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FINAL REPORT OF THE OAS ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION
FOR THE GENERAL ELECTIONS IN SAINT LUCIA
NOVEMBER 28, 2011

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

**FINAL REPORT OF THE OAS ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION
FOR THE GENERAL ELECTIONS IN SAINT LUCIA
NOVEMBER 28, 2011**

Secretariat for Political Affairs



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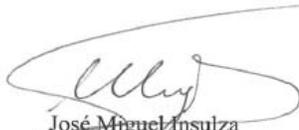
February 17, 2012

Excellency
Ambassador Duly Brutus
Permanent Representative of Haiti
to the Organization of American States
Chair of the Permanent Council
Washington, D.C.

Excellency:

I have the honor to address Your Excellency to request your kind assistance in distributing to the members of the Permanent Council the attached report of the OAS Electoral Observation Mission to Saint Lucia. The report reflects the activities undertaken by the Mission during the General Elections, held on November 28, 2011.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.


José Miguel Insulza
Secretary General

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION.....	5
CHAPTER II. POLITICAL SYSTEM AND ELECTORAL	6
CHAPTER III. MISSION ACTIVITIES AND OBSERVATIONS	19
CHAPTER IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	27
APPENDICES.....	30

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On August 29, 2011, the OAS received a request from the Government of Saint Lucia to observe the General Elections that took place on Monday November 28th, 2011. On September 2, 2011, the OAS Secretary General responded to the invitation indicating that the OAS would deploy an Electoral Observation Mission (EOM) for this election, subject to the availability of funds. This was the second time that the OAS observed elections in Saint Lucia.

The Secretary General invited Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, first Caribbean Community Advocate for Gender Justice, to lead the OAS Electoral Observation Mission in Saint Lucia, and appointed Dr. Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian as Deputy Chief of Mission. The Mission arrived in the country on November 22, 2011 and departed on November 30, 2011.

The OAS deployed an Electoral Observation Mission composed of 14 international observers from 8 countries (Barbados, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, United States, and Venezuela).

OAS observers and experts observed the voting process in all 17 constituencies of Saint Lucia and conducted extensive interviews with the St. Lucia Electoral Commission, the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force, the government, political parties and key stakeholders from civil society organizations¹, among others.

Five political parties, the Saint Lucia Labour Party (SLP), the United Workers Party (UWP), the National Democratic Movement (NDM), the Lucian People Movement (LPM), the Lucian Greens; and four independent candidates, Leslie Mondesir ; Kensley Charlemagne, Harvey Cenac and Jeanine Compton, contested the election. The final results gave 11 seats in parliament to the Saint Lucia Labour Party (SLP) and six seats to the incumbent United Workers Party (UWP).

The OAS Electoral Observation Mission wishes to thank the government of St Lucia, the local authorities, candidates, party delegates, media, and members of civil society for the openness with which they received the Mission and to express its gratitude to the government of Bolivia, Chile, the United States of America and the United Kingdom for providing financial support for this mission.

1. St. Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Christian Council, National Youth Council, St. Lucia Teachers Union, National Workers Union, National Taxi Union.

CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

The Electoral Observation Missions of the Organization of American States (OAS/EOMs) have become a key instrument for the promotion and defense of democracy in the Americas. OAS/EOMs promote the right to elect and be elected in an inclusive, free and transparent manner and the respect for the political will of the people as expressed through the ballot box.

Moreover, the presence of an Electoral Observation Mission (OAS/EOM) represents the solidarity and support of the Inter-American community to the efforts undertaken by democratic institutions in member states in the organization and administration of their own electoral processes.

Since 1962, the OAS has observed more than 180 electoral processes in the Hemisphere, although the greatest advance in these initiatives has taken place in the last 15 years. During this time period, the OAS has observed many different types of elections - general, presidential, parliamentary, and municipal elections, referenda, signature validation and collection processes, as well as primary elections within political parties – always at the request of the Member State.

In Saint Lucia, the OAS observed the general elections that took place in 2006; this was thus the second occasion that the OAS deployed an election observation mission to the country. The OAS Electoral Observation Mission in Saint Lucia would like to thank all political and electoral actors as well as Saint Lucians for the openness to the Mission and their commitment to democratic processes. The OAS/EOM would especially like to thank the Governments of Bolivia, Chile, the United States of America and the United Kingdom for their financial support to this mission.

A. OAS ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION IN SAINT LUCIA

On August 29, 2011, the OAS received a request from the Government of Saint Lucia to observe the November 28th, 2011 General Elections. On September 2, 2011, the OAS Secretary General responded positively to the invitation indicating that the OAS would deploy an EOM for this election, subject to the availability of funds.

The Secretary General invited Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, first Caribbean Community Advocate for Gender Justice, to lead the OAS Electoral Observation Mission in Saint Lucia, and appointed Dr. Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian as Deputy Chief of Mission. The Mission arrived in the country on November 22, 2011 and concluded its work on November 30, 2011.

The main objective of the OAS/EOM was to observe the Saint Lucian electoral process and to verify its compliance with internationally recognized principles and standards, as established in the Inter-American Democratic Charter to guarantee “free and fair elections.”² Specifically, the objectives of this Mission were:

2. “Inter-American Democratic Charter”, Chapter V, Article 23.

- To verify compliance with the election laws and regulations in place in Saint Lucia; to assess the electoral process in the context of standards adopted by the OAS Member States; and to make note of what was observed and inform the Secretary General and the Permanent Council.
- To work with the Saint Lucian governmental and electoral authorities, and with Saint Lucians in general, to ensure the impartiality, transparency, and reliability of the electoral process.
- To help create an atmosphere of public trust and to encourage citizen participation.
- To serve as a channel to seek and build consensus in situations of conflict among the different participants in the electoral process, as requested.
- To make recommendations in order to help improve the Saint Lucian electoral system.
- To demonstrate international support and Inter-American solidarity for the development of an electoral process that is impartial, transparent, and reliable.

The OAS deployed an Electoral Observation Mission composed of 14 international observers from 8 OAS member states (Barbados, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, United States, and Venezuela). Regarding the gender composition of this EOM, 44 percent of the observers were women, and 56 percent were men.

This report is organized in four chapters. The next chapter presents a general overview of the political system and electoral organization in Saint Lucia. The third chapter deals with the EOM's activities as well as its observations from the three key stages of the election: the pre-electoral period, Election Day, and the post-electoral stage. The final chapter presents the general conclusions of the Mission, specifically its recommendations.

CHAPTER II. POLITICAL SYSTEM AND ELECTORAL ORGANIZATION

A. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

St. Lucia was granted representative government by the British in 1924, became fully self-governing in internal affairs in 1967 and finally gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1979. St. Lucia continues to recognize the Queen of the United Kingdom as its Head of State and is a member of the Commonwealth, although recent constitutional changes have altered the oath of allegiance to the UK monarchy to one of allegiance to fellow St. Lucians. Sir John Compton, leader of the United Workers Party (UWP), became the island's first post-independence prime minister in 1979.

After the General Election of 1979, Allan Louisy, of the St. Lucia Labour Party (SLP), which won at the polls, replaced Sir John Compton as Prime Minister. Following a split

in the SLP, Louisy resigned in 1981 and was replaced by attorney-general Winston Cenac. Sir John Compton returned to power in 1982 after the UWP won a decisive victory in the general election. A further, narrow victory followed in 1987 for the UWP, which won again in the General Election of 1992. In 1993 a fall in the price of bananas led to unrest and strikes by farmers and agricultural workers. In 1996, Sir John Compton resigned and was succeeded as Prime Minister by his colleague Vaughan Lewis.

In 1997, Kenny Anthony became Prime Minister after his SLP-led coalition won the country's largest ever landslide in the general election, reducing the UWP to a single seat in the National Assembly. The SLP retained power in the General Election of 2001, with a 17 to 14 majority, but in 2002 had to face the major challenge of Tropical Storm Lili, which destroyed half the banana crop and brought significant damage to property. At elections held on 11 December 2006, the ruling St. Lucia Labour Party (SLP) sought a third consecutive term in office. In these elections, the UWP was led by veteran politician Sir John Compton, who had governed the country from 1964 to independence in 1979 and then from 1982 to 1996. The final results gave a resounding victory to the opposition UWP. The UWP won 11 seats against 6 for the SLP, despite the fact that the UWP had only won only 2,372 more votes. The outgoing Prime Minister and the former Minister of Tourism, Mr. Phillip J. Pierre, were the only SLP candidates to retain their seats. No women were elected. Sir John Compton was sworn in as Prime Minister on 15 December 2006. The newly elected House of Assembly held its first session on 9 January 2007 and Ms. Sarah Flood Beaubrun was elected as the new House Speaker, becoming the first woman to assume the post. Prime Minister Compton died of health problems in September 2007 and his daughter, Janine Compton-Rambally, won his constituency of Micoud North in a by-election held on November 26, 2007. Acting Prime Minister Stephen King assumed as the new Prime Minister of Saint Lucia.

B. POLITICAL AND ELECTORAL SYSTEM

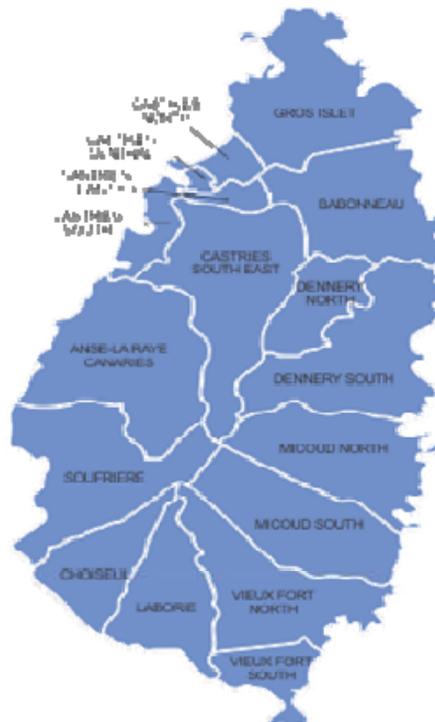
Saint Lucia is a parliamentary democracy based on the Westminster model. Its bicameral Parliament consists of the House of Assembly and the Senate. The House of Assembly comprises 17 seats, corresponding to St. Lucia's 17 constituencies. Single members are elected by popular vote to terms not to exceed five years in a "first past the post" electoral system. The Senate consists of 11 members, of which six members are appointed on the advice of the Prime Minister, three on the advice of the leader of the opposition, and two after consultation with religious, economic, and social groups. Following general elections, the leader of the majority party or majority coalition is normally appointed Prime Minister; a Deputy Prime Minister from the majority party or coalition is also appointed. The Governor General, an honorary appointment, represents the UK monarch as Head of State and performs ceremonial functions.

All St. Lucian citizens who have reached the age of eighteen are entitled to vote, as are Commonwealth citizens who have resided in St. Lucia at least seven years immediately preceding the qualifying date. Electors must have resided continuously in the electoral district where they are to vote for at least two months preceding the qualifying date. Members of the police force cast their ballots two days before the general election, to allow them to work through Election Day to secure polling sites.

Voter participation is normally relatively high, with close to 90 percent of the voting age population exercising their franchise. With regards to gender equality, the representation of women in parliament is slightly lower in Saint Lucia than in the rest of the Caribbean region. Compellingly, Saint Lucia has no record of misdeeds/fraud in previous general elections. Nevertheless, the presence of an electoral observation mission can contribute to diffusing any potential conflicts.

The House of Assembly (Elections) Act (1979) divides Saint Lucia into 17 electoral districts. Each electoral district constitutes one constituency and each constituency elects only one Member to the Assembly. The 17 Constituencies in Saint Lucia are: Gros Islet (A); Babonneau (B); Castries North (C); Castries East (D); Castries Central (E); Castries South (F); Anse-La-Raye/Canaries (G) Soufriere (H); Choiseul (I); Laborie (J); Vieux-Fort South (K); Vieux-Fort North (L); Micoud South (M); Micoud North (N); Dennery South (O); Dennery North (P); Castries South East (Q).

