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**High-Level Conference of the Small Island Developing States  
Achieving Sustainable Energy for All in SIDS and Rio+20 Informal Ministerial Meeting**

**BARBADOS, WEST INDIES  
7-9 May 2012**

**LOGISTIC NOTE**

The Government of Barbados and the United Nations Development Programme for Barbados and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States welcomes all delegates to *the High-Level Conference of the Small Island Developing States: Achieving Sustainable Energy for All in SIDS and the Rio+20 Informal Ministerial Meeting*. In order to ensure that your visit to Barbados is pleasant and productive, we have prepared the following information on the Conference and your stay in Barbados, for your perusal:

**CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

<b>Conference Dates:</b>	7-9 May 2012
<b>Conference Venue:</b>	Hilton Barbados Resort, Needham's Point, St Michael, Bridgetown, BB 11000, Barbados
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Hilton Barbados Resort, Needham's Point, St Michael, Bridgetown, BB 11000, Barbados Telephone: +1 (0) 246-426-0200 Fax: +1 (0) 246-434-5792 <a href="http://hiltonbarbadoshotel.com/">http://hiltonbarbadoshotel.com/</a>  The <b>Hilton Hotel</b> is approximately ten minutes away from Bridgetown and five minutes away from UN House.
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Climate:</b>	The climate is normally hot and humid with some light breezes. The average daily temperature is about 25° C to 30°C.
<b>Dress code:</b>	Delegates are requested to dress in business attire for the conference. It is customary in Barbados for men to wear suits with a jacket and tie, and women tailored business skirt or pant-suits, to meetings. For the dinner events, the dress code is elegantly casual or semi-formal. For the cultural evening on the Wednesday, 9 May, delegates have the option of wearing their national dress.



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<b>Accommodation:</b>	All delegates will be accommodated at the Hilton Barbados Resorts. The official check-in time is 3:00 p.m. and check out-time is 12:00 p.m. Accommodation includes a full continental breakfast. Delegates will be accommodated in standard rooms for the duration of their stay.
<b>Meals:</b>	Lunch and dinner as well as coffee breaks will be provided.
<b>Transportation from country of origin to host country:</b>	All international airlines arrive at the Grantley Adams International Airport (GAIA). The airport is located 13km (8 miles) southeast from the capital Bridgetown. The airport code is <b>BGI</b> . Delegates are asked to plan their travel to the GAIA for departure, bearing in mind that check-in for international flights is 2 hours prior to flight departure and for regional flights check-in is required 90 minutes before the flight departs.
<b>Transportation:</b>	Transportation is being provided for delegates to the Hilton Hotel upon arrival in Barbados, and for departure to their respective destinations. A representative of the UNDP Barbados and the OECS and the Government of Barbados will be on-hand at the airport to assist delegates upon arrival.  Airport accredited taxis are also located outside the arrival hall. Official taxi's bear the "Authorised Taxi" logo. Participants desirous of utilising the taxi service should avoid using unofficial taxis as they may not adhere to official fares. Travel to the Hilton Hotel is BDS\$40.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### **Visas**

Please ascertain visa requirements for your country of citizenship, as well as any transit visa requirements for your travel itinerary. We can inform that delegates travelling from Cape Verde, Comoros, Dominican Republic, Haiti (pending change), and Guinea Bissau, Marshall Islands, Federate State of Micronesia, Nauru, Papa New Guinea and Sao Tome and Principe will require visas to enter Barbados. The UNDP Barbados and the OECS Office is working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Barbados to expedite the visa issuance process on behalf of those delegates requiring visas. All delegates requiring visa's, including delegates from the above-mentioned countries, should complete, and return to us immediately, a completed J1 Visa application form (attached) signed by the applicant. The JI form is also available on the UNDP Barbados and the OECS website at [www.bb.undp.org](http://www.bb.undp.org). A scanned passport size photo of the applicant preferably in colour, should be affixed on Form J. In addition, the applicant is required to submit *a legible Biographical page* of this/her national passport.

These documents should be sent to: [sonia.headley-griffith@undp.org](mailto:sonia.headley-griffith@undp.org) and [admin.bb@undp.org](mailto:admin.bb@undp.org) with copy to [janine.chase@undp.org](mailto:janine.chase@undp.org), so that we may facilitate the visa issuance process.



