



9th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives



4-6 November, 2014

Magdalena Grand Beach and Golf Resort
Tobago Plantations Estate, Lowlands, Tobago, W.I.



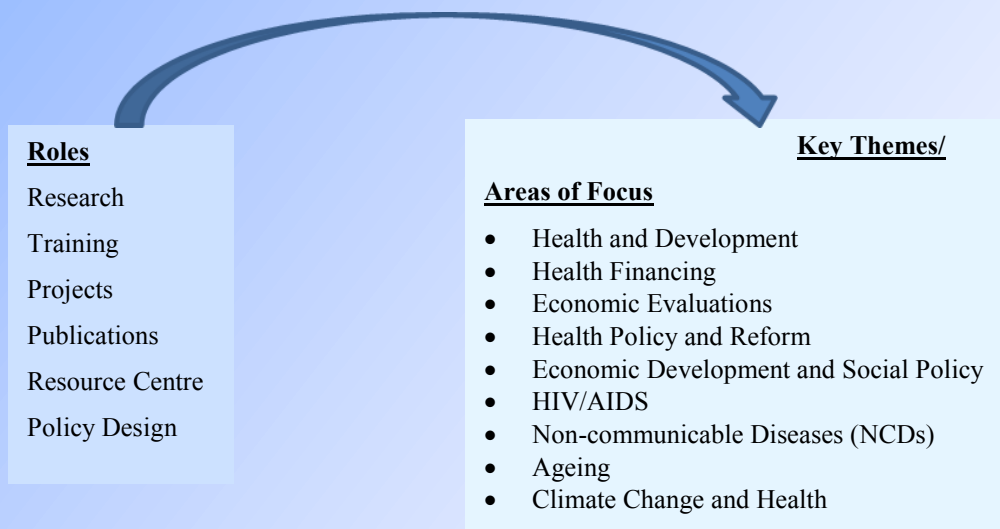
HEU, Centre for Health Economics



The Health Economics Unit (HEU) was established in 1995 as one of the research clusters in the Department of Economics at The University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine.

In 2008, the HEU was granted Centre status by The University and its name was changed to the HEU, Centre for Health Economics.

The HEU, Centre for Health Economics fills a regional need for research and technical support in a number of areas that have a direct bearing on health and policy formulation and implementation.



Through the HEU, Centre for Health Economics, The UWI can strengthen efforts of the governments and other active agencies in the region to bring better health care within the reach of all residents.

Karl Theodore
Director



Table of Contents

| | Page |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Messages | |
| Conference Host | 1 |
| Conference Coordinator | 2 |
| Host of the 8th Conference | 3 |
| Programme | 4 |
| Feature Speaker | 10 |
| Speakers | 11 |
| Social Events | 18 |
| Venue | 20 |



Message from Conference Host



Professor Karl Theodore

Director, HEU, Centre for Health Economics, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

"...valuable forum...to share experiences, test reform options...build new capacity..."

The HEU, Centre for Health Economics along with our collaborators, the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) and the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) welcomes you to the 9th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives from November 4th to 6th 2014.

We are acutely aware that countries around the world, including in the Caribbean, have been grappling with the challenges of maintaining, restructuring and sustaining their health financing systems as they contend with epidemiological burdens, in the context of economic constraints, technological demands and patient expectations. However, we are also aware of systemic and institution-specific responses, reforms and policy options being pursued by countries to address these challenges.

With this perspective in mind, this Conference provides a valuable forum for health managers, policymakers, academics and other key stakeholders to share their experiences, test their reform options, garner advice and build new capacity to take or reinforce action with regards to their health financing challenges.

Let me urge you to grasp the opportunities for group, as well as, one-on-one discussions and overall knowledge enhancement at the Conference. Let me also wish you a pleasant and memorable stay in Trinidad and Tobago.





Message from Conference Coordinator



Dr. Stanley Lalta

**Conference Coordinator and Research Fellow, HEU,
Centre for Health Economics, The University of the
West Indies, St. Augustine**

To all participants, colleagues and on-line observers, a warm Caribbean and particularly Trinidad and Tobago welcome to the 9th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives.

This year highlights another key aspect of the evolution of the Conference (since 2005) with hosting and organising responsibilities undertaken by an academic institution, the HEU, Centre for Health Economics of The University of the West Indies. This shift from mostly social security and health financing agencies as hosts in previous conferences introduces new actors, creates new spaces for discussions and indicates the expanding appeal of the Conferences.