Figure 1. Saint Lucia's Electoral Constituencies



A critical issue affecting Saint Lucian politics relates to the realignment of electoral boundaries. Before the General Elections took place, the opposition St. Lucia Labour Party (SLP) expressed concerns about the absence of a report on this matter. The head of the St. Lucia Boundaries Commission, who also serves as Speaker of the House of Assembly, responded in a statement that the Commission was under no obligation to

3. <http://www.caribbeanelections.com/lc/constituencies/default.asp>

issue a report.⁴ Opposition Leader Kenny Anthony suggested that some constituencies, such as the northern town of Gros Islet, had become too large and that in the absence of realignment, voters should cast ballots in adjacent constituencies. The Saint Lucian Constitution stipulates that a report must be submitted three to seven years after the formation of St. Lucia Boundaries Commission. However, the body suffered a number of setbacks including delays in the findings of the latest census, which concluded in January 2011 and was revised in April 2011.

Saint Lucia's total resident population at midnight on the last census day (10 May 2010) stood at 166,526. Saint Lucia's total population including non-residents was estimated to be 173,720.⁵ According to the 2010 Census, Saint Lucia's major religions are Roman Catholic (61.1%), Seventh Day Adventism (10.4%) and various other protestant denominations.⁶ The official language is English, though some people also speak French patois⁷.

St Lucia's economy was traditionally reliant on its agricultural sector. However, the banana industry has declined over the last 10-15 years due to the erosion of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries' preferential access to the European Union market as well as increasing competition from Latin American producers. As is the case with other banana-producing Windward Island countries, a large number of farmers have been displaced over this period. Banana exports fell to 30,000 tonnes in 2005 from a peak of 132,000 tonnes in 1992. Nevertheless, St Lucia continues to be the leading Windward Island banana producer, accounting for around half of Windward banana exports in recent years. In 2010, following a severe drought and Hurricane Tomas banana production fell by around 31% to approximately 26,000 tonnes. Hurricane Tomas also caused heavy siltation of land used for cultivation.

In recent years, tourism has replaced bananas as the main earner of foreign exchange. In addition to land-based tourism, St Lucia is a prime yachting centre and cruise destination. The tourism industry recorded strong growth in 2010, with the number of stay-over visitors increasing by 9.9 percent. The record number of 305,937 visitors has been attributed to increases from the US, Canadian and German markets. US market in particular performed extremely well, growing by 31 percent. Arrivals from the UK and the Caribbean, Saint Lucia's second and third largest markets were down by 6 and 10 percent respectively (SLU 2011 budget address). Construction activity has slowed down with work stopping on a number of new hotel developments citing difficulty obtaining financing. However, 2010 saw an expansion of 20% driven mainly by public sector projects. St Lucia's small manufacturing sector is among the most diverse in the Eastern Caribbean, but is threatened by competition from Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica and Barbados. In 2010, total public-sector debt was 64.8% of GDP. In an effort to seek an additional source of revenue, the St Lucia Ministry of Finance, in November 2008, established a unit to consider proposals for a value-added tax (VAT)⁸.

4. http://caricomnewsnetwork.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4054:st-lucia-boundaries-commission-says-it-will-not-be-dictated-to&catid=54:latest-news

5. <http://www.stats.gov.lc/StLuciaPreliminaryCensusReport2010.pdf>

6. <http://www.stats.gov.lc/StLuciaPreliminaryCensusReport2010.pdf>

7. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1210491.stm

8. Data from the United Kingdom's Foreign and Commonwealth Office - St. Lucia.

C. CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

As stated earlier, the bicameral parliament consists of a 17-member House of Assembly whose members are elected by universal adult suffrage for 5-year terms, and an 11-member Senate appointed by the Governor General. Parliament may be dissolved by the Governor General at any point during its 5-year term, either at the request of the Prime Minister – in order to take the nation into early elections – or at the Governor General’s own discretion, if the house passes a vote of no-confidence in the incumbent government.⁹

The Electoral Commission, which supervises Elections in Saint Lucia, is responsible for running the island’s elections and employing/deploying electoral officials. Each polling station is manned by a Presiding Officer and a Poll Clerk, who report to the Returning Officer for that constituency. Returning Officers are in turn responsible for reporting to the Supervisor of Elections.

D. POLITICAL PARTIES

There are a number of political parties in Saint Lucia. Each party nominates one candidate for each constituency. Independent candidates may also stand for elections. The party that wins the most constituencies is asked by the Governor General to form the government. The leader of that party becomes the Prime Minister. If the party wins in nine or more constituencies, it will enjoy a majority government, which greatly facilitates the passage of legislation in the House of Assembly. Should the winning party obtain fewer than nine seats, it forms a minority government. In order to get legislation through the House, a minority government typically is forced to accommodate its policies in order to gain votes from MPs of other parties. The party with the second highest number of seats in the House of Assembly is called the Official Opposition.

Any citizen of Saint Lucia who is 21 years of age or older and resident in Saint Lucia is eligible for election to the House of Assembly.¹⁰ Five political parties, the Saint Lucia Labour Party (SLP), the United Workers Party (UWP), the National Democratic Movement (NDM), the Lucian People Movement (LPM) and the Lucian Greens, and four independent candidates contested the 17 seats in the Saint Lucia Parliament, the greatest number of parties in the country’s history.

Candidates are chosen by political parties through centralized national organizations. Decisions are partially based on the will of local/constituency branches of the respective parties. Candidates are not required to live in the constituencies in which they run; the candidate with the most votes wins the constituency seat.

There were 52 persons nominated within the 17 constituencies. According to data from the Electoral Commission, the list of candidates for Saint Lucia’s 2011 General Elections was the following:

9. <http://www.electoral.gov.lc/about-elections>

10. <http://www.electoral.gov.lc/about-elections>

- **Saint Lucia Labour Party (SLP):** Kenny Davis Anthony (Vieux Forth South), Philip J. Pierre (Castries east), Alva Romanus Baptiste (Labourie), Robert Kennedy Lewis (Castries South), Harold Dalson (Soufriere), Moses ‘Musa’ Jn Baptiste (Vieux Fort North), Stanley Felix (Castries Central), Alvina Bertram Reynolds (Babonneau), Dr. Ubaldus ‘Jimmy’ Raymond (Castries North), Dr. Desmond ‘The Mighty Pep’ Long (Anse La Raye/Canaries), Emma Hippolyte (Gros Islet), Lorne Theophilus (Choiseul), Leliah Harracksingh (Micoud South), Timothy Mangal (Castries South East), Albert Fregis (Dennery South), Austina Fanus (Micoud North), Shawn Edward (Dennery North)
- **The United Workers Party (UWP):** Lenard Montoute (Gros Islet), Ezechiel Joseph (Babonneau), Stevenson King- Party Leader (Castries North), Guy Mayers (Castries East); Richard Frederick (Castries Central) Lorenzo Doddy Francis (Castries South); Guy Joseph (Castries South East); Keith Mondesir (Canaries & Anse La Raye); Allen Chastnet (Soufriere); Rufus Bousquet (Choiseul / Fond St Jacques); Hendricks Renee (Laborie) Karl Daniel (Vieux-Fort South); Nancy Charles (Vieux Fort North); Arsene James (Micoud South); Gale Rigobert (Micoud North); Edmund Estaphane (Dennery South), Andy Daniel (Dennery North).
- **The National Democratic Movement (NDM):** Herman Phillip (Gros Islet); Veronica Guard (Castries North); Alfred Alcide (Anse-La-Raye); Croix Melchoir (Vieux-Fort South); Ausbert D'Auvergne-Party Leader (Dennery North)
- **Lucian People Movement (LPM):** Therold Prudent, Party Leader, (Gros Islet); Felicia Brown (Castries Central); Melanious Alphonse (Soufriere); Phillip Jn Baptiste (Micoud South);; Rufus Alexander (Dennery South); Winnifred Actie, (Dennery North)
- **Lucian Greens:** Melanie Fraites (Castries Central); MacDonald Alexander (Micoud North); Andre Decaires-Party Leader (Dennery North)
- **Independent Candidates :** Leslie Mondesir (Anse-La-Raye); Kensley Charlemagne (Anse-La-Raye); Harvey Cenac (Soufriere); Jeanine Compton (Micoud North)

E. VOTING PROCEDURE

Each polling station is managed by a Presiding Officer and a Poll Clerk. These election officials report to a Returning Officer, who is responsible for the electoral district. No more than two agents for each candidate are permitted in the polling station to witness the conduct of the poll¹¹. A member of the police is present to secure each polling station. Mobile telephones belonging to election officials and agents must be switched off and electors are obliged to switch off and surrender theirs while voting. Electoral materials such as ballots, prescribed documents and supplies, and the lists of eligible voters are

11. According to the agreement between the electoral authority and the OAS, the Organization’s observers are also permitted to enter the polling station for this process.

delivered to each Returning Officer, who in turn distributes the materials to each polling station. According to the electoral law, the Presiding Officer, Poll Clerk(s) and the party agents make a declaration of secrecy prior to the opening of the polls. The Presiding Officer and Poll Clerk are the first to vote in the polling station they are registered in; if not, voting can still take place by using the Transfer Certificate form.

Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 6:00 p.m. The Presiding Officer and Poll Clerk display the empty ballot box to all present, and then lock it. Each elector, upon entering the polling station, declares his or her name, which the Poll Clerk checks against the official list of electors for that station. If the name appears on the list, the Poll Clerk calls out the name, address, occupation and number of the elector as stated in the official list. The Presiding Officer then examines the elector's identity card or other acceptable form of identification, such as a passport or driver's license.

If the elector produces satisfactory identification, the Poll Clerk enters his or her name, address, and occupation in the poll book. The Presiding Officer checks the elector's hand and, if satisfied that he or she has not already voted, requires him or her to immerse the right index finger in the electoral ink. The Presiding Officer then issues a ballot, instructing the elector how to vote and how to fold the ballot paper properly such that their vote remains secret and the Presiding Officer's initials can be seen. Having made his or her mark in the voting booth against the name of a candidate, the elector shows the Presiding Officer the initials on the folded ballot paper and casts it into the ballot box. The Poll Clerk records 'voted' against the name of each elector who has done so. If any oath is administered before voting, the Presiding Officer should enter "swear" or "affirm" next to elector's name and if the elector refuses to take the appropriate oath the Presiding Officer should advise the Poll Clerk to enter "Refused to Swear," "Refused to Affirm," or "Refused to Answer" in the poll book. Finally, if any objection is raised by an agent, the Presiding Officer should record it in the Poll Book, who made the nature of the objection and what was the objection.

If at 6:00 pm there are any qualified electors inside the polling station, the poll is kept open sufficient time to enable them to vote. However, no one who arrives after 6:00 pm is permitted to vote. Controls are exercised by the police officer on duty at the polling station to ensure an orderly closing process. When the last voter in line has voted, the Presiding Officer closes the door of the polling station to begin the count. At the close of the poll, in the presence and in full view of the Poll Clerk and the candidates or their agents¹², the Presiding Officer counts the number of voters whose names appear in the poll book as having voted, counts the spoiled ballot papers (if any) and the unused ballot papers and checks this total against the number of ballots supplied by the Returning Officer, to ascertain that all ballot papers are accounted for. He or she then opens the ballot box and counts the votes for each candidate, giving full opportunity to those present to examine each ballot paper, and finally displaying the empty box. The Poll Clerk and no less than two witnesses are supplied with tally sheets on which to keep their own tabulation. The Presiding Officer rejects any ballots that have not been supplied by him/her, that have not been marked for a candidate or are marked for more than one candidate; or are marked such that the voter can be identified. The Presiding Officer

12. If no agent is present, the Presiding Officer requests the attendance of at least two voters.

records on a form in the poll book any objections made by the candidates or their agents to a ballot paper and decides on any question arising from such an objection; this decision is subject to possible reversal by the Returning Officer

The Presiding Officer lists the votes given to each candidate and the rejected ballots, putting each into different envelopes, which are signed and sealed. Immediately after the completion of the count, the Presiding Officer and Poll Clerk take an oath that the poll book contains a true and exact record of the vote at the polling station and that they have faithfully performed their duties under the law. They then make several copies of the statement of poll: one is attached to the poll book, one is retained by the Presiding Officer, and one is given to the Returning Officer in a sealed envelope. The Presiding Officer then locks and seals the ballot box. The ballot box key is placed in another envelope. The Presiding Officer, Poll Clerk and Party Agents sign the seals. The remaining materials are placed in a separate envelope and kept separate from the ballot boxes.

