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Budget Day 2026 Is December 11

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On Thursday, for the first time ever, a Four Seasons Yacht has docked in St. John's Harbour, bringing one of the most pristine and luxurious vessels to the country's shores.

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Budget Day 2026 Is December 11

The government will present the 2027 budgetary estimates to a sitting of the House of Representatives slated for December 11, 2026.

Prime Minister and Finance Minister Rt. Hon. Gaston Browne will deliver the 2027 Budget Statement outlining the government's fiscal and legislative agenda for the upcoming financial year.

Budgetary preparations are already in progress across the several government ministries and departments that are expected to form part of the final presentation to parliament. Meanwhile, the Cabinet has started the task of reviewing several of the proposals that are expected to be included in the Budget.

On Wednesday, the Cabinet received a presentation from a team of officials from the Ministry of Finance, who provided an update on the preliminary figures and fiscal projections for the 2027 National Budget, ahead of its presentation to the Parliament.

"The briefing outlined the Government's continued commitment to achieving a fiscal surplus while maintaining the targets established under its Fiscal Resilience Guidelines. Cabinet was informed that the Ministry is still refining the budget figures but is now in a position to provide an indication of the allocations proposed for the various ministries and departments. These preliminary allocations were well received by the respective ministries.

"On the revenue side, the Ministry indicated that collections are expected to perform at least at the level achieved in 2026, with the potential for further improvement through strengthened compliance and more effective revenue collection measures. Preliminary projections place revenue collections in the region of EC$1.4 billion to EC$1.5 billion," the Cabinet Notes have outlined.

According to the Notes the Cabinet was also advised that the Government intends to maintain expenditure



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

as close as possible to 2026 levels, while exercising continued discipline in the management of public finances. An exception is anticipated in capital expenditure, which is expected to increase as several major development projects, supported by external financing, advance during the coming year.

"Among the projects identified are those financed through the Saudi Fund for Development, including the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus and the Five Islands Primary School. Additional projects supported by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), particularly in education and road infrastructure, are also expected to contribute to increased capital spending.

"The Ministry explained that the expansion in capital expenditure is necessary to sustain the country's development agenda, strengthen critical infrastructure and continue driving economic growth," the Cabinet Notes explained.



Popular Year-End Social Programmes to Continue This Year



Director of Communications in the Office of the Prime Minister, Maurice Merchant

Two popular programmes that are introduced towards year end each year will be returning for 2026. These are the **Dollar Barrel Initiative** and the **ABST Reduction Weekend**, both of which will be implemented as usual this year, as part of the Government's continued efforts to ease the financial burden on households during the Christmas and New Year season.

"The Dollar Barrel Initiative will commence on December 1, 2026, and continue through January 15, 2027. The programme, which has become a valued feature of the Government's annual social intervention measures, provides an opportunity for Antiguans and Barbudans to benefit from reduced costs associated with the importation of barrels containing essential household goods and other items for personal use," government spokesman Maurice Merchant has announced.

The initiative is intended to assist families, particularly during the festive season, when household expenditure traditionally increases, while making it easier for relatives and friends overseas to send barrels to loved ones in Antigua and Barbuda.

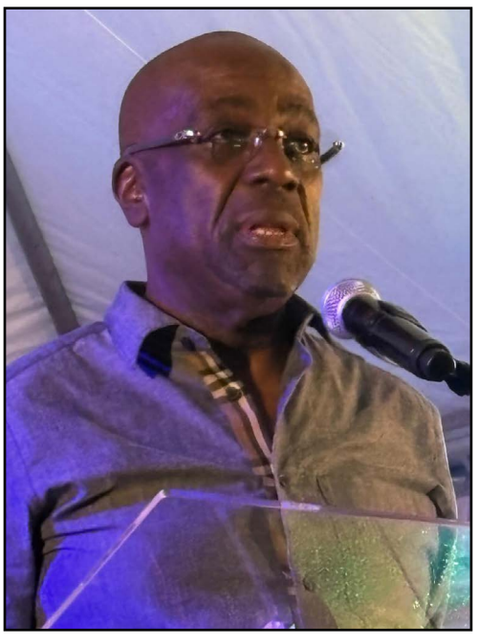
Merchant also disclosed that Cabinet has also approved the continuation of the ABST Reduction Weekend, which will take place from December 18 to 20, 2026. During this period, consumers will benefit from a reduction in the Antigua and Barbuda Sales Tax (ABST) on eligible purchases, providing additional relief and encouraging greater purchasing power during the Christmas season.

The two initiatives form part of the Government's annual policy of providing targeted economic relief to citizens and residents, while stimulating commercial activity and supporting businesses during one of the busiest shopping periods of the year.

