



The

Consular Courier



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Minister Ken Baugh Congratulates Consular Corps Of Jamaica



Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Hon. Ken Baugh



From left; Mr. Robert Scott, Secretary, Ms. Indera Persaud, Treasurer, Minister Ken Baugh, Mr. Grantley Stephenson, Vice Dean, Hon. Arnold Foote OJ, Dean, Consular Corps of Jamaica

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Dr. Hon. Kenneth Baugh, in his keynote address at the monthly meeting of the Consular Corps of Jamaica, which was well attended by members of the Diplomatic Corps and Consular Corps, said;

It is my pleasure to be addressing this monthly meeting of the Consular Corps. Let me take this opportunity to formally congratulate Mr. Arnold Foote on his re-election to head this Corps. It is, indeed, quite an honour when your peers demonstrate such confidence in your leadership and are willing to endorse you for the seventh time. I note that you also continue in your post of President of the World Federation of Consuls.

I understand that the International Trade Expo was an anticipated event on the business calendar in Jamaica

during the years in which it was held. I am pleased that it will be returning and will be held from 9-10th October. This is quite a commendable project of the Consular Corps. I hope that you will once again be able to make it an annual event. I do not need to tell you how important it is that such events generate real interest in purchasing goods and services from Jamaica and actual investments which can generate employment.

I fully understand that Consuls are obligated to promote the interest of the countries which they represent. It cannot be denied that the Diplomatic and Consular Corps play a vital role in identifying, encouraging and safeguarding sound trade relations amongst nations. You are the eyes, ears and voices of the countries which you represent. Due to your strategic position as representatives of your respective

Governments within the Jamaican borders, you are best placed to play an integral part in building concrete relationships with private industry and as such continue to be an important link between Jamaica and the rest of the world. The Corps can help to identify those products that would be of interest to their consumers and facilitate the initial contacts that would foster trade.

Trade Expos must, indeed, be market places which facilitate exchange between those who buy and those who sell.

There is need for balance and exchange as we all need, in these difficult times, to be able to market our goods and services.

Jamaica's sustained growth and development are dependent on its ability to increase production, to expand exports in goods and services, and to create jobs. In this increasingly competitive

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global environment, it is difficult to attract investment and to market goods and services. It is for this reason that Jamaica will be placing greater emphasis on economic/commercial diplomacy to ensure that our target is fixed on gaining economic benefits for Jamaica through our interactions at the bilateral, regional and international levels. Our clear objective has to be to implement our National Development Plan – Vision 2030 Jamaica, and our National Export Strategy. To ensure that we have a firm foundation for trade, we are currently working on our National Aid for Trade Strategy with the IDB and will be starting work on revising our National Trade Policy with emphasis on ensuring that trade is an integral part of Jamaica's National Development Plan.

made to WTO Members to cooperate with and assist Jamaica in attaining its development goals. The Aid for Trade initiative, which was launched in the WTO in 2005 aimed at building trade capacity, is one means by which Jamaica's international partners can continue to assist the country's development.

However, the most tangible way in which the country can be assisted on the road to sustainable development is through the purchase of goods and services and through investments. Jamaica clearly has its part to play by ensuring that the environment for investment is created and that goods and services produced are at the highest international standards. Among other things, we are focusing on upgrading

interest in concluding the Round before the end of 2011 to take advantage of this window of opportunity. At the bilateral level, we are engaged in CARICOM's negotiations with Canada. We also continue with the work required to implement other trade agreements, including the CARIFORUM/EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), and, importantly work continues to implement the CSME.

These agreements provide opportunities for export and for investments and we aim to advance their implementation this year. Members of the Corps, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The work which the Consular Corps is undertaking to promote the re-development of Kingston is also a highly commendable initiative. Kingston was, for at least three centuries, the commercial centre of Jamaica. It was a centre of trade and finance and a significant tourist destination. I am convinced that Kingston, with its rich history, can be restored to hold this position again and become a vibrant capital city in the Caribbean. I am sure that once Digicel is established, other businesses will follow. The work on the churches will make a wonderful contribution. Already, the Holy Trinity Cathedral is a show piece and an example of what can be achieved in the collaboration which involved the diplomatic corps. The restoration of Kingston must involve the people living in downtown Kingston so that they can also benefit and take pride in the restoration and becoming guardians of the resources in their communities. Work is still in progress for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade to be relocated to downtown Kingston. I would also like to see the development of the National Heroes Park which would have both an economic, social and environmental impact on the area.

I want to encourage the Consular Corps in all your activities and to assure you of my continuing support. I am looking forward to attending the Trade Expo in October and I am sure that it will be a most successful event.



Chinese Ambassador, H.E. Chen Jinghua, in discussion with Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Kenneth Baugh, and Dean of the Consular Corps of Jamaica, Hon. Arnold Foote O.J.

