



**SAVINGRAM**

**FROM:** Secretary-General, Caribbean Community

**TO:** Minister of Foreign Affairs, Antigua and Barbuda  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, The Bahamas  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Barbados  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Belize  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dominica  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Grenada  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Guyana  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Haiti  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jamaica  
Hon. Premier, Montserrat  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, St. Kitts and Nevis  
Minister of External Affairs, Saint Lucia  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, St. Vincent and the Grenadines  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Suriname  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trinidad and Tobago

**COPIED:** Hon. Chief Minister, Anguilla  
Hon. Premier, Bermuda  
Hon. Premier, British Virgin Islands  
Hon. Premier, Cayman Islands  
Heads of Statistical Administrations  
Ministers with responsibility for CARICOM Affairs  
Ministers with responsibility for Information and Communications Technologies  
Ambassadors of Member States accredited to CARICOM  
High Commissioner for Jamaica to Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados,  
Guyana and the Eastern Caribbean States and Ambassador to Suriname  
High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago to Jamaica  
Director-General, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States

**No. 888/2011**

**21 October 2011**

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**CARICOM WORKSHOP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CARIBBEAN SPECIFIC  
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (CSICT) STATISTICS  
AND INDICATORS, ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, 6-9 DECEMBER 2011**

**(CONVENING)**

1. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat wishes to advise Member States that it proposes to convene a **CARICOM Workshop on the Development of Caribbean Specific Information and Communication Technologies (CSICT) Statistics and Indicators** in **St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda** on **6-9 December 2011**. This Workshop is being funded by the **European Union (EU)**, Caribbean Integration Support Programme (CISP) under the Ninth European Development Fund (Ninth EDF).

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2. Member States will recall that at the Thirty-Sixth Special Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) held in Grenada, 24-27 May 2011, the COTED noted the critical importance of relevant statistics and indicators in assessing the contribution and impact of human, social and economic development in CARICOM. The COTED also emphasised the importance of ICT Indicators, specifically the Caribbean Specific ICT Indicators, in improving the investment climate and enhancing competitiveness and urged that resources be acquired to support the development of a Regional Statistics Strategy.
3. The recognition of the need to develop ICT Statistics dates back to the Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) held in Nassau, The Bahamas in 2001, which recommended the development of a Core Data Set including ICT Statistics for the Region. From 2001 to the present there has been appreciable progress on enabling the measurement of ICT Statistics, mainly through the work of the Statistics Sub-Committee of the Regional ICT Steering Committee. Statistics on ICT was included in the Regional Statistical Work Programme (RSWP) approved by the Community Council of Ministers in 2005.
4. The main objectives of this Workshop are to -
  - (i) **inform** on the developmental work on the measurement of ICT and specifically on the economic contribution of ICT;
  - (ii) **review** the draft Caribbean Specific ICT (CSICT) Statistics and Indicators; relative to refinements or additional indicators that may be required;
  - (iii) **develop** a draft work plan for the compilation of the CSICT Statistics and Indicators and for the measurement of the economic contribution of ICT.
5. The Workshop targets two (2) officials from Member States – one (1) from the National Statistical Office and the other from the relevant Ministry or agency that is the focal point of ICT for Development (ICT4D).
6. The Provisional Agenda for the Workshop is **attached**.
7. Member States will be requested to update the Meeting with regard to progress in their respective Member State on the collection/collation of Statistics. In this regard, an Inventory of Regional Statistics will be submitted to prospective participants at a later date.
8. The Secretariat would appreciate receiving by **Monday, 14 November 2011**, any additional item(s) which Member States may wish to have included on the Agenda. This information should be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum on the proposed item(s). **Information on presentations to be made by Member States will be communicated prior to the Workshop.**

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9. Details regarding accommodation will be provided under separate cover. The Ninth EDF Funding arrangements require the following –
- (i) participants attending Meetings funded by the 9<sup>th</sup> EDF would be required to pay for their airfares to attend the Meeting;**
  - (ii) on arrival at the Meeting and on presentation of their in-coming boarding pass(es) stub(s), participants would be paid 100 per cent of the per diem; and**
  - (iii) on return to their home destination, participants would be required to submit to the Secretariat, their return boarding pass(es), invoice(s) and receipt(s) from the Travel Agency as evidence for reimbursement of airfares.**
10. Member States are requested to forward to the Secretariat the name(s) and designation(s) of the members of their respective delegations no later than **Monday, 14 November 2011** to -

The Secretary-General  
Caribbean Community

**for the attention of -**

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INDICATORS, ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, 6-9 DECEMBER 2011**

**(CONVENING)**

**and to -**

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Original Signed By

*Ms. Desiree Field-Ridley*

**Officer-in-Charge**

**DIRECTORATE OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION  
f/SECRETARY-GENERAL**