

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****12th October 2008****“CaribDA announce plans for desalination conference in Trinidad in May 2010”****... The Caribbean Desalination Association held its 3rd Board Meeting in Jamaica last week....**

The Caribbean Desalination Association (CaribDA) Board of Directors held a Board Meeting in Montego Bay, Jamaica on Monday 6th October 2008. The CaribDA board announced that a regional desalination and water reuse conference will be held in Trinidad in May 2010.

Initial plans for the 2010 event were discussed by the board members last week and full support was pledged to make the event a success. Trinidad and Tobago is a particularly suitable choice for the event as it already operates the largest seawater RO desalination plant in the Caribbean region and is currently planning for the installation of a significant capacity of new reverse osmosis and wastewater treatment plants. The Water & Sewerage Authority (WASA) have agreed to host the the 2010 conference and the CaribDA planning committee will be headed by Mr Errol Grimes, WASA. **A first announcement and call for papers for the 2010 conference will be communicated in June 2009.**

The board members combined the Board Meeting with attendance and participation at the Caribbean Water & Wastewater Association (CWWA) 17th annual conference and exhibition at Rose Hall Resort, Montego Bay. Attendance at the CWWA conference gave CaribDA an opportunity to network with the CWWA executive and members of organisation .CWWA is a very important and influential regional organisation, focussing on wider issues relating to water and wastewater, with which CaribDA would like to work more closely with in the future.

Other issues discussed at the Board Meeting included plans for an e-newsletter and the forthcoming ‘RO and Pretreatment Technologies’ operator training course to be held in Curacao from 19th- 21st November 2008. This is intended to become an annual event. Ten further spaces have now been made available and the deadline extended to 31st October.

CaribDA thanks all for the tremendous support received to date and welcomes new members to help shape the future of the organization for the benefit of the entire Caribbean region!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- CaribDA was officially incorporated in Curacao on October 22nd 2007. CaribDA is an IDA Affiliate.
- CaribDA aims to **promote, support and inform on desalination technology and water re-use in the Caribbean**
- CaribDA Board Members for the period 2008- 2010 are: **Mr Humphrey Gouverneur (President), Mr Errol Grimes (Vice President), Mr Manuel Pereira (Treasurer), Mr Anders Hallsby (Secretary), Mr Paul Choules (Director) Mr Bill Conlon (Director), Ms Linda Dudley (Director), Mr Gerard Pereira (Director) and Mr Eric Saez (Director).**

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