

High Court Clears Way for Baltimore Swearing-In

Story on page 2



High Court Denies Injunction by Wehner Against Baltimore

Randy Baltimore will be sworn in this morning as the newest member of the House of Representatives after the High Court of Justice denied an injunction filed by George Wehner of the United Progressive Party.

Through his attorney Sherfield Bowen, Whener, the UPP's caretaker for the Saint Peter constituency, petitioned the High Court to void Baltimore's entry into parliament on the basis that he failed to properly tender his resignation as Principal Customs Officer.

Part of their grounds for seeking the application was that "No valid or effective resignation was completed in accordance with the established procedures governing the public service".

Further, that Randy Baltimore "Failed to resign as a civil servant and public officer in accordance with the required procedure which involves submitting a letter of resignation to the permanent secretary for the Ministry in which the civil servant works, who in turn notifies the Chief Establishment Officer, who then submits the request to the Public Service Commission, which is the governing board for civil servants".

The matter was heard yesterday before Mr. Justice Rene Williams.

While the reasons for the judge's ruling were not immediately available,



Randy Baltimore

Whener's injunction application was denied, clearing the way for Randy Baltimore to take his place in the parliamentary chamber.

In a statement, the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party welcomed the court's decision, with lead attorney and ABLP Vice-Chairman Samantha Marshall, stating that the substantive petition will be determined at a later date to be set by the Court.

"I think unfortunately the petitioner's attorney approached it in a manner that they wanted the court to make a final determination of the matter without re-

ally examining the evidence that was there in full, and I don't think that the Court will be able to do so. The Court would therefore have to go into the substantive matter of the petition in order to be able to make that determination," attorney Marshall explained.

"So, if the Court were to grant the injunction, in essence, the Court would have probably determined the matter in full on the petition without having heard actual evidence, and without the evidence being able to have been tested by either side, and I think that the court did the correct thing."

Mr. Baltimore's lead attorney expressed happiness that the High Court looked at the weight of the application and determined that until the matter is finally determined the people of St Philip's North must certainly have a voice in the Parliament.

"The ABLP maintains that the people of St. Philip's North spoke clearly and confidently, and this latest development allows their chosen representative to continue focusing on delivering meaningful representation and development for the constituency," the statement outlined.

The ABLP restated its position of maintaining "democratic processes and respecting the rule of law, while ensuring that the mandate given by the electorate is honored".



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Government Agrees to Subsidize Air Travel Between Antigua and Barbuda

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has announced plans to introduce a subsidy aimed at reducing the high cost of air travel between Antigua and the sister isle Barbuda.

The announcement paves the way for relief to residents who rely heavily on air services daily between the two islands.

Barbudans have long lamented the high costs associated with movement to and from the mainland via air, which negatively impact their access to essential services.

The issue was brought into sharp focus following a presentation by newly appointed Barbuda caretaker for the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party, Kendra Beazer, during the weekly meeting of the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda on Wednesday.

In response, Cabinet agreed that decisive action is necessary and committed to approving a subsidy that will directly cushion airfare expenses. The initiative is intended not only to ease the financial strain on travelers but also to improve mobility and stimulate economic activity between the islands.

Speaking at the Post-Cabinet Press Briefing on Thursday, Director General of Communications Maurice Merchant said the government is moving carefully but deliberately on the issue.

“I don’t want to pre-empt the discussion on this issue, and so Mr. Beazer will come with a full detailed proposal,” Merchant stated. “There were



Kendra Beazer

some concerns that were obviously discussed at Cabinet, and also some suggestions were brought forward.”

Merchant told reporters that airfare pricing is influenced by multiple factors, noting, “It could be problems with the aircraft, it could be staffing, it could be the price of fuel, and so forth. All these affect the cost of travelling between Antigua and Barbuda.”

He stressed that such intervention is not unusual, adding, “Providing subsidy for air travel is nothing new to the industry. Governments do that from time to time to cushion the cost for its travelers, and also to encourage increased travel.”

According to Merchant, lower fares are likely to drive demand. “If you

know that you are getting reduced fares for travel, you are more persuaded to travel on most occasions,” he said, drawing comparisons to international travel patterns where passengers take advantage of discounted periods.

The Government also views the measure as part of its broader development strategy for Barbuda. Merchant pointed to the island’s recent growth, stating, “Barbuda has been growing by leaps and bounds under the Gaston Browne administration,” citing increased activity from private jets and yachts during the recent winter season.

The quantum of the subsidy will be decided following Kendra Beazer’s presentation to the Cabinet next Wednesday.

The Government has reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring equitable access to transportation for all citizens, particularly those in Barbuda, where affordable and reliable travel is essential. The proposed subsidy is expected to play a critical role in easing current challenges while supporting the continued growth and integration of the twin-island state.

Currently, travel to and from Barbuda by air is available mainly through SVG Air, and can cost more than E.C \$ 500 return. Travelers also have the option of utilizing the Barbuda Express’s ferry service.

No discussions were held on extending the subsidy to include travel between the islands via sea.




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Double Murder Rocks Villa Community

The Villa community has been left reeling after two of its young residents were gunned down on Hans Street, Villa around mid-morning on Thursday.

The victims have been identified as 18-year-old Breanna Clarke and 19-year-old Omari Lewis.

Police have launched an investigation into the circumstances surrounding their deaths.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that the duo, said to have been romantically involved, may have met their demise as a result of a drive-by shooting, during which they were fatally injured in the head and neck regions of their bodies on Hans Street. Clarke and Lewis were pronounced dead at the scene by a doctor shortly before noon.



Breanna Clarke



Omari Lewis

Their deaths have sent shockwaves through the closely knit community, and their family members and rela-

PAPERCLIPS GIVES BACK



In a short presentation held at their new clinic, Rachel Wood, President and Co-Founder of Antigua Spay and Neuter Clinic, thanked Paperclips Ltd, for the Company's ongoing commitment to their spay/neuter program.

“ Paperclips has partnered with us since last year, and pay the fees to have 5 animals neutered each month”, Rachel indicated, “and this monthly contribution has now grown to 100 surgeries.” “By supporting this important cause”, she added, “Paperclips is helping to reduce pet overpopulation and improve the quality of life for countless animals. It is inspiring to see a company take such meaningful steps toward making a positive impact.”

Wood went on to say that, “Whilst most people think we are only helping animals, we are actually helping the community manage and care for their animals better with this important free surgery. We hope to find more company's willing to do a similar monthly contribution so we can really attack this ongoing problem. Another 10 or 20 company's would be amazing!”

General Manager of Paperclips, Mark Layne indicated that Paperclips was pleased to be partnering with ASNC and the important work they do, and echoed the call for other institutions to contribute to the cause.



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mothers of these two deceased youth on the scene, and I think it is time for the Villa community to unite together, and to assist the police in solving this gruesome, cruel and barbaric act,” ASP Thomas said.

Omari Lewis is reportedly the younger of two children for his mother Shireen Jerrick. She was at work at the nearby Dr. Rosa Lee Academy of Excellence, when the incident occurred.

Meantime, Breanna Clarke’s grandmother, Blondelle Gunthropes-Hopkins, was inconsolable yesterday at the crime scene. She described the 18-year-old as someone with a quiet personality who stayed clear of confrontations, adding that Breanna spent five years at Princess Margaret School and it was only on her departure from the public institution of learning that the principal knew who she was.

Blondelle Hopkins is calling for justice and for those responsible to face the full force of the law.

tives demanding justice.

Police spokesman, Assistant Superintendent of Police Frankie Thomas, has appealed to members of the public who may have information about the crime to contact the police and aid in the investigation.

He assured that all information received will be treated with the strictest of confidence.

“We need to bring closure to this particular incident. There are families out there, you would have seen the

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PM Browne Urges Public Cooperation Following Double Murder in City West



Prime Minister and City West MP Gaston Brown

Prime Minister and City West MP Gaston Browne has issued an appeal for public cooperation with law enforcement following a double murder in his constituency on Thursday morning that claimed the lives of 18-year-old Breanna Clarke and 19-year-old Omari Lewis.

