



27 July 2005

Dear Colleagues

Please be advised that we would be conducting a **CARICOM Workshop to Review the Compilation of Social/Gender and Environment Statistics on 12 and 13 September 2005 in Nassau, The Bahamas**. This workshop comes under the CARICOM Programme on Strengthening Capacity in the Compilation of Social/Gender and Environment Statistics and Indicators in the CARICOM Region.

The Workshop will be a forum to bring together a cross-section of Member States to review the core statistics and indicators those being used to measure the achievements of the MDGs. It is to be noted that the International Forum to discuss the achievements of the MDGs by UN Member States will be taking place on **15 and 16 September 2005**.

These Core Statistics and Indicators will form the basis of the **two regional publications** to be produced, as part of the outputs of the CARICOM Programme. The information interchange and discussions will therefore, serve to clarify issues and problems featuring in the data compilation process, to identify gaps in the data compiled, to validate the information and to strengthen capacity in the bridging of the existing gaps. In addition, the issue of comparability of the data within and across Member States will also feature in the workshop deliberations and efforts relative to the harmonisation of the information will be included in the proceedings.

These issues are therefore reflected in the **agenda attached** to this email.

The Secretariat will be funding at least **one (1)** person from each Member State to either attend the Social/Gender or the Environment Component or both, and are therefore, inviting Member States to submit the name(s) of their representatives, designation and contact details. In a few cases, we are also attempting to obtain representatives from the producing agencies other than the National Statistical Offices where our funds can permit. These cases are identified below.

For the **Social Gender aspect of the workshop**, the following Member States are invited to submit nominees:

Antigua and Barbuda	-	1
Barbados	-	2 (of which 1 must be from the SIMDG Committee)

Grenada	-	1
Guyana	-	1
Jamaica	-	2 (of which 1 must be from the SIMDG Committee)
Montserrat	-	1
St. Kitts and Nevis	-	1
Suriname	-	2 (of which 1 must be from the SIMDG Committee)
Bermuda	-	2 (of which 1 must be from the SIMDG Committee)

For the **Environment aspect of the Workshop** the following Member States are to submit nominees including representatives from Environmental Agencies engaged in collaborative work with the Statistical Department:

Belize	-	2 (to be advised)
Dominica	-	1
Jamaica	-	2 (1 from the Environment Agency)
Saint Lucia	-	1
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	-	1
Suriname	-	2 (1 from the Environment Agency)
Trinidad and Tobago	-	2 (1 from the Environment Agency)
Anguilla	-	1
Turks and Caicos Islands	-	1

The Secretariat will be providing funding for the participation of the representatives of Member States (as indicated above) in the Workshop. It is expected that the personnel who you are nominating should be engaged in the daily tasks of compiling the indicators and therefore should not be senior staff, but more so the lower level staff that can speak intelligibly about the conceptual and the practical measurement issues, so that capacity can be strengthened at that level. We would also be requesting directly from the nominees, the preparation of position papers on specific themes and/or statistics and indicators once the nominations have been received.

Kindly submit the name, designation and contact details of your nominee(s) by **5 August 2005** for the attention of:

Dr. Philomen Harrison
 Programme Manager
 CARICOM Secretariat
 592-222-0097
harrison@caricom.org

/...

and copied to:

Ms. Beverly Andrews – bandrews@caricom.org and
Ms. Michelle Chase – michellejc@caricom.org

I want to thank the Director of Statistics of The Bahamas and his staff for their cooperation at such short notice in agreeing to host this workshop.

Regards,

Dr. Philomen Harrison
Programme Manager
Statistics