Based on feedback from previous Conferences, we have selected 'Results-based Financing of Chronic Diseases' and 'Efficiency Imperatives in Health' as the main themes for discussion at the 9th Conference. As in past Conferences, we will have a unique mix of feature, panel and 'open mike' presentations ensuring emphasis on deeper understanding of present health financing concerns while keeping trained eyes on future challenges.

Looking forward to another provocative, productive.....and noisy Conference.

Sincere thanks to members of the Planning Committee for their dedication and commitment.

Dr. Stanley Lalta

Ms. Charmaine Metivier

Mrs. Patricia Edwards-Wescott

Mrs. Haleema Ali-Sisbane

Ms. Cheryl Theodore

Ms. Tanika Riley

Professor Karl Theodore

Dr. Althea La Foucade

Mrs. Valerie Matas

Ms. Ayanna Batson

Mr. Samuel Gabriel

Dr. Anton Cumberbatch



Message from Host of the 8th Conference



Mr. Everton W. Anderson

CEO, National Health Fund, Jamaica

The annual Caribbean Conference on Healthcare Financing is a valuable forum for collaboration among Caribbean partners in health and social security.

My wish for this year's conference in Trinidad and Tobago is that we hold to our agreement from the 8th Conference in Jamaica that our discussions are focused on solutions and innovative initiatives rather than exploring the status quo.

Our foresight at the 8th Conference when we agreed to place the efficiency of health systems at the top of the agenda was on target. The communicable disease epidemic in the region with chikungunya and the global threat of Ebola, demands that our health systems are highly efficient in handling these threats and safeguards the health of the population.

In this regard, I hope that deliberations on the range of Conference topics will yield valuable insights on the way forward. My best wishes for a successful conference and a memorable stay in Trinidad and Tobago.



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Conference Programme

DAY 1: NOVEMBER 4, 2014

REGISTRATION

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---|
| 7.00am - 8.20am | Registration | Conference Secretariat (Early Registration from 5.00pm - 8.00pm on November 3) |
|-----------------|--------------|---|

OPENING SESSION *(Invitees to be seated by 8.20am)*

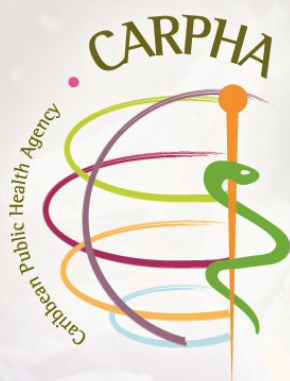
| | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| 8.30am - 8.35am | Call to Order Safety Briefing | Chairperson - Ms. Christine Laptiste - HEU/ UWI Officer of Magdalena Grand Beach and Golf Resort |
| 8.35am - 8.40am | National Anthem | |
| 8.40am - 8.45am | Invocation | Pastor Anthony Roberts |
| 8.45am - 8.50am | Welcome | Prof. Karl Theodore - Director, HEU/UWI |
| 8.50am - 8.55am | Remarks | Dr. James Hospedales - Executive Director, CARPHA |
| 8.55.am - 9.10am | Remarks | Assemblyman Mrs. Claudia Groome-Duke - Secretary Division of Health and Social Services, THA |
| 9.10am - 9.25am | Remarks | Dr. The Honourable Fuad Khan - Minister of Health |
| 9.25am - 9.45am | Address and Formal Opening | The Honourable Orville D. London - Chief Secretary, THA |
| 9.45am - 9.50am | Cultural Item | Advertorial |
| 9.50am - 10.30am | Feature Presentation 'Securing Universal Health Coverage: Social and Political Considerations' | Dr. The Honourable Ralph E. Gonsalves - Prime Minister, St. Vincent and the Grenadines |
| 10.30am -10.35am | Vote of Thanks | Mr. Errol Simms - Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, UWI |
| 10.35am - 10.50am | Group Photograph | Official Photographer |
| 10.50am - 11.15am | BREAK | |