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### **Immigration Requirements**

All participants must hold passports that are valid for at least six months beyond the time of their arrival in Barbados. Visas are not required for persons travelling on UNLPs but we strongly advise that this is accompanied by your National Passport. For persons without UNLPs, we advise you to check with the Barbados High Commission in your country for visa and application requirements.

### **Customs Regulations**

Narcotic drugs as well as arms and ammunition are strictly prohibited and carry severe penalties in Barbados. Fresh fruits and vegetables are subject to inspection and will not be permitted entry unless certified by an appropriate and recognized counterpart agency. Electronic and other goods which are intended to remain in Barbados are subject to Customs duties and taxes.

### **Registration & Identification Badges**

Information packages on the conference will be handed out by the Hilton Hotel Reception. A Conference Information Desk will be open on Sunday, 6 May, from 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m, and from 7:45 a.m. through 9:00 a.m. on 7-9 May 2012. Delegates who have not submitted their registration form prior to their arrival, are encouraged to register at the Registration Desk (outside the Needham's Ballroom) between 8:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. on Monday, 7 May 2012, or at the Information Desk on Sunday, 6 May 2012, prior to the start of the conference.

For identification and security reasons, all participants are required to wear their Conference ID Badges during the meeting and social functions. Any loss of a Conference ID Badge must be promptly reported, so that a replacement badge can be issued promptly.

### **On-line Registration**

Please note that participants can register online from Friday, 26 April 2012, through the conference website. Please visit <http://www/sidsenergyforall.org>.

### **Power Point Presentation and Materials**

For those participants who are panelist or presenters, and who will require the use of audio-visual equipment, we kindly ask that you provide a soft copy of your power-point presentation, three (3) hours before your session. A copy of your final presentation will be uploaded to the conference website, immediately following the session. Soft copies should be sent to [ictsupport.bb@undp.org](mailto:ictsupport.bb@undp.org) with copy to [janine.chase@undp.org](mailto:janine.chase@undp.org) and [info@sidsenergyforall.org](mailto:info@sidsenergyforall.org).

If you wish to distribute hard copies of your PowerPoint presentations, we kindly request that you bring sufficient copies of your handouts. Kindly note that we will have limited capacity to make additional copies at the conference venue.

The Conference Secretariat will be located in the *Hibiscus Room* and will be available for participants requiring secretarial and administrative support, or use of the conference secretariat facilities. Administrative and secretarial support will be available on Sunday, 6 May, from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m, and Monday, 7 May through Wednesday, 9 May, from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



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### Conference Website

For conference updates, a website has been developed which will be online starting Friday, 26 April 2012. For updates please visit <http://www/sidsenergyforall.org>.

### Conference Language

The conference will be conducted in **English only**. Participants requiring translation services are asked to inform the conference organisers by Friday, April 27, 2012 so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

### Communications

Four computer stations will be setup in the delegates' lounge, located in the **Garrison Room**, with free internet access, which will be available to participants from 7-9 May, 2012. The Hilton Hotel also has a small business centre available for your use. The hotel charges modest fees for internet usage, photocopying and faxing.

### Foreign Exchange and Banking Facilities

The official currency is the Barbados Dollar. The conversion rate for Barbados currency is US \$1.00 to BBD \$ 1.98. US Dollars are also accepted island wide. International Credit Cards and Travelers Cheques are accepted at major establishments. Foreign currency facilities are available at Grantley Adams International Airport as well as at foreign exchange dealers in Bridgetown as detailed below:

- Bank of Nova Scotia, Broad Street – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Mon-Thursday), 8:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m (Fri)
- RBTT Hastings, Broad Street 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Mon-Thursday), 8:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m (Fri)
- Royal Bank of Canada, Broad Street – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Mon-Thursday), 8:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m (Fri)
- CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank, Rendezvous Christ Church - 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Mon-Thursday), 8:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m (Fri)

The above are also equipped with ATM machines. The Hilton Barbados Resort, is also equipped with an ATM.

### Country Information

- **Electricity:** 110 volts. (Two prong flat plug)

### Emergency Services

Police	211
Fire	311
Ambulance Service	511

### Medical Care Service

During the Conference, a medical centre will be open on the hotel premises and medical personnel will be available to provide emergency and primary health care if required. In the unlikely event that a patient becomes seriously ill, or requires serious medical attention, an ambulance will be available to provide emergency transportation to the nearest appropriate health facility.



