

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

www.thelabourspokesman.com



SOUND SPEECH THAT CANNOT BE CONDEMNED... TITUS 2:8

Year 68 NO. 40

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, 06th March, 2026

EC \$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend

Maximum Price ULG per gallon -

Dated : 13/11/25

DELTA \$13.31 / SOL \$14.43

CRADLING LEADERS -

STORY ON
PAGE 03

Parents seen capturing the moment following the unveiling of the 'Future World Influencers!' wall at Cradles Learning Centre on Monday 2nd March 2026 (Spokesman



CARICOM CRACKS?

STORY ON
PAGE 05

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN - ESTABLISHED MAY 1957

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Editorial

Give to Gain: Protecting Our Girls, Preserving Their Future

As the world prepares to observe International Women's Day on March 8, the 2026 theme - "Give to Gain"- calls on societies to embrace generosity, collaboration and shared responsibility in advancing the rights and well-being of women and girls.

Traditionally, this occasion highlights the achievements of women in leadership, business, science, public service and community life. These accomplishments deserve recognition and celebration. Yet, alongside the progress that has been made, there are sobering realities that cannot be ignored.

Recent police reports detailing the separate nine-year imprisonment sentencing of two men; both charged with unlawful carnal knowledge with one of them at six (6) counts along with one (1) count of procuring drugs to perform a miscarriage have once again brought into sharp focus the vulnerabilities faced by young girls within our society. These cases serve as a stark reminder that while we celebrate the achievements of women, we must also confront the threats that undermine the safety and dignity of girls long before they reach adulthood.

If the theme "Give to Gain" is to have true meaning, then society must give something far more fundamental: protection, vigilance, and a collective commitment to safeguarding our young girls.

The safety of children has never been the responsibility of parents alone.

Caribbean societies have long embraced the concept that "it takes a village to raise a child." That philosophy must extend beyond nurturing and education; it must include protection. Communities must become vigilant guardians against those who prey on vulnerability.

Too often, warning signs exist long before tragedies unfold. Too often, people suspect wrongdoing yet hesitate to intervene. In a small society where many

know each other, silence can become complicity. When we fail to speak up, we fail the very children who depend on the adults around them to shield them from harm.

The painful memories of lives lost remind us why vigilance matters.

In June 2025, the Federation mourned the tragic death of 15-year-old Janelika Romney, who was kidnapped and stabbed to death, with an elderly man charged in connection with the crime. Her loss remains a wound in the national conscience -a reminder of how quickly innocence can be shattered.

The 2017 May/June missing person turned homicide case of 17-year-old Leanna Napoleon was also a dark troubling matter for our country as three males included her older brother with charged with the crime.

Of note, the start of this month of March marked eight years (1st March 2018) since, the nation was shaken by the horrific double murder of the Finch sisters -19-year-old Naomi and 20-year-old Jimmyiah of Keys Village. Their deaths remain etched in public memory as a symbol of how violence can abruptly extinguish young lives filled with promise.

And beyond the headlines are countless other girls and women whose stories are not always told publicly - victims of sexual abuse, exploitation and assault who must live with the trauma

long after the news cycle has moved on.

These realities demand that we reflect deeply on what it truly means to celebrate women.

To "give to gain" must mean more than symbolic gestures or annual tributes. It must mean giving attention to the safety of girls in our homes, our communities, our schools and our workplaces. It must mean giving courage to speak when something seems wrong. It must mean giving support to victims who need compassion rather than silence.

When we protect our girls, we give them the opportunity to gain the full experience of life-to grow in safety, to enjoy the innocence of childhood, and to pursue their dreams without fear.

Every girl deserves the chance to become the woman she is capable of being. Every girl deserves a future defined by opportunity rather than trauma.

On this International Women's Day, let the Federation recommit itself to the safety and dignity of women and girls. Let us strengthen the village mentality that once defined our communities- the understanding that every child matters, whether she is our daughter, our neighbour, our student, or simply a young life within our care.

Because when society gives protection, vigilance and compassion, we all gain a safer, stronger future.

stronger future.

Case Number :NEVHPB2026/0015

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

NEVIS CIRCUIT

A.D. 2026

(PROBATE)



Submitted Date:24/02/2026 08:49

Filed Date:24/02/2026 08:49

Fees Paid:52.00

In the Estate of **Sylvanie Maynard** late of Holmes Hill, St. George's Parish, Nevis

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **VINONA JACQUELINE BROWN** of Holmes Hill, St. George's Parish, Nevis for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant who is the daughter of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 27th day of January, 2026.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant should file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 20th day of February, 2026.

Belva L. Nisbett
Nisbetts, Solicitors

Filed by: Nisbetts, Solicitors, whose address for service is Chapel Street, Charlestown, Nevis.

Parents Applaud ‘Future World Influencers’ Wall At Cradles Learning Centre

By: Precious Mills

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (Thursday 5th March 2026)-Parents, guardians and other well-wishers recently gathered at Cradles Learning Centre located in Fortlands, Basseterre to witness the official unveiling of a “Future World Influencers!” wall, a colourful display featuring dozens of individual face photographs of students enrolled at that early childhood school.

The launch event took place following the school’s morning devotion ceremony on Monday 2nd March 2026, designed to highlight the potential of the young learners collectively from the nurseries and classrooms.

Among the parents in attendance was Kerecia Simmonds, who in speaking with reporters, described the project as both surprising and encouraging.

“I was actually shocked and I’m like ‘Wow’, this is something new. I’ve never seen this kind of thing happening...actually. It is interesting. I appreciate the fact that the students are being showcased. Everyone gets to see what is happening,” she said.

Simmonds added that being invited to participate in the moment made the experience even more meaningful for parents.

“More importantly, I like the fact that we were invited as parents, so we are part of what is happening at the school so I enjoyed that the most,” she commented.

When asked about the importance of the parent-child relationship within the school environment, Simmonds stressed that parents play a critical role in their children’s educational development.

“It is very important because, as we know, there are several stakeholders when it comes to education; not only the children and teachers but the community and most importantly the parents, and as parents we need to be involved in what’s happening with our children’s everyday life,” she noted.

School co-owner Cyril Ible Frederick, who operates the private learning centre alongside his wife Beverly ‘Teacher Bev’ Ible Frederick, explained that the unveiling was designed to further involve parents in the school’s activities while highlighting the aspirations attached to each child.

“Well, as you can see, we had this before...but this year we decided to get the parents more involved and let them see that their kids, from a simple picture that they are the future influencers as they call them now, ‘Power Brokers’; whatever you want to say and so we decided to just have a little different but extra [showcasing] so to speak... morning devotion and then come in and



Parent- Pooja Thakur (Spokesman Snap)



Parent- Kerecia Simmonds (Spokesman Snap)



Section of parents seen smiling and scanning the displayed photographs following the unveiling of the ‘Future World Influencers!’ wall at Cradles Learning Centre on Monday 2nd March 2026 (Spokesman Snap)

unveil the wall so that parents could see how the children looks on the wall,” Frederick explained.

He said the response from parents who attended the ceremony appeared positive, noting “Well, from the parents that were here, I think they were excited,” he added.

Ible Frederick also outlined the school’s interpretation of the term “Future Influencer.”

“Well, you know, an influencer is someone that’s going to shape how things are in the future. They are going to be leading; some are going to be shaping it, some are going to be leading the shape as it occurs. You know, so in other words, some

will be inventors that’s going to be shaping the future, some are going to be the doctors who are going to be using some of those inventions, some of the lawyers, some of the firefighters, those are the persons that are going to dictate whether the world continues to be as it is, change for the better...those are the influencers for the future,” he said.

Another parent, Pooja Thakur (who originally hails from India), who has a three-year-old enrolled at the school, described the programme as a positive influence on young children.

“I think it’s a brilliant concept, brilliant. I am so happy that I am here in St. Kitts and I have a wonderful school for my child,” she said.

Thakur said she has already seen how the school’s activities have influenced her son’s interests.

“As Mr. Ible was telling, like you know the influencers when you were asking what influence they are putting on the kids. There are firefighters, the fire truck is coming in [to visit the school], the police officers are coming in, people from different professions are coming in to influence the kids. So my son, he aspires to become a firefighter because he is too much obsessed with the fire truck. And he is just three years old who aspires. I don’t remember I used to aspire being so young to become something so yes they are doing a very good job,” she highlighted.

