SAVINGRAM

FROM: Secretary-General, Caribbean Community

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

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

No. 756/2010   25 August 2010

THIRTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF CARIBBEAN STATISTICIANS (SCCS), 8-9 NOVEMBER 2010

NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL CENSUS COORDINATING COMMITTEE (RCCC), 10-11 NOVEMBER 2010

AND

THIRD REGIONAL STATISTICS SEMINAR, 12 NOVEMBER 2010

ROSEAU, DOMINICA

(CONVENING)

1. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat wishes to advise Member States that it proposes to convene the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) in Roseau, the Commonwealth of Dominica on 8-9 November 2010. The SCCS Meeting will be followed by the Nineteenth Meeting of the Regional Census Coordinating Committee (RCCC) on 10-11 November 2010 and by the Third Regional Statistics Seminar on Friday, 12 November 2010. These Meetings would be preceded by
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the Meeting of the Seventh Advisory Group on Statistics (AGS) which would bring its deliberations on developmental issues to the SCCS for consideration and adoption. The venue for these Meetings is the Fort Young Hotel, Roseau, Dominica.

2. These meetings are happening at a time when there is intensified demand for statistics to monitor policy. In particular, the need for statistics was heightened as a consequence of the recent global economic crisis. Statisticians of the Region are therefore taking strategic steps to garner support for investment in statistics and in advocating on the usefulness and importance of statistics in our everyday lives. In this context, the Region would be observing the second Caribbean Statistics Day on October 15, followed by World Statistics Day on 20 October 2010 (20/10/2010), declared by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution No. 64/267.

3. The theme for World Statistics Day is “Celebrating the Many Achievements of Statistics”. It is only fitting that the Region adopt this theme for Caribbean Statistics Day and for the series of meetings for the abovementioned period to provide greater visibility of statistics in the Region and in the world over; to draw attention to the central role of statistics in national and regional development; to enable a greater understanding of the statistics by the people of the Region; and to continue to promote a culture of statistics in CARICOM.

4. The Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the SCCS would consider the progress of and take decisions as required on various areas of statistics and related developmental activities, including the status of compilation of National Accounts, International Trade in Services and Merchandise Trade Statistics. Focus would also be on Social/Gender, Environment and Information and Communication Technology Statistics and the Progress on projects that seek to facilitate the development of common frameworks to harmonise statistics such as the statistical component of the Ninth European Development Fund (9th EDF) Caribbean Integration Support Project (CISP); the development of a common framework to measure literacy and the production of a Model Statistics Bill; progress on the implementation of the common Regional Statistical Work Programme (RSWP) and the compilation of Caribbean Specific Indicators and Targets for the Millennium Development Goals (CSMDGs).

5. The Nineteenth Meeting of the RCCC will continue the monitoring and assessment of the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses. Specific focus would be on the current needs of countries that have completed their enumeration activities in 2010 and on evaluating the progress of those countries preparing for their Census enumeration in 2011 and beyond.

6. The Third Regional Seminar on Statistics, following the format of the previous seminars, would serve as a mechanism to encourage the use of statistics; promote research into statistical methods and applications; and provide a forum for statisticians and other stakeholders to present their findings for review. In particular, graduates from training workshops and participants who have attended other meetings and workshops are especially invited to present papers on topics that may interest them at this seminar. The CARICOM
Secretariat would fund on a first come-first serve basis presenters from countries that would like to make presentations at the seminar.

7. The Provisional Agenda for both Meetings are set out at Attachments I and II to this Savingram. The Call for Papers for the Seminar is set out at Attachment III.

8. The Secretariat would be grateful to receive by Wednesday, 8 September 2010, any additional item(s) which Member States may wish to have included on the Agenda of the above-captioned Meetings. This information should be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum on the proposed item(s). Member States are also requested to inform the Secretariat of papers related to the Items on the proposed agenda that they wish to present at these Meetings.

9. Further, Member States will also be requested to report on any achievements or initiatives already in progress, or proposed, to restructure their respective National Statistical Offices/Systems using the accepted report format.

10. The Secretariat would appreciate receiving electronic copies of papers which Member States wish to present to the Meetings by Monday, 20 September 2010 for posting on its website. Information on the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the SCCS and the Seventeenth Meeting of the RCCC will be made available and updated on www.caricomstats.org on a continuing basis.

11. Accommodation for delegates to the Meeting has been arranged at the Fort Young Hotel at the following rates: Standard Room US$110.40, Oceanfront Room US$158.40 and Deluxe Oceanfront US$177.60 single occupancy per night, inclusive of all taxes, but exclusive of meals. Breakfast is available at an additional cost: Continental Breakfast - US$13; Full Breakfast - US$19; Modified American Plan (MAP) (includes full breakfast and Dinner) - US$55.

12. Participants are requested to make their reservations directly with the hotel, and are urged to do so by Tuesday, 5 October 2010.

13. Member States are requested to forward to the Secretariat, the name(s) and designation(s) of the members of their respective delegations no later than Friday, 8 October 2010 to -

The Secretary-General
Caribbean Community
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ROSEAU, DOMINICA

(CONVENCING)

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