

**OAS to Hold National Workshops on Emergency Legislation in the Caribbean**  
March 19, 2010

The Organization of American States (OAS) will conduct national workshops of the Caribbean Emergency Legislation Project (CELP) on Monday, March 22, in Grenada and on Thursday, March 25, in Jamaica.

The CELP has been assessing the current legal and institutional frameworks applicable under a state of emergency in the Dominican Republic and eleven CARICOM member countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. The objective of the project is to provide a set of recommendations for the implementation of clear and transparent procedures for natural disaster response in the Caribbean.

The workshops will be held by the Department of Sustainable Development of the OAS, with the support of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank).

The national workshops will provide an overview of key issues in disaster legislation and the CELP, and serve as a forum to share project findings and national experiences regarding disaster and emergency management, budget appropriation and execution, transparency and accountability, and disaster risk reduction tools such as insurance.

There will be presentations by key national stakeholders, including disaster and emergency management offices, Ministries of Finance, and the Red Cross. Participants will discuss the experiences presented and offer recommendations for improving national legal and institutional frameworks.

There will also be a Regional Workshop at the end of April in Saint Lucia with the participation of National Disaster Coordinators from the twelve project countries, and other key regional stakeholders including the CARICOM Secretariat, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency, OECS Secretariat, University of the West Indies, and Caribbean Development Bank.

**WHAT:** National Workshops on the Caribbean Emergency Legislation Project (CELP)

**WHEN:** 9:00-16:30 EDT (13:00-20:30 GMT) on March 22, 2010, in Grenada  
9:00-16:30 EST (14:00-21:30 GMT) on March 25, 2010, in Jamaica

**WHERE:** The Flamboyant Hotel & Villas, St. George's, Grenada  
Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica

Reference: AVI-084/10