Speaking in the aftermath of the tragic incident, Browne extended condolences to the grieving families while pledging his support. “I want to take this opportunity to extend condolences to the family members, all of whom I know, and to let them know that during this very difficult time that as a representative I’m standing with them,” he said.

The Prime Minister used the moment to call for greater national action against illegal firearms, particularly among young people. “I also want to make a greater national appeal for individuals to help law enforcement with information on individuals who have these firearms, especially our youth who are in possession of firearms,” Browne urged. “We need that information so that we can make proactive interventions to rid them of these guns and ammunition.”

He revealed that authorities are in-

creasingly concerned about the types of weapons in circulation. “What I understand too is that they’re having larger guns, they’re having more ammunition,” he noted.

The City West MP outlined several measures already being implemented to combat the influx of illegal weapons, including enhanced border security. “We’re doing all we can to curb the amount of ammunition and guns coming into the country legally. One of the most recent decisions we have taken is that we’re using sniffer dogs and doing more spot checks, even at the courier services,” he explained.

Mr. Browne also pointed to the role of unresolved conflicts in recent acts of violence. “We have had two individuals who were killed within the last, I’d say, 60 days as a result of unresolved conflicts,” he said, adding that the government will intensify public education efforts around conflict resolution.

As part of broader crime-fighting initiatives, he confirmed that surveillance infrastructure is being expanded. “We’ll be installing 200 additional cameras... within a matter of months those cameras will be up as we seek to use them as a deterrent and even to

assist in providing information where crimes have been committed.”

In a wider appeal to the nation, Prime minister Browne stressed that opportunities exist for young people to pursue legitimate paths. “There are sufficient jobs for all Antiguans and Barbudans... we virtually have full employment,” he said. “Crime and violence does not pay. It’s just one or two possible outcomes—either jail or the cemetery.”

He highlighted government investments in education and skills training, including the expansion of programmes at the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education and the establishment of a university campus to help young people “upskill” and access better opportunities.

The head of government also cautioned against associating with individuals involved in criminal activity and spoke directly to young women regarding relationship choices. “I’ll say this to our females as well, to be very careful in terms of who they date... if you know that your person is not productively engaged and is involved in a life of crime and violence, you’re putting yourself at risk,” he said, noting that his comments were general and not specific to the case.

Mr. Browne underscored the importance of a collective national response to crime, adding, “We need an all-of-society approach to identify those criminal elements within our society so that we can contain the level of crime and violence within the country”.

While maintaining that Antigua and Barbuda remains one of the safer countries in the region, the head of government warned against complacency.

“If each of us does not take responsibility... then obviously we’ll spiral out of control. And that is the last thing we want.”

Expert team leads Antigua and Barbuda's participation at High Seas treaty meeting at the United Nations

Antigua and Barbuda is playing a pivotal role in meetings now underway at the United Nations that are seeking to bring into full effect the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty otherwise known as the High Seas Treaty.

Countries have already agreed to the Treaty but now a Preparatory Commission (Prep Com III) is being held to work out the fine details of putting the agreement into action. The agreement once it goes into full effect will ensure that vast areas of the ocean, beyond the reach of any single nation, are protected in a way that supports the survival and livelihoods of small island nations like Antigua and Barbuda.

The Prep Com, taking place from 23 March to 2 April 2026, is being attended by First Secretary at the Antigua and Barbuda Permanent Mission to the United Nations Asha Challenger, who is also a Vice President of the Preparatory Commission. The meeting is bringing signatory parties, civil society, academia, UN partner agencies, and other stakeholders together to discuss the rules and procedures that will guide decision making and the various support systems that will ensure the agreement operates effectively, especially for SIDS.

Challenger is also spearheading Antigua and Barbuda's coordination in collaboration with CARICOM and the Alliance of Small Island States on several key areas. These include financial arrangements, the design of the institutional framework, and fostering relationships with other relevant international bodies and treaties.

Also joining her at the meeting are Legal Officer at the Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Marine Shipping (ADOMS) Darius Joseph and Crown Counsel II at the Office of the Attorney General of Antigua and Barbuda Zachary Phillips.

The presence of the three experts at the United Nations meeting reinforces Antigua and Barbuda's commitment to protecting the oceans, on which many



of its people depend for survival, and to ensure SIDS can have a voice in decisions that affect their future.

Prem Com III is the last preparatory meeting before signatory nations convene for their first Conference of the Parties on the BBNJ Treaty, expected

to take place in January next year at UNHQ in New York. At this meeting, the agreement will become fully operational and states parties will start work towards implementation of the treaty obligations towards sustainable use and conservation of the ocean.



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Tender Issued for ADOMS Building



A call has been issued for qualified local contractors to submit expressions of interest for the construction of a new headquarters for the Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) at Deep Water Harbour in St. John's.

According to the official notice, the project will see the development of a modern two-storey facility at Parcel 181, Lot 62-1492A, designed to support the operations of ADOMS and enhance its administrative and maritime functions.

"The works comprise the ADOMS headquarters building with associated back-of-house facilities, hard landscaping, an adjoining pier, perimeter fencing, and security booth," the notice stated.

The building will have a total gross floor area of 10,120 square feet, with Level One accounting for 5,392 square feet and Level Two comprising 4,728 square feet. Authorities emphasized that "all construction shall strictly conform to the issued project docu-

ments, specifications and applicable standards."

The Government is seeking contractors with proven experience and capacity to deliver projects of similar scope and complexity. Bidders must be properly registered to operate in Antigua and Barbuda and demonstrate expertise across civil, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and general building works.

In outlining the requirements, the notice stated that contractors "must demonstrate proven capacity and experience delivering similar...works to the standards required," and must also submit supporting documentation, including "a recent letter (last financial year) of good standing from their financial institution and the Inland Revenue Department."

The successful bidder will assume full responsibility for securing all necessary permits and approvals related to the project. In addition, contractors will be required to provide specified insurance coverage, including workers' compensation or personal injury,

public liability, and contractor's all-risk insurance for works and materials on site.

Further obligations include engaging and financing any required testing laboratory services and ensuring that all aspects of the project are executed in strict compliance with contractual and regulatory standards.

Interested contractors are required to register their interest and indicate whether they intend to bid independently or as part of a joint venture by April 6, 2026.

The Government has advised that all registrations, confirmations, and enquiries should be directed via email to Project Architect Colin John Jenkins at cjenkins@abregistry.ag.

The planned construction of the ADOMS headquarters forms part of ongoing efforts to strengthen Antigua and Barbuda's maritime infrastructure and administrative capacity, reinforcing its position as a leading international shipping registry.

Police Question Three Suspects in All Saints Murder Investigation

The police are currently questioning three male suspects in connection with the ongoing investigation into a homicide in All Saints.

The suspects, aged 23, 24, and 29, all of All Saints, were arrested and are assisting investigators with inquiries surrounding the death of 29-year-old Jahmarley Pierre of Mack Pond, All Saints.

It is alleged that shortly after 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, the deceased was involved in an altercation with another male in the vicinity of the All Saints traffic lights, during which he sustained a stab wound.

He was transported to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, where he was later pronounced dead.

The investigation remains ongoing.

The police are appealing to anyone



with information regarding this incident to contact the All Saints Police Station at 460-1000, the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913, or call the Crimestoppers anonymous

hotline at 800-TIPS (8477).

The Police Administration extends sincere condolences to the family and loved ones of the deceased during this difficult time.



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Commentary

The Cost of Silence: How the OAS Is Undermining Its Own Relevance



By Sir Ronald Sanders

The Organization of American States is approaching a defining test, not of its existence, but of its significance. It continues to meet, to commemorate events, but fails to tackle pressing political issues.