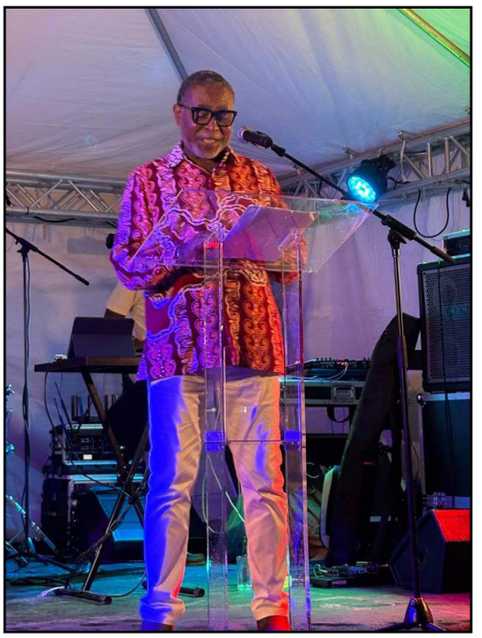
Cabinet reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining these programmes as part of its broader social and economic policy, recognising the importance of ensuring that families can experience the Christmas season with some measure of financial relief.



New Challenge for CHOGM Volunteers





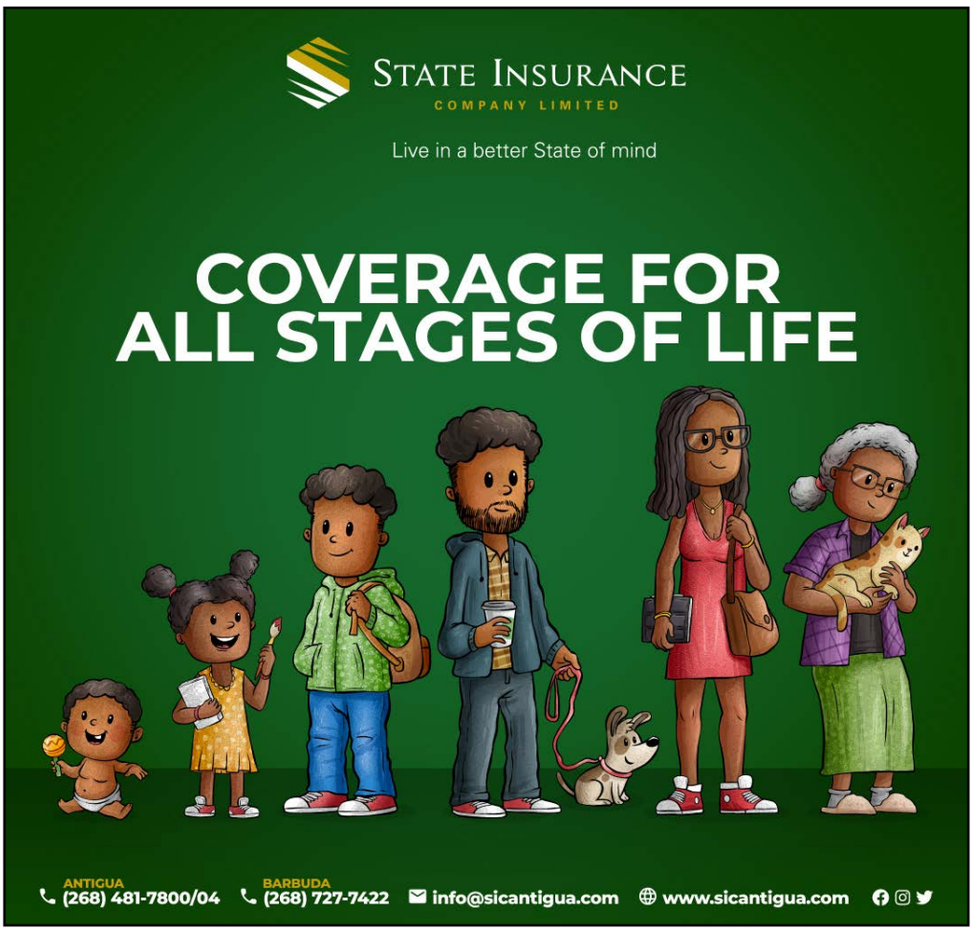


The more than six hundred persons who took part in the just-concluded Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) activities performing the critical roles of volunteers...have been presented with another challenge; to assist the country complete the 2026 National Housing and Population Census.

The challenge was presented to the volunteers Wednesday night by the CHOGM Task Force Chair and Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene, at an Appreciation Social held at the Interpretation Centre for those where took part in the various tasks associated with hosting CHOGM, including the volunteers.

Minister Greene noted that the task of completing the National Census now falls under his responsibility and that the progress has been quite slow. He is hoping that the volunteers would take up the challenge by helping the country complete this vital exercise.

"I want to as minister responsible for census to encourage our volunteers to take on one more national assignment; that is to help us complete the national census. It is a very important assignment, for if we are to build this country we need to know how many persons are in the country, we need to know what ser-











vices are available in the country so that we can plan for schools, roads and hospitals, all those services that our people live by," he explained.

Minister Greene said he is of the view that with the charm and professionalism displayed by the volunteers during CHOGM, he would wish to enlist the help of the volunteers to help the government and the country by extension with completing the numeration of the census before the middle of the 2027.

Meanwhile, also speaking at Wednesday's event was the National Focal Point for CHOGM 2026, High Commissioner to the UK, Karen-Mae Hill, who extended deep appreciation to members of the National Task Force and the other members of the various sub-committees who answered the call to duty in the nation's interest.