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Any treatment requiring a prescription, hospital examination, or hospitalization will be at the expense of the delegate. Delegates are encouraged to obtain medical travel insurance..

Barbados has two hospitals located within 15 minutes from the hotel, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (public) and the Bayview Hospital (private).

**UN Physicians in Barbados:**

Dr. Michael Hoyos  
Elcourt Clinic  
Maxwell House  
Christ Church  
Tel: 246-428-9452

Dr. Carol Jacobs  
Carleigh House  
Golf Club Road  
Christ Church  
Tel: 246-435-6635

UN Security Management Officials			
Designated Official (DO)	Ms. Michelle Gyles-McDonnough	UN Resident Coordinator/ UNDP Resident Representative	(246) 467-6001 (Business) (246) 836-6001 (Mobile) (246) 429-2448 (Facsimile) <a href="mailto:michelle.gyles-mcdonnough@undp.org">michelle.gyles-mcdonnough@undp.org</a>
Security Focal Point	Mr. Stein Hansen	DRR	246) 467-6003 (Business) (246) 836-6003 (Mobile) (246) 429-2448 (Facsimile)
Security Adviser (SA)	Ms. Catherine Gilbert		<a href="mailto:stein.hansen@undp.org">stein.hansen@undp.org</a> 868) 749-7046 x 241(Business) (868) 749-2213 (Mobile) <a href="mailto:catherine.gilbert@undss.org">catherine.gilbert@undss.org</a>

**Important contact numbers:**

- Mr. Stein Hansen, Deputy Resident Representative, Email: [stein.hansen@undp.org](mailto:stein.hansen@undp.org), Tele:1-246-467-6003, Mobile: 1-246-836-6003
- Mr. Henry Mangal, Operations Manager, Email: [henry.mangal@undp.org](mailto:henry.mangal@undp.org), Tele: 1-246-467-6015, Mobile: 246-836-6015
- Mr. DaCosta Bayley, Administration and Logistics, Email: [dacosta.bayley@undp.org](mailto:dacosta.bayley@undp.org), Tele: 1-246-467-6024, Mobile: 1-246-836-6024
- Ms. Annetha Davis, Administration Assistant, [admin.bb@undp.org](mailto:admin.bb@undp.org), Tele: 1-246-467-6013
- Ms. Janine Chase, Knowledge Fair / Communications Focal Point, Email: [janine.chase@undp.org](mailto:janine.chase@undp.org), Tele:1-246-467-6007



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### **International Direct Dialing**

The country code for Barbados is 246. International calls can be made from any private business or hotel phone. The two major mobile local phone companies are Digicel and Lime.

### **Water**

The island's water supply is clean and perfectly safe to drink. Rain water is filtered through the island's coral stone surface and captured in underground aqueducts before distribution.

## **COUNTRY INFORMATION**

### **About Barbados**

Barbados is a flat coral and limestone island in the Lesser Antilles, which was pushed away by volcanic activity. It is situated in the western area of the North Atlantic and 100 kilometres (62mi) east of the Windward Islands and the Caribbean Sea. It is 168 kilometres (104 mi) east of the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and 400 kilometres (250mi) north-east of Trinidad and Tobago.

Barbados is 21 miles long by 14 miles wide at widest point – 166 sq miles. The country is divided into eleven parishes; Saint Lucy, Saint Peter, Saint James, St. Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint Joseph, Saint John, Saint George, Saint Michael, Christ Church and Saint Philip. Saint George and Saint Thomas are inland, and do not touch the coast line.

The Capital of Barbados is Bridgetown, located on the south-west coast in the parish of Saint Michael. Locals refers to Bridgetown as “town” even though they are three smaller towns on the island; Oistins, Holetown and Speightstown.

The National Flag of Barbados comprises of three equal vertical panels. The centre of the panel is gold, representing the sand of the island beaches, the outer panels are ultramarine, representing the sea and the sky, and a black broken trident located in the centre of the flag represents the Trident of the mythical sea god, Neptune. The shaft is broken and symbolises Barbados' break from Britain.

The National Dish is Cou-Cou and Flying Fish. It is made with cornmeal and okras, and is accompanied by steamed flying fish. The meal is prepared with fresh tomatoes, onions, chives, thyme, pepper garlic and other fresh herbs and spices. On weekends, it has been a tradition for many Barbadians to eat 'pudding and souse'. This dish is made from steamed sweet potato and soused pork.