At a time of global turmoil, economic strain, and mounting pressures on democratic governance, the silence of the organization has been conspicuous. Issues of real consequence to the peoples of the Americas have arisen with urgency. Yet the OAS, as a collective body, has neither addressed them directly nor issued even a modest statement of concern.

Instead, its attention has been directed toward commemorations, some extending over several days. These observances have value, but they stand in stark contrast to the absence of engagement on matters that directly affect the stability, security, and welfare of the hemisphere. The impression conveyed is not one of

deliberation, but of avoidance.

This silence is not accidental. It reflects an increasing reluctance among member states to expose divisions on difficult issues. Differences exist and, in some cases, they are deepening. Rather than confront them through diplomacy, there appears to be a preference to set them aside and proceed as if unity remains intact. It does not. And the effort to preserve the appearance of consensus, while avoiding its substance, diminishes the credibility of the organization.

The OAS was not conceived as a ceremonial body. Its Charter assigns it clear purposes, including the strengthening of peace and security, the promotion and consolidation of representative democracy, and the eradication of extreme poverty. These are obligations, not aspirations.

At the same time, the organization faces increasing financial constraint. Some of its wealthier member states are pressing for a zero-growth budget for the coming year, despite the fact that the current budget has already been reduced, mandates scaled back, and staffing diminished.

In these circumstances, further constraint is not a neutral act. It weakens capacity and signals a diminished level of commitment to the institution itself.

The issue, therefore, is not only what the OAS does, but what its member states are prepared to allow it to become.

For small and vulnerable states, this question carries particular weight. Multilateral institutions provide a

framework in which law, dialogue, and collective action can moderate imbalances of power. If that framework weakens, the consequences are immediate and real.

If the OAS is to remain relevant, several steps are essential.

First, there must be a willingness to engage substantively on the issues that matter, even where agreement is not assured. Silence cannot be a substitute for diplomacy.

Second, the organization must demonstrate measurable impact in the areas where it is mandated to act. Its effectiveness will be judged by outcomes, not process.

Third, the question of resources must be addressed with candour. An organization cannot be expected to respond to expanding challenges while its means are steadily reduced.

Finally, member states must accept that managing disagreement is part of multilateralism. Avoiding it does not preserve unity. It erodes it.

The Organization of American States remains a vital institution, but its relevance cannot be assumed. It must be demonstrated.

The choice before it is clear. It can act with purpose and retain influence, or it can continue along its present course and risk gradual marginalisation.

At this juncture, the hemisphere should expect more than continuity. It should expect engagement.

(The author is Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda to the US and the OAS and Chancellor of the University of Guyana)



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Expression of Interest Submission for

Consulting Services from Firms

using Selection Methods: QCBS, QBS, FBS, LCS and CQS

(FE-S)

Version	Date
Original Publication	June 26, 2023
Revision 1	March 18, 2024

Expression of Interest (EOI) Consulting Firms

[Note to Firm: Insert signed Cover letter in a format of your choosing]

General Information

Project Country	Antigua and Barbuda
Project Number (if applicable)	Not Applicable (N/A)
Project Name	Integrated Solid Waste Management Preparation Project
Specific Assignment Name	Consultancy Services for a Feasibility Study, Detailed Design and Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy for Antigua and Barbuda
EOI Identification Number (if applicable)	N/A

I. Consulting Firm Information

Name of Firm ¹ :	
Country of Registration: ²	Registered Postal Address:
Contact Telephone Number:	E-mail Address:
Name of Authorised Representative EOI Submitted by:	Position of Authorised Representative:

A. Brief Background of Consulting Firm

Present a brief background of the firm and list the services provided by the firm. A company profile/brochure can also be attached but not copied and pasted below. **[500 words]:**

¹ The Name of Firm shall be the full legal name of the firm which would be used under any subsequent contract for this assignment. In case of JVs established or to be established for this assignment, identify the legal name of the Lead consulting firm. A Firm is defined in "Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB" (Procedures), January 2021.

² In case of JVs, specify the country of registration of the Lead consultant. The lead consultancy firm must submit a copy of the Certificate of Registration / Incorporation of itself and of each JV member and SC through section VI. EOI Attachments.

B. Associations (Joint Venture³ partner(s) or Sub-consultancy firm(s) in association with the Lead Firm)

Name of Firm	Country of Registration	Joint Venture (JV) or Sub-consultant (SC)	Name of Authorised Representative EOI Submitted by	Position of Authorised Representative
		Choose an item.		
		Choose an item.		
		Choose an item.		
		Choose an item.		

C. Brief Background of JV partner(s) or SC firm(s)

Present a brief background of each of the JV partner(s) or SC firm(s) and list the services provided by the firm(s) relevant to the assignment by each entity. Include the date of establishment of the JV and major relevant highlights similar to this assignment. A company profile/brochure of each entity⁴ can be attached (Section VI. EOI Attachments.) ***(Maximum 1,000 words for each entity)***

(Note to Firm: Please insert additional text boxes as necessary for each entity)

³ A Joint Venture (JV) is defined in “Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB” (Procedures), January 2021 paragraph 6.22.

⁴ Entity refers to the consulting firm and/or the affiliated parties under the partnership arrangement.

D. Summary of Rationale for the Structure of the Consultants Expressing Interest

Present the rationale for and benefits of working in association (JV or SC) with others rather than undertaking the assignment independently (as appropriate). Describe the proposed management and coordination approach between the firms and the anticipated role of each. **(Maximum [500 words]: 500 words for each entity):**

We confirm that: (please check)

- Documentation regarding our corporate structure including beneficial ownership has been attached in Section VI. EOI Attachments.
- Documentation regarding our Board of Directors or equivalent has been attached in Section VI. EOI Attachments.
- A written agreement to associate for the purpose of this Expression of Interest or a letter of intent to enter into such agreement to perform the assignment if successful has been signed between the JV partners and has been attached (if applicable).
- The lead consulting firm and JV partners, if any, are not sole proprietorships.⁵
- If our team is shortlisted and invited to submit a Proposal, we understand it is not permissible to transfer the invitation to any other Firm, such as a parent company, subsidiaries, and affiliates⁶.
- We understand that the Recipient/Client⁷ has the right to reject a Proposal if the Consultant removes or changes a JV member without the Client's prior consent.

⁵ Refer to footnote 21 of the Procedures, January 2021, i.e., "Sole proprietorships shall be deemed as equivalent to an individual Consultant."

⁶ Refer to permissible arrangements of the parties as described in the Procedures, January 2021 under paragraph 6.21.

⁷ "Recipient" refers here to the entity which signed the Financing Agreement with CDB who may be represented by an implementing or executing agency, and which may also be called the "Client".

II. Assignment Specific Qualifications and Experience of Lead Firm or JV Partners.⁸

Please provide relevant project information in the Sections below.

A. Project References

Please select the most recent and relevant projects to demonstrate the entity’s technical qualifications, technical experience, and geographical experience [**minimum two (2) projects within the last ten (10) years**].

i. Project Summary

PN ⁹	Project Title	Country	Duration (no. of months)	Contracting Party	Entity ¹⁰
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

ii. Project Details

PN 1	
Project Title	
Country/Region	

⁸ Sub-consultants' qualifications and experience are not considered.

⁹ PN refers to each Project Number listed and as referenced in the preceding project summaries.

¹⁰ List name of each entity as it applies to the details of experience such as the name of the Lead Consulting Firm, JV partner, etc.

Start Date	
Completion Date	
Continuous/Intermittent	
Contracting Party	
Lead Firm	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate name of the Lead Consulting Firm/JV partner)</i>
Firm (if not Lead Firm and JV Partner)	
Role within contract (if not Lead Firm)	
Funding Source	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate, for example, whether from MDB, Private Sector, Public Sector, etc.)</i>
Value of Contract in USD	
Value of Services provided in USD	
Description	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate your role, for example, whether Consulting Firm, JV partner or sub-contractor and inputs in person-months and describe the types of activities undertaken)</i>
Point of Contact of Contracting Party ¹¹	Name: Contact Number: E-mail address:

PN 2	
Project Title	

¹¹ Procuring Entity reserves the right to contact the Contracting Party to ascertain information included in the EOI.