"I want us to pause and to appreciate what was achieved by this tiny nation. I know that in the minds of many of us it was heart-warming to see how the world saw the effort that went into our planning. I was in London just last week and the word everywhere was that this was a successful CHOGM. But how is this success being defined? It is defined by the strength of the programme but also by the warmth of the people that they met; everyone doing their best to make sure that people were satisfied with the arrangements that were in place," she observed.

High Commissioner Hill said her hope is for Antigua and Barbuda to continue to grow in this area and not to simply 'pat ourselves on the back and say; we have arrived, because. We haven't arrived'.

"We have started a journey by developing this sector and I want to encourage everyone here this evening to think about what more can we do to develop ourselves personally and our nation nationally so that we are able to do these things more and more. I want to thank everyone who contributed to the effort over the last two years, because this has been a two-year journey," she declared.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Deputy CHOGM Task Force Chair, Ambassador Liverpool, while Volunteer Lead, Anika Kentish, was serenaded for her birthday by Minister Greene.

Antigua and Barbuda Still Basking in the After-Glow of a Successful CHOGM





Two weeks after Antigua and Barbuda successfully hosted the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), the country continues to bask is the after-glow of global recognition and applause.

The topic dominated discussions this week between the new High Commission for India accredited to Antigua and Barbuda, Chinmoy Naik, and Foreign Affairs Minister and Chair of the National CHOGM Task Force, E.P Chet Greene.

The new High Commissioner, who is based in Georgetown, Guyana, expressed his country's congratulations to Minister Greene for a successful CHOGM noting that his country's delegation was highly appreciative of all the arrangements that were made by the Antigua and Barbuda government to ensure that their stay was enjoyable, but also for ensuring that the discussions at the plenary, the forums and the side events were all of a particular high standard.

Minister Greene thanked the High Commissioner for his kind words noting that it was an all-country undertaking to ensure that the conference came off to the satisfaction of all. He noted that the pride of Antiguans and Barbudans was on display and everyone took it as a personal responsibility to do his/her part to ensure that when the delegates left to return to their respective countries that they had nothing but fun memories of their time here in Antigua and Barbuda.

Minister Greene emphasized the continued support by the Indian government to assist with making CHOGM a success. These include both material support in the form of the donations of 8-electic luxury buses and a number of motorbikes as well as human resource assistance in the form of training for military personnel as well as for officers in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs among others.

Antigua and Barbuda and India have enjoyed very good relations ever since they established diplomatic ties back in 1981. Both countries share a passion for cricket and are fulsome members of the 56-member Commonwealth of Nations.

India has a history of assisting Antigua and Barbuda, most notably, during the COVID-19 pandemic, with post-Hurricane Irma relief in 2017, in preparations for the SIDS4 conference in 2024 and most recently, the hosting of CHOGM 26.



Antigua and Barbuda Participates in Regional Workshop on Diagnostic Imaging and Radiation Medicine





A three-member delegation from Antigua and Barbuda participated in the regional workshop, Strengthening Operations and Maintenance of Diagnostic Radiation Medicine Equipment in the Caribbean, held in Nassau, The Bahamas, this month.

Representing Antigua and Barbuda were Dr. Teri-Ann Joseph, Deputy Chief Medical Officer; Dr. Andre Bovell, Director of Pharmacy at the Medical Benefits Scheme; and Dr. Sekeena Goodwin, Pathologist at Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre.

Convened under the Accelerating Scientific Collaboration and Excellence in Nuclear Technology (ASCENT) initiative, the workshop brought together healthcare professionals, technical specialists and regional stakeholders to examine approaches to strengthening the safety, reliability and sustainability of diagnostic imaging and radiation medicine services across the Caribbean.

Over the three days, participants examined key considerations in the planning, procurement, operation and maintenance of medical radiation equipment, including radiation protection, quality assurance, specialist workforce development and sustainable financing. Discussions highlighted the importance of ensuring that investments in medical technology are supported by appropriate infrastructure, trained personnel and effective arrangements for equipment management throughout its operational life.

The programme also included visits to healthcare facilities in The Bahamas, providing opportunities to observe the organisation and delivery of specialised diagnostic and cancer services. Particular attention was given to patient safety, service organisation and the infrastructure and operational arrangements necessary to sustain these services.

Through technical presentations and facilitated group discussions, participating countries exchanged experiences on common challenges, including equipment downtime, limited specialist expertise and the costs associated with maintaining advanced medical technologies. Opportunities for regional cooperation and shared technical capacity were also explored.

A further component of the workshop focused on investment planning and financing, including the development of comprehensive, bankable project proposals to support the establishment and long-term sustainability of diagnostic imaging and radiation medicine services.

Commenting on the significance of the workshop, Minister of Health, Michael Joseph, emphasised the need for healthcare investments to deliver sustainable improvements in patient care.

“Our responsibility is to ensure that investments in healthcare deliver lasting benefits to the people of Antigua and Barbuda. Acquiring advanced medical equipment is only one part of that responsibility. Equally important are the skilled personnel, supporting infrastructure and maintenance arrangements needed to ensure that these services remain safe, reliable and accessible. The experiences shared at this workshop provide valuable insights to inform our planning and investment decisions as we continue to strengthen healthcare delivery.”