She also shared an example of how lessons learned at school have begun to shape her child’s behaviour at home.

“One thing that I have noticed I would like to talk about since the last two to three weeks is if something like the milk spills out or the water or the juice drops; even a drop if it falls so what he does he knows the cleaning cloth. He goes without disturbing me, he picks it up, he cleans it and says ‘Mama, mama I wiped it.’ So he is helping me,” Thakur said.

She added that the experience reinforced the importance of early childhood development.

“This age is very important. It is foundation. If they are shaping the kids from now, I guess they are going to be great persons,” she said.

Parents also noted that the school makes deliberate efforts to keep them involved in daily activities through projects, events and updates shared through digital platforms.

Ible Frederick said parental involvement remains a key part of the school’s view point.

“It’s very important. You know, at Cradle’s Learning Centre we try to involve our parents in as many activities,

(cont’d on next page)

Parents Applaud 'Future World Influencers' Wall At Cradles Learning Centre

(cont'd from last page)

but actually the activities are there for them to participate and we encourage the participation," he said.

He also highlighted the school's learning values.

"We are an innovative school. We don't go by the norms... We do a lot of things to basically let the child's personality come out," Ible Frederick stated.

He added that the school places emphasis on early stimulation and experiential learning, including field trips and outdoor activities that allow children to explore

beyond the classroom.

"And so early stimulation in every class. That's why we go for walks and we go for tours because the world is not just in the school, the world is outside," he said.

As gathered, the Future World Influencers wall, displayed at the school, stands as a visual reminder of the aspirations that the educators and parents hold for the children of Cradle's Learning Centre children whose journeys, they hope, are just beginning.



Some of the students at Cradles Learning Centre pose for a photo at the Future World Influencers' wall at Cradles Learning Centre on Monday 2nd March 2026 (Spokesman Snap)



Husband-wife Owners of Cradle's Learning Centre School Cyril Ible Frederick (right) and Beverly 'Teacher Bev' Ible Frederick (left) interact with parents following the unveiling of the Future World Influencers' wall (Spokesman Snap)

Case Number :NEVHPB2026/0017

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
NEVIS CIRCUIT
A.D. 2026
(PROBATE)

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(NEVIS CIRCUIT)

Submitted Date:25/02/2026 09:50

Filed Date:25/02/2026 09:50

Fees Paid:52.00

In the Estate of **Miriam Gladys Hanley aka Miriam Alberta Hanley** late of Mount Lily Village, St. James' Parish, Nevis

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT DE BONIS NON ADMINISTRATUS

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **SONIA DAVINA HARWOOD** of 29 Silkstone Way, Crossgates, Leeds, LS15 8TN, West Yorkshire, England, for a Grant *de bonis non administratus* to the applicant who is the granddaughter of **Miriam Gladys Hanley aka Miriam Alberta Hanley** of Mount Lily Village in the Parish of St. James in the Island of Nevis ("the Deceased") who died intestate on the 29th day of October 1997 in St. Paul's Parish, Nevis, a Grant of Letters of Administration of the Estate the Deceased having been previously issued out of the Probate Registry of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court at Charlestown, Nevis on the 29th day of May, 2002 to her son **KIRTLEY HANLEY** Nevis now deceased.

Any person having an objection to the grant *de bonis non administratus* to the applicant shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 24th day of February, 2026

Belva L. Nisbett
Nisbetts, Solicitors

Filed by: Nisbetts, Solicitors, whose address for service is Chapel Street, Charlestown, Nevis.

Case Number :NEVHCV2026/0006

SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
ISLAND OF NEVIS
A.D. 2026

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(NEVIS CIRCUIT)

Submitted Date:20/02/2026 09:24

Filed Date:20/02/2026 09:24

Fees Paid:4.00

TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT, CHAPTER 10:19

REGISTRY OF TITLES

NEVIS CIRCUIT

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATION

for Certificate of Title, and notings thereon, and caveats, for the week ending the 6th day of February 2026

DATE OF REQUEST	PERSON PRESENTING	NATURE OF REQUEST
17 th November, 2025	Donald Richard Bailey by his Solicitors, Nisbetts of Chambers, Chapel Street, Charlestown, Nevis	Certificate of Title to be issued in respect of to 64,501 square feet (or 1.48 feet) of land situate at Morden Estate (Cane Garden), St. John's Parish in the Island of Nevis

The said land being bounded as follows:- On or towards the NORTH-EAST by a Public Road, 96.14 feet and by lands of Spencer Howell, 220.00 feet; On or towards the EAST by lands of Spencer Howell, 191.52 feet and 148.82 feet; On or towards the SOUTH by Cliff, 35.74 feet On or towards the SOUTH-WEST by the Caribbean Sea, 169.94 feet; On or towards the WEST by the Caribbean Sea, 117.54 feet; and On or towards the NORTH-WEST by lands of Leonard and Louise James (Paget Estate), 94.30 feet and 161.79 feet

Dated the 29th day of January 2026
Registrar of Titles



CARICOM Chair PM Drew Addresses Whether US Meeting Is Weakening Togetherness

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (Monday 5th March 2026) - “Trinidad and Tobago or any other country being invited to a meeting [in the US] does not fragment CARICOM at all.”

That was the response, in part, from Chairman of CARICOM, Prime Minister of St.Kitts-Nevis Dr. Terrance Drew when he addressed question from a reporter during the press conference for the 50th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Governments of CARICOM held on Friday 27th February 2026 at the St.Kitts Marriott Hotel.

He was at the time responding to queries about whether the regional body was facing division amid reports that some member states were preparing to meet with the United States President Donald Trump.

The question was posed by a journalist from CBC Barbados pointed out during the line of questioning that “...we know that next week, Trinidad and Tobago, as well as Guyana, are invited to meet with President Trump. Prime Minister Drew, is CARICOM today experiencing an unprecedented level of fragmentation?”

In response, Dr. Drew rejected the suggestion of division within the regional bloc.

“Thank you for your question. CARICOM is not experiencing any levels of fragmentation,” he said.

He further explained that the structure of the regional organization allows for individual foreign policy decisions by its member states.

“I think that this meeting demonstrates our commitment to CARICOM as a strong organization. CARICOM does not have a homogeneous, I would say, or a



Chairman of CARICOM, Prime Minister of St.Kitts-Nevis Dr. Terrance Drew is all smiles at the CARICOM Heads of Government at the Plenary Sessions of the 50th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM in St Kitts and Nevis held on Wednesday 25th February 2026, hosted at the St.Kitts Marriott in Basseterre (CARICOM Photo)

single foreign policy. That is left up to sovereign states. CARICOM might seek to coordinate, but each state, as was mentioned before, has the opportunity to determine what would be its foreign policy agenda,” he stated.

He added that CARICOM is not designed as a political union.
“If you look at CARICOM, CARICOM is not a political union and one has to also understand what CARICOM is about. And so, Trinidad and Tobago or any other country being invited to a meeting does not fragment CARICOM at all,” Dr. Drew said.

He continued: “As was mentioned before, the fact that different persons within CARICOM or different states within CARICOM can have relationships that span the whole spectrum of relationships in terms of country to country and so forth,

(cont’d on page 14)

Case Number:SKBHCV2026/0046

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS VACATION PLAN AND TIME SHARE ACT CAP. 10.22

Submitted Date:26/02/2026 14:43

Filed Date:26/02/2026 14:43

Fees Paid:22.00

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

A. D. 2026

CLAIM NO. SKBHCV2026/

IN THE MATTER of the Saint Christopher and Nevis Vacation Plan and Time Share Act Cap. 10.22

and

IN THE MATTER of an Application by ROBERT MISSANT for the issue of a new Certificate of Title in the name of ROBERT MISSANT, TRUSTEE OF THE ROBERT MISSANT TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 16, 2006 for the Time-Share Interest No. 8100P16 together with an undivided interest in the common property appurtenant thereto in St. Kitts Beach Club Condominium in the Island of Saint Christopher to replace a lost Certificate of Title recorded in T.S.I. Register Book 2008 Folio 77.