Country/Region	
Start Date	
Completion Date	
Continuous/Intermittent	
Contracting Party	
Entity	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate name of the Lead Consulting Firm/JV partner)</i>
Funding Source	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate, for example, whether from MDB, Private Sector, Public Sector, etc.)</i>
Value of Contract in USD	
Value of Services provided by the entity in USD	
Description	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate your key position role, for example, whether Consulting Firm, JV partner or sub-contractor and inputs in person-months and describe the types of activities undertaken)</i>
Point of Contact of Contracting Party	Name: Contact Number: E-mail address:

(Note to Firm: Please insert additional Project Details tables as necessary with their corresponding PN reference numbers against the Project Summary table.)

B. Financial Capability

i. Financial Documents

The (lead) firm and its parties shall provide copies of financial statements of the (lead) firm and JV partners, where applicable, within the last 5 years during the period **years 2021 to 2025** (including turnover from consulting services and other activities, profit & loss, current asset & liability, and fixed asset & liability) to demonstrate that they have the necessary financial capacity to undertake the assignment. The financial statements shall:

- (a) reflect the financial situation of the (lead) firm or in case of JV member, and not an affiliated entity (such as parent company or group member).
- (b) be independently audited¹² or certified in accordance with local legislation.
- (c) be complete, including all notes to the financial statements.
- (d) correspond to accounting periods already completed and audited.

(Please check)

Attached in Section VI. EOI Attachments are copies of financial statements¹³ 5 years required above; and complying with the requirements.

ii. Financial data

Table 1 below should be completed to reflect the data provided in the financial statements.

Table 1

Financial information in (USD ¹⁴ equivalent in 000s)	Historic information for previous 5 years				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Statement of Financial Position (Information from Balance Sheet)					
Total Assets (TA)					
Total Liabilities (TL)					
Total Equity/Net Worth					

¹² Unless financial statements are not required to be audited under the laws and regulations of the jurisdiction of the firm.

¹³ If the most recent set of financial statements is for a period earlier than 12 months from the date of Application, the reason for this should be justified.

¹⁴ If the currency is not in USD, use the prevailing exchange rate at the time of this EOI submission.

(NW)					
Current Assets (CA)					
Current Liabilities (CL)					
Working Capital (WC)					
Information from Income Statement					
Total Revenue (TR)					
Profits Before Taxes (PBT)					
Cash Flow Information					
Cash Flow from Operating Activities					

III. Brief Comments on Terms of Reference (maximum of 500 words)

IV. Organisational Structure and Staffing of entity with experience related directly to the type of assignment.

Provide details in the table below of the human resources available (key and non-key experts) to execute the type of assignment in question (if required). An organogram / organisational chart can be attached in Section VI. EOI Attachments.

1	2		3	4	5	6
No.	Category of Specialisation of Expertise and Skillset ¹⁵	General number of this resource available	Minimum required degree level	Minimum years of experience	Total number of resources who meet the requirements	Comments/ Further information , if any
N.B.		<i>Note to Firm: complete this section, e.g., total number of Civil Engineers available.</i>			<i>Note to Firm: complete this section, e.g., total number of Civil Engineers available with at least 10 years of experience</i>	<i>Note to Firm: complete this section, if any</i>
1	Solid + Liquid Waste Management Specialist	<i>[5 persons]</i>	Post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Environmental Engineering, Civil Engineering, or Waste Management.	A minimum of 15 years' experience in solid waste management projects, including integrated system assessments, feasibility studies, and strategy development.	<i>[3 persons]</i>	
2	Social Safeguards Specialist		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Social Development.	A minimum of 10 years' experience in social impact assessments for infrastructure projects, including experience in at least one solid waste infrastructure project.		

¹⁵ Listed individual experts will not be evaluated at this EOI stage but rather the human resources available collectively within the entity.

3	Environmental and Climate Change Specialist		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Environmental Science, Climate Science, Environmental Management, Engineering.	A minimum of 10 years' experience in conducting environmental assessments for infrastructure projects, including experience in at least one solid waste infrastructure project.		
4	Financial and Economic Analyst		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Economics, Finance, or Business Administration.	A minimum of 10 years' experience in financial and economic analysis of infrastructure or environmental projects.		
5	Civil / Environmental Engineer		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering.	A minimum of 10 years' experience in engineering design, including the design of solid waste facilities such as sanitary landfills, transfer stations, recycling centres, and composting plants.		
6	Policy and Institutional Specialist		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Public Policy, Environmental Law, or Institutional Development	A minimum of 10 years' experience in reviewing and reforming policies, legislation, and institutional frameworks related to environmental management.		
7	Non-key Experts:					

Procurement and Contract Specialist					
Capacity Development and Training Specialist					
Community Engagement Specialist					
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Specialist					
Mechanical Engineer (Plant and Equipment Advisory)					
Disaster Management Specialist					
		Post-graduate degree in any relevant discipline related to the assigned role		Minimum 5-10 years of relevant professional experience in infrastructure, environmental, or public sector projects. Experience relevant to the specific functional area.	

(Note to Firm: Please insert and modify rows and columns as necessary)

V. List of existing commitments

Provide a list of existing active commitments of projects being undertaken, if any.

Commitment Contract Title	Value of Contract (USD)	Value of Work remaining to be completed by Entity (USD)	Start Date	End Date (Estimated)

(Note to Firm: Please insert additional rows as necessary)

VI. EOI Attachments

No.	Description
1	Certificate of Registration or Incorporation of the Lead Member
2	Certificate of Registration or Incorporation of the JV member (for each member)
3	Documentation regarding Corporate Structure including beneficial ownership for each member of the Association
4	JV Agreement Letter of Intent to enter a JV Agreement (where relevant)
5	Documentation regarding the firm's (JV partners, as applicable,) Board of Directors
6	Financial Statements
7	Signed Governance and Eligibility Declaration on letterhead of consultant
8	Litigation & Arbitration Disclosure Statement

(Note to Firm: Please insert additional rows as necessary)

[Note to Firm: Insert Letterhead of (lead) Entity]

VII. Governance and Eligibility¹⁶ Declaration

We [insert name of the consulting firm or joint partners], represented by the undersigned, certify to the best of our knowledge and belief that: *(please check all boxes that apply)*

- Understanding: We have read the Request for Expressions of Interest, including the draft terms of reference (TOR), for this assignment.
- 1. Governance:**
- No Conflicts of Interest: Neither the consulting firm nor its JV member or SC or any of its experts prepared the TOR for this activity and have no conflict of interest in accordance with the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021) Section 5 specifically Paragraphs 5.17 Conflict of Interest.
- No Conflicts of Interest: None of the members of our entity are subsidiaries of and/or dependent on the Client, Executing Agency or the Implementing Agency or individuals related to them and do not have an unfair competitive advantage in accordance with the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021) Section 5 specifically Paragraphs 5.18 – 5.20 Unfair Competition.
- Suspension and Debarment: We, the lead entity and JV member or SC along with any of our subcontractors, suppliers, consultants, manufacturers, or service providers for any part of the proposed services, are not subject to, and not controlled by any entity or individual that is subject to a temporary suspension or a debarment imposed by CDB or subject to a public debarment by an MDB which is a signatory to the Agreement on Mutual Enforcement of Debarment Decisions. Further, we are not ineligible under the Employer's country laws or official regulations or pursuant to a decision of the United Nations Security Council. Neither the consulting firm nor the JV member or SC has ever been convicted of an integrity-related offense or crime related to corruption, fraud, collusion, coercion, or obstruction.
- Suspension and Debarment: We understand that it is our obligation to notify CDB should any member of the entity become ineligible to work with CDB or other MDBs, in the context described in the above point, or be convicted of an integrity-related offense or crime as described above and in accordance with the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January, 2021) Section 5 specifically Paragraphs 5.25-5.27 Prohibited Practices.