Antigua and Barbuda’s participation provided an opportunity to benefit from regional and international expertise and examine approaches relevant to the continued strengthening of national diagnostic and specialist healthcare services.

Minister Joseph Calls for Accountability and Action at COP31





Minister of Environment, Michael Joseph, has called on world leaders to ensure that the outcomes of the 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31) translate into meaningful action, emphasizing that the success of the global climate summit must be measured by decisions implemented and tangible results delivered.

Speaking during the conference in Antalya, Türkiye, Minister Joseph stressed that the considerable investments made by the host countries, Türkiye and Australia, in organizing COP31 must be matched by ambitious and practical outcomes. He noted that growing public concern about the effectiveness of international climate conferences reinforces the need for governments to demonstrate that global cooperation can produce meaningful change.

Minister Joseph underscored that climate negotiations are ultimately about protecting people and securing a safe and habitable planet for future generations. He pointed to the existential threats facing Small Island Developing States (SIDS), including rising sea levels, increasingly intense hurricanes and the growing consequences of insufficient global climate action. The experiences of countries such as Tuvalu and those across the Caribbean, he noted, demonstrate why urgent and coordinated international action is necessary.

In a further demonstration of Antigua and Barbuda's commitment to advancing practical climate solutions, Minister Joseph, on behalf of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, endorsed the 35 by 35 Global Electrification Pledge. The initiative seeks to increase electricity's share of global final energy consumption to 35 per cent by 2035, supporting the transition towards cleaner energy and greater electrification across sectors.

Minister Joseph's participation also reflects Antigua and Barbuda's wider regional responsibilities at COP31, where he serves as CARICOM's lead Minister on climate science and shares responsibility for the Community's climate finance negotiations. These roles are particularly important to the Caribbean, where access to climate financing, reliable scientific information and resources for adaptation and resilience are critical to protecting lives, livelihoods and national development.

The Minister maintained that COP31 must not become another conference defined by promises, but one that advances credible decisions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen adaptation and resilience, and mobilize the financing necessary to turn commitments into action.

For Antigua and Barbuda, the message remains clear: climate action must move beyond commitments to implementation, with the protection of vulnerable communities and future generations at its centre.

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2x6x18 Dressed Treated
2x8x12 Dressed Treated
2x8x14 Dressed Treated
2x8x18 Dressed Treated
4x4x16 Dressed Treated



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1x4x18



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ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
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2027
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RICHIE PELLE - DAWN JNO-LEWIS
MELONNIE SADLER - MADELYN LEWIS
GEN $100
GLORY LOUNGE $250
EARLY BIRD
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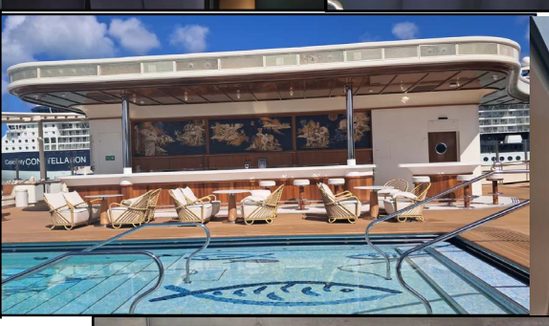
FLOW

Four Seasons Luxury Yacht Makes Inaugural call













The luxury tourism experience in Antigua and Barbuda continues to grow, with the latest example coming from the cruise sector. On Thursday, for the first time ever, a Four Seasons Yacht has docked in St. John's Harbour, bringing one of the most pristine and luxurious vessels to the country's shores.

Four Seasons is already a notable name in the luxury hospitality industry, with more than six decades of prominence in the hotel sector. In 2026, the company ventured into the cruise market with the launch of Four Seasons Yachts, its luxury cruise division.

On Thursday, the Four Seasons Yacht pulled into St. John's Harbour, bringing with it more than 200 passengers who poured into the capital, adding to the country's cruise tourism arrivals and overall economic activity. In recognition of this new market milestone, the cruise line exchanged commemorative plaques with representatives from the Antigua Cruise Port, the St. John's Development Corporation and shipping agent, Delisle, Walwyn and Francis.

Additional plaques were exchanged to mark the occasion. The arrival of the Four Seasons Yacht is yet another testament to Antigua and Barbuda's cruise tourism capacity and its competitiveness within the Caribbean cruise market.

Royal Commonwealth Society UK receives $18,000 from Halo





The Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) UK branch received $18,000 from the Halo Foundation in support of various planned projects, during a cocktail party sponsored by Galley Bay Resort during the recent CHOGM.

The funds were handed over to Janet Cooper, Chair of RCS UK by Dame Sandra Williams, President of the RCS Antigua and Barbuda Branch.

In her speech, Dame Sandra praised the initiative of the various world-wide branches present, stating that this was an ideal opportunity to grow the international network. She also emphasized that the donation to the UK branch, raised at this year's Halo Wings of Charity Gala and Auction in London, is to assist with their ongoing literacy programme, including the annual Queen's Essay Competition.

This year, Queen Camilla was able to award the essay prize winners from Antigua and Barbuda personally during the CHOGM activities.



