



THE NEWSLETTER



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JAPAL ATTENDS CARIAD

Assistant Drug Control Officer of the Drug Control Secretariat, Elizabeth Japal, attended the Thirty Seventh (37) Caribbean Institute on Alcoholism and other Drug Problems (CARIAD), held in Tobago 13 to 24 June 2011. Topics covered in the intense two weeks of training included: The Biological Aspects of Alcohol and other Substance Abuse, Individual Counseling, Relapse Prevention, Treatment Intervention, The Nature of Drug Dependence and Stress Management. Participants were also required to prepare a research paper on various aspects of substance abuse, and write a final exam.

According to Mrs. Japal, *'The knowledge and experience gained from the Caribbean Institute On Alcoholism and other Drug Problems (CARIAD) training is indeed a life changing one.'*

CARIAD was established by the late Dr. Michael Beaubrun, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of the West Indies. The Conference of Ministers of Health of the CARICOM countries meeting in Nassau in 1974 endorsed the use of the new Institute for training for the region. In response to another

Resolution in 1980, the Institute expanded its scope to include all psychoactive substances to meet the challenge of new drugs like cocaine. One of the goals of CARIAD is to develop knowledge and skills to assist in the development of culturally appropriate models for prevention, treatment and applied research for application in the Caribbean.

Since its inception in 1975 CARIAD has been held annually and has trained over two thousand, four hundred and seventeen (2,417) persons, throughout the Caribbean in the area of addiction studies. CARIAD participants comprise of persons from a wide cross section of the society including, Social Workers, Government Officials, Physicians, Law Enforcement Officers, Psychiatrists, Educators and many other persons involved in the area of prevention and treatment.

Funding for Mrs. Japal's attendance to CARIAD was provided by the Embassy of the United States

of America, in Barbados.

The Drug Control Secretariat expresses its appreciation to the Embassy for this donation which would undoubtedly strengthen Grenada's response to the drug problem.



Elizabeth Japal at CARIAD, June 2011

GANJA is illegal in Grenada, Carriacou & Petite Martinique

OUR MISSION

The Drug Control Secretariat would endeavour to create an atmosphere of non-tolerance towards drugs, through the implementation of appropriate programmes, which would promote the well-being of all persons in the State of Grenada.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Dave Alexander, Drug Control Officer

The Government of Grenada continues to demonstrate its zero tolerance to criminal activities, such as drug possession and trafficking, armed robberies and the possession of illegal firearms. On 7 July 2001, The Prime Minister Honourable Tillman Thomas, met with Officers of the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF), and the National Security Team, to discuss appropriate responses to crime and violence in Grenada.

In response to the crime situation, the RGPF has initiated a number of measures. It has increased its presence in several areas, and is aggressively pursuing criminal elements. Already, these initiatives are reaping success. The RGPF has confiscated several illegal firearms and arrested and charge the perpetrators of these offences.

Meanwhile, the Government of Grenada has received equipment for the marking of firearms. This timely donation made by the Organization of American States (OAS), would contribute to the ability of the RGPF to trace firearms, and to update its records on firearms.

The above-mentioned initiatives would significantly assist the Government of Grenada, in its efforts to deal decisive blows to crimes and criminal elements in Grenada.

RESEARCH ON DRUG SITUATION IN GRENADA

Drug use appears to be on the rise in the Caribbean. This trend in Grenada is depicted by statistical indicators such as admissions rates to treatment facilities and drug arrests. In this regard, Ms. Afolami Fagorala, MPH Student at the St. George's University, Grenada, has undertaken a research study to explore trends and factors that influence drug use as they relate to drug arrests and drug treatments in Grenada over the last ten years (2001-2009). The study would also seek to identify the social, ecological and psychological factors surrounding drug use particularly among Grenadians.