¹⁶ Eligibility refers to the details as set out in Section 4 of CDB's Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021) or former versions of the CDB's Procurement Procedures and any such waivers by CDB, as relevant.

- No Misrepresentations: We understand that any misrepresentations that knowingly or recklessly mislead or attempt to mislead, may result in the automatic rejection of the proposal or cancellation of the contract, if awarded, and further remedial action, in accordance with CDB's Prohibited Practices and Other Integrity Related Matters Framework, may be pursued.

2. Eligibility:

- Eligibility: All consulting entities proposed in this EOI are eligible to participate in CDB-funded, -supported and -administered` activities in accordance with Section 4 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021).
- Experience Declaration: We confirm that the project references submitted as part of this EOI accurately reflect the experience and involvement of the specified entity.
- Agreement of Association: JV member(s) named in this EOI, authorised us in writing to represent them in expressing interest in this activity as detailed and attached in the Letter of Agreement / Intent to enter into a JV Agreement.
- Agreement of Association: Sub-consultant(s) named in this EOI, confirmed their interest in this activity in writing by way of signing a document indicating their willingness and availability to participate in the assignment.
- State-owned Enterprise or Institution: We are not a state-owned enterprise or institution.
OR
- State-owned Enterprise or Institution: We are a state-owned enterprise or institution but are legally and financially autonomous¹⁷ and operate under commercial law¹⁸.

Signature:

Authorised Representative

Date of Submission: [*dd-mm-yyyy*]

¹⁷ "Legally autonomous" means a legal entity separate from the eligible country's government. "Financially autonomous" means not receiving budget support from any public entity, and not being obliged to pass financial surplus to the same, except through dividends to shareholder.

¹⁸ Being vested with legal rights and liabilities similar to any commercial enterprise, including, being incorporated or established by statutory charter under local law; having the right: (i) to enter into legally binding contracts; (ii) to sue; (iii) to be sued; and (iv) to borrow money, being liable for the repayment of debts and being able to be declared bankrupt.

Regional News

Dominica can supply water to St. Lucia and wider Caribbean, PM Skerrit says

Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit announced on Wednesday that Dominica is prepared to export water to St. Lucia and other Caribbean nations, citing the island's available capacity and existing port infrastructure.

Skerrit said the Government of St. Lucia recently approached Dominica to assess its ability to supply water. "We indicated to them that we do have the capacity to supply, because we have the connections at the various ports to do so," he told reporters. He noted that climate change continues to strain water systems across the region, including Dominica's, but affirmed that the country is still positioned to assist its neighbors.

The Prime Minister described the idea of exporting water as an initiative long discussed at the national and regional levels. "It's something that we have spoken about many years ago," he said, adding that Dominica is "in a position to supply the Caribbean with water."

Skerrit emphasized that water security should be a priority for both the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). He recalled raising the issue in previous regional meetings and urged renewed attention to ensuring equitable access to water resources. "Those of us who have excess water, how do we ensure that others can have access to this water," he said.

He confirmed that discussions with St. Lucia have been referred to the Dominica Water and Sewerage Company (DOWASCO) and that Ambassador Ian Douglas Bardouille has been tasked with coordinating the relevant agencies. Skerrit described St. Lucia as a close partner and said Dominica intends to provide support as needed. (Dominica News Online)



NOTICE

**TO: Your Worship
St. John's Magistrate Court
High Street
St. Johns
Antigua.**

**TO: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. Johns
Antigua.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Notice- Application for Bottle License

I, Chris-Ann N. Weeks of Bolans Village, Antigua, with a registered business situated on All Saint Road, St. Johns, 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, St. John's, Antigua on Tuesday 7th April 2026 next ensuring for a Liquor Licensing Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing (intoxication Liquor) Act Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition, in respect of the premises known as "Pourfect Treats" in the parish of St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 3rd March. 2026

**..... Chris-Ann N Weeks.....
780-1893**

Jamaica seeks lessons from Peru in disaster recovery, resilient reconstruction



As Jamaica sharpens its approach to post-disaster recovery, the South American nation of Peru is emerging as a key model, offering lessons in resilient reconstruction, institutional design, and faster infrastructure delivery.

It is against this backdrop that Works Minister Robert Morgan is leading a nine-member Jamaican government delegation to Peru for high-level talks on infrastructure delivery, reconstruction, resilience, and institutional reform.

The four-day meeting, which ends today, is being staged as the inaugural Latin America and the Caribbean (LATAC)–United Kingdom (UK) infrastructure forum, bringing together representatives from several regional countries, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the UK.

Participants examined best practices in infrastructure strategy, planning,

governance, financing, and execution, supported by technical exchanges on delivery, reconstruction, and reform.

Morgan said Jamaica’s participation is highly significant, particularly as the country continues recovery efforts following Hurricane Melissa.

The agenda includes meetings with Peru’s National Infrastructure Authority (ANIN) and former leadership of the country’s reconstruction authority, alongside technical sessions focused on governance, planning, resilience, and lessons applicable to Jamaica.

According to conference organisers, the LATAC-UK infrastructure forum represents an unprecedented effort by the UK to transfer best practices across the region. The model combines government technical assistance with the expertise of the British private sector, which has delivered major infrastructure projects in strategic sectors.

The forum is aimed at strengthening strategy, planning, governance, design, financing, and execution across LATAC, with the broader objective of outlining a common roadmap to boost infrastructure investment, reduce service gaps, and accelerate sustainable economic growth.

“Jamaica is in Peru for serious, important discussions at a time when we are actively considering how to strengthen infrastructure delivery, improve coordination across government, and build systems that are more efficient, resilient, and responsive to national needs,” Morgan said.

He emphasised that Peru’s experience in disaster recovery and resilient reconstruction is of particular relevance.

“Our interest is not only in what Peru has done, but how it has done it – how institutions have been structured, how technical support has been used, and how projects have been delivered with urgency while ensuring value for money and high quality. These are matters of direct importance to Jamaica,” he said.

Morgan added that the visit reflects Jamaica’s commitment to learning from credible international models, while shaping solutions suited to its own context.

The delegation is also scheduled to visit sites showcasing resilient infrastructure, including flood protection works.

Representatives from Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay, Jamaica, Peru, along with officials from the World Bank, the IDB, the UK government, and private-sector groups, are attending the forum. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Regional News

Skerrit announces measures to cushion Dominica from economic impact of Middle East conflict



Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit on Wednesday outlined a series of government measures aimed at reducing the economic impact of the escalating conflict in the Middle East.

The region is currently engulfed in a multi-theater confrontation involving Iran, Israel, and the United States. Tensions sharply intensified on February 28, 2026, when the U.S. and Israel launched major strikes on Iran, targeting military and nuclear facilities and killing Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Iran responded with missile and drone attacks, deepening global uncertainty.

Skerrit said his administration has already begun implementing strategies to shield households and businesses from the resulting economic pressures.

"We will implement a series of targeted measures to cushion the impact on households and businesses," he said during a press conference. "First, we will introduce targeted relief measures to help manage the rising cost of living."

According to the Prime Minister, these measures will include temporary reductions in duties and taxes on

essential goods, along with increased support for vulnerable households through existing social protection programs.

He added that the government is also taking steps to manage energy costs.

"We will work closely with the Dominica Electricity Services to moderate the impact of rising fuel prices on electricity tariffs. And of course geothermal is coming just at the opportune time," Skerrit stated.

A third priority, he said, is protecting jobs and economic activity. The government will engage stakeholders in tourism, agriculture, and the private sector to ensure continuity and resilience.

Skerrit also mentioned efforts to strengthen fiscal management.

"We are carefully prioritizing government's spending to ensure that critical services are maintained, while some discretionary expenditures are deferred," he said.

The Prime Minister urged citizens to recognize the importance of reducing Dominica's dependence on imported fuel and food.

