



MINISTRY OF PLANNING, HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commonwealth Association of Planners Regional Workshop to precede CHOGM Meeting

The Town and Country Planning Division (TCPD) of the Ministry of Planning, Housing and the Environment (MPHE), in collaboration with the Trinidad & Tobago Society of Planners (TTSP) and the Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP) will host a Commonwealth Conference and Regional Meeting at the **Hyatt Regency Hotel from Thursday 19th November to Saturday 21st November, 2009.**

Dr. Emily Dick-Forde, Minister Planning, Housing and the Environment will deliver the Feature Address at the opening ceremony on Thursday 19th November, 2009.

This conference is being hosted one week prior to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Trinidad and Tobago in November. A report from the meeting will be submitted to the CHOGM Secretariat for consideration by the Commonwealth Heads at the biennial meeting at the end of November.

The theme of the conference is '**Partnerships among the State, Civil Society and the Private Sector in Planning and Development**'. The conference will seek to address the need for a more participatory approach to planning and development and is premised on the notion that these activities are not the sole responsibility of the State. Issues such as Climate Change and Coastal Zone Management will be topics of discussion at the workshop sessions.

Participants in the conference and workshops will come from South Africa, Britain, Canada, Jamaica, Martinique, British Virgin Islands, Barbados and Brazil. Papers will be presented from Jamaica, Martinique, Canada and Trinidad as well as from the UN-Habitat and CAP.

The two (2) workshops scheduled for the Conference will be hosted by Ms. Marni Cappe, President of the Canadian Institute of Planners and Commodore Anthony Franklin, Director, Institute of Marine Affairs, UTT and will address "Policy Issues on Climate Change – the CIP approach" and "Coastal Zone Management – An Integrated Approach, respectively.

Registration fees to attend the Conference and workshops are as follows:

- **Full Participant:** USD \$235 / TTD \$1,500
- **Early Bird Registrant, on or before 31 October 2009:** USD \$200 / TTD \$1,300.
- **Day Rater:** USD \$125 / TTD \$800.
- **Students:** *Msc* - Urban and Regional Planning
Diploma - Land Administration, **Department of Surveying and Land Information:** Free
- **Sponsor / Presenter:** Free.

Other sponsors for the Commonwealth Association of Planners Conference are the Environmental Management Authority (EMA), the Office for Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM), the Estate Management Business Development Company Limited (EMBD) and DESSAU.

For further information please contact:

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