

ANNEX E

Newspaper reports on Kick Off Workshop for CFC/CARDI Projects.

Growing interest in vegetables Opportunities for small farmers

By Darcel Choy

COMMON Fund for Commodities Project Managing Director, Ambassador Ali Mchumo believes that interest is growing for vegetables as the world gets more aware of good health eating habits. This comes in the light of the recent launch of two regional projects, Increased Production of Vegetables and Herbs Through the Use of Protected Agriculture in the Caribbean and 'Increased Production of Roots and Tuber Crops in the Caribbean through the Introduction of Improved Marketing and Production Technologies' at the Hyatt Regency, Port-of-Spain last week.

He explained that hotel chains operating in the region supplies basic food like vegetables and dairy products from different parts of the world. "We are told that the reason for importing is that there are no supplies locally or where there is, the quality is too low for their clients," he said. Mchumo added that while these are challenges, they also provide opportunities for the local farmers.

"I do recognise that as small islands you do not have vast spaces of land like Brazil but vegetables do not require large farms. Thus with good training and suitable technology you could be competitive in horticulture products," he explained.

Mchumo said the root and tuber crops project targets to increase the production and productivity of sweet potatoes, yams and cassava which are traditional crops in the Caribbean.

"We are financing this project because it is important to strengthen food security for people of this region. The project will assist with marketing and introducing new and high yielding varieties and will assist in setting up a functioning value chain by organising the producers," he explained.

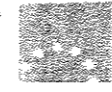
He revealed that out of the total cost of US\$2,814,638 the Common Fund is directly contributing US\$2,010,023 while the European Union through the All Agricultural Commodities Programme of the ACP is contributing US\$634,830. The balance of US\$169,785 will be covered by the Collaborating Institutions.

He explained that the projects are also going to address the destruction of green houses during hurricane season.

"We are going to be testing collapsible green house technology which can be mounted and dismantled



FROM LEFT Kathrine Renner, programme officer of the European Commission, Common Fund for Commodities Project Managing Director, Ambassador Ali Mchumo and Agriculture Minister, Arnold Piggott at the launch of two regional projects, Increased Production of Vegetables and Herbs Through the Use of Protected Agriculture in the Caribbean and 'Increased Production of Roots and Tuber Crops in the Caribbean through the Introduction of Improved Marketing and Production Technologies' at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Port-of-Spain.



Project Lau Impact Aimed at Increasing Production

COLLECTED AGRI-CULTURE
offer, structures, equipment and garden
1998, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005



FOOD FOR THOUGHT: An assortment of vegetables on display at the Increased Production of Roots and Tuber Crops in the Caribbean through the Introduction of Improved Marketing and Production Technologies' forum at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Port-of-Spain.

PHOTOS BY ROGER JACOB

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NEWS



LOCAL Government Minister Hazel Manning

Plans underway

CARDI head warns

Food crisis looms

By DARCEL CHOY

IN THE near future, the region could see another food crisis, Dr H Arlington D Chesney, executive director of Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), warned yesterday.

Chesney explained that in late 2007, the world including the Caribbean region experienced a food crisis which brought significant increase in prices. "To date, prices

have been reduced, I should emphasise that prices have not reduced to the level they were prior to 2007, the conditions which allowed that crisis still exists. We would see in the near future another food crisis in terms of availability in the region," he said.

He was speaking at the opening ceremony for the launch of two projects, "Increased Production of Vegetables and Herbs Through the Use of Protected Agriculture in the Caribbean" and "Increased Production of

Roots and Tuber Crops in the Caribbean through the Introduction of Improved Marketing and Production Technologies" at the Hyatt Regency, Port-of-Spain.

He noted that these projects are important to the country and the region.

"That is a new agriculture which includes all components of the value chain of the manufacturing chain to the sale of final product when it is fresh in our process," he said. He explained that the projects cost \$US6.1 million, with

\$US3.4 million for roots and \$US2.7 for vegetables. He added all of the money was in the form of grants.

Chesney added that the vegetable and herbs projects will be executed in Haiti, Jamaica and TT while the root and tuber crops project will be executed in St Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica and Barbados.

"The duration of the project is three years, however the BC component being used in Barbados must be completed by December 2011," he said.