"My dear citizens, this moment also

reminds us of a collective responsibility that we have not given the importance it deserves," he said. "We must reduce our dependence on imported fuel and food."

He noted that the government will accelerate investments in renewable energy to provide more stable and affordable electricity, and expand support for local agriculture so that more food consumed in Dominica is produced locally.

Skerrit stressed that these initiatives are not only a response to the current crisis but part of a broader strategy to build national resilience and self-reliance.

He called on the public to remain steady amid rising global uncertainty. "I understand the anxiety rising prices can bring, I understand the pressure that families may feel in the weeks ahead, but I ask you to remain calm, to remain united and to remain confident in the ability to weather the economic fallout from the escalating conflict in the Middle East," he said. (Dominica News Online)

European Parliament gives conditional approval to EU-US trade deal



The European Parliament has backed legislation to implement an EU-US trade deal, following months of uncertainty over President Donald Trump's tariff threats.

A majority of lawmakers voted in favour of the measures on Thursday, but added a series of safeguards to ensure the US honours its side of the deal struck last July.

The legislation would set tariffs at 15% for most EU goods - down from the 30% initially threatened - in exchange for European investment in the US and the removal of EU import duties on US industrial goods.

The vote comes after months of delay following Trump's threats to annex Greenland and a US Supreme Court ruling that found some of his tariffs unlawful.

The EU assembly voted by 417 to 154, and 71 abstentions, in favour of the legislation.

The text will need to be signed off by all of the bloc's 27 member states before it is implemented, with a concluding vote expected in April or May.

On Thursday, lawmakers moved to strengthen its safeguards, including a provision to suspend the agreement

if the US imposes additional tariffs above 15% or introduces new duties on EU goods. Another would halt the deal if the US threatened the EU's territorial sovereignty.

MEPs also included a "sunrise clause" that means EU tariff reductions will only take effect if the US upholds its side of the bargain - including lowering tariffs to 15% on EU products that contain less than 50% steel and aluminium.

When the framework agreement was announced last summer, Trump said the 50% US tariff on global steel and aluminium would still apply to the EU.

But on Thursday the parliament voted that it will only accept zero tariffs on US goods if hundreds of European goods made with steel and aluminium are excluded from that 50% tariff.

A "sunset clause" will see the agreement end by 31 March 2028.

"At this stage, we have received reassurances from the US that they intend to honour the deal," European economy commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis said after the vote.

"While we will continue our efforts to maintain constructive relationships and avoid volatility, we will not

turn a blind eye to any risks to our interests."

EU trade commissioner Maros Sefcovic described the vote as a "crucial step".

The framework agreement was made during a meeting between European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and Trump at the president's Turnberry golf course in Scotland last July.

Von der Leyen hailed it as a "huge deal," while Trump said it was a "good deal for everybody".

Trump said at the time that the EU would boost its investment in the US by \$600bn (£446bn) - including purchases of American military equipment - and spend \$750bn on energy.

Von der Leyen said increased purchases of American liquified natural gas, oil and nuclear fuels would help reduce Europe's reliance on Russian energy.

The US and the European Union are each others' largest trading partners.

More than €1.6tn (\$1.9tn, £1.4tn) in goods and services were exchanged in 2024, according to European figures - nearly a third of all global trade.

Trade in goods alone totalled about \$976bn in 2024. The US imported roughly \$606bn in goods from the EU and exported around \$370bn.

Trump has wielded tariffs against many US trading partners in what he describes as an effort to reduce the US trade deficit and reshape the global trading system.

Since Trump's announcement of global tariffs on "Liberation Day" last year, the EU has sought to diversify its trade relationships.

The bloc signed a sweeping trade deal with Australia earlier this week, and in January announced a landmark trade deal with India after nearly two decades of on-off talks. (BBC)

Trump confirms May meeting with Xi Jinping as Iran war forces postponement

US president Donald Trump says he will meet Chinese president Xi Jinping in China on 14-15 May, after delaying the landmark trip amid the US-Israel war with Iran.

This would be the first visit to China by a US president in nearly 10 years.

Trump is also set to host Xi in Washington DC later this year, and officials are “finalizing preparations for these Historic Visits”, he wrote on Truth Social on Wednesday.

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt confirmed the dates of Trump’s visit, telling reporters that President Xi had understood and accepted the request to postpone the trip.

“President Xi understood that it’s very important for the president to be here throughout these combat operations right now,” Leavitt said at a press briefing on Wednesday.

Beijing has not confirmed the dates listed by Trump - though it does not typically reveal Xi’s schedule so far in advance.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Lin Jian told reporters on Thursday that “both sides are maintaining communication regarding President Trump’s visit to China”.

He also said that “leader-level diplomacy plays an irreplaceable strategic guiding role” in bilateral ties.

Trump’s trip, originally slated for 31 March, was delayed after the US and Israel launched wide-ranging strikes on Iran last month, killing the coun-



try’s supreme leader.

In response, Iran attacked Israel and US-allied states in the Gulf and effectively closed the Strait of Hormuz - a key waterway for the world’s oil and liquefied natural gas - leading to a global fuel crisis.

Trump has urged US allies to help unblock the strait. He also threatened Iran with attacks on its energy production infrastructure if it did not allow full access through the waterway.

When asked if the Iran war would wind down by the time Trump visits China, Leavitt said they had “always estimated approximately four to six weeks, so you can do the math on that”.

The last time a US president visited China was in November 2017, during Trump’s first term.

The last time Trump and Xi met was

last October in South Korea, on the sidelines of the Apec summit.

Ties between the two countries have long been plagued by sore spots ranging from trade friction to tech competition and geopolitical tensions. Trump’s visit will be closely watched for any signs of easing tensions.

Ahead of Trump’s visit, Chinese state media has encouraged US officials to visit and interact with their Chinese counterparts.

A Global Times editorial published on Thursday said the lack of people-to-people exchanges between the countries and the long absence of a US presidential visit to China was “abnormal and should not be the case”.

“History has repeatedly shown that both China and the US stand to gain from cooperation and lose from confrontation,” it said. (BBC)



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‘We are being choked’: Philippines transport workers strike over fuel costs



back oil prices, to abandoning deregulation and introducing state controls.

They are also pushing for fare increases and higher wages.

Groups of protesters gathered in different areas across the capital on Thursday morning, holding signs and calling for the government to do more to help.

Many of them were drivers of jeepneys - mini-buses known for their cheap fares. Motorcycle and car ride-hailing drivers were also among those who earlier said they would join protests, according to local reports.

Hundreds of transport workers in the Philippines’ capital Manila have gone on strike over rising fuel costs.

Diesel and petrol prices have more than doubled since the Iran war broke out on 28 February - with the Philippines now in a state of national energy emergency.

One 62-year-old driver in Manila told the BBC the situation was getting increasingly desperate, saying he had no food to support his five children and had not received any cash aid from the government.

As the two-day strike started on Thursday a ship carrying more than 700,000 barrels of Russian crude oil arrived in the country. President Ferdinand Marcos’ spokeswoman said.

Press Secretary Claire Castro told reporters that the Sierra Leone-flagged Sara Sky arrived earlier this week with the crude shipment.

Marcos had promised to look for new sources of oil as the country had been relying on supplies that pass through the Strait of Hormuz for 98% of its requirements.

The transport coalitions leading the strike have laid out sweeping demands - from scrapping fuel taxes and rolling

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Some said they had not received the payout of 5,000 pesos (\$83; £62) that the Department of Social Welfare and Development had said certain drivers would be eligible for.

“I lined up for more than five hours yesterday for the cash aid from the government, but my name was not there,” said 62-year-old Guillermo Japole, adding that he had received “no cash aid, no earnings, no food for the family”.

Guillermo, whose five children are in school, says his family is on the edge of being evicted from their rental home.

Another driver, 28-year-old Anjo Lilac similarly said he had not received any aid. He brought his daughter Hannah to the protest.