The data was collected through the use of information collected through Grenada Drug Information Network (GRENDIN), and information from interviews of key figures from Government Ministries, this study would document the drug use patterns in Grenada in the last decade and would provide valuable insight for implementing more sustainable solutions. Results of the study would be published later in 2011.



*Afolami Fagorala
Student, St. George's University*

ADVISORY MEETING OF PROCEER

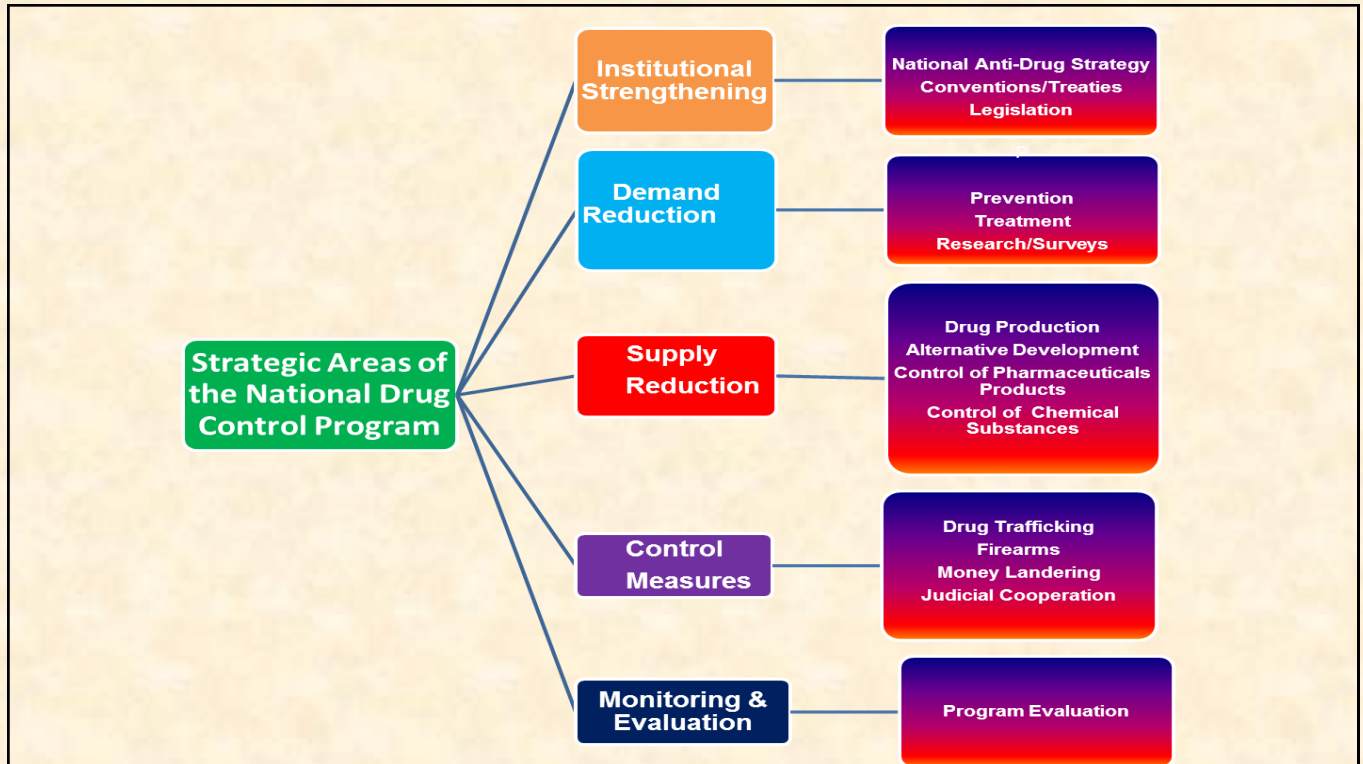
A meeting of the Advisory Body of the Caribbean Prevention and Treatment Training and Certification Program, was convened 25 to 26 July 2001, in Trinidad. The Caribbean Prevention and Treatment Training and Certification Program (PROCCER) is an interagency and interdisciplinary program in the Caribbean for the development and institutionalization of training and certification mechanisms for drug prevention and treatment personnel. It aims to strengthen and consolidate ongoing programs in the region and support the hemispheric drug strategy, adopted by member states of the OAS in May 2010.