Finally, the Presiding Officer, Poll Clerk, and no more than one agent for each candidate accompany the preliminary statement of poll, the sealed ballot box and other election materials to the Returning Officer. As soon as the Returning Officer has ascertained the result of the poll, he or she phones the Supervisor of Elections with the preliminary results. These results are regarded as preliminary until the morning of the day succeeding the election, when Returning Officers perform a final count and publicly declare the results. At that point, an announcement is made about the candidates to whom most votes have been given, to be elected as the member for the Electoral District¹³.

Following the recount, the Returning Officer prepares the official writ to be issued by the Governor-General. The electoral process officially ends when the Returning Officer signs a writ with the names of the winning candidates in each constituency and returns it to the Supervisor of Elections; the Supervisor of Elections transmits the writs to the Governor-General who administers the oath of office to the elected member of the House of Assembly.

1. Voters' List

The final voter list (the register of electors) was published on November 16, 2011 for each electoral district and contained 151,085 names.¹⁴ The voter list was posted at conspicuous places including the office of the Chief Elections Officer, all public libraries, appropriate registration centers and such other places as the Electoral Commission deemed necessary. In addition, all Returning Officers were provided copies of the register in force by the Electoral Commission.

The constituency enrollment chart produced by the Electoral Commission's¹⁵ indicates that the number of persons registered per district in 2006 increased by 12.44% to 151,085 in 2011,

13. Section 67, Elections Act, Cap.1.02.

14. <http://www.electoral.gov.lc/electoral/enrollment-statistics>

15. <http://www.electoral.gov.lc/electoral/enrollment-statistics>

Table 1

SAINT LUCIA'S CONSTITUENCY ENROLLMENT 2011				
Constituency	Enrolled 2006	Enrolled 2011	Shift	Percentage Shift
GROS – ISLET	15,008	18,129	▲	20.80%
BABONNEAU	10,564	10,160	▼	-3.82%
CASTRIES NORTH	9,857	10,937	▲	10.96%
CASTRIES EAST	11,321	12,095	▲	6.84%
CASTRIES CENTRAL	8,471	9,322	▲	10.05%
CASTRIES SOUTH	7,179	8,199	▲	14.21%
ANSE LA RAYE /CANARIES	7,060	7,731	▲	9.50%
SOUFRIERE	6,655	7,398	▲	11.16%
CHOISEUL	7,613	8,510	▲	11.78%
LABOURIE	5,665	6,219	▲	9.78%
VIEUX FORT SOUTH	6,830	7,941	▲	16.27%
VIEUX FORT NORTH	5,234	6,023	▲	15.07%
MICOUD SOUTH	5,435	6,534	▲	20.22%
MICOUD NORTH	6,097	6,941	▲	13.84%
DENNERY SOUTH	3,760	4,610	▲	22.61%
DENNERY NORTH	6,767	7,609	▲	12.44%
CASTRIES SOUTH EAST	10,858	12,727	▲	17.21%
TOTAL	134,374	151,085	▲	12.44 %

Source: Electoral Commission, <http://www.electoral.gov.lc/electoral/enrollment-statistics>

2. Voter Identification Card - Registration and Issue of ID Cards

The Elections Act, Section Cap.1.02 (4) 1 (b) states that the following officers are appointed by the Electoral Commission from among eligible persons:

- (i) a Registration Officer for each electoral district,
- (ii) such number of enumerators, enumerator coordinators, photographers and other persons as may be deemed necessary,
- (iii) such number of scrutineers as determined by the Electoral Commission to be nominated by the Prime Minister and appointed by the Electoral Commission,
- (iv) such number of scrutineers, in equal numbers as appointed under subparagraph (iii), to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition and appointed by the Electoral Commission to represent the official Opposition in Parliament;

The registration officers then use the registration offices and centers for the registration of electors and in the performance of his or her duties by such number of enumerators and photographers as the Chief Registration Officer assigns to him or her. The Chief Registration officer must (1) publish in the Gazette and one newspaper circulating in the State the location of such office and centers and the time when they shall be open; and (2) supply each registration officer and enumerator with a sufficient number of registration record cards, identification cards, and such other documents and materials to perform his or her functions under the regulations.

(1) A person who is qualified to be registered as an elector for an electoral district shall be registered in the register for that electoral district if,

- (a) he or she is duly registered in the prescribed form at a registration office or center within the electoral district where he or she resides, or at such other office or center designated for the registration of electors under this Act; or
- (b) he or she is duly registered by an enumerator in a house to house enumeration conducted in the electoral district in which he or she resides.

(2) A person who is qualified to be registered as an elector shall be issued at the time of his or her registration or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, an identification card in the prescribed form.

(3) A person to whom an identification card has been issued shall be the person entitled to the custody and possession thereof.

Every enumerator delivers to the registration officer of the electoral district the completed master registration record card, the polling station card, and such other documents and materials, which were supplied to him or her for the performance of his or her duties. On receipt of the completed master registration record card, polling station cards and other documents and materials, the registration officer completes extracts of the Master

Registration Record as supplied to him or her by the Chief Registration Officer in the form of a list of all the persons appearing on the Master registration record card and polling station card. The registration officer must retain the triplicate copy of the extract of the Master Registration record card and deliver it to the Chief Registration Officer.

The master registration record card; the Polling station card; the Registration record Inventory forms; the original and duplicate of the extract of the master registration record card; all other unused cards, inventory forms, documents, and other materials delivered to him or her by the enumerator; two copies of each elector's photograph in the envelope provided for the purpose.

3. Publication of Register

Electoral regulations specify that the Chief Registration Officer must publish the list of electors for each electoral district by making copies available for inspection at 1) the office of the registration officer for the electoral district; 2) any specified public place in the electoral district to which the lists relate; 3) by publishing in at least one daily newspaper; 4) public places in each polling division to which any list relates. In particular, Section 15, Elections Act, Cap. 1.02 reads as follows:

(1) Without prejudice to section 17, there shall be prepared, revised and published for each electoral district in accordance with this Act, a register of electors qualified to vote at any election in that electoral district.

(2) After the publication of the register no elector shall be entitled to vote at any election in an electoral district unless his or her name is registered therein.

(3) Where the name of an elector which appeared in any supplementary list as, through inadvertence, been omitted from the register or, where a name should have been deleted from the register in consequence of a successful objection thereto, the Chief Elections Officer shall make the necessary additions to or deletions from the register and shall sign and stamp the same.

4. Claims-and-Objections Period

Any elector may object to the inclusion or exclusion of any person's name on any list on the basis that the elector is entitled to, not entitled to be registered, as the case may be, for that electoral district.

Section 19, Elections Act, Cap.1.02 reads as follows:

(1) A person who is qualified to be registered as an elector for an electoral district but whose name does not appear on the register or supplementary list shall be entitled to be registered upon making application in the prescribed form and during the prescribed period, at a registration office or centre designated for the registration of electors for that particular electoral district.

(2) Any person whose name appears on any register or supplementary list may object in the prescribed form and during the prescribed period to the inclusion of any other name on such list.

(3) All claims for registration made by persons whose names do not appear on the register or supplementary list and all objections to the registration of any persons whose names appear on any supplementary list duly made in the prescribed form and during the prescribed period shall be determined in accordance with this Act by the Registration Officer for the electoral district to which the register or supplementary list in question relates.

(4) Where under this section any claim or objection has been disallowed a Registration Officer or claimant or objector may refer the matter in the prescribed form to the Commission whose decision shall be final.

(5) Where a successful objection has been made to the registration of an elector, his or name shall be deleted from the list of electors and he or she shall not use the identification card issued to him or her for any electoral purposes.

5. Assistance to Voters

The law permits the Presiding Officer of the polling station to allow a voter to be assisted if he or she is incapacitated and unable to vote independently. In particular, Section 60 of the Elections Act Cap. 1.02 reads as follows:

(3) The Presiding Officer, on the application of any elector who is incapacitated, from any physical cause other than blindness, from voting in the manner provided by this Act, shall require the elector making such application to take an oath in the form set out as Form 17 in Schedule 3 of his or her incapacity to vote without assistance, and shall thereafter assist such elector by marking his or her ballot paper in the manner directed by such elector in the presence of the Poll Clerk and of the sworn agents of the candidates and of no other person, and shall place such ballot in the ballot box.

4) The Presiding Officer shall either deal with a blind elector in the same manner as with an otherwise incapacitated elector, or, at the request of any blind elector who has taken the oath in the form set out as Form 18 in Schedule 3¹⁶ and is accompanied by a friend who is an elector in the polling division, shall permit such friend to accompany the blind elector into the voting compartment and mark the elector's ballot paper for him or her. A person shall not at any election be allowed to act as the friend of more than one blind elector.

(5) Any friend who is permitted to mark the ballot paper of a blind elector as aforesaid shall first be required to take an oath in the form set out as Form 19 in Schedule 3.

(6) Whenever any elector has had his or her ballot paper marked as provided in

16. For sample Forms please see: <http://aceproject.org/ero-en/regions/americas/LC/saint-lucia-electoral-legislation-electoral>

subsection (3) or (4), the Poll Clerk shall enter in the poll book opposite the elector's name, in addition to any other requisite entry, the reason why such ballot paper was so marked.

F. POLITICAL FINANCING

St. Lucia does not have any norms exclusively dedicated to the regulation of political-electoral financing. This fact is explained by the historical development of the country, exogenous influences and by the fact that the regulatory system is focused on regulating parliament rather than parties. Nonetheless, these factors do not justify the absence of regulations, as other Anglophone countries as well as those with similar systems of government have established norms regarding the financing of parties and/or electoral campaigns.

The Mission's findings on political financing in St. Lucia are divided into three categories: equity, responsibility and transparency.

1. Equity in Financing

There is no direct public financing in St. Lucia, either normatively or in practice. Norms regarding indirect or in-kind public financing are also nonexistent, meaning that campaigns are financed entirely through private funds. Nor are there legal regulations on the origin of the private resources that enter campaigns; St. Lucia does not even prohibit financing from foreign and/or anonymous sources. Electoral campaigns, including those observed by the 2011 Mission, are self-financed by candidates or by the private sector. There are no regulations that limit campaign expenditures by political parties or restrictions on the most costly aspects of a campaign, known as triggers of expenditure. While it was not possible for the EOM to ascertain the average cost on campaigns, various actors affirmed that total costs had clearly increased from past elections.

Nonetheless, the most relevant and recurring topic during interviews of stakeholders in St. Lucia was the financing of campaigns by foreign governments, particularly Taiwan. Financing from foreign governments represents a significant risk for the independence of political parties and for the equity of electoral competition. Though there is no concrete evidence of direct financing by foreign governments in St. Lucia, the support provided for projects constitutes an indirect contribution, on which parties can capitalize electorally through various forms of clientelism. Without a doubt, such practices of campaign financing by foreign governments open the door for the entry of other resources, including funds with illicit origins. In general, the financing of campaigns with exclusively private resources and the fact that these funds flow unrestricted, create a scenario in which equity in electoral competition is highly vulnerable and the independence of candidates and parties is extremely fragile.

2. Responsibility in Financing

In terms of accountability, St. Lucia has no norms that require political parties to apply standardized mechanisms to register the flows of campaign funds, nor does it regulate administration of said resources. Though the lack of norms in the area of accountability

does not translate into a complete absence of reporting practices, it leads to discretion and arbitrariness; parties simply apply those mechanisms that they prefer or those that are most applicable to their electoral financing strategies.

The current legal framework does not grant supervisory functions to the electoral management body in terms of campaign finance, nor does it delegate these functions to other public entities. Indeed, there is currently no state-run control mechanism directed at political parties in terms of the financing of electoral campaigns.

3. Transparency in Financing

In terms of transparency, the current legal framework is useful for detecting if an elected Member of Parliament has profited illicitly from money originally destined for their party's campaign, but not as a means to bring transparency to the financing of party campaigns. Though St. Lucia has an Integrity Commission, it has no investigative powers and is incapable of enforcing effective transparency. One requirement of the Commission is the annual submission by senior officials and members of Parliament of their assets and liabilities. This requirement is routinely ignored by Ministers and senior officials as indicated by a review of the information published in the Government Gazette. There are no consequences for failure to comply with the requirement for public disclosure. However, those interviewed agreed that the Integrity Commission should be one of the public entities involved in the control of campaign finance; they concurred that to be effective, its powers would have to be strengthened.