NOTICE FOR REPLACEMENT OF LOST CERTIFICATE OF TITLE

It is hereby notified that a Certificate of Title dated the 10th day of June, 2008 and registered in the Register of Titles in T.S.I. Register Book 2008 Folio 77 of the Saint Christopher Circuit in favour of Robert Missant, Trustee of the Robert Missant Trust Agreement dated May 16, 2006 of 4399 Chrisholm Trail, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301, United States of America, Registered Proprietor of the Time-Share Interest No. 8100P16 in St. Kitts Beach Club Condominium together with an undivided interest in the common property appurtenant thereto has been reported lost and an Application will be made to the Registrar of Titles for an Order for the issue of a new Certificate of Title in lieu thereof.

Any person knowing the whereabouts of or having any information concerning the said duplicate Certificate which may lead to its recovery is requested to notify the Registrar of Titles at the Lands Registry, North Independence Square Street, Basseterre, Saint Kitts, at telephone number (869) 467-1872/1860, or Law Offices of Sylvester Anthony, Solicitors, Unit C16 The Sands Complex, Bay Road, Basseterre, Saint Kitts, at Telephone (869) 466-5834, or Fax: (869) 466-6851.

Dated the 26th day of February, 2026.

Rénal Edwards

LAW OFFICES OF SYLVESTER ANTHONY

SOLICITORS

Case Number :SKBHPB2026/0020

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

Submitted Date:25/02/2026 19:12

Filed Date:26/02/2026 08:30

A.D. 2024

Fees Paid:2.00

(PROBATE)

In the Estate of CALVERT McDONALD CAINES

late of Bourkes Project, Sandy Point in the Parish of St. Anne in the Island of Saint Christopher, deceased, testate.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Sylvester Smith of Camps Estate in the Parish of St. George in the Island of Saint Christopher for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above-named deceased who died on the 19th day of September, 2021 without revoking a will bearing the date of 12th day of January, 2021 wherein the applicant is named sole executor.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Probate to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 26th day of February , 2024.

Rénal Edwards

Law Offices of Sylvester Anthony

Solicitors for the Estate of CALVERT McDONALD CAINES

Filed by The Law Offices of Sylvester Anthony, Chambers, Unit C16 The Sands Complex, Bay Road, Basseterre, Saint Kitts. Telephone (869) 466-5834; Facsimile (869) 466-6851. E-mail lawoffices@sylvesteranthony.com.

The Court Office is at the Sir Lee L. Moore Judicial and Legal Services Complex, East Independence Square Street, Basseterre, Saint Kitts. Tel: (869) 467 -1335, The office is open between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays.

IMF Acknowledges Tourism Recovery and Positive Growth Outlook for St. Kitts and Nevis

Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis, March 3, 2026 (PMO) – The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has recognized the continued recovery of Saint Kitts and Nevis' tourism sector and projected stronger economic growth ahead, affirming the positive trajectory of the Federation's economy under the leadership of the Drew-led Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

In its Staff Concluding Statement of the 2026 Article IV Mission, released on March 2, 2026, the IMF noted encouraging signs within the country's economic outlook. The report states that the projected acceleration in 2026, of 2.2%, is expected to be supported by a continued tourism recovery.



This acknowledgement reflects the Government's sustained and deliberate efforts to revitalize the tourism sector, enhance airlift and destination marketing, and strengthen the overall visitor experience following global disruptions in recent years.

Recent data and stakeholder engagements have already pointed to a strengthening tourism rebound. The St. Kitts Tourism Authority reported that as of April 2025 the Federation recorded 61,374 air arrivals, a 14 percent increase over 2024, while cruise passenger arrivals reached 690,244, continuing an upward trajectory.

In addition, the Government has made significant progress in securing and expanding airlift, recognizing that reliable connectivity remains the lifeblood of island tourism. Strategic agreements with major carriers, including expanded service from key markets, have helped restore confidence and improve access to the destination.

Tourism officials have also reported that hotel occupancy and visitor spending continue to trend upward, signaling growing international demand for the St. Kitts



(cont'd on next page)

Case Number :SKBHPB2025/0124

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
FEDERATION OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
ST. CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
(PROBATE)
A.D. 2025

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(ST. KITTS CIRCUIT)

Submitted Date:10/10/2025 11:41

Filed Date:10/10/2025 11:41

Fees Paid:52.00

In the Estate of ARTHUR ADOLPH BRADSHAW
Late of Main Street, Newton Ground, St. Kitts, deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF PROBATE

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by ALONZO ADOLPH HENRY of 2632 Portage Road, Niagara Falls, Ontario L2J 2J3 for a Grant of Probate to the applicant who is the son of the deceased, the deceased having died on the 23rd day of May, 2025.

Any person having an objection to the Grant of Probate with the Will Annexed to the Applicant shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 10th day of October 2025

Dr. Dennis Merchant
Merchant and Associates
Attorney-at-Law for the Applicant

MERCHANT & ASSOCIATES
LAW OFFICES
28 SHEAR LANE
BASSETTERRE, ST. KITTS
TEL. (869) 466-9853

Filed by Dr. Dennis Merchant of Merchant and Associates Law Office, 28 Shear Lane, Basseterre, St. Kitts, Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant.

Case Number :SKBHPB2026/0021

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(ST. KITTS CIRCUIT)

Submitted Date:25/02/2026 19:28

Filed Date:26/02/2026 08:30

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

A.D. 2025

Fees Paid:52.00

(PROBATE)

In the Estate of WILLBORTH EMANUD
FRANCIS late of Newton Ground Village Saint
Kitts, deceased.

SKBHPB2025/

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Sylvester Anthony of Newton Ground Village, Saint Kitts, for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above-named deceased who died on the 27th day of May, 2025 without revoking a will bearing the date of 24th day of August, 2023 wherein the applicant is named as executor.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Probate to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 19th day of December, 2025.

René Edwards
Law Offices of Sylvester Anthony
Solicitors for the Estate WILLBORTH EMANUD FRANCIS

Filed by The Law Offices of Sylvester Anthony, Chambers, Unit C16 The Sands Complex, Bay Road, Basseterre, Saint Kitts. Telephone (869) 466-5834; Facsimile (869) 466-6851. E-mail lawoffices@sylvesteranthony.com.

The Court Office is at Sir S.W. Tapley Seaton Annex, East Independence Square Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts Telephone number is 467-1102. The office is open between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays except public holidays.

IMF Acknowledges Tourism Recovery and Positive Growth Outlook for St. Kitts and Nevis

(cont'd from last page)

and Nevis tourism product.

Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Honourable Dr. Terrance Drew, welcomed the IMF's recognition, noting that the findings validate the Government's strategic focus on economic stabilization, diversification, and sustainable growth.

"Tourism remains a vital pillar of our economy, and we have been deliberate in strengthening the sector while simultaneously diversifying our economic base," the Prime Minister said. "The IMF's acknowledgment of the recovery underway is an encouraging signal that our policies are bearing fruit."

Since taking office, the Government has pursued a multi-pronged tourism strategy that includes:

- * Strengthening global marketing campaigns
- * Deepening partnerships with airlines and cruise operators
- * Investing in tourism infrastructure and destination upgrades
- * Enhancing service standards and workforce development
- * Promoting year-round events and niche tourism offerings

These measures form part of the broader Sustainable Island State Agenda, which seeks to ensure that tourism growth translates into meaningful opportunities for citizens and businesses.

The IMF's projection of improved growth in 2026 underscores growing international confidence in the Federation's economic management and policy

direction, even as global uncertainties persist.



The Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis remains firmly committed to sustaining the positive momentum in tourism while accelerating efforts to diversify the economy, strengthen resilience, and position the Federation as a premier, future-ready destination in the Caribbean.



Case Number :SKBHPB2026/0006



IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
A.D. 2026
(PROBATE)

Submitted Date:28/01/2026

Filed Date:28/01/2026 15:58

Fees Paid:52.00

In the Estate of HYACINTH EUGENE WILLIAMS also known as HYACINTH EUGENE MORRIS also known as HYACINTH EUGENIE PHIPPS also known as EUGENIE HAZEL late of Sprott Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts, deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR A GRANT DE BONIS NON ADMINISTRATUS

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by STACIA WILLIAMS-CHRISTMAS of Taylor's Pasture, Gingerland, Nevis and LO'REAL WILLIAMS of Sprott Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts respectively.