Man held for abduction of security guard

By ALEXANDER BRITTON

Newsday
Editorial

Friday March 5, 2010

We demand truth

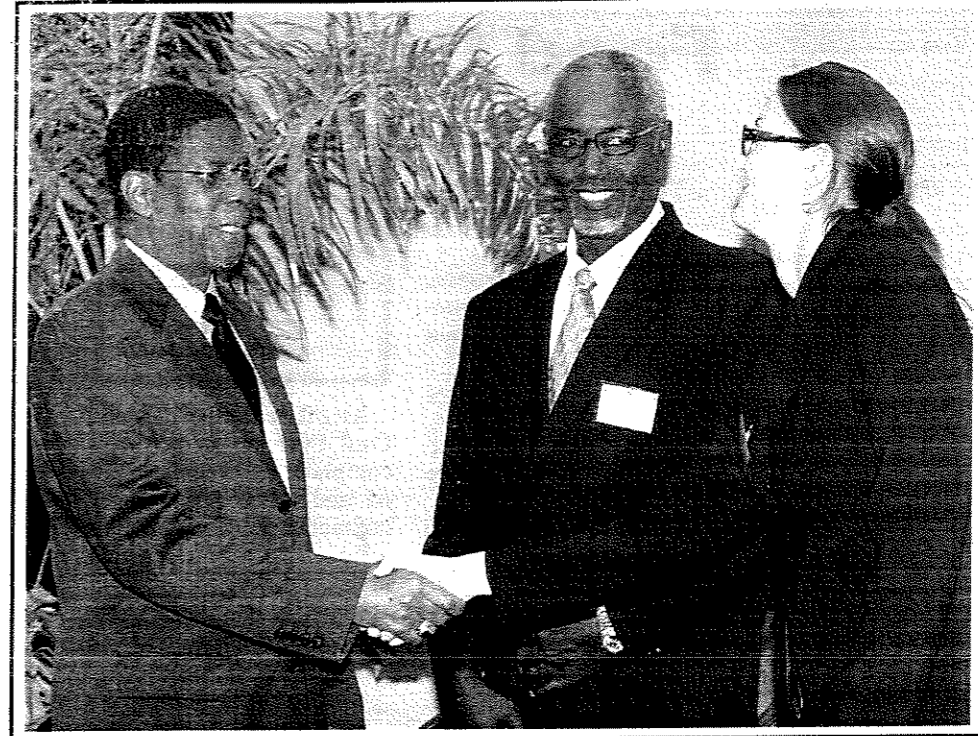
THE Government is continuing to show a shocking lack of concern over a snowballing of allegations that seriously question the integrity of the expenditure of \$820 million in taxpayer's money on the controversial Legal Affairs Tower.

Documents published in yesterday's media — if valid — virtually prove that Udecott head, Calder Hart, has two close in-laws who are directors of CH/Sunway, which Udecott has so far awarded \$668 million in contracts to build the Legal Affairs Tower, with the final sum reportedly set to reach at least \$820 million.

The documents, provided by the Congress of the People (COP), suggest Hart's wife, Mrs Sherrine Hart, has a sister Adeline Lee whose husband David Chin (Ng Chin Poh) is or was a CH/Sunway director, both of whose wedding was attested to by Mr Allan Lee (Lee Hup Seng), who is said to be Mrs Hart's brother and another CH/Sunway director.

The revelation came after months of official denials, after the allegation of nepotism was first made by businessman Mr Carl Khan, Sherrine Hart's ex-husband, in sworn testimony to the Uff Commission of Inquiry into Udecott as reported on May 21, 2009. Calder Hart had denied the claim, with a notice on the commission web-site stating, "Counsel for Mr Calder Hart has, on Mr Hart's behalf, denied the matters stated in the declarations". However, crucially, Udecott lawyers declined to cross examine Mr Carl Khan on his claim a failure to challenge nepotism

OPINION



HELP FOR FARMERS:

Agriculture Minister Arnold Piggott, left, greets Katherine Renner, programme officer at the European Commission, right, while Dr Richard Harrison, chairman of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute, centre, looks on.

Yesterday CARDI and the EC, gave US\$12 million to assist farmers in the region at a ceremony at the Hyatt Regency, Port-of-Spain.

PHOTO BY
ROGER JACOB

Cardi to launch farming project worth \$6 million

The Caribbean Agricultural Research Development Institute (CARDI) plans to announce the launch of two significant agricultural development pilot projects valued at \$6 million, to boost farming productivity and crop yields across the Caribbean region.

According to a release from the organisation, the two projects will be initially implemented in six Caribbean countries over a three year period commencing in the first quarter of 2010, and will then be replicated in other Caribbean territories for maximum impact.

