

## St. Kitts and Nevis

### Date and Venue:

Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2000 – Bird Rock Beach Conference Room, Basseterre.

### Participants:

Shawna Brisbane	-	Crown Counsel, Attorney General's Chambers
Graeme Browne	-	Physical Planning Division
Randolph Edmead	-	Lecturer, CFB College
Attlea Elliot	-	Teacher, Cayon High School
Jay Farier	-	Planning Unit
Teshelle Francis	-	Meteorologist, RL Bradshaw International Airport
Errol Finch	-	Carib Supply
Don Grant	-	Assistant Traffic Controller/Meteorologist, RL Bradshaw International Airport
Sam Heyliger	-	Fisheries Management Unit
George Morris	-	Nevis Water Department
Peter Ngunjiri	-	Government Public Relations Department, Nevis
Jamilia Samuel-		Department of Tourism
Raymond Solomon	-	Director, Department of Environment
Nithal (?)	-	Department of Environment
Angela Walters	-	Planning Department, Nevis
Robert Warner-		Assistant Manager, RL Bradshaw International Airport
Rajdaye Wynter	-	Meteorology Department
Llewellyn Wiltshire	-	Nevis Water Department
Dr. U O'D Trotz	-	CPACC RPIU
Rawleston Moore	-	CPACC RPIU
Dr. Leonard Nurse	-	CPACC RPIU
G. de Berdt Romilly	-	CPACC RPIU

Agenda: See Annex A

### Commentary:

The following comments were made during the meeting by various participants:

- A new *Town and Country Planning Act* has been prepared and is now with the House of Assembly. The new legislation will make environmental impact assessments (EIA's) compulsory for all new development activities, and will establish mechanisms whereby "set backs" can be established to prevent development in vulnerable coastal areas.

- It was considered that regional impacts of climate change on natural systems needs to be further studied, together with the impacts of natural phenomena (e.g. the volcanic eruptions on Montserrat and “Kick’em Jenny”) on climate patterns.
- It was agreed that there was a need to develop a *National Climate Change Adaptation Policy* that would outline intervention options and an action plan for implementation. Concern was expressed that it may not be possible to complete work on the development of the *National Climate Change Adaptation Policy* within the time frame left under the CPACC project. It was considered that CPACC should have a longer life to support countries in the development and implementation of the policy.
- The Department of Environment is currently involved in a number of initiatives (e.g. Coastal Zone Management project) that will assist in the formulation of the *National Climate Change Adaptation Policy*.
- Work on the *National Communication* has been started, and the work on the vulnerability assessment section should commence in November 2000, and be completed by January 2001. It is anticipated that the *National Communication* will not be finalized until November 2001, and it is intended that the “Issues Paper” and *National Climate Change Adaptation Policy* formulated under Component 4 will assist in the development of the “Vulnerability and Adaptation” section of the *National Communication*.
- It was considered that obtaining support, consensus and buy-in from the public/private sectors is an essential part of the process to develop the *National Climate Change Adaptation Policy*. It was considered that the launching of Component 4 under the CPACC project presents an ideal opportunity to launch an extensive public awareness campaign on climate change.
- Economic instruments, financial considerations and public education are essential mechanisms to effect change so as to address the impacts of climate change.

**Development of Climate Change Adaptation Policy - Proposed Work-Plan:**

- (a) It was agreed that the Climate Change Committee would co-ordinate the development of the *National Climate Change Adaptation Policy* and Implementation Plan.
- (b) Assistance from an external consultant funded by CPACC would be required in the formulation of the Issues Paper, and to co-ordinate the review of the document by members of the Climate Change Committee. It is anticipated that the Issues Paper would be complete by the end of January 2001.
- (c) The Climate Change Committee would undertake further work on the Issues Paper, with particular attention on identifying current and proposed policies, initiatives and legislation which are relevant to climate change adaptation planning and management. Thereafter, the Committee would circulate the draft Issues Paper to various government agencies and departments to obtain their input and comments on any outstanding issues that should be

included.

- (d) It was foreseen that a technical meeting would be needed to facilitate discussion on intervention options and discuss proposed management mechanisms. This technical meeting should be held after mid-March 2001 - comprising 2 half-day sessions. These sessions would result in the formulation of a Position Paper that would be submitted for broad-based consultation. Thereafter, the Climate Change Committee would undertake an extensive public consultation process leading up to the development of a draft Policy Paper. It is anticipated that the public consultation process would take 6 weeks to complete.
- (e) It is anticipated that resources would be required from CPACC to assist with the costs associated with printing and disseminating the Draft Policy document, and in facilitating the public consultation process.
- (f) The Climate Change Committee would review comments submitted during the public consultation process, and make any necessary changes to the draft Policy document.
- (g) Once the draft Policy Paper had been formulated, the Climate Change Committee would undertake the development of an Implementation Plan.
- (h) The draft policy paper and implementation Plan would be submitted to CPACC RPIU for review by a panel of technical experts. Comments arising from this technical review will be submitted to the Climate Change Committee for consideration.
- (i) Once agreement has been reached, the Climate Change Committee shall submit the Final Draft *Climate Change Adaptation Policy* and Implementation Plan to the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Environment for onward transmission to the Minister and Cabinet for review and eventual approval. It is anticipated that the Final Draft *Climate Change Adaptation Policy* and Implementation Plan would be ready for submission to the Ministry of Environment by May 2001.
- (j) It was considered essential that the Minister of Environment champion the development and implementation of the *Climate Change Adaptation Policy* and Implementation Plan. Assistance would be provided by CPACC to develop a “powerpoint” presentation and other materials that would assist in presentations to the Minister and other parliamentarians in order to obtain their support for the champion the development and implementation of the *Climate Change Adaptation Policy* and Implementation Plan. It was considered that presentations under Component 4 of the CPACC project could be timed to coincide with presentations to be made under Component 8. Representatives from the CPACC RPIU may be required to attend and assist with the presentations to the Minister of Environment and parliamentarians. At least one month’s notice of the presentation date would be provided to the CPACC RPIU in order to permit adequate time for the development of presentation materials. Additionally, it was considered that an Information Note should be forwarded to cabinet to advise them of the proposed activities to be undertaken in the formulation of the *Climate Change Adaptation Policy* and Implementation Plan.

- (k) It was considered that presentations should be made to the insurance and finance industries and to the tourism sector to obtain their participation in national and regional adaptation initiatives. Presentations should target national and regional offices, and the CPACC RPIU should take the lead in coordinating further consultation with the insurance/finance and tourism sectors.