The highest point is Mount Hillaby on the east coast, in the parish of Saint Andrew, which is 1,089 feet. The climate ranges between 75 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit, with a gentle breeze from the north east trade winds. In Barbados, there are two seasons, wet/rainy and dry. The dry season is from January to June and the wet/rainy season is from July to December. However, with climate change, the rainy season may last longer.





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Coral reefs fringe the Barbados shoreline to provide excellent snorkeling and scuba diving. There are many excellent beaches, rolling hills and interesting distributions of flora and fauna. Within the Barbados coral core, there is a vast array of caves and underground lakes which provide an excellent supply of drinking water, amongst the purest in the world. Geologically, Barbados is seen as unique, since it evolved from two land masses that merged over a period of time.

Barbados has a population of around 280,000 people, who are considered friendly by many visitors to the island. Barbadians are very proud of their country and enjoy educating visitors about their heritage and history. The official language is English, but a Barbadian dialect is spoken, commonly referred to by local residents as 'Bajan'. Bajan often seems like a language of its own.

Barbados gained its independence from Britain in 1966 and maintains the British style of government with a Prime Minister and two parliamentary houses – The House of Assembly and the Senate. The parliamentary building is located in Bridgetown. Barbados has the third oldest parliament building in the world with 358 years of uninterrupted parliamentary system of government. The Governor General represents the crown.

Barbados' Human Development Index value in 2011 was 0.793, in the very high human development category – positioning the country at 47 out of 187 countries and territories.

- Time Difference - 4 hours behind GMT, no changes made for daylight saving, therefore 1 hour ahead of US Eastern Standard Time in the winter.
- English common law legal system
- The Barbados Head of Government and Prime Minister is The Honourable Freundel Stuart.
- The Head of State is the Governor General and currently acting in the post is the Retired High Court Judge, The Honourable Justice Elliot Fitzroy Belgrave.
- The Leader of the Opposition, is The Right Honourable Owen Arthur.
- Industry - Tourism, Sugar, Rum, Light Manufacturing, Component Assembly for Export.



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### **Other Information**

**About Barbados:** <http://www.visitbarbados.org>  
<http://www.barbados.org/know.htm>

**Restaurants:** Those in proximity to Hilton include: Mamma Mia, Champers, Aspare Restaurant, Waterfront café, Fusion  
For a more extensive list of restaurants on the island visit <http://www.barbados.org/orestname.htm>

**Handicraft shopping:** Pelican Craft Village, Bridgetown (also a number of shops in Quayside Centre and greater Bridgetown)

**General Shopping:** Bridgetown  
Cave Shepherd – Worthing  
Quayside Centre, Rockley  
Hastings Plaza, Hastings  
Sheraton Mall, Sargeant’s Village, Christ Church

**Sightseeing:** Barbados has a fantastic new Boardwalk. This runs from Rockley Beach for approximately 1 kilometre towards Bridgetown. The Boardwalk starts just below Accra Beach Hotel, running parallel to Hastings Main Road and ending not too far from the Hilton Barbados Resort. The boardwalk runs side by side to the beautiful turquoise sea and white sand, and also has planned view points and landscaped gardens, to let you enjoy the views of the South Coast and the incredible sunsets.

St. Ann's Garrison, or more commonly known as "The Garrison", is a small district located near the Hilton Barbados Resort. It is dominated by its historic horse race-track and contains many historic buildings including barracks for military personnel.

A unique phenomenon of nature, Harrison’s Cave is an amazing gallery of stalactites hanging from the roof of the cave, and stalagmite’s that emerge from the ground, with streams of crystal-clear running water that drop from breathtaking waterfalls to form deep emerald pools. Please visit [www.barbados.org/hcave.htm](http://www.barbados.org/hcave.htm) for more information.

St Lawrence Gap is another destination popular for its bars, parties and restaurants. Located in the south-west, Bridgetown is one of the most beautiful parts of Barbados.

On the 25 June, 2011, Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison were added to the list as a World Heritage Site of UNESCO. Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison (Barbados), are examples of British colonial architecture consisting of a well-preserved old town built in the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

*Welcome and enjoy your stay with us!*