Under the programme, an assessment of institutions and personnel involved in the field of drug prevention, and treatment and rehabilitation would be conducted. Thereafter, the personnel would be provided with training in these fields. The format of the training is to be determined. Mr. Dave Alexander was designated to serve the subcommittee responsible for development of the curriculum in the area of drug prevention.

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STRATEGIC AREAS OF THE NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM

The following chart highlights the strategic areas of the National Drug Control Program of Grenada. Programs to be implemented in these areas would be defined in the National Anti-Drug Strategy 2012 to 2017, which is being finalized.



GRENADA OBTAINS EQUIPMENT

The Organization of American States (OAS) donated firearms marking equipment to the Government of Grenada on 28 July 2011. This donation is part of a broader OAS effort aimed at ‘Promoting Firearms Marking in Latin America and the Caribbean,’ which falls within the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA). The OAS Department of Public Security (DPS) would train police officers in the use of the equipment.

This agreement seeks to strengthen national capacities to control the illicit trafficking of, as well as to improve the marking of licit firearms.

In the 2007 to 2009, ‘Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control’, the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism of CICAD recommended that Grenada should, *‘Establish the requirement for firearms to be marked, in accordance with the Inter-American Convention Against The Illicit Manufacturing Of And Trafficking In Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives And Other Related Materials (CIFTA).*

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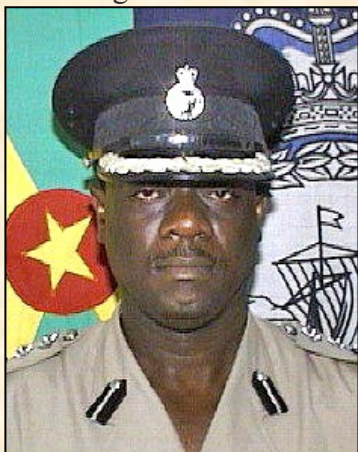
Mrs. Elizabeth Japal

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IN THE NEWS

The Drug Control Secretariat extends congratulations to Mr. Willan Thompson, on his appointment to the post of Commissioner of Police, in Grenada, effective 1 September 2011. He replaced Mr. James Clarkson, who demitted office. Commissioner Thompson is a graduate of Presentation Brother's College (PBC), Grenada, and former schoolteacher. He joined the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF) as a Cadet Officer and spent many years as head of the Special Branch unit. Over the years, he moved up the ranks of the Force and became Deputy Commissioner of Police. The Drug Control Secretariat looks forward to working closely with Commissioner Thompson on the implementation of initiatives in the area of drug control.



*Commissioner of Police
Willan Thompson*

**BEST WISHES TO
AMBASSADOR
JAMES MACK**

The Drug Control Secretariat extends best wishes to Ambassador James Mack, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS), on his retirement, 31 August 2011.

Ambassador James F. Mack assumed the position of Executive Secretary of CICAD in September 2004. He began his work with CICAD in 2002 as Coordinator of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, which is CICAD's drug statistics, research and information branch.

The Ambassador was an excellent friend to the Drug Control Secretariat and Grenada. He supported initiatives being undertaken in the area of drug control in Grenada. He visited Grenada in September 2007, to participate in the Meeting of Caribbean National Observatories On Drugs. We will always be grateful for the excellent and unwavering support of Ambassador Mack.

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File Photo: Ambassador James Mack



*Ambassador James Mack (right) at
Meeting of the Caribbean Prevention and
Treatment Training and Certification
Program, Trinidad, 26 July 2011*

NOW PLAYING:

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A production of the
Drug Control Secretariat
&
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