The general consensus in the country is that it is not probable that campaign finance-related information would be submitted to the public by political parties, if it were solicited. The reasoning for this opacity is two-fold: firstly, campaign donors are not willing to have their names known publicly. Secondly, donors and even party leaders and candidates are convinced that information about campaign finance is private.

The fact that the entirety of campaign finance is of private origin and essentially unregulated jeopardizes the equity of electoral competition and the independence of political parties; it also poses a risk for the possible infiltration of illicit funds into politics. Because there are no norms requiring parties to report on flows of campaign funds and the legal framework does not endow the electoral authority with supervisory functions in the area of political financing or delegate this function to another organism, in practice there is no accountability or public entity responsible for this area. Lastly, the lack of guarantee for access to campaign finance information leads to a lack of transparency in this area.

CHAPTER III. MISSION ACTIVITIES AND OBSERVATIONS

A. PRE-ELECTION PERIOD

The General Secretariat of the OAS deployed a team of 14 specialists and international observers that visited the whole territory of Saint Lucia to observe the logistical preparations for the day of the election. Moreover, international observers met with local electoral authorities, the police, and members of social organizations to discuss the

election.

During the pre-electoral period, the Mission observed the efforts by the St. Lucia Electoral Department to undertake a civic education campaign to educate voters on the voting process. As indicated/demonstrated by the Electoral Department, an educational video clip entitled “How to vote” was prepared both in English and Creole to be shown on TV and on the Electoral Department’s website. This is useful for various demographics, particularly elderly voters and young voters who were voting for the first time. There were also issues regarding names in the electoral registry of young voters who were not born by the cut-off date mandated by the law, July 15 of the year 1993. Although the registry should have been updated without including the group of voters who did not turn 18 by this date, they were still included. The Electoral Department indicated that polling officials should not allow them to vote.

1. Campaign and Rallies

On November 6, 2011, Prime Minister Stephenson King announced that General Elections would be held on November 28 and that Nomination Day would be November 17. On that day a total of 52 Saint Lucians were nominated as candidates. After that time no one else could be nominated as a candidate. Politicians paid \$250 to register as candidates for the General Election. This amount was to be refunded if the candidate’s official agent submitted the candidate’s election expenses and returned unused official tax receipts within the required time.

The Saint Lucia Labour Party and the United Workers Party both presented full slates of candidates. The remaining candidates were made up of independents and candidates from the National Development Movement (NDM), Lucian People Movement (LPM) and the Greens Party.

During the campaign phase a Code of Political Conduct was proposed by the Inter-Faith Committee of Saint Lucia to promote good practices in election campaigning. The code was designed to ensure that the process was conducted with integrity and respect and that the election was free of violence, intimidation, confrontation, vandalism and offensive public utterances. On November 21, 2011, the Agreement and Declaration on Political Conduct was signed by the five political parties nominated for the General Elections (The Saint Lucia Labour Party (SLP), the United Workers Party (UWP), the National Democratic Movement (NDM), the Lucian People Movement (LPM), the Lucian Greens), as well as the Independent candidate, Jeanine Compton (Micoud North)¹⁷

Some political tension was noted between the two main parties during the campaign. This tension was characterized by accusations that vulnerable persons had been paid to surrender their ID cards to party operatives; by the destruction of party campaign materials including billboards, posters, and other paraphernalia; by the hanging of candidates in effigy; and by letters advising citizens not to attend party meetings. The leaders of both parties encouraged their supporters to refrain from such acts and to behave responsibly.

17. <http://www.electoral.gov.lc/?wpdmact=process&did=MTYuaG90bGluaw==>.

OAS EOM observers attended community party meetings of the UWP and SLP as well as the SLP National Rally – where the official launching of candidate Shawn Edwards took place. Overall, rallies were carried out in an atmosphere of celebration and calm.

2. Electoral Boundaries and the Registry

Based on the various meetings and direct observations of the process, the OAS Mission took note of two additional pre-electoral issues related to the voter registry and electoral boundaries.

First, as observed in the 2006 electoral process, there were again concerns raised by various sectors regarding the accuracy of the voters list. The results of the census officially published in April 2011 indicated that there were 165,000 Saint Lucians living in the country, whereas the voters list contained 151,000 people. The high number of citizens registered versus the total population was attributed to the number of Saint Lucians who live abroad but still remain connected to the island, have their national ID card, and vote, if given the opportunity. There is a residency requirement which requires voters to be resident three months prior to the election. Existing legislation does not clarify the issue of how to prove whether a particular voter lives abroad or has fulfilled the three month residency requirement. Moreover, the procedure for culling the voters list is not efficient: there is no system to remove deceased voters from the list. As in 2006, the condition of the list did not greatly affect the integrity of the election but it may help to understand the 56% rate of voter participation.

Regarding boundaries, whereas the two largest constituencies of Gros-Islet and Castries East respectively comprise 18,129 and 12,095 enrolled electors, the two smallest, Vieux Fort North and Dennery South comprise 6,023 and 4,610.¹⁸ Legislation on the matter indicates that boundaries need to be redrawn every seven years according to the most recent census results. Specifically, it indicates that

“(1) The Constituency Boundaries Commission shall, review the number and boundaries of the constituencies into which Saint Lucia is divided and submit to the Governor-General reports either a) showing the constituencies into which it recommends that Saint Lucia should be divided in order to give effect to the rules set out in Schedule 2 to this Constitution; or b) stating that, in its opinion, no alteration is required to the existing number or boundaries of constituencies in order to give effect to those rules. (2) Reports under subsection (1) of this section shall be submitted by the Commission at intervals of not less than three nor more than seven years; Provided that a report under paragraph (b) of that subsection shall not be submitted until the expiration of six years from the submission of the last report under that subsection¹⁹.”

The Mission noted the need for a redefinition of constituency boundaries that complies with the legislation to ensure a more equitable distribution of inhabitants per constituency.

18. <http://www.electoral.gov.lc/electoral/enrollment-statistics>

19. Constitution of Saint Lucia, Part 5, Section 58(1) and Second Schedule

B. ELECTION DAY

1. Election day: Coverage and observation activities

On Election Day, OAS international observers visited all 17 constituencies, 101 out of the 102 polling sites and 292 out of the 474 polling stations. Throughout the day, observers visited different polling stations within their constituencies, visiting the same polling station three times on Election Day, to observe the opening of the polls, the voting process, and the closing of these polling stations.

The Mission observed a heavy turnout early in the morning with long lines of citizens peacefully waiting to exercise their right to vote, although some electors had difficulties identifying their assigned polling site. The Mission also noted the extensive police presence in the voting centers as well as the significant presence of women serving as electoral officials and party agents in the polling sites observed. Although assistance was provided to elderly voters, members of the Mission observed that handicapped voters had difficulty accessing some voting centers. A summary of observations about Election Day follows.

1. The Mission would like to note that the rate of electoral participation in St. Lucia decreased as compared to the 2006 elections (although the rate is based on an electoral registry that may be inflated). Whereas in 2006, 58% of St Lucians voted, in the recent November 2011 elections, the percentage of Saint Lucians who exercised their right to vote went down to 56.31%, according to data provided by the Saint Lucia Electoral Department.²⁰
2. Voting started on time at 6:30am in the polling sites observed. Presiding Officers, Poll Clerks and assistant Poll Clerks arrived punctually and had the necessary electoral materials to manage the voting process.
3. All observed polling stations were staffed with the designated polling officials. Of those, 13% were men and 87% women. Alternate polling officials were 40% men and 60% women. Among Presiding Officers, 20% were men and 80% were women.
4. In all observed polling stations throughout the day, UWP and SLP party agents were present; of those, 17% were men and 83% were women.
5. Most of the voters (80%) had adequate information about the location of their polling station and the electoral roll was on display in 90% of observed polling stations.
6. There were no violent incidents or acts of intimidation observed. The management of polling stations was in general very calm, with security forces maintaining a continuous presence.

20. <http://www.electoral.gov.lc/past-results/2006-election-results>

7. Most of the voting centers (90%) were adequate, although the majority of them did not have the infrastructure to accommodate handicapped and physically challenged voters.
8. The closing of polling stations was conducted on time. In most of the observed polling stations (90%), the counting of ballots followed legal procedures.
9. Although there were recounts in two constituencies in the days following election day, the transmission of results was conducted in an orderly fashion.

Women comprised the vast majority (87%) of the poll workers in the polling sites observed by the OAS in St. Lucia. The majority of party agents were also women. However, the number of female candidates remained limited. The Mission recognizes the progress in the percentage of female candidacies. Whereas 8.3% of the candidates in the 2006 election were women, the numbers increased in 2011 to 10 out of 52 candidates or 19%. In terms of actual political offices, the four women who contested the General Election for the Labour Party were Alvina Reynolds (Babonneau), Emma Hippolyte (Gros Islet), Austina Fanus (Micoud North) and Lelia Harracksing (Micoud South). Both Reynolds and Hippolyte won their seats in a close finish with single digit votes giving them the edge over their rivals. In the case of the UWP, two women contested elections, but only one, Gale Rigobert in Micoud North, won a seat. It should be noted that three of the women contesting the election, Jeanine Compton (Independent), Austina Fanus (SLP) and Gale Rigobert (UWP) ran against each other in Micoud North. Therefore, the St. Lucian parliament will now only have 17% female representation.

In general, the voting was conducted in a fluid and peaceful manner demonstrating the commitment and respect for democracy of St. Lucians. Some observations documented by constituency include,

Gros Islet and Babboneau- The voting process was carried out as indicated by law, polling officers conducted their work as instructed, and voters exercised their right to vote in a peaceful manner. Though there were disagreements between the agents and the electoral officers, these were resolved. Also there was an instance of inadmissibility of a voter due to a problem with the electoral roll. Party agents were knowledgeable of their role, as displayed their ability to question the electoral officers on procedural matters.

Dennery North and Dennery South. There were instances of tension regarding the electoral roll and voters using the National ID card.

Micoud North and Micoud South. Priority voting was given to elderly voters. The Mission noted inefficiencies in the positioning of the voting area in many polling stations. In one instance, an elector was allowed to vote despite lacking a National ID card.

Castries North, Castries Central and Castries East. The main issue noted by the Mission in this area was the setup of the polling station. There was no consensus among the Presiding Officers on the location of the booth for voting. In many cases the screen was positioned in areas that hindered ballot secrecy.

Castries South, Castries South East and Anse la Raye/ Canaries. Observers noted

contention between the party agents and the officers regarding the acceptance of the National ID card. Issues arose regarding the location of the voter booth or screen. Some voters were unable to vote because of problems with the voters list.

View Fort North and View Fort South. Observers witnessed issues with the list of voters. In one instance during the counting of the ballots, a blank vote was deemed spoilt. Observers noted that the 100 yard rule was not followed across the board.

Other issues that arose on election day involved confusion regarding crosses and t's as valid marks on the ballot. In general terms officers were well trained, police presence was adequate and elderly voters were generally given priority in voting. The Mission noted the need for a more comprehensive coverage by the media.

Recounts. Recounts were carried out in the Gros Islet and Babonneau constituencies, lasting until November 30, two days after the election. On Thursday, December 1, 2011 the Gros-Islet seat was finally declared for Emma Hippolite of the SLP by 6 votes. The Babonneau seat was called for Alvina Reynolds, also of the SLP, who beat the incumbent by 2 votes.

A second recount for three communities was requested by the United Workers Party. The first appeal was made hours after the results were released on election day- which prolonged the recount process another four days. In the end- the recount cost the United Workers Party yet another seat, that of Babonneau. The petition not only included these two communities- but also challenged the decision for Choiseul. The United Workers Party has made good on its promise to file an appeal against the Returning Officers in a number of constituencies. The main opposition party is challenging the election results in Babonneau, Gros-Islet and Choiseul. The results in the preliminary and official count were only changed in one constituency, Babonneau. In Choiseul and Gros-Islet – while the numbers between the preliminary and official count changed, the winners remained the same. Chairman of the Electoral Commission- Kenneth Monplaisir QC indicated the electoral laws of the country allows for the submission of a petition to be considered by the courts.