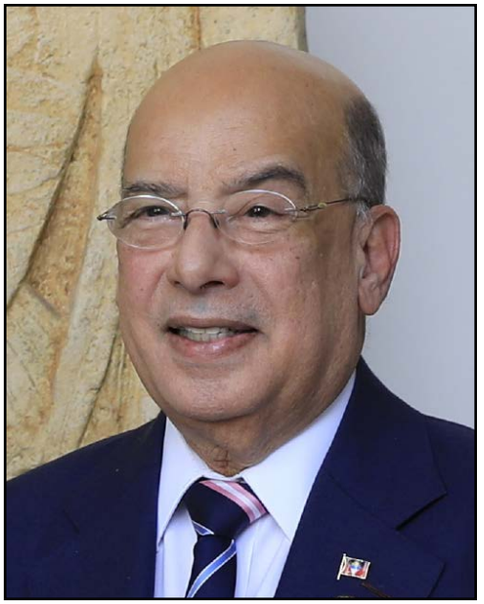

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Why Consensus Does Not Always Serve Small Countries: the COP Experience



By Sir Ronald Sanders

What are small states to do when the very system of international cooperation in which they have placed their faith cannot deliver the measures necessary for their survival?

That question arises yet again at the 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31) in Antalya, Türkiye, where governments have spent much of the past two weeks negotiating over issues whose urgency has long been established by science.

As negotiations entered their final days, divisions persisted over adaptation financing, the transition away from fossil fuels and measures to contain global warming.

By 18 November, announced pledges to the Adaptation Fund amounted to approximately US$50 million, compared with US$135 million at last year's conference. These pledges represent only part of international adaptation financing, but the shortfall sends a troubling signal.

Nearly three years after governments agreed in Dubai to contribute to transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, a revised negotiating text issued in Antalya on 19 November omitted references to fossil fuels. The text remains subject to negotiation, but the omission illustrates how even agreed progress can come under pressure.

For small island states, even the benchmark against which action is judged must be defended. Antigua and Barbuda's Minister Michael Joseph explained why his country opposed weakening the 1.5°C target: "we can't move the benchmark, because it means that it opens that doorway for even greater overshoot". He also called for a science-guided approach to minimise the duration of any overshoot and bring temperatures back down as quickly as possible.

Whatever emerges from Antalya, small states must confront a fundamental weakness in climate negotiations: the prevailing practice of decision-making by consensus.

Consensus offers small states considerable protection. It gives them a voice that their economic size, military strength and political influence would not otherwise afford them. But it can also protect those determined to delay, allowing governments defending their economic interests to dilute collective action, even when the consequences for others are grave.

Because governments have never agreed the general voting rule, climate decisions ordinarily depend on consensus, generally understood as agreement without formal objection. This does not confer an unqualified legal veto on every country, but when countries have vastly unequal capacities to withstand delay, they negotiate from vastly unequal positions.

Wealthy industrialised countries can leave a climate conference dissatisfied and still command substantial resources to protect their populations and economies. Small island states have fewer options.

For Caribbean countries, another devastating hurricane could destroy much of their economic infrastructure, displace thousands of people and accumulate debt that burdens generations.

Nonetheless, the concerns of fossil-fuel-producing countries cannot be dismissed. Their revenues, employment and development programmes depend, in varying degrees, on those resources. With powerful political interests behind them, they remain a formidable force in negotiations.

But why should those interests be protected at the expense of other countries' survival and development? Developing countries ought not to be denied legitimate opportunities to industrialise, reduce poverty and improve living standards. Yet their ability to secure support is constrained by the imbalance of political power.

The financing gap exposes that imbalance most strikingly. UNEP's 2026 Adaptation Gap Report estimates developing countries' adaptation needs at US$305 billion annually by 2035. International public adaptation finance from developed to developing countries reached only US$28.2 billion to US$31.7 billion in 2024.

The report also finds that flows to small island developing states and least developed countries, while higher than in 2019, had declined from their 2022 peak. Vulnerable countries face immense costs to protect themselves against a problem to which they contributed little.

Where, then, do small states go?

They should certainly not abandon UN climate negotiations. The process remains indispensable for making their case, mobilising support and holding governments to their commitments. But participation cannot be their only recourse.

One avenue they have already pursued is international law. In May 2024, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea determined that greenhouse gas emissions resulting from human activity constitute pollution of the marine environment under the UN

Convention on the Law of the Sea. It clarified states' obligations to prevent, reduce and control that pollution.

In July 2025, the International Court of Justice clarified states' obligations to protect the climate system. It confirmed that breaches can entail legal responsibility, including reparation where the necessary conditions are established. Compensation requires a sufficiently direct and certain causal connection between wrongful conduct and injury.

These advisory opinions do not themselves award compensation or compel emissions reductions, but they strengthen the legal foundation on which small states can pursue accountability.

A second avenue is stronger cooperation with countries willing to act without waiting for universal agreement. Governments prepared to cut emissions more deeply, accelerate renewable energy or provide accessible climate financing can advance those efforts together. Cooperation with multilateral development banks, regional financial institutions and private investors could help reduce financing costs for resilience and renewable energy projects.