For a Grant De Bonis Non Administratus of the above-named deceased who died on the 25th day of January, 2010 without administration of the estate of the deceased by the sole executor Eileen Woods deceased, wherein the applicants are the Stepdaughter and the grandson.

Any person having an objection to the Grant De Bonis Non Administratus to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 26th day of January, 2026.


HENDERSON LAW CHAMBERS
Attorneys-at-Law for the Estate of HYACINTH EUGENE WILLIAMS also known as HYACINTH EUGENE MORRIS also known as HYACINTH EUGENIE PHIPPS also known as EUGENIE HAZEL.

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT CAP. 10.19
A.D. 2026

CLAIM NO.: SKBLRD2026/0008



In the Matter of Section 144 of the Title by Registration Act Cap. 10.19

and

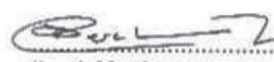
In the Matter of an Application on behalf of EMILY GARDINER, for a Replacement of a Lost Certificate of Title recorded in Register Book V2 Folio 384 of the Register of Titles for the Island of Saint Christopher.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR REPLACEMENT OF LOST CERTIFICATE OF TITLE

It is hereby notified that an Application has been made to the Registrar of Titles in Chambers for an Order for the issue of a new Certificate of Title in lieu of Lost Certificate of Title dated the 8th day of November, 1996 and recorded in Register Book V2 Folio 384 of the Register of Titles for St. Christopher Circuit in favour of EMILY GARDINER of Harris Housing Development, in the Parish of Saint John, in the Island of Saint Christopher, the land contained in said Certificate of Title being of All THAT lot piece or parcel of land known as Lot No. 14 situate at Harris Housing Development in the Parish Saint John, in the Island of Saint Christopher and bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say: On or towards the North by lands of C.H.A 67.44 feet; On or towards the East by lot No 13, 72.08 feet; On or towards the South East by a Public Road 18.75 feet; On or towards the South West by a Footpath 63.03 feet and On or towards the West by lands of C.H.A 46.60 feet and containing by admeasurement 4,096.64 square feet all as the same is delineated and set forth on the plan by Calvin Esdaille, Land Licensed Surveyor dated 9th day of December, 2025.

Any person knowing the whereabouts or having any information concerning the said duplicate Certificate of Title which may lead to its recovery is requested to notify the Registrar of Titles at the Registrar's Office, at the Registrar's Office, Independence House, North Independence Square Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts or Dr. Dennis Merchant, Merchant and Associates Law Office, 28 Shearlane, Basseterre, St. Kitts at telephone No. 466-9853 or 465-5504.

Dated the 24th day of February, 2026


Dennis Merchant
Merchant & Associates
Solicitor for the Applicant

FinCEN Rescinds 2014 Advisory - A Milestone Achievement For Saint Kitts And Nevis

Basseterre, Saint Kitts, February 27, 2026 (SKNIS) — The Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis welcomes the formal rescission by the United States Department of the Treasury Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) of its 2014 Advisory concerning the Federation's Citizenship by Investment (CBI) Programme.

The Advisory, originally issued on May 20, 2014, raised concerns regarding the abuse of the CBI Programme by certain foreign individuals. On February 24, 2026, FinCEN officially rescinded that Advisory. This development marks a significant milestone in the Government's sustained and comprehensive reform of the CBI Programme over the past three years.

Importantly, this announcement comes as Saint Kitts and Nevis concludes its successful hosting of the 50th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM — a moment when regional leadership, cooperation, and collective progress are in sharp focus. The timing underscores the Federation's strengthened standing not only regionally, but internationally.

Prime Minister and Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, the Honourable Dr. Terrance Drew, described the rescission as a moment of national validation.

"I am pleased with this excellent news. Over the past three years, we have strengthened due diligence, increased minimum investment thresholds, transformed the CBI Unit into a statutory body with proper oversight, implemented residency and biometric requirements, and led the establishment of a regional CBI regulatory authority. We committed to restoring integrity and international confidence in our programme, and that commitment continues to be recognised internationally. A significant cloud that once hovered over our CBI Programme has now been lifted."

Since taking office in 2022, the administration led by Prime Minister Drew has undertaken sweeping reforms to modernise and fortify the CBI Programme. These reforms included increasing minimum investment thresholds and strengthening due diligence processes; introducing mandatory residency and biometric data requirements to enhance identity verification and traceability; and advancing the creation of a regional regulatory authority to ensure transparency, accountability, and enforcement across participating Eastern Caribbean states.

These actions formed part of a strategic roadmap initiated upon the Government's assumption of office, aimed at securing the long-term sustainability and global standing of the CBI Programme. As early as 2023, international partners had begun to view the programme more favourably as a result of these significant reforms.

The rescission of the Advisory signals international recognition of the substantial progress made and affirms Saint Kitts and Nevis' commitment to meeting and exceeding the highest global standards in investment migration governance.

The Government extends its appreciation to local and regional stakeholders, international partners, and the people of Saint Kitts and Nevis — both at home and in the diaspora — whose patience and support for the reforms have contributed to this achievement.

The FinCEN announcement reaffirms Saint Kitts and Nevis' reputation as a trusted and responsible member of the international financial community, despite previous criticisms and mischaracterisations of the programme.

The Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis remains resolute in safeguarding the integrity of its institutions and ensuring that the CBI Programme continues to operate with transparency, security, and the highest standards of due diligence

PROPERTY FOR SALE

The property described below is offered for sale by THE BANK OF NEVIS LIMITED in its capacity as Mortgagee:-

Description of Property:

ALL THAT lands with the buildings and erections thereon with the appurtenances thereto situate in the town of Basseterre in the Parish of St. George in the Island of St. Christopher and bounded and measuring as follows that is to say:- ON the North by other lands of Buckleys Estates Limited; ON the South by the Caribbean Sea, ON the East by an Estate Road and other lands of Buckleys Estates Limited together with a Right-of-Way leading to Lime Kiln Bay and ON the West by other lands of Buckleys Estates Limited and of the extent of 2 acres 2 rods 22.3 poles

The lot consists of four (4) residential / rental buildings. There are three (3) buildings on the western side of the property and one (1) building on the eastern side of the property.

Building 1 (11,000 sq ft)

Upper Floor - Ten (10) Single Bedroom w/ One (1) Bathroom each.
Lower Floor - Five (5) Three Bedrooms w/ Two (2) Bathrooms each.

Building 2 (11,136 sq ft)

Both Floors: Ten (10) Three (3) Bedrooms w/ two (2) Bathrooms each.

Building 3 (13,950 sq ft)

Both Floors: 36 (thirty-six) Studio Apartments

Building 4 (980 sq ft)

Maintenance storage and lodgings



Survey Plan of Property:



Tenders:

Interested persons may obtain the conditions of sale from the Mortgagee's Attorneys-at-Law and the closing date for the return of Tenders is **Thursday 26th March, 2026.**

Minimum Offer:

ECS10,208,440.00

THE BANK OF NEVIS LIMITED
Main Street, Charlestown, Nevis
Tel: 869.469.5564; Fax: 869.469.4798

Attention: Ms. D. Ashleigh Maynard, Legal Counsel
Email: damaynard@thebankofnevis.com

Ethiopia experiments with 'smart' police stations that have no

Daniel Dadzie

BBC Focus on Africa, Addis Ababa



BBC A sideview of a policeman in beige uniform with a dark blue cap, an Ethiopian flag badge and rank insignia are on his shoulder. A main road can be seen behind him. BBC The vision is for Ethiopia's smart police stations to be unmanned - but giving more people access to police services

Computer tablet screens glow inside a row of partitioned booths at a new-style Ethiopian police station.

There is no commotion. There is no front desk, no bench of anxiously waiting civilians, no officer calling out names.

It is a pilot project of what is being called a "smart" - or unmanned - police station in the Bole district of the capital, Addis Ababa, is the latest chapter in Ethiopia's bid to catch up with the digital revolution.

A large monitor on the wall cycles through welcome messages as well as images of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.

But at the moment there are uniformed officers standing by to demonstrate how the system works, which makes it feel more like a tech showroom.

Recently opened, the staff "are here to help people get used to it", the police's head of technology expansion department Cdr Demissie Yilma tells the BBC.