Conference Programme

| SESSION 1: CHAIRMAN - TBA | | |
|---|--|---|
| 11.15am - 12.00noon | Dr. Karen Sealey International Health Consultant | Strengthening Universal Health Coverage to Reduce the Burden of Chronic Diseases |
| 12.00noon - 12.45pm | Dr. Christine Lao Pena World Bank | Re-thinking the Role of Social Health Insurance in Universal Health Coverage |
| 12.45pm - 1.45pm | LUNCH | |
| SESSION 2: CHAIRMAN – TBA | | |
| Objective: Share Progress Updates on Performance, Challenges and Strategies re: National Health Financing Plans | | |
| 1.45pm - 3.15pm | PANEL 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aruba • Bahamas • Belize • Bermuda • Jamaica | Updates from Countries with National Health Financing Plans (15 minutes each) |
| 3.15pm - 3.30pm | BREAK | |
| 3.30pm - 5.00pm | PANEL 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cayman Islands • Curacao • Suriname • Trinidad & Tobago • Turks & Caicos | Updates from Countries with National Health Financing Plans (15 minutes each) |
| 6.00pm - 8.00pm | CONFERENCE COCKTAIL RECEPTION | |
| DAY 2: NOVEMBER 5, 2014 | | |
| SESSION 3: CHAIRMAN – TBA | | |
| Objective: Consider Role of Costing Analysis in Health and Review New Health Financing Initiatives or Changes Planned by Countries | | |
| 8.45am - 9.15am | HEU/UWI Research Team | Cost Analysis and Efficiency in Health: Lessons of Experience |
| 9.15am - 9.45am | Dr. Anton Cumberbatch and HEU/UWI Research Team | Ebola as a Threat to Caribbean Health and Development |
| 9.45am -10.30am | PANEL 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonaire • BVI • St. Maarten • Other | Updates from Countries planning National Health Insurance or restructuring current Health Financing Initiatives (12 minutes each) |
| 10.30am - 10.45am | BREAK | |

Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Addressing Regional Health **PRIORITIES**



Public Health Priorities of the Caribbean Region

- Family & Community Health (through the Life Course)
- Environmental Health (including climate change)
- Health Systems Development (including Human Resource for Health)
- Communicable Diseases (including HIV/AIDS)
- Non-Communicable Diseases (including food & nutrition, obesity, violence and injury & mental health)

CARPHA responds through

- Surveillance and Health Analysis
- Research, Policy Development and Monitoring & Evaluation
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- Monitoring Global & Regional Public Health Agreements
- Information, Education and Communication

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Conference Programme

| SESSION 4: CHAIRMAN – TBA Objective: Focus on NCDs (1) - Burden of Disease and Results-based Financing | | |
|--|---|--|
| 10.45am - 11.30am | Dr. James Hospedales, CARPHA | NCDs - Burden, Interventions and Expected Outcomes |
| 11.30am - 12.15pm | Dr. Carmen Carpio World Bank | Results-based Financing of NCDs - Conceptual Framework and Best Practices |
| 12.15pm - 12.30pm | Open Mike | Comments - Announcements on Health Issues |
| 12.30pm - 1.30pm | LUNCH | |
| SESSION 5: CHAIRMAN – DR. ANTON CUMBERBATCH Objective: Focus on NCDs (2) - Case Studies of Results-based Financing and NCDs Control | | |
| 1.30pm - 3.15 pm | PANEL 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bahamas • Belize • Dominica • St. Lucia • Suriname | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Delon Brennen - MOH • Dr. Ramon Figueroa - MOH • TBA • TBA • TBA |
| 3.15pm - 3.30pm | BREAK | |
| SESSION 6: CHAIRMAN – TBA Objective: Focus on NCDs (3) - Financing Agencies and Managing NCDs | | |
| 3.30pm - 5.00pm | PANEL 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AZV Aruba • HIP Bermuda • MOH T'dad & T'bago • NIB Bahamas • Sagicor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Lex Dejong • Mr. Calvin White • TBA • TBA • Mr. Edward Clarke, COO |
| 7.00pm - 9.00pm | CONFERENCE DINNER AND CULTURAL EVENING Address: Professor Clement Sankat, Principal The UWI, St. Augustine | |