"Agriculture is a major economic driver in the Caribbean development agenda and food security goes to the heart of sovereignty and poverty reduction," said Dr

Arlington Chesney, Executive Director of CARDI, who also said that the project timing will have tremendous beneficial impact on Haiti, whose already fragile agricultural systems were devastated by the recent earthquake.

The two projects are funded jointly by the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) and the European Union (EU) with implementation supported by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) as the supervisory body.

Other collaborating stakeholders are the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation and Agriculture (IICA), the regional Ministries of Agriculture and private sector associations and groups.

One of the undertakings of the project involves the development

of roots and tubers - those good wholesome starches that find a place in every Caribbean family's market basket, the other will see the promotion of model green houses in selected territories.


The produce attracting the focus of the pilot project include sweet potatoes, cassava, tomatoes and green leafy vegetables.

These are the kinds of produce that have traditionally earned income and grown strong and healthy in the region.

The launch of the two multi-million dollar programmes will take place tomorrow at the Hyatt Regency, where stakeholders will present details of the project for expanding the boundaries of traditional agriculture and provide greater opportunities from the agri-food sector.

Oil, stocks drive market optimism

Stocks and oil rose as India's government things start to improve,"




THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STOCK EXCHANGE


TRINIDAD & TOBAGO STOCK EXCHANGE
Daily Report on Trading, Tuesday, March 2, 2010.

INDEX: 801.67 ALL T&T INDEX: 1,170.44
CHANGE: -0.14 CHANGE: -0.36

Security	Opening Quote	Day's High/Low	Outstanding Bid	Offer	Last Sales Quote	Date of Last Sale	Shares Bought/Sold	Closing Quotation	Change from Quote
ORDINARY									
AGOSTINI'S LTD	7.50		8.25	0.00	8.25	17/02/10		7.50	
ANGOSTURA HOLDINGS	6.90		0.00	0.00	6.21	14/05/09		6.90	
ANSA MERCHANT BANK	30.00	30.00 30.00	30.01	33.00	30.00	02/03/10	3,594	30.00	
ANSA MCAL	45.00		45.00	45.50	45.00	01/03/10		45.00	
BCBTT	13.20		13.00	0.00	13.00	06/01/10		13.20	
BERGER PAINTS	3.25		2.93	0.00	3.25	21/01/10		3.25	
B'DOS SHIPPING & TRD	27.93		0.00	0.00	27.93	04/12/07		27.93	
CCFG	0.52		0.00	0.47	0.47	03/11/09		0.52	
FIRSTCARIBBEAN INT	7.00		7.06	0.00	7.06	01/03/10		7.00	
FLAVORITE FOODS	5.30		5.35	0.00	5.30	09/11/09		5.30	
GUARDIAN HOLDINGS	13.06		13.06	13.25	13.06	01/03/10		13.06	
GRACE, KENNEDY & CO	3.02		3.32	0.00	3.20	22/02/10		3.02	
J'CA MONEY MARKET BR	0.25		0.23	0.25	0.25	01/03/10		0.25	
WILLIAMS LJ SO.10A	0.54		0.00	0.49	0.49	04/08/09		0.54	
WILLIAMS LJ B 1.50	0.99		0.90	0.00	1.00	26/01/10		0.99	
NCB JAMAICA	1.00		1.00	0.00	1.00	26/02/10		1.00	
NEL	10.11		10.11	10.45	10.00	02/03/10	57	10.11	
NATIONAL FLOUR MILLS	0.99		0.95	0.97	0.95	01/03/10		0.99	
NEAL AND MASSY	45.00		45.10	48.98	45.00	01/03/10		45.00	
ONE CARIBBEAN MEDIA	17.50		0.00	15.75	15.75	08/02/10		17.50	
PRESTIGE HOLDINGS	4.00		3.85	3.94	3.85	01/03/10		4.00	
POINT LISAS DEV	5.92		5.81	5.92	5.80	23/02/10		5.92	
T'DAD PUBLISHING	21.87		0.00	19.69	19.69	02/03/10	100	21.87	
REPUBLIC BANK	75.00		73.00	75.00	75.00	02/03/10	32	75.00	
READYMIX (WI)	31.35		0.00	28.22	31.35	03/02/09		31.35	
SCOTIABANK	37.00	37.00 37.00	37.00	38.00	37.00	02/03/10	6,348	37.00	
SDBG	1.40		1.40	0.00	1.40	01/03/10		1.40	
SAGICOR FINANCIAL SVL	10.53	10.54 10.54	10.60	11.00	10.54	02/03/10	12,516	10.54	+1
T'DAD CEMENT	0.18		0.00	0.18	0.18	27/01/10		0.18	-40
UNILEVER CARIB LTD	4.00	3.60 3.60	0.00	3.80	3.60	02/03/10	22,399	3.60	
WEST INDIAN TOBACCO	16.75		18.42	0.00	18.42	08/02/10		16.75	
PREFERENCE	39.00	40.00 40.00	39.00	40.00	40.00	02/03/10	21,564	40.00	+100
ALSTONS 7% CUM	7.07		0.00	7.07	7.07	18/01/10		7.07	
CCMBP	0.14		0.15	0.00	0.15	01/03/10		0.14	
WILLIAMS LJ \$5 8% CP	3.30		0.00	0.00	3.30	09/11/09		3.30	
T'DAD PUB \$50 6% CP	65.00		63.50	0.00	65.00	29/01/10		65.00	
MUTUAL FUND MARKET ORDINARY			0.00	5.10	5.11	20/08/08		5.11	
CPF	5.11		3.70	3.85	3.50	19/01/10		3.50	
PRAETORIAN PROP	3.50		62.00	68.00	62.00	17/02/10		62.00	
SIAF	62.00								
SECOND TIER MKT ORDINARY			0.00	1.00	1.00	16/04/08		1.00	
FNCU-VENTURE CAP	1.00		12.15	12.99	12.99	26/11/09		13.50	
MORA VEN HOLDINGS	13.50								