A head and shoulders image of a man in a blue camouflage uniform and peaked cap. A badge says "Eth Federal Police" on his chest and an Ethiopian flag is in the background. BBC

"The future police service should be near the citizens"



Cdr Demissie Yilma
Police technology expansion department

Inside a booth, he taps a screen and goes through the steps to make a report.

Demissie selects the type of incident - a crime, a traffic report or a general concern - enters the details and presses a button to submit the comment.

Then, an officer - who is a real person in a remote location rather than a chatbot - pops up on the screen and begins to ask questions and take down information.

"If there is a problem, officers respond immediately and patrol the area mentioned by the reporter," Demissie says.

In its first week last month, the smart police station (SPS) received just three reports - a lost passport, a financial fraud case and a routine complaint.

But Demissie believes the number of reports will grow as locals become more aware of it.

"The future police service should be near the citizens," he says.

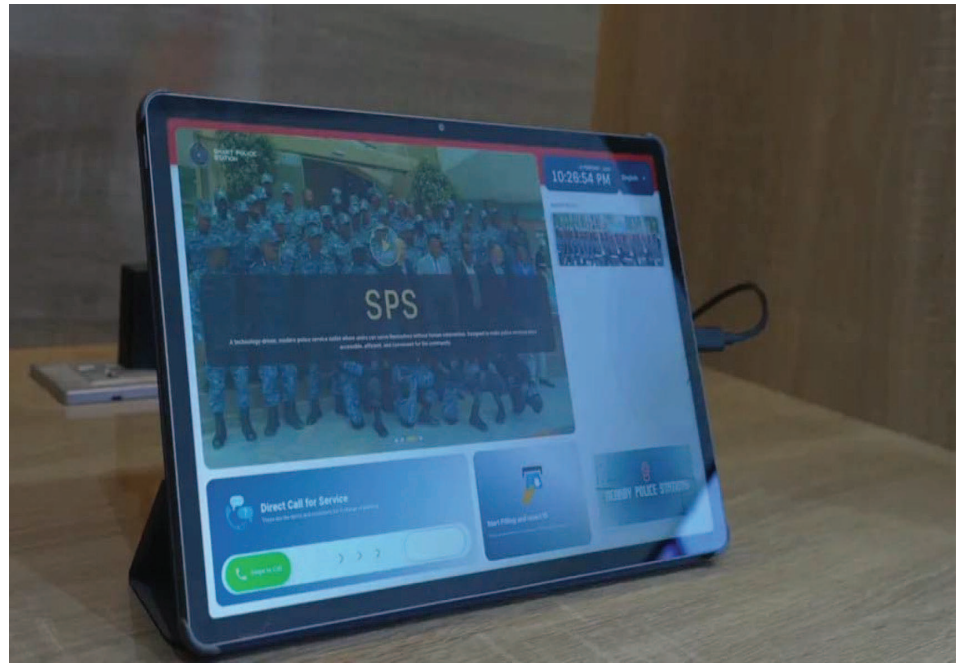
The use of a computer tablet to communicate with officials may mean less human-to-human contact but the authorities believe that the SPS could increase access to the police in places where there may not be enough personnel to man a fully fledged station.

At the project's launch on 9 February, the prime minister was quoted in state media as saying that it was aimed at making "law enforcement institutions competent and competitive" and he framed it as part of a wider digital reform drive.

The national strategy launched last year - known as Digital Ethiopia 2030 - is the government's blueprint for digitising public services, from identity systems and payments to courts and public administration.

The proportion of Ethiopians who have access to the internet remains quite low, meaning that the country has lagged behind others on the continent in terms of digital transformation.

Also, conflict and political upheavals in recent years have led to internet blackouts.



A screen on a computer tablet showing the smart police station portal.

Users of the smart police station enter details on a tablet before a real person appears on the screen

The smart police station is part of a broader move to change how citizens interact with the state.

But as the telecoms sector has opened up, the country is embracing mobile phone digital payments in birr, the local currency.

The government has also introduced a national digital ID system and put several government services online.

Supporters of the moves argue that these changes are long overdue in a country with rapid urban growth and a young population.

Birhan Nega Cheru, a senior software engineer in Addis Ababa, is pleased with the shift.

"When they work well, they reduce paperwork and visits to offices," he tells the BBC.

But he also recognises security and privacy issues and the dangers that those "who are not digitally literate can easily be scammed".

"Urban users, younger people, businesses, those with smartphones and skills, benefit most," the software engineer says.

"Older people, rural communities and low-income groups are at risk of being left out."

And the numbers support his assertions.

In a report last year, the UN's educational organisation, Unesco, found that 79% of its citizens were not connected to the internet.

A head and shoulders image of Zelalem Opian. BBC

"Digital literacy remains a challenge... That is why the strategy puts emphasis on training and skills, not just technology"

Zelalem Gizachew
Technology policy analyst



But Zelalem Gizachew, a technology policy analyst, argues that the government's strategy has been chipping away at the digital divide.

"Digital literacy remains a challenge," he says. "That is why the Digital Ethiopia 2030 strategy puts emphasis on training and skills, not just technology."

He points to measurable changes over the past five years.

"Digital payments have boomed with trillions of birr now moving through electronic transactions. Broadband access has expanded sharply, and more than 130 government services have been digitised.

"These are foundational investments," Zelalem says. "You cannot modernise public services without infrastructure, policy and skills."

For now, the smart police station remains a pilot.

It is in a controlled environment where officers guide users through a system which is still finding its footing. Traditional stations continue to operate, and most citizens still rely on in-person reporting.

Whether the model expands will depend less on how sleek the technology looks, and more on whether people choose to use it when no-one is there to explain the screens.

In that sense, the quiet room in Bole is not a finished product. It is an experiment, and a small window into how Ethiopia's broader digital ambitions may play out in everyday life.

Prime Minister Drew Receives Full State Honours At Jubilee House During Official Visit To The Republic Of Ghana

Accra, Ghana, March 04, 2026 (SKNIS): Prime Minister of Saint Kitts and Nevis, the Honourable Dr. Terrance Drew, was today, March 04, 2026, formally welcomed to Jubilee House in Accra by the President of the Republic of Ghana, His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, as part of his Official State Visit to the West African nation.



Upon arrival at Jubilee House, Prime Minister Drew was received with full military honours during an official welcoming ceremony hosted by President Mahama. The ceremony included a ceremonial parade mounted by the Ghana Air Force, symbolising the respect and friendship between the two nations.

Following the playing of the national anthems of Saint Kitts and Nevis and Ghana, Prime Minister Drew inspected the Guard of Honour before proceeding to official introductions with members of the respective delegations.



The formal welcome marked an important moment in the strengthening of diplomatic relations between Saint Kitts and Nevis and Ghana, underscoring a

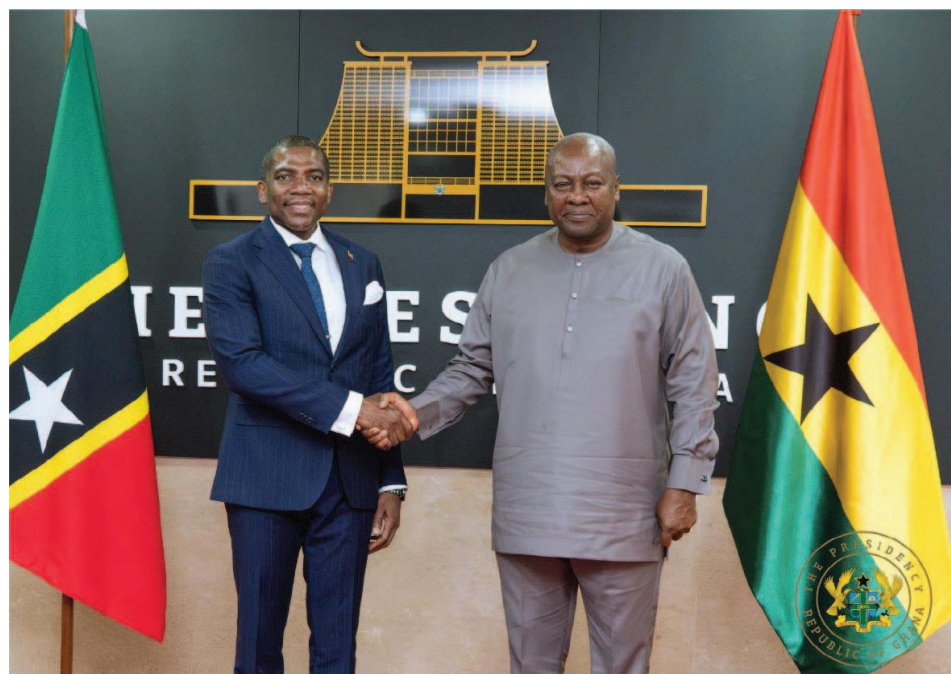
shared commitment to expanding cooperation in areas such as education, trade, culture, and people-to-people exchanges.