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Conference Programme

DAY 3: NOVEMBER 6, 2014

SESSION 7: CHAIRMAN – TBA

Objective: Focus on Efficiency Imperatives in Health Interventions and Financing

| | | |
|---------------------|--|---|
| 8.30am - 10.30am | <p>PANEL 6</p> <p>Dr. Lex de Jong, AZV, Aruba</p> <p>Dr. Javier Asin, ACSION Inc.</p> <p>Dr. Cecil White, The University Hospital of the West Indies, Jamaica</p> <p>Mr. Howard Cimring, Morneau Shepell Ltd.</p> <p>Mr. Granville Gayle National Health Fund, Jamaica</p> | <p>Pharmaceutical and Laboratory Efficiencies</p> <p>Value-based Health Care</p> <p>Hospital Efficiency - Challenges and Feasible Solutions</p> <p>Efficiencies in Managing Care for Elderly - Actuarial and Business Perspectives</p> <p>Optimising Business Intelligence Applications in Health</p> |
| 10.30am - 10.45am | BREAK | |
| 10.45am - 11.45am | <p>PANEL 7</p> <p>3 panelists on Health Systems; Health Financing; NCDs</p> | <p>Expert Review and Commentary on Presentations</p> |
| 11.45am - 12.00noon | Open Mike | Comments from Participants |
| 12.00noon - 12.15pm | Dr. Stanley Lalta | Progress Report on Conferences and Planning for the Future |
| 12.15pm - 12.30pm | Closing Session with Prof. Karl Theodore - HEU/UWI | |
| 12.30pm - 1.30pm | LUNCH | |
| 2.00pm - 6.00pm | ISLAND TOUR | |



Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Dr. The Honourable Ralph E. Gonsalves



Dr. Ralph Gonsalves is a graduate of The UWI having attained a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and a Master's in Government. In 1974 and 1981, he obtained a Ph.D in Government and a Degree of Utter Barrister at the University of Manchester, England and Gray's Inn, London, respectively.

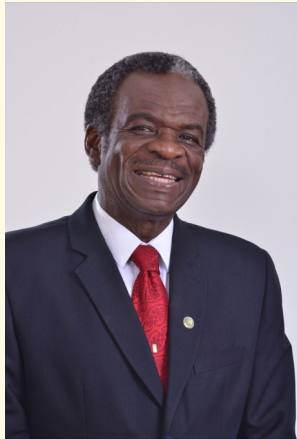
He became the Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines when the Unity Labour Party (ULP) won the General Elections on March 28, 2001. He has remained Prime Minister up to the present time.

Prior to his becoming the Prime Minister, Dr. Gonsalves practiced law particularly in the fields of constitutional law, administrative law, matrimonial law, real property law, law of tort and the law of contract.

He is married and has five children. He is also an author.



Conference Speakers



The Honourable Orville D. London

Chief Secretary and Secretary of Planning, Public Administration, Information, State Lands and Energy Matters, Tobago House of Assembly

Orville Delano London was born in Parlatuvier, Tobago. After graduating with honours in History and Sociology from The University of the West Indies, Mr. London embarked upon a teaching career spanning more than 20 years, including six years as Principal of the Signal Hill Senior Comprehensive School. He completed postgraduate studies in Education and International Relations (IR) and taught at secondary schools in Tobago as well as, lectured at The UWI School of Continuing Studies.

Mr. London's passion for sports saw him heavily involved in the Tobago Football, Cricket, and Lawn Tennis Associations and as Sports Editor for the local newspaper, *Tobago News*.

Mr. London's life in politics began in 1995 as a Senator in the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. In 2001, he was elected Chief Secretary of the Tobago House of Assembly and is currently the longest serving head of the THA, in his fourth consecutive term.



The Honourable Dr. Fuad Khan

Minister of Health, Trinidad and Tobago

Dr. Fuad Khan has been a medical doctor for the past 30 years. A specialist in the field of urology, he received his medical education from Dalhousie University in Canada and The University of the West Indies.

As Minister of Health, he has initiated and overseen several campaigns and projects such as the Fight the Fat national campaign, the commissioning of the Scarborough General Hospital in Tobago and a new state-of-the-art Medical Laboratory at the Couva District Health Facility.

Dr. Khan also holds a Master's Degree in Marketing and is a certified third degree black belt in Karate. In his spare time, he enjoys cooking and cycling.



Assemblyman Claudia Groome-Duke

Secretary of Health and Social Services, Tobago House of Assembly

Assemblyman Claudia Groome-Duke has dedicated her life to community work using the experience, skills and knowledge gained in over 30 years in the social work, human resource development and educational disciplines. Mrs. Groome-Duke has been a THA representative on several committees and councils and has also served as Secretary of Education, Youth Affairs and Sport.