POST-ELECTION PROCESS

On November 28th, the preliminary results gave 11 seats in parliament to the Saint Lucia Labour Party (SLP) and 6 seats to the incumbent United Workers Party, as the graphics below show. On election night, there was relative calm in terms of the acceptance of the preliminary results, and there were celebrations by party supporters of their electoral success. Elected candidates were sworn in on January 5th, 2012 at the opening of the first session of the tenth Parliament of Saint Lucia.

Figure 2: Preliminary Electoral Results

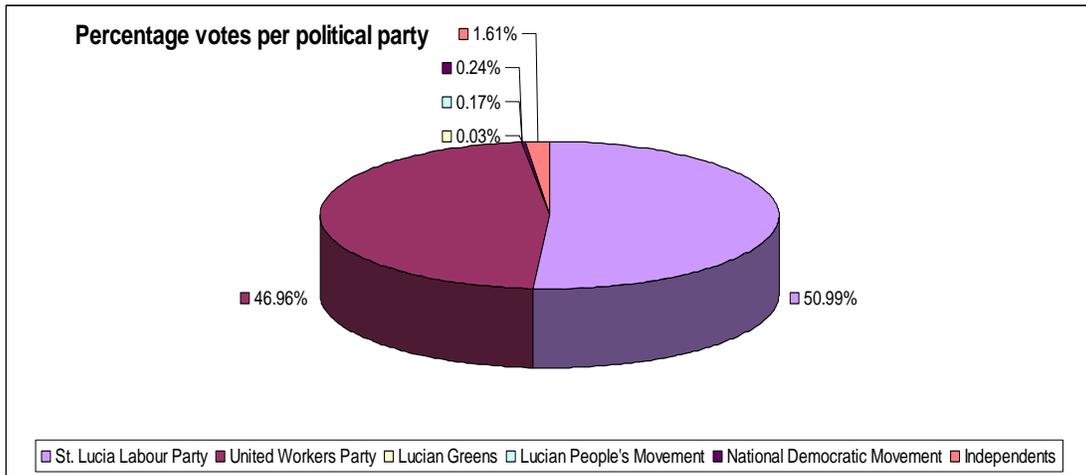


Figure 3. Distribution of Parliament Seats (by Candidates and by seats)

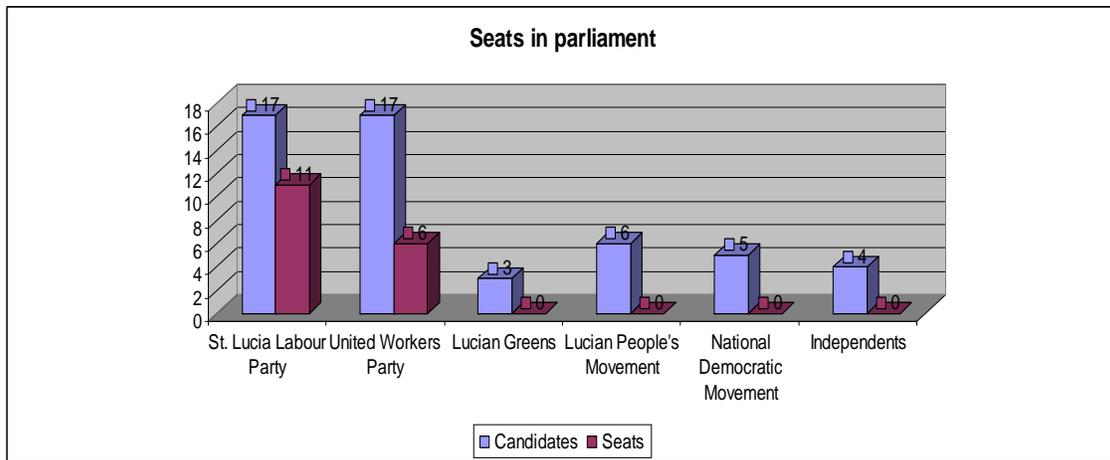
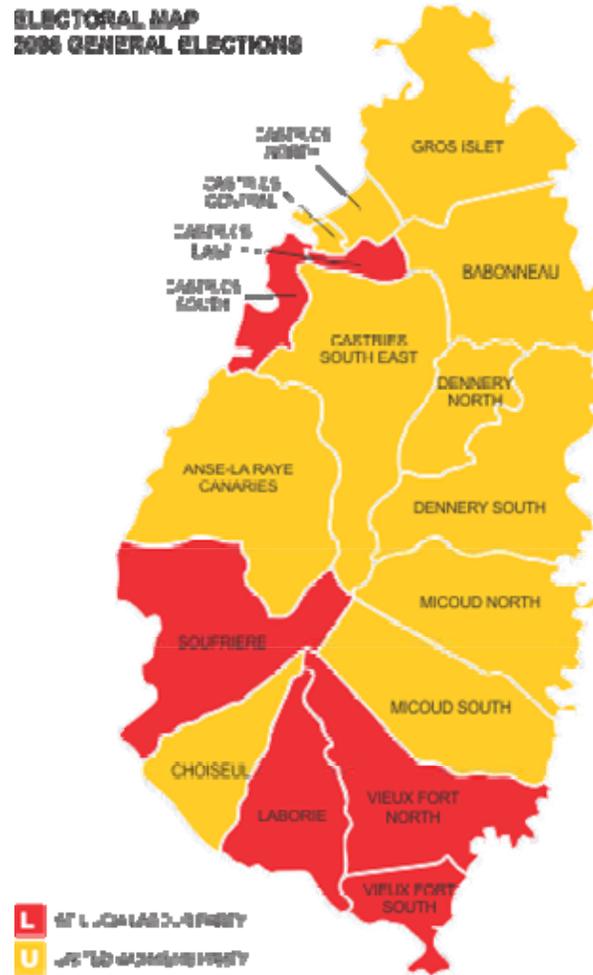
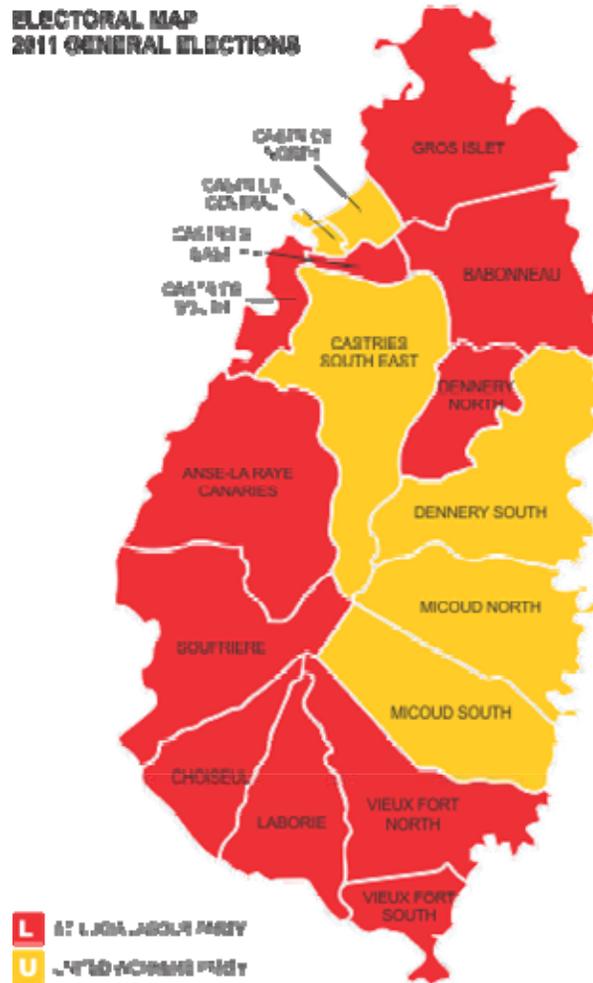


Figure 4: Electoral Map 2006²¹



21. http://www.caribbeanelections.com/lc/past/results_2006.asp

Figure 5: Electoral Map 2011²²



CHAPTER IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With the purpose of improving the electoral system in St. Lucia, and based on the observations and information gathered both in the pre-electoral period and on Election Day, the OAS Electoral Observation Mission would like to offer the following recommendations:

- 1) To undertake an update of the voters registry, including clarifying the issue of residency in Saint Lucia and living abroad. Existing legislation is not clear on how

22. <http://www.caribbeanelections.com/lc/default.asp>

to prove whether a particular voter lives abroad. Moreover, the procedure for maintaining the voters list is not efficient as there is no system to remove deceased voters from the list.

- 2) To seriously discuss the issue of voter participation given the rate of electoral participation of 56%, which decreased from 2006. Specific issues include the registry, namely the need to purge the voters list, and the need to build on the civic education campaign that was carried out in this election to invite voters to exercise their franchise.
- 3) The Electoral Office instituted national identification cards for every voter in Saint Lucia. However, during election day, there was some confusion regarding the types of identification that would be acceptable for voting purposes. It is recommended that, for the next election, the electoral office send out a message to the election officials that any form of identification could be used to vote: new National ID, old ID or a passport. An aggressive voter education campaign should be conducted months before the next election to encourage those who wish to vote to apply for a national voter ID card and to check their registration status before election day.
- 4) To facilitate the voting process for handicapped voters with appropriate voting facilities. The Mission recommends that polling places that are inaccessible to persons with disabilities are identified and relocated, if necessary. The electoral roll should be clearly displayed outside each polling site so that voters can easily identify their assigned voting table. Some polling sites contained multiple polling stations in relatively cramped areas. Greater attention to the location and layout of polling sites is required.
- 5) On the issue of transmission of and publication of results, the transmission of results by returning officers would be sped up if some means of electronic transmission were instituted, i.e. fax, modem, as well as real time reporting on their website, on election night.
- 6) To establish, immediately after the election, the Commission on Electoral Boundaries to define, based on the April 2011 census results, a more equitable division of constituencies.
- 7) To approve legislation on campaign financing, specifically rules to prohibit anonymous and foreign contributions, the establishment of a mechanism or institution to control money coming in and out of campaigns, to ensure wider access to information for citizens on the use of funds and the requirement for parties to disclose such information. In particular, the OAS/EOM would like to offer the following more concrete recommendations to improve the legal framework on political financing thus promoting more democratic elections in this country:
 - To create norms that establish direct or indirect public financing for political party campaigns, include state subsidies for media.

- To establish legal prohibitions for anonymous and foreign donations, as well as limits to private donations and norms to control in-kind donations from the media.
 - Through adequate norms, to require political parties to establish mechanisms to register the inputs and outputs of campaign resources and to produce consolidated reports.
 - To delegate functions of control and supervision of the financing of party campaigns to public organisms such as the Electoral Department and the Director of Audit, and to endow them with the necessary financial and human resources.
 - To establish norms to improve the supply and demand of access to information regarding the financing of political party campaigns.
- 8) To promote a serious discussion on the role of women in politics and how political parties can encourage the political leadership of women, specifically whether there is a need for a quota system to give incentives to female party activists.

Finally, the Mission would like to offer the following two recommendations regarding the broader process of democracy promotion in St. Lucia and the Caribbean region, in general,

- 1) The need for support to the Government of St. Lucia for monitoring and implementation of the recommendations
- 2) To continue support to OAS electoral observer missions to deepen and sustain the gains of democracy. This is essential in a context of increasing strains on democracy posed by drugs, citizen insecurity, porous boundaries and the ease of large flows of money, the impacts of which are particularly exacerbated in very small states such as St. Lucia.

In the course of its work in Saint Lucia, the OAS Electoral Observation Mission also coordinated efforts with the observation missions sent by CARICOM and the Commonwealth, including a briefing before the election, the sharing of observation routes to avoid duplication, and a debriefing after the election to share notes of the process. Finally, the OAS/EOM would like to congratulate, once more, the Saint Lucian people for their participation in last November's elections and to commend efforts to continue consolidating democracy in this country.