Prime Minister Drew's visit reflects the deep historical and cultural ties that connect the Caribbean and Africa, and highlights a mutual interest in building stronger partnerships for development and shared prosperity.

Following the ceremonial welcome, Prime Minister Drew and President Mahama held bilateral discussions at Jubilee House aimed at deepening cooperation and advancing new opportunities for collaboration between the two countries.

The Official State Visit continues with a series of engagements designed to strengthen the relationship between Saint Kitts and Nevis and the Republic of Ghana while fostering closer connections between the peoples of both nations.



Prime Minister of Saint Kitts and Nevis, Honourable Dr. Terrance Drew welcomed to Jubilee House in Accra by the President of the Republic of Ghana, His Excellency John Dramani Mahama



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DLDSS Hosts Annual Form 5 Symposium

Basseterre: St. Kitts, Wednesday, March 04, 2026: The 2025-26 fifth form cohort of the Dr. Denzil L. Douglas Secondary School (DLDSS) on Wednesday March 04 engaged in a symposium geared towards preparing them for life after secondary school.

The symposium, held at the Solid Waste Management Corporation Conference Room, convened under the theme Stepping Forward: Identity, Skills and Confidence for What's Next.

Mrs. Everlene Huggins – Forbes, Head of the Guidance and Counselling Department, DLDSS clarified the purpose of the symposium.

“The Fifth Form

Symposium is an annual initiative by the Guidance and Counselling Department aimed at assisting our students as they are on the cusp of transitioning beyond high school.

This year's theme is Stepping Forward: Identity, Skills and Confidence for What's Next. We [DLDSS GC Department] choose this theme because we understand that students need to recognize that beyond academics there are other skills that are necessary for that would assist them in their holistic development.”

Mrs. Huggins - Forbes explained that the event is designed to engage students in discussions surrounding personal branding, digital

footprint and reputation, building confidence and the benefits of transferable skills.

“These discussions are intended to help students understand how their behaviours, choices, attitudes, and personal development influence the opportunities that are available to them as they leave high school.”

Ms. Andreana French, Dr. Denzil L. Douglas Secondary School Principal, offered unwavering support for the initiative and communicated,

“The topic, ‘You are the Product’ resonates with me. At DLDSS, my staff and I always try to instill in our students that their attitudes, their beliefs and their actions play a key role in the product that they create. It is my hope that at the end of session one, the students understand how their attitudes affect them.



2026 OAS Scholarship Opportunities

The Organization of American States (OAS) wishes to inform interested persons that applications for its 2026 Academic Scholarship Program for Undergraduate, Graduate Academic studies and Graduate Research are now available.

N/B: Applicants for undergraduate studies should already be enrolled in a program and be eligible to graduate within two (2) academic years.

Applicants for graduate studies should have already completed one year or have an acceptance letter from the University where he or she plans to study.

Submission Deadline - 2026 OAS Scholarship Opportunities

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Applicants for graduate studies should have already completed one year or have an acceptance letter from the University where he or she plans to study.

Submission Deadline - Monday March 09th , 2026

Requirements: The eligibility requirements and more information regarding the application process can be accessed through the following links:

Undergraduate - https://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/specaf_2026.asp

Graduate - https://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/Academic_Program_OAS_2026.asp

N/B: All applications are to be made online via the links below Undergraduate -

<https://www.oas.org/fms/Announcement.aspx?id=1154&Type=1&Lang=Eng>

Graduate - <https://www.oas.org/fms/Announcement.aspx?id=1153&Type=1&Lang=Eng>

Applications forms should be printed and submitted to:

Mrs. Jamilah Caines

Human Resources Department

Government Headquarters

Church Street, Basseterre

Contact # 4671323

Monday March 09th , 2026

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Graduate - https://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/Academic_Program_OAS_2026.asp

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Caribbean Economies Face Modest Growth in 2026 Amid Global Uncertainty: CDB



BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, March 3, 2026 – Caribbean economies recorded slower growth in 2025 amid intensifying global uncertainty, climate shocks, and fiscal pressures, according to Caribbean Development Bank (CDB/the Bank) findings shared Tuesday at the Bank’s Annual News Conference.

Presenting a review of the Bank’s 2025 performance and the economic outlook for 2026, Jason Cotton, Acting Deputy Director of Economics, noted that growth across the region decelerated last year as external conditions became less supportive and downside risks materialised.

Excluding Guyana, regional growth slowed to 0.6% in 2025, down from 1.4% in 2024. When Guyana is included, overall growth reached 4.7%, reflecting that country’s continued double-digit expansion, albeit at a slower pace than in the previous year.

“Small, open economies remain highly exposed to external shocks,” Cotton said. “What is more concerning in this moment is the persistence of uncertainty and the narrowing room for policy error.”

Climate Shocks and Sectoral Divergence

Economic performance varied widely across the region. Among commodity exporters, Suriname experienced accelerated growth driven in part by continued oil-related investment, while Trinidad and Tobago recorded muted expansion.

Service-exporting economies saw slower growth as tourism momentum eased. In Jamaica, Hurricane Melissa compounded earlier damage from Hurricane Beryl, resulting in a second consecutive year of economic contraction.

Inflation moderated, in line with global trends, falling to an average of 3.4% across the region, down sharply from its 2022 peak of 9.7%. Labour market conditions improved in several countries, with declining unemployment and rising workforce participation, although disparities persist among youth and women.

Fiscal Pressures Re-emerge

Fiscal consolidation stalled in several of the Bank’s 19 Borrowing Member Countries. Excluding Guyana, the regional primary surplus narrowed to 1.3% of GDP as expenditure growth outpaced revenues. When Guyana is included – reflecting significant capital spending – the regional primary surplus narrowed further to 0.2% of GDP.

Statement from the President of Cricket West Indies, Dr. The Hon. Kishore Shallow

1 March 2026

On behalf of Cricket West Indies, I extend warm congratulations to Shai Hope and our team for a commendable campaign at the ICC Men’s T20 World Cup.

While we are disappointed that our journey concluded at Eden Gardens in Kolkata against the India national cricket team, the tournament as a whole reflected growth, belief and togetherness. Winning five of seven matches and advancing to the Super 8s is a testament to the preparation and commitment of this group.

Most encouraging was the spirit of resolve and fight displayed throughout the competition, a spirit that was needed more than ever. That determination and pride in representing the region strengthened confidence across the Caribbean and reminded us of the character of West Indies cricket.

Today, we are proud of our men in maroon and appreciative of the dedication of the backroom team led by Head Coach Daren Sammy. Their collective effort has laid a strong foundation for the work ahead.

We will regroup, we will work, and we will compete again with even greater unity and purpose.

Rally Round the West Indies, now and forever.

While the regional central government debt-to-GDP ratio declined slightly to 46.6%, vulnerabilities remain. Nine countries continue to record debt levels above 60% of GDP. In few instances, fiscal responsibility frameworks enabled orderly adjustment to climate shocks through escape clauses.

2026 Outlook: Modest Growth, Elevated Risks

Looking ahead, the Bank projects modest growth for 2026. Excluding Guyana, regional GDP is forecast to expand by 1.1%. Including Guyana – where growth is projected to exceed 20% – regional growth is expected to reach 6.2%.

Prospects among other commodity exporters remain closely tied to commodity prices and production trends. Service-exporting economies are anticipated to grow modestly, supported primarily by tourism and construction activity. Inflation dynamics will be shaped by developments in global commodity markets.

However, global uncertainty, geopolitical tensions, climate-related shocks, and fiscal vulnerabilities – particularly in highly indebted countries – continue to cloud the 2026 outlook.