Mrs. Groome-Duke is the recipient of the National Hummingbird Award Silver Medal (2001) for her outstanding contributions to Community Service and is also a UNICEF delegate to combat sexual violence against children in the Caribbean. She is the author of several publications including “Child Abuse – The Tobago Experience” and “The Social Impact of Tourism in Tobago”.



Professor Clement Sankat

Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad W.I.

As Campus Principal since 2008, Professor Sankat is focused on building the capacity, quality, sustainability and reach of the St. Augustine Campus of The UWI. He is a senior member of the academic staff of the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering of UWI, St. Augustine Campus and is a registered professional Mechanical/Agricultural Engineer with the Board of Engineering of Trinidad and Tobago.

He has been steadfast in supporting student-centredness, research and development, graduate-level training and building capacity, promoting quality and accreditation for engineering education at The UWI and in the Americas.

His teaching, research and development and professional interests are in the areas of Processing/Storage of Tropical Crops and Food Engineering, Engineering Graphics and Machine Design, and the Management of Innovation.



Dr. James Hospedales

Executive Director, Caribbean Public Health Agency

Dr. Hospedales graduated with honours in Medicine from The University of the West Indies. He has a Master's Degree in Community Medicine from the London School of Hygiene and is a Fellow of UK Faculty of Public Health.

His career included service as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer with the US Centers for Disease Control; epidemiologist at CAREC, and several years working for the UK National Health Service. From 1998–2006, he was Director of the CAREC and was instrumental in developing donor partnerships for HIV/AIDS prevention, and a partnership with the Caribbean tourism industry.

From 2006-2012, he worked at PAHO and played a key role in helping organize the CARICOM and UN Summits on NCDs. He pioneered the Pan American Forum for Action on NCDs and helped catalyze the formation of the Healthy Caribbean Coalition.



Dr. Karen Sealey

Former Special Advisor, UN Matters and Partnerships, Pan American Health Organization

Dr. Karen Sealey is a physician and public health specialist with wide experience at both national and international levels. She was Director of Health Planning in Trinidad and Tobago during which time she institutionalized strategic planning and advocated for attention to sustainable health financing and economics.

She later joined the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and held several senior positions at regional and international levels.

Dr. Sealey also headed UNAIDS as its Caribbean Director and in 2009 returned to PAHO as its first Special Advisor for UN Matters and Partnerships. She provided technical support to the CARICOM Permanent Representatives to the United Nations in the 2011 Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases.



TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY TODAY

The Tobago House of Assembly is this country's oldest political institution. The THA was first incarnated in 1768 in the island's former capital, George Town, which is now Studley Park. The capital moved to Scarborough in 1769, as did the offices of the 13-member elected House of Assembly (Lower House) and the appointed Legislative Council (Upper House). In 1877, representative government was abolished, with the Crown Colony introduced to handle the administration of the island. In 1889, Tobago was joined with Trinidad by the British Government.

The original THA was a colonial institution designed to run the island for the benefit of its small ruling class by passing laws and statutes and distributing land. However, the election criteria favoured white Christian males older than 21 and owning 10 or more acres of land, and so, in 1834, that Assembly opposed the British Government's decision to emancipate enslaved Africans.

By contrast, the modern THA is open to any Trinbagonian residing in Tobago and wishing to stand for election to its 12 seats. It also includes four Councillors, three of whom are appointed in accordance with the advice of the Chief Secretary and one on the advice of the minority leader; and a Presiding Officer, who may or may not be an Assemblyman or a Councillor. In 2012, for the first time, the THA was without a minority leader, as the ruling PNM has been elected to all 12 seats. Consequently, a Public Interest Desk was established to allow the public to give their input on governance of the island.

After 1980, the THA was formed into seven divisions, each representing a developmental concern. Today the THA comprises two main arms, the Legislative Arm and the Executive Arm, and 10 divisions – nine with particular remits plus the Office of the Chief Secretary, which oversees the others. This Assembly was created by Act 37 of 1980 for "making better provision for the administration of Tobago and for matters therein."

The Legislative arm (Assembly Legislature) is where all members of the Assembly meet in plenary and/or in select committees to make policy decisions for the operations of the Assembly. These functions are supported by the Assembly Legislature Secretariat and headed by the Presiding Officer. The Clerk of the Assembly is responsible for the efficient discharge of functions of the business of the Assembly.