“No one will look after her since my wife got a temporary job,” he explained. “It [financial aid] will help us - for food, house rent and most especially the milk for our baby.”

Some jeepney drivers told the BBC they might go back to their hometowns to look for other jobs.

“It feels like we are being choked. It’s really tough. We don’t know where can we get money to provide for our families,” said Ronnie Rilosa, 58, who has been a jeepney driver for 30 years.

“We don’t need cash aid if the government will cut the prices of fuel, food, electricity, water.”

The effects of the planned two-day strike are already being felt by Manila’s commuters.

This is one of Asia’s most congested cities, where commuters sometimes spend hours getting to work.

Arnold Irinco was part of a line of commuters on Thursday morning who were queuing up for a free ride provided by the government.

The 52-year-old liaison officer told the BBC that he had been waiting for 30 minutes. He added, however, that he understood why drivers had gone on strike.

“I do understand what the protesters are fighting for,” he said. “This is their livelihood, they had mouths to feed, they need to live. As a commuter, I need to understand their situation as well.”

Earlier on Wednesday, Marcos also signed a law authorising him to temporarily suspend or cut the excise tax on petroleum products when the average Dubai crude oil price reaches or exceeds \$80 (£59) per barrel for a month.

Since hostilities in the Middle East began, the government has offered subsidies to transport drivers, reduced ferry services, and implemented a four-day work week for civil servants to save fuel.

A national state of energy emergency was also put in place on Tuesday, giving the government the legal authority to impose measures to ensure energy stability and protect the broader economy.

The Philippines is the first country to declare this amid the US-Israel war

with Iran.

A committee has been formed to oversee the orderly distribution of fuel, food, medicines and other essential goods, and the government has been empowered to directly purchase fuel or petroleum products to shore up its supplies.

But not everyone is happy.

One of the country’s main labour coalitions, the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), strongly criticised the emergency declaration, calling it an “admission” that the government failed to address the oil crisis.

KMU had earlier accused the administration of downplaying the situation, saying claims that “everything is normal” were misleading.

The coalition also raised concerns about what it described as “anti-worker provisions” in the executive order - particularly clauses that could restrict activities seen as disrupting economic activity, including strikes.

But tycoon Manuel V. Pangilinan, who chairs several major utilities companies, backed the emergency powers.

In a statement, he said his companies are feeling the strain of rising energy costs and warned that the crisis was beginning to affect business operations.

Pangilinan added, however, that the government “should have every option” available to steer the economy through what he described as a difficult period. (BBC)





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GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PREPARATION PROJECT

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY, DETAILED DESIGN, AND INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – FIRMS

The **Government of Antigua and Barbuda (GOAB)** has applied for financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of the **Integrated Solid Waste Management Preparation Project** and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds to eligible payments under this contract. Payment by CDB will be made only at the request of the GOAB and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the Loan Agreement. The Loan Agreement prohibits a withdrawal from the Loan Account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOAB shall derive any rights from the Loan Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Loan.

The National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) is the Executing Agency of this Project and now wishes to procure consultancy services for a feasibility study, detailed design and integrated solid waste management strategy for Antigua and Barbuda.

The objective of the consultancy is to strengthen solid waste management in Antigua and Barbuda. Further details can be found in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of approximately fifty-two (52) weeks. The National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) now invites interested eligible consulting firms to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the provision of these consultancy services.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

- (a) in the case of a body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organised in an eligible country, has its principal place of business in an eligible country and is more than 50 per cent beneficially owned by citizen(s) and/or bona fide resident(s) of eligible country(ies) or by a body(ies) corporate meeting these requirements;
- (b) in the case of unincorporated firms, the persons are citizens or bona fide residents of an eligible country; and
- (c) in all cases, the consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or bona fide resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB.¹ Consultants are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria de-

¹ *Occasionally contracts may be financed out of special programmes that would further expand the number of eligible countries or restrict eligibility to a particular group of member countries. When this is the case, it should be mentioned in this paragraph.*

tailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021), as applicable and as published on CDB’s website.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to technical competence, qualifications and experience, local and regional experience on similar assignments, financial capability, and existing commitments. Key Experts will **not** be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

Interested consultant teams are required to submit their Expression of Interest using the “EOI Consulting Firms template”² attached to this REOI or downloaded from the Specific Procurement Notice on CDB’s website.

All information must be submitted in **English**. Further information may be obtained from the **first address** below between 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. AST hours Monday to Friday.

Expressions of Interest must be submitted electronically to the email address under **Address 1** below, no later than **06 April 2026 at 4:00 p.m. AST** and copied simultaneously to CDB at the email under **Address 2** below. The submission should include the name and address of the applicant and shall be clearly marked “**Expression of Interest – Consultancy Services for a feasibility study, detailed design and integrated solid waste management strategy for Antigua and Barbuda**”.

Following the assessment of submissions, a short-list of not less than three and not more than six applicants will be provided with full terms of reference and invited to submit technical and financial proposals to undertake the assignment. GOAB reserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not selecting any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

<p>(1) National Solid Waste Management Authority Sir George Walter Hwy, Piggotts St. George’s, Antigua Tel: +1 (268) 562-1348 Email: finance.pmu@ab.gov.ag</p>	<p>(2) Caribbean Development Bank Tel: +1 (246) 539-1600 Email: procurement@caribank.org</p>
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2 *When drafting the REOI and the TOR, the Client should also prepare an Expression of Interest Submission Template. The latter should be tailored by the Recipient to the specifics of the assignment in question and can be downloaded from CDB’s website at: 20230626_CDB EOI Consulting Firms-template v1.docx (live.com) It will be included as an attachment to this REOI. For REOIs advertised in newspapers locally or nationally, the EOI submission template may be requested by the interested consulting firms directly from the Recipient, and wording in this REOI shall be modified accordingly.*

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Success for Pares and SNRA in Schools' Cricket Under-15 Boys' Contest

Pares Secondary and Sir Novelle Richards Academy (SNRA) achieved success in the latest round of matches in the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Under-15 Boys' 30-over competition.

Pares Secondary School claimed a 97-run victory against Antigua Grammar School at Antigua Grammar School's playing field.

Pares Secondary made 153 in 17.5 overs. There was a contribution of 62 extras, including 31 byes and 22 wides.

Deno Jarvis hit 50 off 41 balls, including eight fours and two sixes. Malachi Tonge struck 23 off 24 balls, with four fours and a six.

Marc Crawford bagged four for 12, Seth Paul claimed two for 24, and Dejaunte Spencer captured two for 45.

In reply, Antigua Grammar School tumbled to 56 all out in 11.3 overs. There was a contribution of 33 extras, including 16 wides and 13 byes. Shakeir Thomas scored 13.

Jervaughn Freeland snapped up four wickets for six runs, Deno Jarvis picked up three wickets for five runs, and Zayden Hector claimed two for 12.

The Sir Novelle Richards Academy crushed Irene B. Williams Secondary School by 118 runs at Swetes.

The Sir Novelle Richards Academy won the toss and batted, scoring 182 for seven off 17 overs. Ayden Bazil slammed 52 off 20 balls, including eight fours and three sixes.

Kevon Charles cracked 37 off 25 balls, Clayton Joseph scored 17, and captain Rohan John made 15. Azar Baksh claimed two for 44, and captain Keon Samuel took two for 50.

In reply, Irene B. Williams Secondary School was dismissed for 64 in 12.2 overs. Keon Samuel struck 22 off 23 balls, and there was a contribution of 19 extras, including 18 wides.

Sherwin Martin grabbed four wickets for four runs, Clayton Joseph claimed

two wickets for six runs, and Rohan John captured two wickets for nine runs.

Meanwhile, Clare Hall Secondary School and Antigua Grammar School recorded contrasting wins in the latest round of matches in the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools Under-19 Boys two-day competition.

Clare Hall Secondary School crushed Jennings Secondary School by 115 runs at Rising Sun.