Development Imperatives: Building Resilience by Design

Against this backdrop, CDB underscored several development imperatives for the region:

- Strengthening implementation capacity to ensure development plans and financing translate into results;
- Diversifying economies to reduce overreliance on single industries and foster private-sector-led growth;
- Building resilience by design, through climate-resilient infrastructure, improved disaster-risk financing, and adaptive social protection systems;
- Safeguarding debt sustainability through stronger fiscal institutions and wider adoption of fiscal responsibility frameworks; and
- Investing in people, equipping citizens with skills and expanding decent work opportunities to unlock productivity and inclusive growth.

“Resilience is built through credible policy choices, stronger institutions, disciplined execution, and investment in our people, and regional solidarity,” Cotton said. “If we rise to meet this moment, we will shape a more stable, inclusive, and sustainable Caribbean future.”

Photo: Mr. Jason Cotton, the Caribbean Development Bank's Acting Deputy Director of Economics, delivers a review of the Caribbean Region's 2025 performance and the economic outlook for 2026 at the Bank's Annual News Conference in Bridgetown, Barbados, on Tuesday, March 3, 2026.

Millions of Cubans plunged into darkness as fuel crisis deepens

Jessica Rawnsley
BBC News



Getty Images A woman holds a candle during a blackout in Havana in JanuaryGetty Images

Millions of people were left without power in Cuba on Wednesday - the latest in a string of blackouts to hit the island as it struggles with fuel shortages worsened

by pressure from the US.

Two-thirds of the island was plunged into darkness following what officials described as an "unexpected" shutdown at one of the country's main power plants.

Cuba's national electricity company UNE said the blackout affected a vast area stretching from the central province Camaguey to Pinar del Rio in the west, and including the capital, Havana.

Cuba has been hit by a wave of power cuts in recent years, with chronic fuel shortages exacerbated by a US blockade on oil from key ally Venezuela since January.

The communist nation is also suffering from a shortage of aviation fuel, leading several airlines to suspend services there and limiting international tourism. Air France became the latest carrier to do so on Wednesday.

The cause of Wednesday's outage was sparked by a breakdown at the Antonio Guiteras thermometric plant, about 100km (62 miles) east of Havana, authorities said.

The national electricity company said efforts were under way to restore services.

The blackout is the second outage to affect Cuba's western region in the past three months.

Creaking infrastructure has been compounded by fuel shortages, resulting in a crisis that has disrupted public transport and rubbish collection.

Cuba, which relies heavily on imported fuel to generate electricity, has partly survived crippling Western sanctions due to the help of its allies in the region, including the left-wing Venezuelan government.

Venezuela was believed to have sent around 35,000 barrels of oil a day to Cuba - providing about half the island's oil needs - before the former's President Nicolas Maduro was captured by US forces in early January.

Since then, the US has seized a number of shipments of oil bound for Cuba.

Power cuts lasting up to 18 hours a day have affected hospital emergency wards, dialysis patients and pumping stations.

The US and Cuba have had a strained relationship since the communist Fidel Castro overthrew a US-backed government in 1959. US economic and trade embargoes on Cuba have been in place since 1960.

US President Donald Trump has made no secret of his desire for a change of leadership in Cuba, threatening tariffs on goods imported into the US from any country that provides oil to the Caribbean nation.

Air France said it was halting services to Havana from the end of March until mid-June, citing fuel shortages.



Council of Ministers Reaffirms ECTEL's Role in Safeguarding Consumers Amid Emerging Technologies

Castries, Saint Lucia – 5th March, 2026 – “The work of ECTEL is important in the regulatory space and in this changing world, especially in light of the rapid advancements in Artificial Intelligence and keeping pace with shifting markets and technologies, ECTEL is critically placed to ensure we can protect our consumers in our Member States.”

So said Honourable Konris Maynard, Chairman of ECTEL's Council of Ministers

and Minister for Information, Communications & Technology in St. Kitts and Nevis, as he delivered the Welcome Remarks at the Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority's (ECTEL) 49th Council of Ministers Meeting on 27th February 2026.

The meeting was held at the Royalton Saint Lucia and online via MS Teams to facilitate the virtual participation of Honourable Dickon Mitchell, Prime Minister and Minister for Information in Grenada. The Chairman also used the opportunity to welcome the newest Council member Honourable Phillip Jackson, Minister for Innovation and Digital Transformation in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Minister Maynard said, “The Council looks forward to working with you, and leaning on the experiences and insights you will bring as a new member on the Council.”



In his report on the meeting, ECTEL's Managing Director, Mr. David A. Cox said, “We managed to achieve quite a lot that was positive for ECTEL. I am pleased to report that the Strategic Plan has now been approved. This means we can begin the process of budgetary preparations and implementation.”

Also presented to Council was the results of the ECTEL's Digital Inclusion Survey (DIS). The DIS was conducted to better understand how individuals and

(cont'd on next page)

CARICOM Chair PM Drew Addresses Whether US Meeting Is Weakening Togetherness

(cont'd from page 05)

that can actually enrich CARICOM, but it does not fracture CARICOM.”

The CARICOM Chairman also maintained that there was no evidence to support claims of division.

“There is no instance or evidence that this is fracturing CARICOM. Are there some differences? Yes, but fracturing, I think, is a very, very strong word at this particular time,” he added.

The reporter followed up with another question on regional unity, quizzing on the topic about at what point does collective positioning on major geopolitical issues, especially when it is happening within the region override national interests.

Dr. Drew responded that national interests remain central to each member state.

“I think every country acts within its national interests at any given point. I don't know if you are referring to something else, but I don't think anything at all would overwrite anybody's national interest,” he said.

Returning to the earlier concern about unity within the regional body, he reiterated his position.

“But I think I come back to the heart of your question. Is CARICOM being fragmented as a result of any of this? Not at all. I think this is giving CARICOM

Council of Ministers Reaffirms ECTEL's Role in Safeguarding Consumers Amid Emerging Technologies

(cont'd from last page)

households across ECTEL's Contracting States access and use digital technologies, and to identify barriers that may prevent full participation in the digital economy. The findings highlight both encouraging progress and persistent challenges.



The functions of the Council, which is the highest decision-making body of the ECTEL framework, are to, among other things, promote the effective implementation of ECTEL's Treaty; including the promotion of effective competition, accessible pricing, and quality of service for citizens of the region.

the opportunity to look at this and look for areas in which it can strengthen itself,” Dr. Drew said.

“And these things were discussed at multiple levels but I can say CARICOM is committed to remaining as a unit, as an entity, as a viable entity for moving the Caribbean community forward, and this is not a sign of fragmentation at all,” he added.

At the close of the press conference, the CARICOM Chair also addressed the media, acknowledging that while the region faces challenges, leaders remain committed to working together.

“Your questions were relevant and your question is seeking to get the best information that could be had with respect to a number of issues and challenges that are affecting the community,” he said.

“I am not going to pretend here, and I'm sure you're not pretending, that there are not challenges. There are challenges. I've never hit that and we have never hit that and we will never, ever hide that,” he stated.

“However, coming out of this meeting, acknowledging those challenges, we have worked together to ensure that we can confront them in the best manner possible,” the Chair added.

He also pointed to the participation of regional leaders at the summit as evidence of unity.

“The fact that all the full members showed up, the fact that they were part of the discussions and the deliberations, significant decisions were reached, showed that there is no fragmentation, but I would say more togetherness, even though there are challenges that we are facing at this particular time,” he said.

Dr. Drew concluded by further highlighting the region's shared objectives.

“And the CARICOM will continue to work for the well-being of all of the people in the region. All of the leaders are committed to that. We'll continue to work for stability, and we'll continue to work to do our part to make this world a better place,” he said.

Front Page Photo: Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago Kamla Persad-Bissessar seen during the arrival of CARICOM Heads of Government to the Opening Ceremony of the 50th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM on Tuesday 24th February 2026 at the St.Kitts Marriott Dome in Basseterre, St.Kitts (CARICOM Photo)

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Experts Finalizing Engineering Designs as Nevis' Airport Expansion Project Advances

NIA CHARLESTOWN, NEVIS (March 05, 2026)- Final engineering designs for the Vance W. Amory International Airport expansion are nearing completion, signaling a transformative step in the Nevis Island Administration's (NIA) strategy to increase airlift and elevate the island's tourism industry.