The Executive arm of the Assembly is headed by the Chief Secretary in his capacity as leader of the Executive Council. The Council has individual and collective responsibility for carrying out the tasks of the Assembly through its divisions. Each division is led by a secretary, with an administrator serving as the accounting officer responsible for producing the desired results of the division. The Chief Administrator is the most senior public officer in the administration and is attached to the Office of the Chief Secretary.

CURRENTLY THE 10 DIVISIONS ARE:

- Office of the Chief Secretary
- Agriculture, Marine Affairs, Marketing and the Environment
- Community Development and Culture
- Education, Youth Affairs and Sport
- Finance and Enterprise Development
- Health and Social Services
- Infrastructure and Public Utilities
- Planning and Development
- Settlements and Labour
- Tourism and Transportation

The elected Assembly continues for four years from the date of its first sitting after any primary election, and then stands dissolved unless the Assembly, by resolution, dissolves itself at an earlier date. The President, after consultation with the Prime Minister and the Chief Secretary, fixes the date of a primary election. The date of that election must fall between two and three months after the dissolution of the Assembly.

OFFICES WITHIN THE ASSEMBLY:

- The Presiding Officer is elected by the Assemblymen and presides over all sittings of the Assembly.
- The Deputy Presiding Officer is elected from among the Assemblymen and Councillors, and deputises for the Presiding Officer in his/her absence.
- The Chief Secretary is elected from among the Assemblymen and heads the Executive Council.
- The Deputy Chief Secretary is elected from among the Assemblymen and deputises for the Chief Secretary in his/her absence.
- The Executive Council comprises the Chief Secretary, the Deputy Chief Secretary and up to seven other secretaries (increased from the original five of THA Amendment Act No. 17 of 2006). They are selected from among the other Assemblymen and Councillors, as advised by the Chief Secretary. This body is responsible for carrying out the functions of the Assembly. Seven secretaries, along with the Chief Secretary and Deputy Chief Secretary, are assigned specific areas of responsibility within the Executive Council but are collectively responsible for all decisions of that Council.
- Assistant Secretaries assist Secretaries in specific areas of their respective portfolios.
- The Leader of Executive Council Business controls the arrangements of business in the House, consulting with the Minority Leader as necessary.
- The Minority Leader is the Assemblyman who, in the opinion of the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, commands the support of the largest number of Assemblymen who do not support the Chief Secretary. The current Assembly has no Minority Leader, so a Public Interest Desk was established so that the public can have direct participation in the island's governance.
- Assemblymen are elected members who have not been assigned any special responsibilities as they relate to the conduct of the business of the Assembly.
- Councillors are nominated members who have not been assigned any special responsibilities as they relate to the conduct of the business of the Assembly.

THE THA HAS 33 AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

- Finance, that is to say the collection of revenue and the meeting of expenditure incurred in the carrying out of the functions of the Assembly
- State Lands • Land and marine parks • Museums, archives, historical sites and historical buildings • Public buildings and the maintenance of the residences of the President and the Prime Minister • Tourism • Sports • Culture and the Arts • Community Development • Co-operatives • Agriculture • Fisheries • Food Production • Forestry • Town and Country Planning • Infrastructure, including air and sea transportation, wharves and airports and public utilities • Telecommunications • Highway and Roads • Industrial Development • The environment • Customs and Excise • Licensing • Health Services • Library Services • Education including Curriculum • Social Welfare • Marketing • Valuations • Postal services and collection of revenue • Statistics and Information • Housing • Plant and Animal Quarantine •

Such other matters as the President may, by Order, assign to the Assembly.



Conference Speakers



Mr. Errol Simms

Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine



Ms. Christine Laptiste

Research Fellow, HEU, Centre for Health Economics, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine



Mr. Granville Gayle

Senior VP Information and Communications Technology, National Health Fund, Jamaica



Dr. Javier Asin

Physician and CEO, ACSION Consulting Group Inc.