Caribbean countries should also strengthen their collective action by pooling demand for renewable energy equipment, reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels and improving regional disaster insurance arrangements.

They would also benefit from speaking consistently with a unified voice in every relevant international forum. One is the Organization of American States, where Caribbean countries should build common cause with Latin American countries. They should not accept that COP is the only forum for defending and advancing their interests.

Together, they should insist that major emitters meet their obligations, including compensation where legal responsibility for damage is established.

Confidence in multilateralism is already weakened among many vulnerable states, but they should not be tempted to walk away from it. That would play into the hands of those who firmly believe their unilateral power should dictate outcomes.

Small states have an especially strong interest in preserving multilateralism and international law because they have fewer alternatives to both. That is precisely why they must insist that the system works.

Consensus should remain a means of securing collective action, but it should not become a permanent justification for accepting whatever the most powerful will permit. Nor should reform discard the protections that consensus affords small countries. The task is to preserve their voice while preventing delay from defeating the purpose of negotiation.

The Antigua and Barbuda Minister's insistence on defending 1.5°C identifies what is at stake. Negotiating language cannot make a higher temperature safer.

For small island states, another year of inadequate action may be measured in lost lives, lost livelihoods and lost territory.

They cannot negotiate with rising seas, hotter temperatures and their devastating impacts.

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the US and the OAS, Chair of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development and Chancellor of the University of Guyana.)

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TICKET LOCATIONS:
EXOTIC ANTIGUA | ROTI KING | COOL & SMOOTH
MENS WORLD, TOWN HOUSE PLAZA
CLICCASH OFFICE, ROYAL PALM, FRIARS HILL RD
ANTIGUACARNIVAL
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
1NATIONMUSICFESTIVAL


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
10TH JAN
2027
6:00PM
NIGHT TWO
1
NATION
CARIBBEAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
SHERWIN GARDNER
GEN $100
GLORY LOUNGE $250
EARLY BIRD
ANTIGUA RECREATION GROUND
CLICCASH
TICKET LOCATIONS:
EXOTIC ANTIGUA | ROTI KING | COOL & SMOOTH
MENS WORLD, TOWN HOUSE PLAZA
CLICCASH OFFICE, ROYAL PALM, FRIARS HILL RD
ANTIGUACARNIVAL
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
1NATIONMUSICFESTIVAL

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
TOURISM WEEK
2026

Empowering our people for the future:
embracing AI, building skills and securing careers.

NATIONAL TOURISM SYMPOSIUM



REMARKS BY
Hon. H. Charles "Max" Fernandez
Minister for Tourism, Civil Aviation Transportation & Investment



FEATURED FACILITATOR
Dr. Auliana Poon



GUEST SPEAKER
Ms. Dona Regis Prosper

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2026

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Sir John E. St. Luce Finance and Conference Centre
Factory Road



This will be an interactive session.
Participants will be required to use an AI assistant on their device.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

SCAN TO REGISTER

For more details contact:
Ms. Shanaka Savory
Ministry of Tourism and Investment

468-4083 Shanaka.savory@ab.gov.ag


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
9TH JAN
2027
8:00PM
NIGHT ONE
ONE
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CARIBBEAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
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ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
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EARLY BIRD
ANTIGUA RECREATION GROUND
CLICCASH
TICKET LOCATIONS:
EXOTIC ANTIGUA | ROTI KING | COOL & SMOOTH
MENS WORLD, TOWN HOUSE PLAZA
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POINT EXPRESS
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

Hermitage and Galley Bay to battle for business football league title



The Hermitage Bay Strikers football team

Former champions Hermitage Bay Strikers and the Galley Bay Ballers will battle for the title in the 2026 JOMA Caribbean Ministry of Sports Business Football League Championship.

Both teams advanced to the final by surging to commanding wins in the semi-finals at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos on Wednesday evening.

Hermitage Bay Strikers, which won the title in 2024, pulled off a 3-0 victory over Cocos Hotel in the first semi-final. The Galley Bay Ballers recorded a 3-1 victory against the Central Housing and Planning Authority (CHAPA) Warriors in the second semi-final.

The final four teams secured their berths in the semi-finals after securing wins in the quarter-finals on Saturday, November 14.

It means a new title winner will be crowned this year after the Galley Bay Ballers ousted last year's champions, APUA Telecoms, by snatching a 1-0 victory against the 2025 winners in the quarter-finals at Golden Grove.

The Hermitage Bay Strikers hammered Jumby Bay Resort 4-0 in their one-sided quarter-final encounter at Radio Range.

Cocos Hotel also surged to a 4-0 victory against the University of the West Indies (UWI) Frigate Bird FC at Radio Range, while the CHAPA Warriors snatched a 3-2 win over the American University of Antigua (AUA) FC at Golden Grove in the other quarter-final matches.

The Hermitage Bay Strikers and the Galley Bay Ballers will clash in the final at the Pigotts playing field on Saturday at 8 pm.

The final will be preceded by two matches. The National Housing Development (NHD) will face their colleagues in the NHD Full Experience in an exhibition match at 5:30 pm.