Honourable Mark Brantley, Nevis Premier and Minister of Tourism in the Nevis Island Administration

Providing an update during his February 24 monthly press conference, Premier of Nevis and Minister of Tourism, the Honorable Mark Brantley, said the much-anticipated multi-million-dollar capital project is progressing following the receipt of key geotechnical data in recent weeks.

According to the Premier, the results of borehole testing carried out late in 2025 were received on February 05, clearing the way for consultants to complete the detailed design work required to advance the airport upgrade.

"Based on their own analysis of the report, our consultant, Perez Engineering, is in the process of finalizing the engineering designs specific to the upgrade of the existing runway, aprons, and proposed runway extensions toward the east and west. These boreholes were necessary so we could test the carrying capacity of the land in the area, and it will tell us what we need to do to ensure that we can cater to the aircraft that we want to cater to."

Premier Brantley also noted that the project's survey phase has progressed significantly. The consultant's land surveyor spent two weeks on the island in February completing the remaining surveys, including a comprehensive topographic survey of the proposed aerodrome.

He explained that the work will facilitate completion of the overall design package, including an updated site plan and the final alignment and features of the airport's surrounding road network.

Land acquisition for the project is also largely complete, with negotiations concluded in most areas, payments made, and the government already taking possession of the majority of the required lands. This has enabled preliminary site activities such as land clearing, borehole drilling, and surveying.

"You may also see some work being done if you drive by the area because a physical office for the project management team is currently being established. This will be located in a building just across from the airport."

While construction will eventually impact airport operations, the Premier indicated that planning is underway to minimize disruption during the early stages of the project.

"What I've been told is that we will have operations continuing once we can do that safely and then at some point we will have to suspend operations because the existing runway will have to be

shored up, it will have to be reinforced, and so clearly we'll have to suspend operations. Bear in mind that a lot of the construction that's happening will not be directly affecting operations until later in the development. For example, when we're doing the road realignment that should not affect operations at the airport."

Premier Brantley also addressed questions about airline engagement, explaining that formal negotiations with carriers will begin once construction timelines are finalized.

"We have made contact but we have not started negotiations. Once we get going and we have clear timelines I think it's a better time to speak, bearing in mind that the project suggested project timeline that we're told is 18 to 24 months. So we should have ample time to negotiate during that period of time."

Financing for the estimated US\$45 million project has already been secured through the Government of Taiwan. However, the Premier noted that the administration is awaiting a required loan guarantee from the Federal Government of St. Kitts and Nevis before funds can be disbursed.

"The Taiwanese have committed funding... They



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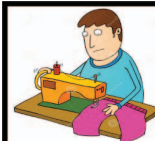
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have asked for a guarantee from the federal government. We have, of course, extended that request to Prime Minister [Honourable Dr. Terrance] Drew and the Federal Government. I would just want the people of Nevis to understand that the only reason for the guarantee is because Nevis does not have the international standing to go and borrow on its own, and so we require a guarantee. But the responsibility for repayment lies 100% with Nevis.

"So that is all we need right now is a signature to allow us to move forward. And I reiterate that this is no imposition on St. Kitts whatsoever. Every loan that the Federal Government has guaranteed for Nevis has been the responsibility of us, the NIA, and the people of Nevis to pay back."

The airport expansion project is expected to generate employment during the construction phase while positioning Nevis for increased visitor arrivals once completed. Greater air traffic will also create new opportunities at the airport terminal and within the island's wider tourism sector.

Cricket West Indies Announces Blockbuster Women's White-Ball Showdown Against Australia in St. Vincent and St. Kitts

28 February 2026

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua – Get ready for world-class cricket, electric energy, and unmissable moments as Cricket West Indies (CWI) confirms that the West Indies Women will host powerhouse Australia Women in a thrilling six-match white-ball series across St. Vincent and the Grenadines and St. Kitts and Nevis in March and April 2026.

Featuring three high-intensity T20 Internationals and three fiercely contested One Day Internationals, the Maroon Warriors will go head-to-head with the world's top-ranked side in both formats. With the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in the United Kingdom just months away, every ball, every run, and every wicket will matter.

Australia currently sits at the summit of the world rankings, while the West Indies Women are ranked 5th in T20Is and 9th in ODIs, setting the stage for a captivating clash between global dominance and Caribbean flair.

The series also marks a crucial phase in the team's preparations for the global showpiece, following their ongoing contest against Sri Lanka in Grenada.

CWI's Director of Cricket, Miles Bascombe, underscored the magnitude of the encounter:

"With the ICC Women's T20 World Cup just a few months away, this series against Australia is a pivotal benchmark in our preparation. It gives our players the opportunity to challenge themselves against the very best and to elevate their performance under pressure."

While initial discussions included a one-off Test match, strategic focus this year will center on maximizing white-ball readiness ahead of the global tournament.

"Our planning this year prioritizes maximizing white-ball readiness ahead of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup. This series forms a central part of that preparation, allowing us to concentrate resources and build combinations. We remain committed to the long-term growth of women's Test cricket, and discussions are already underway for a future red-ball opportunity, including a highly anticipated series against England in 2027," Bascombe said.

Cricket fans in both St. Vincent and St. Kitts are encouraged to take advantage of the free entry to all matches to come out in their numbers to support the Maroon Warriors.

Further details on squad announcements, start times, and broadcast information will be released soon.

Series Schedule

T20 Internationals – Arnos Vale, St. Vincent

1st T20I – Thursday, March 19

2nd T20I – Saturday, March 21

3rd T20I – Monday, March 23

One Day Internationals – Warner Park, St. Kitts

1st ODI – Friday, March 27

2nd ODI – Sunday, March 29

3rd ODI – Thursday, April 2

Players flee court after UAE drone attack causes nearby fire



Players and officials run off court at the ATP Challenger event in Fujairah

Image source, ATP

Japan's Hayato Matsuoka grabbed his towel and sprinted off court, leaving the rest of his belongings behind

By Jonathan Jurejko

BBC Sport tennis news reporter

Players and officials ran from the court at an ATP Challenger event in the United Arab Emirates when an Iranian drone attack led to a fire breaking out at an oil terminal located about 10km away.

Two matches were stopped in Fujairah - which is about 90 miles east of Dubai - shortly after the city's port was targeted on Tuesday morning. The ATP later cancelled the rest of the tournament.

A live feed on the ATP website showed Japan's Hayato Matsuoka and Russia's Daniil Ostapenkov, along with the umpire and line judges, dash off court early in the third set.

Tournament officials could be heard shouting instructions to leave the court.

"Relevant authorities responded to a fire that broke out in the Fujairah Oil Industry Zone, resulting from falling debris following the successful interception of a drone by air defence systems," the Government of Fujairah media office said in a statement.

Iranian drone and missile attacks have been fired towards the UAE over the past three days, in response to US and Israeli strikes on Iran.

Defence teams were still "working to contain the incident", the statement added. No injuries were reported.

Ukrainian player Vladyslav Orlov said he heard "jets flying around" while playing his match, adding there was a lot of smoke in the air.

"It's not very safe here right now," he added.

The ATP initially postponed play for

the remainder of the day before cancelling the rest of this week's event and another Challenger Tour event in Fujairah scheduled for next week.

It added: "The safety and wellbeing of our players and tournament personnel is our highest priority. Players remain on site and are being fully supported, with accommodation and all immediate needs covered while onward travel arrangements are explored.

"We remain in close contact with local authorities, tournament organisers, and will continue to support players until they are able to travel safely."

British players Max Basing and Zach Stephens are among the players in the draw for this week's cancelled event.

Around 40 players, team members, officials and media remain stranded in Dubai.

Former world number one Daniil Medvedev and British doubles player Henry Patten were among those unable to leave after the Dubai Tennis Championships when airspace was closed in the region at the weekend.

All scheduled flights remain suspended, with only a limited number of planes - prioritising passengers with earlier bookings and those in transit through Dubai - taking off.

The possibility of the players driving out of Dubai and hiring private jets from neighbouring Oman has been explored over the past few days.

The prestigious Indian Wells tournament begins in California on Wednesday, although seeded singles players including Medvedev and fellow Russian player Andrey Rublev would not play until the weekend.