women's team will also travel to the Turks and Caicos Islands for a series of friendly matches next month.