Losing semi-finalists, Cocos Hotel and the CHAPA Warriors will battle in the playoff for third place at 6:45 pm.

A total of 28 teams, four less than last year, participated in the 2026 JOMA Caribbean Ministry of Sports Business Football League Championship.

Bolans FC go top of ABFA's Second Division League



Players of the Bolans football team

Bolans FC returned to the top of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League on goal difference on Wednesday.

Bolans joined Real Blizzard with 13 points from five matches after picking up their fourth win by surging to a 5-2 victory over Tryum FC at the Cashew Hill playing field.

Romario Christian had a double conversion, while the other goals for Bolans FC were scored by Alex Joseph, Kareem Samuel, and Steffon Benjamin.

Denison Hodge and Darrie Matthew each converted once for Tryum FC, which remains on five points after slumping to their second defeat in five matches.

Blackburn Palace claimed their third win in five matches by snatching a 3-2 victory against Lion Hill FC at the Golden Grove playing field.

The result allows Blackburn Palace to move on to 10 points, while Lion Hill FC remains on six points after losing for the second time in four matches.

After losing their previous three matches, the Liberta Blackhawks recorded their second successive win by pulling off a 4-1 victory against the Young Warriors at Ball Beef in Liberta.

Ky-Mani Francis converted twice, and Lennox Julian and Dante Caleb each scored once for the Liberta Blackhawks to claim the victory and advance to six points from five matches.

Thirteen-year-old Keaton Gregory, on his debut, scored a consolation goal in the 80th minute for the Young Warriors, who will remain on three points after slumping to their fourth loss in five matches.

But the second division match between Glanvilles FC and Wadadli United FC at Glanvilles was postponed.

Glanvilles FC has nine points from four matches, while Wadadli United FC has one point from five encounters.





PMS ends AGHS unbeaten run in school girls Under-20 league

Defending champions, Princess Margaret School (PMS), ended the unbeaten run of Antigua Girls High School (AGHS) in the Girls Under-20 Division in the Ministry of Sports Cool and Smooth JOMA Caribbean Schools Football League on Wednesday.

Princess Margaret School maintained their unbeaten start by claiming their fifth win in as many matches with a 4-0 drubbing of AGHS at the ABFA Technical Center.

The result not only ended the unbeaten run of AGHS but also stopped the prolific scoring of the league's chief goal-scorer Nafisa Quashie.

The diminutive Quashie converted a total of 22 goals to lead AGHS to commanding wins in their previous four matches but failed to score against PMS as her team remained on 12 points after losing for the first time in five matches.

But the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) also maintained their perfect start, claiming their fifth win in as many games with a 5-1 drubbing of All Saints Secondary School (ASSS) at the Freemans Village playing field.

Sanique Levy and Mia Lake each converted twice, and Aliah London scored one for ABCAS, who advanced to 15 points, the same as PMS, as both teams remain joint leaders of the Under-20 Girls Division League.

All Saints Secondary School is still searching for their first win and remains at the bottom of the 10-team standings without any points after crashing to their fifth defeat in as many encounters.

Pares Secondary School (PSS) picked up their second win in five matches by snatching a 2-1 victory against Ottos Comprehensive School (OCS) at the Freemans Village playing field.

Keitonya Skepple and Devonia Jarvis each converted once for Pares Secondary School, which advanced to six points. Kengenique Armstrong scored for OCS, which remains on three points after losing for the fourth time in five matches.

St. Mary's Secondary School (SMSS) and St. Anthony's Secondary School (SASS) fought to a 1-1 draw at the Clare Hall playing field.

Shazelle Joseph converted for SMSS, which advanced to four points after salvaging their first draw in five matches. Chloe Davis scored for SASS, which moves on to five points after securing their second draw in five encounters.

Jennings Secondary School (JSS) and Clare Hall Secondary School (CHSS) played to a goalless draw in the other fifth-round encounter at the Clare Hall playing field.

The result allows JSS to move on to five points after securing their second draw in five encounters. Clare Hall Secondary School advances to seven points after recording their first draw in five matches.

CWI host camp to prepare Windies players for U-19 Women's World Cup

Eighteen of the region's most promising female juniors have been named for the West Indies Women's Under-19 High-Performance Camp and Trial-Match series, taking place in Antigua from November 19 to 29, as preparations continue for the 2027 ICC Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup in Bangladesh and Nepal.

The camp is the final competitive block of the squad's preparations in the Caribbean and the last selection opportunity before the 15-player World Cup squad is named.

The selection marks the next step in a process that has narrowed steadily since the 2026 Rising Stars Women's Under-19 Championship, where 22 players moved directly from that tournament into a two-week High-Performance Camp from August 17 to 29.

A key element of the camp will be a five-match series between a West Indies Under-19 Select and a West Indies Emerging Women's XI, providing competitive opposition for the Under-19 Select and valuable high-performance experience for the group of emerging players.

All matches will be played at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, with the series designed to run as close to a real international series as possible, with qualified umpires and an official scorer in place.

Adding a wealth of experience to the camp, West Indies legend Stafanie Taylor will join the group as a mentor to the young players. The former West Indies captain, who led the region to the 2016 ICC Women's World T20 title, is one of the most decorated players in the history of the women's game, and her presence offers the junior players a rare opportunity to learn first-hand from one of the region's greatest, both on and off the field.