Dr. Cecil White

Chief Executive Officer, The University Hospital of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica



Conference Speakers

Dr. Christine Lao Pena

Senior Economist, Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice Department, World Bank

Dr. Carmen Carpio

Senior Operations Officer, Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice Department, World Bank

Dr. Carla Pantanali

Health Economist, Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice Department, World Bank

Dr. Enis Baris

Manager, Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice Department, World Bank

Mr. Howard Cimring

Partner, Morneau Shepell Ltd., Canada

Dr. Lex Dejong

Medical Doctor, General Health Insurance Company, Aruba



Conference Speakers

Dr. Anton Cumberbatch

Technical Advisor, HEU, Centre for Health Economics, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

Mr. Calvin White

Acting Director, Health Insurance Department, Bermuda



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Conference Social Events

TUESDAY

4 November, 2014

6.00pm - 8.00pm

Welcome Cocktail Reception

Sponsored by the National Insurance Board of Trinidad and Tobago

Attire: Elegantly Casual - Semi-Formal

WEDNESDAY

5 November, 2014

6.00am - 7.00am

Soca Walk Fitness Morning

Sponsored by MEDSTAR (T-shirts will be provided)

Attire: Sport Wear

WEDNESDAY

5 November, 2014

7.00pm - 9.00pm

Conference Dinner and Cultural Evening

Sponsored by the Tobago House of Assembly

Attire: Semi-formal - Formal

THURSDAY

6 November, 2014

2.00pm - 6.00pm

Island Tour and Shopping

Transport sponsored by the Tobago House of Assembly

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9th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives

4-6th November, 2014

Magdalena Grand Beach and Golf Resort, Tobago

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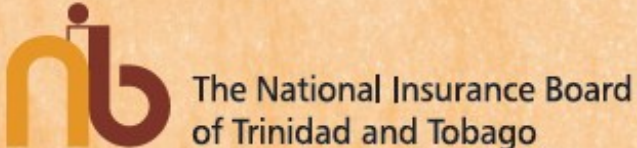
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Conference Venue

The venue for the Conference is the **Magdalena Grand Beach and Golf Resort** in Tobago.

The Magdalena Grand Beach and Golf Resort is Tobago's largest resort hotel and is located on the Tobago Plantations Estate; approximately fifteen (15) minutes drive from the ANR Robinson International Airport.



The Resort offers a number of rooms ranging from standard to suites. The hotel also offers a number of amenities including wireless internet access throughout the hotel, as well as high-speed internet connections in rooms. The Resort has spa services, a beauty salon, a fitness centre, tennis courts (day and night), swimming pools and a golf course.

The food and beverage at Magdalena Grand provide guests with an excellent variety of on-site dining options, which include restaurants, bar, lounge and café.

Hotel Contact Information:

Tobago Plantations Estate, Lowlands, Tobago, W.I.

868.660.8500 | Fax: 868.660.8503 | E-mail: info@MagdalenaGrand.com



Ebola Virus Disease

Fact Sheet

What is Ebola?

The Ebola Virus Disease is a severe haemorrhagic fever caused by the Ebola virus. In March 2014, the World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed outbreaks of Ebola in the West African countries of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

On August 8th, 2014, WHO Director-General Margaret Chan declared this epidemic a Public Health Emergency of international concern.

How Does Ebola Spread?

- Ebola spreads through direct contact with bodily fluids of persons who are sick or have died from the disease.
- It can also spread by touching or handling objects, e.g. needles, clothes or bedding, soiled with bodily fluids from a sick person.
- Only persons sick with Ebola and showing symptoms can spread the disease.
- There are no cases of Ebola in Trinidad and Tobago at this time. However, there is a risk of Ebola spreading to other countries through international travel.

What Are The Symptoms Of Ebola?

- Severe Fever
- Intense Weakness
- Severe Muscle Pain
- Severe Headaches and Sore Throat
- Profuse Vomiting and Diarrhoea
- Rash
- Internal and External Bleeding

When will Symptoms Begin?

After you are infected with the Ebola virus, it may take up to 21 days before symptoms begin. A blood test only becomes positive after three (3) days of symptoms.

What Can You Do To Reduce The Risk Of Getting Ebola?

Avoid non-essential travel to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone where Ebola is widespread.

If you must travel to a country with Ebola:

- Avoid all close contact with sick persons and corpses.
- Do not handle items that may have come into contact with an infected person's bodily fluids
- Wash hands often or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

There is no approved vaccine or cure for Ebola.

Prevention is the most important action you can take to protect yourself and your family from getting Ebola.



www.health.gov.tt



Ministry of Health-Trinidad and Tobago



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Sincere thanks to

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The Tobago House of Assembly
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