APENDICES

APPENDIX I: LETTER OF INVITATION

08/31/2011 05:00 FAX 17584537352

P.M. OFFICE

002



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Graham Louisy Administrative Building
Waterfront, Castries
Saint Lucia

Tel: (758) 468.2111
468.2115
Fax: (758) 453.7352

August 29, 2011

Dr. Jose Miguel Insulza
Secretary General
Organisation of American States
Organisation of American States Building
17th Street and Constitution Ave. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20006
USA

Dear Secretary General

General Elections are constitutionally due in Saint Lucia on March 11, 2012 and it is expected that the country will go to the polls on or before that date. There is already heightened activity as political parties prepare themselves for participation in the process.

In preparation for the Elections, the Electoral Department, under the guidance of the Electoral Commission has been engaged in the necessary steps to ensure participation of all eligible voters, and that no one is disenfranchised. The Government of Saint Lucia is most anxious to ensure that it adheres by the best electoral practice and towards that end, wishes to invite the Organisation of American States to send a team of observers to observe the General Elections in Saint Lucia, whenever it is held. You will of course be advised of the precise date when it is announced.

The Government of Saint Lucia proposes to invite not only the Organisation of American States but also the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat and the Commonwealth Secretariat to mount Observer Missions.

As is normal for these occasions, the visit of the electoral Observer Mission will be coordinated by the Electoral Commission and the Cabinet Secretary.

Should you agree to the participation of the Organisation of American States, we would urge that you identify the proposed members of the Observer Mission as soon as possible.

We thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Please accept our very best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Stephenson King
PRIME MINISTER

Copied: Mr. Kenneth Monplaisir, Chairman – Electoral Commission
Mr. Cosmos Richardson – Cabinet Secretary
Ms. Anne Marie Blackman, Resident Representative –
Organisation of American States

APPENDIX II: LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE



17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
United States of America

Organization of American States

P. 202.458.3000
www.oas.org

Antigua and Barbuda
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Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela

September 2, 2011

The Honourable Stephenson King
Prime Minister of St. Lucia
Office of the Prime Minister
Waterfront, Castries
Saint Lucia

Honourable Prime Minister,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 29th, 2011 in which the Government of Saint Lucia requests the Organization of American States (OAS) to observe the General Elections that are constitutionally due on March 11, 2012 and are expected to take place on or before that date.

Through its observation and technical assistance efforts, the OAS remains committed to strengthening the electoral processes in the Americas and I am pleased to respond positively to this request.

I have instructed the Department for Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) of the OAS Secretariat of Political Affairs to prepare a proposal and budget that contemplates the observation of the different facets of this important exercise and maximizes coverage of the polling stations on the date of the elections. As is customary, the size and scope of this mission will ultimately depend on the voluntary contributions received from OAS member states and Permanent Observers.

Should you have any questions regarding the preparation of this mission, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian Electoral Studies and Projects Section Chief of DECO, at bmunoz@oas.org or (202) 458 6146, who has been tasked with the preparation of this mission.

Sincerely,

José Miguel Insulza
Secretary General

Cc: Mr. Kenneth Montplaisir, Chairman- Electoral Commission
Mr. Cosmos Richardson, Cabinet Secretary
Ms. Anne Marie Blackman, OAS Representative in Saint Lucia

APPENDIX III: AGREEMENT ON PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA
AND
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
REGARDING
THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE OAS
ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION
FOR THE 2011 GENERAL ELECTIONS IN
SAINT LUCIA**



**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA
AND
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
REGARDING
THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE OAS
ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION
FOR THE 2011 GENERAL ELECTIONS IN
SAINT LUCIA**

The Parties to this Agreement, the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (hereinafter referred to as the "GS/OAS" or the "Organization") and the Government of Saint Lucia (hereinafter referred to as the "Government"),

WHEREAS:

On August 29, 2011 the Government of Saint Lucia invited the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States to observe the General Elections to be held on or before March, 2012 in Saint Lucia.

The Secretary General of the OAS, in a letter dated September 2, 2011, informed the Government that he accepted the invitation to establish an Observer Mission (hereinafter referred to as the "OAS Observer Mission" or the "Mission") for the General Elections in Saint Lucia subject to obtaining the necessary resources to finance the establishment of the OAS Observer Mission in Saint Lucia;

The OAS Observer Mission will be comprised of officials of the GS/OAS and other persons contracted at GS/OAS headquarters, as well as any other international observers specifically under contract to the GS/OAS for the OAS Observer Mission (hereinafter referred to as the "Members of the OAS Observer Mission" or the "Members"); and

The basic privileges and immunities enjoyed by the OAS, the GS/OAS, and its staff in Saint Lucia are set out in the Charter of the Organization and in the Agreement Between the Government of Saint Lucia and the General Secretariat of the Organization

of American States on the Functioning of the Office of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and Recognition of its Privileges and Immunities, signed by the Parties on September 26, 1986,

NOW, THEREFORE THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

CHAPTER I
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE OAS OBSERVER MISSION

ARTICLE I

The privileges and immunities of the OAS Observer Mission shall be those accorded to the OAS, to its organs, and to its Staff.

ARTICLE II

2.1. The property and effects of the OAS Observer Mission, located in any part of the territory of Saint Lucia and in possession of any person, shall enjoy immunity against any type of judicial proceeding; save in those specific cases for which said immunity is expressly waived in writing by the Secretary General of the OAS.

2.2 However, it is understood that said waiver of immunity by the Secretary General of the OAS shall not have the effect of subjecting any such property and effects to any type of measure of execution.

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ARTICLE III

3.1 The premises occupied by the OAS Observer Mission shall be inviolable.

3.2 Moreover, the property and effects of the OAS Observer Mission, in any part of the territory of Saint Lucia and in possession of any person or entity, shall enjoy immunity against search and seizure, confiscation, expropriation and against any form of intervention, be it executive, administrative, judicial or legislative.

[Handwritten signature]

ARTICLE IV

The files of the OAS Observer Mission and all of the documents pertaining thereto or in the possession of any person or entity shall be inviolable wherever they are located.

ARTICLE V

5.1 The OAS Observer Mission shall be:

a) exempt from any internal taxation, it being understood, however, that it may not claim any type of tax exemption that is in fact remuneration for public services;

b) exempt from any type of customs duty, prohibition and restriction in respect of articles and publications that it may import or export for its official use. It is understood, however, that any articles imported duty-free may be sold within Saint Lucia only in accordance with conditions expressly agreed upon by the Parties; and

c) exempt from ordinances, regulations or moratoria of any kind. Moreover, it may have currency of any type, carry accounts in any foreign currency and transfer funds in foreign currency.

ARTICLE VI

M The OAS Observer Mission may establish and operate in the territory of Saint Lucia an independent radio communication system to provide an on-going communications link between the Members and the vehicles used by the Members with Mission offices and regional headquarters, such as the central office in Castries and between the latter and the headquarters of the GS/OAS in Washington, D.C., United States of America. The Government shall provide all the technical and administrative support necessary for this to be achieved.

CHAPTER II
MEMBERS OF THE OAS OBSERVER MISSION

ARTICLE VII

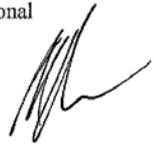
The Members of the OAS Observer Mission shall be those persons who have been designated by the GS/OAS and accredited with the Saint Lucian authorities.

ARTICLE VIII

8.1 For the period during which the Members of the OAS Observer Mission exercise their functions and during their trips to and from Saint Lucia, they shall enjoy the following privileges and immunities:

- a) Immunity from personal detention or arrest as well as immunity from any type of legal proceeding in respect of their actions and statements, be they oral or written, done in the performance of their functions;
- b) The inviolability of all papers and documents;
- c) The right to communicate with the GS/OAS via radio, telephone, telegraph, email, satellite or other means, and to receive documents and correspondence through messengers or in sealed pouches, enjoying for that purpose the same privileges and immunities accorded to diplomatic mail, messages, and pouches;
- d) The right to utilize for their movements throughout the national territory, any means of transportation, be it by air, by water or over land;
- e) Exemption in respect of their persons and that of their spouses and children, from any type of immigration restriction and registration of aliens and any type of national service in Saint Lucia.
- f) The same privileges accorded to the representatives of foreign governments on official mission in respect to foreign-currency restrictions;
- g) The same immunities and privileges in respect of their personal baggage as are accorded to diplomatic envoys; and

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h) Such other privileges, immunities and facilities as are compatible with the foregoing, and enjoyed by diplomatic envoys, with the exception that they shall not enjoy any exemption from customs duties on imported merchandise (that is not part of their personal effects) or sales taxes or consumer taxes.

ARTICLE IX

The provisions contained in the preceding Article do not apply to nationals of Saint Lucia working as local contract staff in the OAS Observer Mission, except in respect of official acts performed or statements issued in the exercise of their functions.

CHAPTER III

COOPERATION WITH THE AUTHORITIES

ARTICLE X

The OAS Observer Mission shall cooperate with the relevant authorities of Saint Lucia to prevent any occurrence of abuse in respect of the specified privileges and immunities. Similarly, the relevant authorities shall do whatever is possible to provide the cooperation requested of them by the OAS Observer Mission.

ARTICLE XI

Without prejudice to the immunities and privileges accorded, the Members of the OAS Observer Mission shall respect the laws and regulations existing in Saint Lucia.

ARTICLE XII

12.1 The Parties shall take any measures necessary to procure an amicable arrangement in the proper settlement of:

- a) Any dispute or complaint that may arise in connection with the application or interpretation of this Agreement;
- b) Any disputes that may arise in contracts or other questions of private law; and

- c) Any disputes to which the OAS Observer Mission and/or any of its Members may be parties with respect to matters in which they enjoy immunity.

CHAPTER IV
NATURE OF PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

ARTICLE XIII

13.1 The privileges and immunities are granted to the Members of the OAS Observer Mission in order to safeguard their independence in the exercise of their functions of observing the General Elections of Saint Lucia, and not for personal gain or to perform activities of a political nature within the territory of Saint Lucia.

13.2 The Secretary General of the OAS may waive the privileges and immunities of any of the Members of the OAS Observer Mission in the event that he determines, in his sole discretion, that the exercise of those privileges and immunities may obstruct the course of justice and so long as the Secretary General determines that such waiver does not prejudice the interests of the OAS or of the GS/OAS.

CHAPTER V
GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE XIV

14.1 The Government recognizes the "Official Travel Document" issued by the GS/OAS as a valid and sufficient document for purposes of travel by the Members of the OAS Observer Mission who possess this document.

14.2 To those Members who do not possess an "Official Travel Document" issued by the GS/OAS, the Government shall issue a visa to enter the country and to remain therein until the end of the OAS Observer Mission.

ARTICLE XV

The Government agrees to extend the privileges and immunities of the present Agreement to Members of the OAS Observer Mission designated by the GS/OAS, who have been accredited by the St. Lucian authorities.

ARTICLE XVI

This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent in writing by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties.

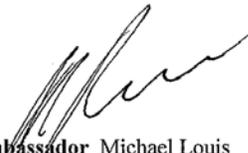
ARTICLE XVII

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall cease to have effect once the Members of the OAS Observer Mission have completed their Mission, in accordance with the terms of the request made by the Government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized, do hereby sign this Agreement, in duplicate, on the date and locations indicated below.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
SAINT LUCIA :

FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF
AMERICAN STATES:


Ambassador Michael Louis
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Saint Lucia
to the Organization of American States
Place: Castries, Saint Lucia.
Date: *21 November 2011*


Anne-Marie Blackman
Representative
General Secretariat of the Organization of
American States (OAS) in Saint Lucia
Place: Castries, Saint Lucia.
Date: *..Nov. 21, 2011....*

APPENDIX IV: AGREEMENT ON ELECTORAL GUARANTEES

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
AND
SAINT LUCIA'S ELECTORAL COMMISSION
ON THE ELECTORAL OBSERVATION PROCESS OF THE
2011 GENERAL ELECTIONS IN
SAINT LUCIA**

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
AND
SAINT LUCIA'S ELECTORAL COMMISSION
ON THE ELECTORAL OBSERVATION PROCESS OF THE
2011 GENERAL ELECTIONS IN
SAINT LUCIA**

The Parties, the Saint Lucia Electoral COMMISSION (hereinafter referred to as the "Electoral Commission") and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (hereinafter referred to as the "General Secretariat");

CONSIDERING:

THAT on the 29th day of August 2011, the Government of Saint Lucia (hereinafter referred to as "the Government"), through its Honourable Prime Minister, invited the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary General") to send an Electoral Observation Mission (hereinafter referred to as "the Mission") to Saint Lucia for the purpose of witnessing the General Elections to be held on or before March, 2012 (hereinafter referred to as the "General Elections");

THAT in Resolution AG/RES. 991 (XIX-O/89), the General Assembly of the OAS recommended to the Secretary General that "when a member state so requests in the exercise of its sovereignty, missions should be organized and sent to said state to monitor the development, if possible at all stages, of each of its electoral processes;"

THAT Article 24 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter states in pertinent part as follows:

The electoral observation missions shall be carried out at the request of the member state concerned. To that end, the government of that state and the Secretary General shall enter into an agreement establishing the scope and coverage of the electoral observation mission in question. The member state shall guarantee conditions of security, free access to information, and full cooperation with the electoral observation mission.