I am very much aware that to compete in the domestic, regional and global markets, Jamaica still has a lot of work to complete to integrate fully into the international trading system and for the country to reap real benefits from international trade. In January of this year, I led a delegation to the WTO's Third Trade Policy Review of Jamaica in Geneva, Switzerland. A comprehensive report was prepared by the WTO Secretariat on the status of Jamaica's implementation of its trade obligations. This report clearly identified Jamaica's capacity constraints. I had the opportunity at the meeting to highlight the challenges faced by Jamaica; to outline the plans being implemented to address them; and the progress being made. At the same time, calls were

our Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary regime to attain the highest standards in food safety. Innovation and creativity also has to be encouraged to develop new ideas and new products which can make their mark in the market place. In this regard, our intellectual property framework is being strengthened so that we can fully reap the benefits.

Jamaica is continuing to participate in trade negotiations to ensure that we can secure our market access and place before our trading partners the need to take account of the real constraints faced by small, vulnerable and heavily indebted developing countries. In this regard, Jamaica continues to participate at the multilateral level in the WTO Doha Development Round negotiations in which there appears to be heightened

International Trade, the engine of economic growth – Arnold Foote



From left: Hon. Arnold Foote - Turkey, Dean of the Consular Corps, Mr. Tony Williamson - Uruguay, Mrs. Lois Sherwood - Lithuania, Dr. Hon. Kenneth Baugh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, H. E. Noel Martinez-Ochoa, Ambassador of Venezuela, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

Dean of the Consular Corps of Jamaica in his welcome and opening remarks at the Consular Corps of Jamaica's monthly meeting said;

Honourable Kenneth Baugh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Your Excellencies, Dean and members of the Diplomatic Corps, Colleague members of the Consular Corps of Jamaica, Distinguished members of the press, Distinguished ladies and gentlemen.

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome all of you to today's meeting of the Consular Corps of Jamaica at the start of the mandate of the newly elected Executive.

We are meeting at a time when significant changes are occurring across the globe, but in particular in the Middle East and North Africa. Though distant from these events, none of us is immune to their potential impact. It

is in times like these, when we cannot but focus on national and international challenges, that we must also take stock of how we serve in our own ways to bring the change for the better which we all desire.

As most of you would be aware, I have just returned from a tour of several countries in my role as President of the World Federation of Consuls. In each country where we met, the concern was the same; how do we best utilize our experience, our resources and networks, to foster development and contribute to peace and stability?

Mr. Minister, I believe that there is much more that the Honorary Consuls can do. Jamaica has an impressive network of Honorary Consuls across the globe, but I must confess that in my travels, I have become painfully aware

that many of them are not familiar with the realities of Jamaica. I have asked myself whether there are ways to get them more energized and more plugged into the development goals and objectives of our island.

One way which comes to mind, and which I am now proposing for discussion with the Directors of the Consular Corps of Jamaica, is to offer honorary membership in our Corps, to the network of Honorary Consuls of Jamaica overseas. In this way, we could link them with our programmes and seek their participation in boosting tourism, trade, investment and cultural exchanges, especially where Jamaica has no resident diplomatic mission.

We recognize that consular operations can no longer be confined to the issuance of travel documents and

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attention to the welfare of the nationals of the countries that we represent, as globalization has altered the framework of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Several countries worldwide are closing their Embassies for budgetary reasons, and are appointing Honorary Consuls to serve in countries in which they have business interests.

The role of the Honorary Consul must be expanded to encompass the full range of economic, political and diplomatic relations. This expanded role is particularly important for developing countries and small states which cannot afford global deployment of their foreign service.

A critically important component of the foundation of peace, democracy and development is economic growth. In today's world economy, which is being transformed by a comprehensive process of advanced globalization, international trade is the engine of economic growth, and has assumed an increasingly prominent role in State to State relations.

The development of trade is one of the main functions of the Consul, and is an integral part of the objectives of this administration of the Consular Corps of Jamaica.

The members of the Consular Corps of Jamaica are ideally suited to participate positively in trade promotion activity as its membership includes a very high proportion of Consuls with considerable business expertise. They can make an excellent contribution in developing trade between Jamaica and the countries that they have the honour to serve.

I am therefore very pleased to announce, that the Consular Corps of Jamaica's International Trade Expo will once again be held at the Pegasus Hotel on 9th and 10th October 2011. We shall be having a press conference on Expo 2011 next month, but it is very encouraging to note, that several countries have already booked and others have shown serious interest in participating.

The objectives of the International Trade Expo are;

1. To develop trade between the Sending and Receiving States
2. To be organized on an annual basis which will also assist in re-positioning Kingston as another tourist destination.
3. To project the countries that are members of the Diplomatic Corps
4. To project the countries that are members of the Consular Corps of Jamaica
5. To project the products manufactured for export by these countries
6. To project companies in these countries that would like to find joint venture partners in Jamaica in order to reach the USA, Caribbean and Latin American markets
7. To give resident and non-resident representatives of countries with diplomatic relations with Jamaica, the information necessary about Jamaica in order to encourage trade and increase trade with these countries
8. To create a better understanding of Jamaica with these countries
9. This Expo will bring together Jamaican businessmen and women and their counterparts from abroad. It is a match making exercise which will do well for all parties concerned.