VALUE of shares bought/sld
\$1.42 million
Number bght/sold = 66,616
X-R Ex-Rights
X-D Ex-Div
X-DR Ex-Div/Ex-Rights
X-C Ex-Capitalisation
X-CD Ex-Cap/Ex-Div
**** Suspended until further notice



TCL ends session as top performer

Tuesday's trading session generated a total vol-
poration (SFC), Scotia-bank Trinidad & Toba-
Trinidad Cement Lim-ited plunged \$0.40 or
not record any activity. The Composite Index

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STOCK EXCHANGE										
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO STOCK EXCHANGE										
Daily Report on Trading, Thursday, March 4, 2010.										
Security	Opening Quote	Day's High Low	Outstanding Bid	Last Offer	Last Sales Quote	Date of Last Sale	Shares Bought/ Sold	Closing Quotation	Change from Quote	
ORDINARY										
AGOSTINI'S LTD	7.50		8.25	0.00	8.25	17/02/10		7.50		
ANGOSTURA HOLDINGS	6.90		0.00	0.00	6.21	14/05/09		6.90		
ANSA MERCHANT BANK	30.00		30.01	33.00	30.00	02/03/10		30.00		
ANSA MCAL	45.00	45.00 45.00	45.00	45.50	45.00	04/03/10	11,140	45.00		
BCBTT	13.20		0.00	0.00	13.00	06/01/10		13.20		
BERGER PAINTS	3.25		2.93	0.00	3.25	21/01/10		3.25		
B'DOS SHIPPING & TRD	27.93		0.00	0.00	27.93	04/12/07		27.93		
CCFG	0.52		0.00	0.47	0.47	03/11/09		0.52		
FIRSTCARIBBEAN INT	7.00		7.07	0.00	7.07	03/03/10		7.00		
FLAVORITE FOODS	5.30		5.35	0.00	5.30	09/11/09		5.30		
GUARDIAN HOLDINGS	13.06	13.10 13.10	13.10	13.25	13.10	04/03/10	8,654	13.10	+4	
GRACE, KENNEDY & CO	3.02		3.32	0.00	3.20	22/02/10		3.02		
J'CA MONEY MARKET BR	0.25	0.25 0.25	0.23	0.25	0.25	04/03/10	166,095	0.25		
WILLIAMS LJ \$0.10A	0.54		0.00	0.49	0.49	04/08/09		0.54		
WILLIAMS LJ B 1.50	0.99		0.90	0.00	1.00	26/01/10		0.99		
NCB JAMAICA	1.00		1.00	0.00	1.00	03/03/10		1.00		
NEL	10.11	10.11 10.11	10.11	10.25	10.11	04/03/10	8,000	10.11		
NATIONAL FLOUR MILLS	0.99		0.91	0.95	0.95	03/03/10		0.99		
NEAL AND MASSY	45.00		45.01	48.98	45.01	03/03/10		45.00		
ONE CARIBBEAN MEDIA	17.50		0.00	15.75	15.75	08/02/10		17.50		
PRESTIGE HOLDINGS	4.00		3.85	3.94	3.85	03/03/10		4.00		
POINT LISAS DEV	5.92		5.81	5.92	5.81	04/03/10	1,600	5.92		
TDAD PUBLISHING	21.87		0.00	19.69	19.69	02/03/10		21.87		
REPUBLIC BANK	75.00	75.00 75.00	75.00	78.00	75.00	04/03/10	2,878	75.00		
READYMIX (WI)	31.35		0.00	28.22	31.35	03/02/09		31.35		
SCOTIABANK	37.00	37.00 37.00	36.00	37.00	37.00	04/03/10	4,112	37.00		
SDBG	1.40		1.40	0.00	1.40	01/03/10		1.40		
SAGICOR FINANCIAL	10.54	10.61 10.61	10.61	11.00	10.61	04/03/10	7,954	10.61	+7	
SVL	0.18		0.00	0.19	0.18	03/03/10		0.18		
TDAD CEMENT	3.60		3.41	3.60	3.60	03/03/10		3.60		
UNILEVER CARIB LTD	16.75		18.42	0.00	18.42	04/03/10	890	16.75		
WEST INDIAN TOBACCO	40.00		39.50	40.00	40.00	04/03/10	575	40.00		
PREFERENCE										
ALSTONS 7% CUM	7.07		0.00	7.07	7.07	18/01/10		7.07		
CCMBP	0.14		0.15	0.00	0.15	04/03/10	213	0.14		
WILLIAMS LJ \$5 8% CP	3.30		0.00	0.00	3.30	09/11/09		3.30		
TDAD PUB \$50 6% CP	65.00		63.50	0.00	65.00	29/01/10		65.00		
MUTUAL FUND MARKET										
ORDINARY										
CPF	5.11		0.00	5.10	5.11	20/08/08		5.11		
PRAETORIAN PROP	3.50		3.70	3.85	3.50	19/01/10		3.50		
SIAF	62.00		62.00	68.00	62.00	17/02/10		62.00		
SECOND TIER MKT.										
ORDINARY										
FNCU-VENTURE CAP	1.00		0.00	1.00	1.00	16/04/08		1.00		
MORA VEN HOLDINGS	13.50		12.15	12.99	12.99	26/11/09		13.50		