Electoral observation missions shall be carried out in accordance with the principles and norms of the OAS. The Organization shall ensure that these missions are effective and independent and shall provide them with the necessary resources for that purpose. They shall be conducted in an objective, impartial, and transparent manner and with the appropriate technical expertise; and

THAT the Secretary General responded affirmatively to the Government's request to send the Mission with the objective of observing the General Elections of 2011;

WHEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

First: Guarantees

a) The Electoral Commission guarantees the Mission access to all facilities for the adequate fulfillment of the observation of the elections in 2011 until conclusion of the electoral process in Saint Lucia, in conformity with the laws and standards of Saint Lucia and the terms of this Agreement.

b) The Electoral Commission, on the day of and after the day of the elections, shall guarantee the Mission access to all polling stations and other locations and facilities related to the election until the official count is tabulated nationally and the General Elections process is concluded.

c) The Electoral Commission shall guarantee the Mission complete access to the locations in which the process of counting and tabulating votes will take place both before and during this process.

d) The Electoral Commission shall guarantee the Mission access to all electoral bodies responsible for vote counting and tabulation. Similarly, the Electoral Commission shall permit the Mission to conduct any evaluations deemed necessary by

the Mission of the voting system and of the communications utilized to transmit electoral results. At the same time, the Electoral Commission shall guarantee the Mission complete access to the complaints process and quality controls that occur before and after the electoral process that are of interest to the Mission.

e) The Electoral Commission further guarantees the Mission access to all polling stations and other bodies throughout the territory of Saint Lucia. Upon request of the Mission, the Electoral Commission guarantees to make available by the end of the voting process and before the closing of the polling stations, copies of all documents printed electronically.

Second: Information

a) The Electoral Commission will furnish the Mission with all information referring to the organization, direction and supervision of the electoral process. The Mission may request of the Electoral Commission such additional information as is necessary for the exercise of the Mission's functions, and the Electoral Commission shall promptly furnish all such information.

b) The Mission may inform the Electoral Commission about any irregularities and/or interference, which the Mission might observe or of which the Mission might learn. Similarly, the Mission may request that the Electoral Commission provide any information regarding the measures which the Electoral Commission will take in relation to such irregularities, and the Electoral Commission shall promptly furnish all such information.

c) The Electoral Commission shall provide the Mission with information related to the electoral list and other electoral data referring to the same. Similarly, the Electoral Commission shall provide all other information relative to the computer systems used on Election Day, and shall offer demonstrations of the systems' operation to the Mission.

Third: General Provisions

a) The Secretary General will designate a Chief of Mission, to represent the Mission and its members before the Electoral Commission and before the Government.

b) The General Secretariat will communicate to the Chair of the Electoral Commission the names of the persons who will comprise the Mission, who will be duly identified.

c) The Mission will act impartially, objectively and independently in the fulfillment of its mandate.

d) The General Secretariat will send to the leadership of the Electoral Commission a copy of the final report of the Electoral Observation Mission following the General Elections.

e) The Electoral Commission will make known and disseminate the contents of this Agreement among all electoral bodies and among all personnel involved in the electoral process.

Fourth: Privileges and Immunities

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as an express or implied waiver of the privileges and immunities of the OAS, its Organs, its personnel and its assets under the Charter of the Organization; under the Agreement Between the Government of Saint Lucia and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States on the Functioning of the Office of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and Recognition of its Privileges and Immunities, signed by the Parties on September 26, 1986; and under the Agreement between the Government of Saint Lucia and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States Regarding the Privileges and Immunities of the OAS Electoral Observation Mission for the 2011 General Elections in Saint Lucia, signed by the Parties on November 21, 2011; or under international law.

Fifth: Resolution of controversies

The Parties shall attempt to resolve through direct negotiations any disputes arising in relation to the interpretation and/or implementation of this Agreement. If the negotiations do not result in the resolution of the dispute, the matter shall be submitted to a dispute resolution procedure mutually agreed to by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties.

Sixth: Amendments

Amendments to this Agreement shall be made in writing and signed by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties and attached hereto.

Seventh: Entry into Force and Termination

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date and upon the signature of the duly authorized representatives of the Parties. This Agreement shall remain in force until the Mission has concluded its observation mission of the 2011 General Elections.

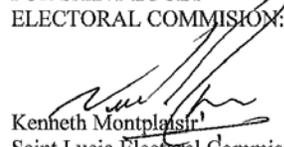
This Agreement may be terminated by either Party with or without cause. Termination must be effected by means of no less than five days' written notice to the other Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized, have signed this Agreement in duplicate on the date and locations indicated below.

FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF
AMERICAN STATES:


Dr. Rosina Wiltshire
Chief of Mission
OAS General Secretariat
Date: November 24, 2011.....

FOR SAINT LUCIA
ELECTORAL COMMISSION:


Kenneth Montplaisir
Saint Lucia Electoral Commission
Castries, Saint Lucia
Date: November 24, 2011

APPENDIX V: LIST OF OBSERVERS

Organization of
American States

**GENERAL ELECTIONS
SAINT LUCIA
NOVEMBER 28, 2011**

Name	Nationality	Position
CORE GROUP		
Dr. Rosina Wiltshire	Barbados	Chief of Mission
Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian	Venezuela	Deputy Chief of Mission
Ana Maria Diaz	Colombia	General Coordinator
Sylvia Adams	USA	Electoral Organization
Floyd Peters	Saint Lucia	Logistics Officer
INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS		
Juan Sebastián Molano	Colombia	Observer
Carolina Peña	Bolivia	Observer
Andrea Hillyer	USA	Observer
Debbie DesRosiers	Canada	Observer
Kenrick Quashie	St. Vincent and the Granadines	Observer
Carlos Applewhaite	Barbados	Observer
Khalid Batson	Barbados	Observer
Alejandro Urizar	Guatemala	Observer
Rebeca Omaña	Venezuela	Observer

APPENDIX VII: OFFICIAL RESULTS

Saint Lucia General Elections Results 2011

Party	Code	Total Votes	% votes	Candidates	Seats
St. Lucia Labour Party	SLP	42456	0.5099	17	11
United Workers Party	UWP	39100	0.4696	17	6
Lucian Greens	LG	23	0.0003	3	0
Lucian People's Movement	LPM	143	0.0017	6	0
National Democratic Movement	NDM	200	0.0024	5	0
Independents	IND	1338	0.0161	4	0
Total Valid Votes		83,260	100%	52	17
Invalid Votes		1,775			
Total Votes Cast		85,035			
Registered Voters		151,466			
Voter Turnout		56.14%			

Saint Lucia Labour Party (SLP)
United Workers Party (UWP)
Lucian Greens (LG)
Lucian People's Movement (LPM)
National Democratic Movement (NDM)
Independent Candidates (IND)

Source: <http://www.caribbeanelections.com/lc/results/default.asp>

APPENDIX VIII: PRESS RELEASE

**Organization of
American States**

Press Release**OAS and the Government of Saint Lucia Sign Agreement for Electoral Observation Mission**

November 21, 2011

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Government of Saint Lucia today signed the Agreement of Immunities and Privileges for the OAS Electoral Observation Mission for the General Elections that will take place in the Caribbean nation on November 28.

At the ceremony, which took place in the office of the Organizations' Representation in Saint Lucia, the Representative, Anne-Marie Blackman, highlighted the importance for the Organization to join this nation in the electoral process. Representing the national government, was the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the OAS, Ambassador Michael Louis; the Chief of Staff, Mr. Cosmos Richardson, and the President of the Electoral Commission of Saint Lucia, Mr. Kenneth Monplaisir.

The OAS Secretary General, Jose Miguel Insulza, appointed Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, a citizen of Barbados, as the head of this mission who will be accompanied by seven international observers from seven OAS Member States. Dr. Wiltshire is the First Caribbean Community Advocate for Gender Justice in the Caribbean Community; she has a doctorate in Political Science from Michigan-Ann Arbor University and is the author of several international relations publications.

At the end of the electoral process, the Mission will present a report to the Permanent Council of the Organization.

For more information, please visit the OAS Website at www.oas.org.

Reference: E-969/11



**Organization of
American States**

Press Release

OAS Electoral Observation Mission in Saint Lucia Deploys Observers

November 26, 2011

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS) and Saint Lucia's Electoral Commission signed the Agreement on the Electoral Observation Process of the 2011 General Elections in Saint Lucia yesterday.

At the ceremony, which took place in the Electoral Department of Saint Lucia, Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, Chief of Mission, thanked the government of St. Lucia for the invitation to observe the election. She highlighted that the OAS mission is committed to support the country in deepening the democratic process through ensuring peaceful, fair and transparent elections.

On behalf of Saint Lucia's Electoral Commission, was Mr. Kenneth Monplaisir, Chair of the Electoral Department who welcomed the team of observers and provided them all the guarantees to grant access to all aspects of the electoral process.

The agreement stated that the electoral observation missions shall be carried out at the request of the member state concerned and should be carried out in accordance with the principles and norms of the OAS. The Organization shall ensure that these missions are effective and independent and shall provide them with the necessary resources for that purpose. They shall be conducted in an objective, impartial, and transparent manner and with the appropriate technical expertise, among other things.

The members of the OAS Electoral Observation Mission have initiated their work in the country with meetings with key stakeholders and will be deployed throughout the territory on Monday. The OAS/EOM is composed of 14 observers coming from 8 countries (Barbados, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, St. Vincent, United States, Venezuela). The Mission received financial contributions from Bolivia, Chile, the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

For more information, please visit the OAS Website at www.oas.org.

Reference: E-979/11



**Organization of
American States**

Press Release

OAS Electoral Observation Mission (OAS/EOM) in Saint Lucia Preliminary Statement

November 29, 2011

Led by Dr. Rosina Wiltshire from Barbados, the OAS deployed an Electoral Observation Mission composed of 14 international observers who observed the voting process in all 17 constituencies of Saint Lucia as well as the campaign period immediately preceding the general elections.

The voting was conducted in a fluid and peaceful manner demonstrating the St. Lucians' commitment and respect for democracy. "I wish to congratulate the St. Lucian people for exercising their franchise peacefully and look forward to working with the newly elected government," stated OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza.

To carry out their work, OAS international observers visited 100 out of the 102 polling sites on Election Day. Voting started on time at 6:30am in the polling sites observed. Presiding officers, poll clerks and assistant poll clerks punctually showed up to manage the voting process and had the necessary electoral materials to do their task. The Mission observed a heavy turnout early in the morning with long lines of citizens peacefully waiting to exercise their right to vote, although some electors had difficulties identifying their assigned polling site. The Mission also noted the extensive police presence in the voting centers as well as the significant presence of women as electoral officials and party agents in the polling sites observed. Although assistance was provided to elderly voters, members of the Mission observed difficulties for handicapped voters to access some voting centers.

In the pre-electoral period, the OAS/EOM conducted extensive interviews with government representatives, the St. Lucia Electoral Commission, political parties, and key stakeholders from civil society organizations. The OAS Mission would like to point out three issues focused on gender, financing and boundaries.

First, women composed the majority of poll workers in St. Lucia, with an average of 87 percent participation in the polling sites observed by the OAS. The majority of party agents were also women. However, the number of female candidates remained limited. The Mission would like to recognize the progress in the percentage of female candidacies. Whereas 8.3% of the candidates in the 2006 election were women, the numbers increased in 2011 to 10 out of 52 candidates, or 19%. There still, however, needs to be improvement so that their active participation as candidates is equivalent to their proportion of the electorate.