Clare Hall Secondary School batted first and made 129 all out. Jaden Charles hit 32, while Oziah Robertson grabbed four for 31 and Estan Hill picked up three for 37.

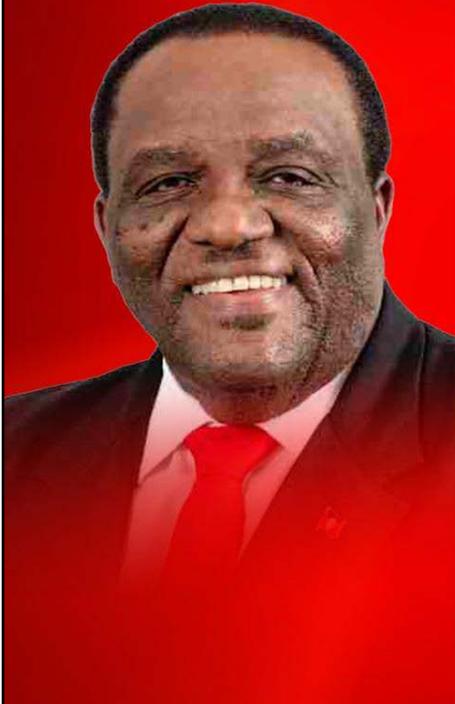
In reply, Jennings Secondary School crashed to 44 all out. Jayden Charles

snapped up four wickets for seven runs.

With a lead of 85 runs, Clare Hall Secondary School declared their second innings closed at 65 for four. Jayden Charles hit 18, and Charles Abbott scored 14 not out. Oziah Robertson picked up two wickets for nine runs.

Set 115 runs to win, Jennings Secondary School crashed to 35 all out. Oziah Robertson made 13. Jayden Charles grabbed three wickets for four runs, and Jamaree Laval picked up two wickets for six runs.

The Antigua Grammar School was awarded victory by default against All Saints Secondary School, who failed to show up for their encounter at Antigua Grammar School's playing field.

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HON. STEADROY 'CUTIE' BENJAMIN
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Island Academy to Defend School Volleyball Titles in the Finals



Coach Randy St. Jean celebrates with players of the champion Island Academy boys and girls teams during the official prize-giving ceremony at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on the evening of Thursday, June 26, 2025. (File photo)

Defending champions Island Academy will once again be seeking to retain their title in the Ministry of Sports Inter-Schools Volleyball Championship at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on Friday.

Island Academy will be defending their titles in both the boys' and girls' division finals after booking their spots in the championship deciders with wins in the semi-finals on Tuesday.

Island Academy dispatched Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) 2-0 in the first semi-final in the boys' division, prevailing 25-22 and 25-18.

Islands Academy also secured a 2-0 victory over Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies in the first semi-final in the girls' division, prevailing 25-21 and 25-23.

St. Anthony's Secondary School ad-

vanced to the boys' division final by recording a 2-0 victory over ABCAS in the second semi-final, winning 25-21 and 25-18.

Christ the King High School advanced to the girls' division final by securing a 2-0 victory against the first team of the Antigua Girls High School (AGHS-1) in the second semi-final, winning 25-22 and 25-23.



More Success for Cedar Grove Gunners in Division 2 Basketball



The Cedar Grove Gunners extended their unbeaten run to remain leaders in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Second Division League on Wednesday evening.

The Gunners notched up their 11th win in as many matches by shooting their way to a commanding 104-63 victory against Square One Construction Cristos United in the opening game of a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Olivee Morris shot a game-high 24 points; Sergio Symister sank 20 points and grabbed 14 rebounds; and Iornie Joseph converted 16 points and claimed 18 rebounds as the top performers for the Gunners.

In support, Shawn Thomas provided 15 points and 10 rebounds, and John Rolland Jr. chipped in with 12 points and 12 rebounds for the Gunners.

Dwayne Samuel converted 19 points and grabbed 10 rebounds; Bruce Whyte had 16 points and five steals; Tyndale Telemaque sank 13 points and snatched seven rebounds; and Roger Miller scored eight points and claimed 14 re-

bounds for Christos United, who remain winless, at the bottom of the nine-team standings after losing for the 11th time in as many games.

The Cuties Ovals Ojays 2 stayed within touching distance of the Cedar Grove Gunners by claiming their ninth win in 10 matches with a commanding 89-60 victory over Da Project 2 in the second game of Wednesday's double-header.

Jaleyle Joseph sank 22 points and grabbed 15 rebounds and five

steals; Tajahron Davis produced 19 points, 11 rebounds, seven steals, and five assists; Dajon George converted 11 points; and Theo Blair scored 10 points for the Ovals Ojays 2.

Kevin Pimentel shot a game-high 23 points and snatched 10 rebounds, Erije Joseph converted 13 points, and Brian Matthew produced 10 points, seven rebounds, and six steals for Da Project 2, who lost for the seventh time in 11 games.



SEN. KIZ JOHNSON
St. Philip's South

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Defending Champions Continue to Dominate ABAVA D-1 Leagues



The Pytonz men's volleyball team

Defending champions Cool and Smooth/Joma Da Squad continued their title defense in dominant fashion in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABA-VA) Women's Division 1 League on Wednesday evening.

Da Squad, who are the reigning four-peat champions, claimed their second win in as many games with a 3-1 victory against the Chargers Eagles 1 at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Da Squad showed their championship quality early, taking control of the first two sets with strong attacking and solid defense.

The Chargers Eagles responded in the

third set, but Da Squad regrouped to close out the match in four sets, 25-13, 25-15, 20-25, and 25-15. It was the second loss in as many games for the Chargers Eagles 1.

Defending champions Zamine Shipping and ABI Insurance Pytonz recorded their second win in as many games with a 3-0 straight-set victory against Chargers Velocity in the Men's Division 1 League.

The Pytonz maintained their strong form, controlling the match with consistent serving and efficient offense. Despite a close second set, the Pytonz prevailed 25-17, 26-24, and 25-18 to complete a straight-set victory.

It was also the second loss in as many

games for Chargers Velocity.

The ABAVA Division 1 leagues will continue with a triple-header at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday.

Sharks will face ASCSC Stingers in a men's Division 2 League affair at 5:30 pm.

Hidow Caribbean Starz 1 will meet Theatric Lighting/Joma Stoneville in the Women's Division 1 competition at 7 pm, and former champions Theatric Lighting/Joma Stoneville will clash with Invaders in a men's Division 1 encounter at 9 pm.

Five Islands Drop Points in Race for First Division League Title

Five Islands has dropped crucial points in the race for title honours in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) First Division League.

Five Islands remain in second place behind leaders Greenbay Hoppers after battling to a goalless draw with Empire FC at the ABFA Technical Center on Wednesday.

The result allowed Five Islands to move within a point of the Greenbay Hoppers with 39 points after securing their sixth draw in 20 matches.

Empire FC consolidated their position in seventh place by advancing to 28 points after salvaging their fourth

draw in 19 matches.

The Greenbay Hoppers currently lead the First Division with 40 points from 18 matches.

Meanwhile, Point West Ham FC and the Liberta Blackhawks both won by defaults in the ABFA's Second Division League on Wednesday.

Point West Ham was awarded a 3-0 victory via default against the Young Warriors, who failed to field a team for their match at Radio Range.

The result allows Point West Ham FC to remain in 10th place on goal difference with 22 points after securing their fourth draw in 14 matches.

The Young Warriors remain third from the bottom of the standings with six points after losing for the 10th time in 12 matches.

The Liberta Blackhawks claimed their fifth win in 16 matches by being awarded a 3-0 victory via default against Earthquakes FC, who failed to show up for their encounter at the Fort Road playing field.

The result allows the Liberta Blackhawks to remain in 15th place by advancing to 16 points. Earthquakes FC remains in 16th place with eight points after crashing to their 13th defeat in 17 matches.



Players of the Five Islands football team