THE ALL NEW JAGUAR XE JAGUAR

JMMB takes the lead

High energy costs could affect food prices

NADALEEN SINGH

The cost of energy has not gone down considerably, which could be one of the factors leading to increased food prices, said Dr Arlington Chesney, executive director, Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI).

"Today, the minister (Agriculture Minister, Arnold Piggott) said food prices have reduced, but prices have not been reduced to the level that they were in 2007 and 2008.

"Prices are lower than they were at the height of the crisis, but they are still higher than before the crisis. It is likely that there could be—but not necessarily at the same level—new increases in food prices.

"The other aspect is the cost of energy which drives production of food at this time has not gone down considerably, so there are still a lot of factors that could lead to increased food prices," Chesney said.

He was speaking at the ceremony to launch two projects to assist Caribbean farmers, costing US\$6 million, which are funded by the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) and the European Union.

The ceremony was held at the

Hyatt Regency Trinidad hotel, Port-of-Spain, yesterday.

"There's the possibility that since the conditions that allow for the crisis to take place still exist, we could see in the near future another crisis in food availability for the region," Chesney said.

"In late 2007, early 2008, the world, as a region, experienced a food crisis which reduced the availability of food and significantly increased prices."

Referring to the Caribbean, Chesney said the Caribbean is well placed to meet a significant percentage of its food requirements, but cannot meet all the requirements.

Asked whether T&T can create an environment that brings about sustainability, Chesney said: "There is a much better relationship between the public and private sectors, in recognising we all have to work together to meet these challenges.

"We have a period of 'too long' of lip-service to agriculture, but I think it is changing throughout the region," Chesney said.

Chesney said not enough money is being invested in research and development for agriculture in the Caribbean and the world.

TSTT cable vandal sentenced to 14 months' hard labour

A magistrate sentencing Sheldon David of North Oropouche Road, Sangre Grande, to 14 months' hard labour for unlawfully and

Scotland sent a strong signal to vandals of TSTT cables on March 2 when she sentenced David, TSTT said in a release.

Grande area.

The officers, aided by Sangre Grande police, conducted enquiries and held David, who was subsequently arrested