Second, the Mission is deeply concerned that in 2006, the OAS/EOM had made a recommendation calling on parliament to establish rules which would not leave the campaign financing issue in such a gray zone. This is fundamental to the transparency of the electoral system and the democratic process. We therefore call on parliament to put in place legislation, including strengthening the Integrity Commission and auditing and reporting mechanisms. The Mission would like to emphasize the following three aspects:

- Source of financing: in the absence of legislation, and tracking mechanisms, the sources of campaign funds could not be determined. Anonymous contributions and those of foreigners are allowed, which goes against general norms and practices around the world.

- **Accountability:** the Mission observed an absence of control mechanisms regarding funding coming in and out of the campaign as there are not institutions with a mandate to supervise campaign spending.
- **Transparency:** the Mission noted Saint Lucians have no access to information regarding campaign financing by the parties.

Third, in relation to boundaries, whereas the two largest constituencies have 18,122 and 12,677 electors, respectively, the two smallest have 6,153 and 5,984, respectively. The Mission noted the need for a redefinition of constituency boundaries complying with the legislation that establishes a balanced distribution of inhabitants per constituency.

With the purpose of improving the electoral system in St. Lucia, and based on the observations and information gathered both in the pre-electoral period and on Election Day, the OAS Electoral Observation Mission would like to offer the following recommendations:

- 1) To facilitate the voting process for handicapped voters with appropriate voting facilities as well as to display the electoral roll on the outside of each polling site so that voters can easily identify their assigned voting table.
- 2) To promote a serious discussion on the role of women in politics, specifically whether there is a need for a quota system to give incentives to female party activists and how political parties can enable their political leadership.
- 3) To encourage a public debate on the need for legislation on campaign financing, specifically rules to prohibit anonymous and foreign contributions, the establishment of a mechanism or institution to control money coming in and out of the campaign and wider access information by the citizens on the use of funds and the requirement for parties to disclose this information.
- 4) To establish, immediately after the election, the Commission on Electoral Boundaries to define, based on the April 2011 census results, a more equitable division of constituencies.

Dr. Rosina Witlshire will address the OAS Permanent Council in January with a detailed Verbal Report that will be made available at the OAS Website.

Reference: E-982/11

APPENDIX IX: POLLING STATIONS

1. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - GROS ISLET - A

Community Centre; Police Station – Gros Islet; Julians Supermarket; J.Q.'S Supermarket; Volney's Gas Station; Mothers' And Fathers' Group – La Feuillet; Monchy School; Monchy Sub Post Office; Grande Riviere Society Hall; Grande Riviere School;

Stafford's Bar – Grand Riviere; Corinthe Secondary School; Barrell Restaurant – Marisule; Glace Motors And Supermarket; Gros Islet Fire Station

2. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - BABONNEAU - B

St. Croix Gas Station; Babonneau Primary School; Babonneau Infant School; La Gare School; Wiggins Dance Hall – La Gare; Boguis School; Ossie Serville's Residence – Garrand; Des Barra School; Babonneau Health Centre; Babonneau Community Centre; Babonneau Post Office; Fond Assau Combined School; Garrand Post Office; Fond Assau Post Office; Balata Combined School

3. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - CASTRIES NORTH - C

Avis Gas Station – Vide Bouteille; Comprehensive School; Gable Woods Mall; Union Agricultural Station; Vide Bouteille Cultural Club; La Clery Health Centre; La Clery Government School; Hill Side Plaza – La Clery; Morne Du Don School; Vide Bouteille Government School; Vigie Airport

4. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - CASTRIES EAST - D

Bocage Government School; Bocage Sub Post Office; Hughs' Rum Shop – Cacao; Ti Rocher Health Centre; Ti Rocher Sub Post Office; Ti Rocher School; Entrepot Senior Secondary School; Nato's Supermarket – Entrepot; Mindoo Phillip Park Pavillion; Marchand Primary School; Marchand Parish Centre; Marchand Community Centre; Marchand Post Office; Brandford's Shop – Marchand; Pavee Domino Club; Police Credit Union – Upper Bridge Street; Police Headquarters – Upper Bridge Street

5. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - CASTRIES CENTRE - E

Anglican Annex – Trinity Church Road; Racaii's Supermarket; Castries Health Centre; Castries Market; Lambert's Rum Shop – Brazil Street; St. Lucia Builders Supplies – Chaussee Road; R.C Boys' Primary School; Central Police Station; Central Library; General Post Office; The Registry (Bottom Floor Of High Court Building); Castries City Council; Gomes Shop; Mary Augustin's Shop – Sans Souci; Carmen Rene Government School; C.S.A Centre; St. Lucia General Transport Co-Operative Society Gas Station; Paul's Gas Station; Canon Laurie Anglican School; Daniel's Shop – La Pansee; Morne Du Don Lodge; Rose Hill Community Centre; Three Corner Restaurant – Lastic Hill; Bene Perse Temple – Cedars

6. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - CASTRIES SOUTH - F

Banana Shed – Faux –A-Chaux; Simon Joseph's Rum Shop; Faux-A-Chaux Community Centre; Victoria Hospital; Tapion Hospital; Turning Point; Ciceron School; Ciceron Community Centre; Ciceron Sub Post Office; Gladstone's Rum Shop – Ti Colon; La Croix Maingot Health Centre; Fire Fly Dance Hall – La Croix Maingot; Chico Supermarket Marigot; Marigot Community Centre

7. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - ANSE LA RAYE/CANARIES - G

Dr. Monroe's Shop – Roseau; Roseau Pay Office; Mrs. Girard's Residence – Jacmel;; Jacmel School; Dariah's Rum Shop; Richardson's Shop – Morne D'or; Durandean Health Centre; Durandean Sub Post Office; Hilton Joseph's Shop – Durandean; Lilburn's Shop – Durandean; Anse-La-Raye Police Station; Anse-La-Raye Sub Post Office; Anse-La-Raye Health Centre; Anse-La-Raye Community Centre; Anse-La-Raye Sub Collector's Office; Canaries Police Station; Anse La Verdure Shop; Belvedere Shop; Canaries Health Centre; Canaries Primary School; Canaries Sub Post Office

8. ELECTORAL DISTRICT- SOUFRIERE - H

Copra Manufacturers Ltd; Soufriere Comprehensive School; Soufriere Boys' School; Soufriere Parish Hall; Soufriere Library; Valence Riviere's Supermarket; Soufriere Town Hall; Soufriere Police Station; Soufriere Sub Collector's Office; Gas Station – Bay Street – Soufriere; Mr. Julius's House – Rabot; Etangs School; Mr. Fricot's Rum Shop – Etangs; Etangs Health Centre; Mr. Harrison Anthanize – Torraillie; Fond St. Jacques Infant School – Petit Bough; Fond St. Jacques Primary School – St. Phillip; Mrs Elizabeth Theodore's Shop – Fond St. Jacques; Mrs. Vitaline Prospere's Shop – Fond St. Jacques; Bouton School

9. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - CHOISEUL - I

Delcer Combined School; Mongouge School; Mongouge Health Centre; Morne Sion; Choiseul Police Station; Choiseul Co-Operative Office; Choiseul Post Office; Choiseul Health Centre; Choiseul Parish Centre; Reunion; La Fargue – Choiseul Secondary School; Mr. Polimus Charles Dance Hall – Belle Vue; Mr Obeiuse Rum Shop – Belle Vue; Roblot School; Debreuil Sub Post Office; Mrs. Lucy Nicholas Residence – Debreuil; Victoria Heran's Dance Hall – Dugard; Dugard School; Cafeiere; Londonderry Sub Post Office; Madleine Moncherry Dance Hall – Gertrine; Mrs. Robuste Shop – Saltibus; Saltibus Combined School; Daban Shop; Saltibus Post Office; Piaye Secondary School

10. ELECTORAL DISTRICT – LABOURIE - J

Augier Combined School; Augier Sub Post Office; Petit Bough Area; Marius Garage – La Croix.; Laborie Health Centre – La Croix; Laborie Police Station ; Laborie Village Council ; Library; Laborie Boys' School - Citrus Grove; Edward Edmunds Shop – Jmd Bousquet Street; La Grace School; Banse Sub Post Office; Celsus Leonce; Banana Boxing Plant

11. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - VIEUX FORT - K

Town Hall; Vieux Fort Library; Vieux Fort Boys' School; Fishermen's Co-Operative Office; Vieux Fort Police Station; Sub Collector's Office; Parish Centre; Hewanorra Airport; Texaco Gas Station; Julian's Shopping Mall; Court's (St. Lucia) Ltd; J.Q. Supermarket; Mission School – La Ressource; Texaco Gas Station No.2

12. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - VIEUX FORT NORTH - L

Gillette Prince Dance Hall – Vige ; Eau Piquant ; Pierrot Sub Post Office ; Joseph Jn. Baptiste Dance Hall – Pierrot ; Belle Vue School ; Belle Vue Sub Post Office ; Moonie’s Rum Shop – Belle Vue ; Mrs. Frances King Shop – Grace ; Grace School; Grace Sub Post Office; Elizabeth Patrick Shop; Beausejour Agricultural Station; Vige’ Combined School

13. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - MICOUD SOUTH - M

Moreau Sub Office; Rhoda Bicar’s Shop – Dugard; Eugene Dolcy – Dugard; Ti Rocher School; Mrs. Cynthia Noel Shop – Ti Rocher; Mr. Everard Johnson’s Shop – Ti Rocher; Desruisseaux Sub Post; Desruisseaux Health Centre; Desruisseaux School; Desruisseaux Parish Hall; Blanchard School; Anse Ger Mothers And Fathers Hall; Gas Station, Desruisseaux

14. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - MICOUD NORTH - N

Praslin Community Centre; Mr. Nathaniel Joseph’s House – Praslin; Mon Repos School; Mon Repos Sub Post Office; Mon Repos Co-Operative Office; Mon Repos Health Centre; Mon Repos Gas Station; Mr. Hilary Charlery’s House – Patience; Patience Sub Post Office; La Pointe Combined School; Highway Gas Station; St. Joseph’s Society Hall – Micoud; Micoud Police Station; Mr. Maurice Dantes Rum Shop – Micoud; Micoud Health Centre; Micoud Sub Collectors Office; Micoud Community Centre; Mr. Lennie Henry’s Gas Station

15. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - DENNERY SOUTH - O

Julian’s Supermarket – Delaide ; Sugar Plum Disco – Delaide ; La Caye Police Station ; La Caye Housing Area ; Dennery Police Station ; Dennery Community Centre; Sub Collector’s Office; Dennery Infant School; Club Of Stars Disco – Dennery By Pass; By Pass Restaurant – Dennery; Gas Station – Dennery; Dennery Secondary School; Dennery Fire Station

16. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - DENNERY NORTH - P

Grande Riviere Sub Post Office; Grande Riviere School; Richfond Gas Station; Richfond Health Centre; Richfond School; Grande Ravine Disco; Felix’s Shop; Derniere Riviere School; Derniere Riviere Sub Post Office; George Jn. Baptiste Shop – Derniere Riviere; La Ressource School; La Ressource Health Centre; La Ressource School; La Ressource Health Centre; La Ressource Community Centre; Mr. Raphael Constantine’s Shop – Gadette; Au Leon Post Office; Despinoze School

17. ELECTORAL DISTRICT - CASTRIES SOUTH EAST - Q

Sir Arthur Lewis Community College – Morne Fortune; University Centre; Deglos – Boxing Plant; Mr. Delmar’s Dance Hall – Trois Piton; Forestiere School; Forestiere Boxing Plant; Far Horizon Disco – Forestiere; Mr. Roudolph Weeks Rum Shop – Marc;

Nicholas Thomas Shop – Bexon; Bexon Sub Post Office; Farmers And Farm Workers Union – Marc; L’abbayee Community Centre; Mr. George Robert Charles – Sarot; Bexon School; Bexon Health Centre; Bexon Parish Centre; Mr. Ghirawoo’s Shop – Odsan; Clement Lynch Hall; Gonzague Joseph Rum Shop – La Croix Maingot; Mr. Ignatius Darcie’s Rum Shop – Barre Denis; Mariana Charles; Odsan Combined School