"I remember what it meant to me as a young player to have senior players around who were willing to share what they knew. This group has a big opportunity in front of them, and if I can help them feel more prepared and more confident going into a World Cup, then that is something I'm really happy to be a part of," said Taylor.



Brianna Harricharan

CWI's High-Performance Manager Dwain Gill said every phase of this programme has been completed successfully, and this camp is the final piece of preparation here in the Caribbean.

"With no international series available to us before the World Cup, we have designed these five matches to replicate tournament cricket as closely as possible, right through to a full World Cup simulation in the final game," he stated.

"It is also the last opportunity for players to make their case for selection, so we want to see them embrace that pressure and show us what they are capable of."

Gill added, "Having someone of Stafanie Taylor's stature in camp is invaluable. She has been there and done it at the very highest level, and the knowledge she can pass on to these young women, both on and off the field, will serve them well in Nepal and well beyond."

CWI Coach Ryan Austin, who led the coaching staff in August, will again oversee the on-field programme alongside Shane Dowrich. The final 15-player squad and reserves will be confirmed following the conclusion of the series.

At the World Cup, which runs from January 15 to February 7, 2027, the West Indies have been drawn in Group A and will play all their group matches in Kathmandu, Nepal, against India, Ireland and hosts Nepal on January 22, 24, and 26, respectively.

Training Camp Participants: Krissy Amarsingh (Trinidad and Tobago), Eboni Brathwaite (Barbados), Jessica Davis (Trinidad and Tobago), Kaela George (Dominica, Windward Islands), Brianna Harricharan (Trinidad and Tobago), Theanny Herbert Mayers (Barbados), Shriya Jairam (Trinidad and Tobago), Seraiah Kawalsingh (Trinidad and Tobago), Danielle Manns (Guyana), Jannah Mohammed (Trinidad and Tobago), Brianna Plummer (Jamaica), Sian Ramnarine (Trinidad and Tobago), Samara Ramnath (Trinidad and Tobago), Amrita Ramtahal (Trinidad and Tobago), Zara Skerritt (St. Kitts, Leeward Islands), Jaeda Tyrell (Grenada, Windward Islands), Leanga Warner (St. Kitts, Leeward Islands), and Aaliyah Weekes (St. Kitts, Leeward Islands).

Players Selected for Emerging Women's XI: Abigail Bryce (Jamaica), Jahzara Claxton (St Kitts, Leeward Islands), NaiJanni Cumberbatch (Barbados), Jannillea Glasgow (St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Windward Islands), Shawnisha Hector (Antigua, Leeward Islands), Zaida James (St. Lucia, Windward Islands), Mandy Mangru (Guyana), and Chey-Ann Moses (Antigua, Leeward Islands).

Sports
FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2026
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA POINT EXPRESS
TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

Sandals clinch third spot in business volleyball league

Sandals clinched third place as the round-robin stage in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Business League Championship came to an end on Wednesday evening.

Sandals recorded a 2-0 (25-18, 25-21) victory against the Royalton in the final league match of the mixed team competition at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

The result allows Sandals to leapfrog former champions APUA Inet and snatched third place in the nine-team round-robin league contest.

It allows Sandals to reach a total of 17 points, one more than APUA Inet, with both teams finishing their quota of eight round-robin matches with identical records of six wins and two losses.

With the top four finishers advancing to the semi-finals and knockout stage, the University of the West Indies failed to qualify after finishing fifth with a total of 15 points by virtue of winning five and losing their other three matches.

The Royalton not only missed out on qualifying for the semis but also finished in the cellar with four points after securing one win and seven losses during their quota of round-robin matches.

The 77 Bus Service claimed their first win after being awarded a 2-0 (25-0, 25-0) victory by default against the Media.

Following dissatisfaction with gameplay, the Media opted not to continue the encounter, resulting in forfeiting the match to 77 Bus Service.



The Sandals volleyball team

The Media ended their campaign in sixth place with seven points and a record of two wins and six losses.

The 77 Bus Services finished second from the bottom of the standings with seven points and a record of one win and seven losses.

The Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank (ECAB) finished at the top of the standings during the round-robin preliminary stage of the competition.

The Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank clinched the top spot with 19 points and finished their quota of eight round-robin matches with seven wins and one defeat.

ECAB suffered their only defeat in their penultimate league outing, losing 2-0 to Nate's Photography, who prevailed 25-22 and 25-18.

Nate's Photography secured second place ahead of Sandals and APUA Inet after all three teams finished with identical records of six wins and two losses from their quota of eight matches.

The other participating team, Zamine Enterprises, finished in seventh place with a record of two wins and six losses.

In Thursday's semi-finals at the YMCA Sports Complex, ECAB was slated to face APUA Inet, and Nate's Photography was scheduled to clash with Sandals.

The two semi-final winners will advance to the final, which will take place on Saturday. The championship decider will be preceded by a playoff for third place between the two losing teams in the semi-finals.

The matches will be followed by the closing and award ceremony of the 2026 ABAVA Business League Championship.

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