This International Trade Expo, created in Jamaica, has been adopted successfully by several countries worldwide.

This Expo is unique, as it is the only Expo in the world where the Sending State trades directly with the Receiving State and at very low cost to the Embassies and Consulates.

I would like to pay special tribute to the members of the Diplomatic Corps who have constantly given us advice and guidance and have fully supported our successful International Trade Expos in the past. The Diplomatic Corps'

participation in our International Trade Expo is vital to its success.

I am very pleased to see so many Ambassadors here this evening and I would like to thank you all for your support.

We have a lot of other programmes lined up, including our International Cultural Gala 2011, which will be announced during our monthly meeting in April.

Hon. Minister, thank you very much for your continued support. Your assistance to us nationally and internationally is much appreciated.

Hon. Minister, on behalf of the Consular Corps of Jamaica, I want to congratulate you on your recent presentation of Jamaica's Trade Policy to the World Trade Organization. From all reports we have seen, including on the website of the WTO, it is very evident that you did Jamaica proud Minister. You frankly outlined the challenges which Jamaica faces as a small, highly indebted, middle income country, and presented the vision for its growth and development.

We therefore not only welcome you here today, but look forward to your address.

Thank you very much.



Diplomatic Week Reception - 2011



Hon. Ken Baugh looks on as the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, H. E. Noel Martinez-Ochoa, receives the FICAC Award of Excellence from Mr. Grantley Stephenson, Vice Dean of the Consular Corps of Jamaica (a member of FICAC-The World Federation of Consuls) for the excellent support given to the Consular Corps of Jamaica over the years.

Vice Dean Grantley Stephenson in his welcome address, said:

Dr. the Hon. Kenneth Baugh-Deputy Prime Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

*Excellencies of the Diplomatic Corps
Fellow Hon. Consuls*

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Dean of the Consular Corps of Jamaica, Mr. Arnold Foote, who is unavoidably absent due to prior commitments with the World Federation of Consuls, and members of the Corps, it is my honour and privilege to welcome you to our reception to mark Diplomatic Week.

We welcome in particular non-resident Ambassadors especially those visiting for the first time and it is our hope that you will have a very memorable visit.

As many of you would be aware, the Consular Corps had their AGM recently at which a new Board of Directors was elected comprising:

Arnold Foote-Dean, myself Grantley Stephenson-Vice Dean, Indera Persaud-Treasurer, Robert Scott-Secretary, Lois Sherwood-Director, Irena Cousins-Director, Josef Forstmayr-Director, Madai Hernandez-Director and Thalia Lyn Director.

Tonight is intended for you to relax as we are aware of your very tight schedule and therefore the formalities will be brief and therefore at this time I would like to invite the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Dr. the Hon Kenneth Baugh to say a few words.

Thank you Dr. Baugh

For the past several years, the Diplomatic Corps has collaborated very closely with the Consular Corps on the successful implementation of several programmes and in recognition of this collaboration, I would like to invite the Dean of the Diplomatic

Corps, H.E Noel Martinez-Ochoa to come forward and receive the Award of Excellence from the World Federation of Consuls, His Excellency.

The Jamaica Pegasus Hotel has for many years worked very closely with the Consular Corps in the staging of this and other events. The very sumptuous fare provided tonight as well as on previous occasions courtesy of the Hotel.

The Consular Corps therefore wishes not only to say thanks to the Hotel but we would like to show our appreciation and at this time I would like to invite Mr. Eldon Bremmer, General Manager of the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel to receive the Award of Excellency from the Consular Corps of Jamaica.

Thank you ladies and gentlemen, I promised that would be brief and I trust I did not disappoint.

Please continue to enjoy the rest of the evening.

NEWS IN PICTURES



Seen in a happy mood at the Diplomatic Week Reception from left; Mrs. Kenneth Baugh, DPM and Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Kenneth Baugh, Vice Dean of the Consular Corps, Mr. Grantley Stephenson, and Mexican Ambassador, H. E. Leonora Rueda.

From Left; Chinese Ambassador, H. E. Chen Jinghua, Mrs. Clelia Barreto de Hunter – Ecuador, Belgian Ambassador, H. E. Frederic Meurice. At podium, Minister Ken Baugh, Mr. Robert Scott – Latvia.



Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Ken Baugh, looks on as Ms. Nancy McClean, receives the Consular Corps Award of Excellence on behalf of Mr. Eldon Bremner, General Manager of the Pegasus Hotel, for the excellent support given to the Consular Corps of Jamaica over the years.

NEWS IN PICTURES



The United States Ambassador, H. E. Pamela Bridgewater, and her husband, Rev. A. Russell Awkard, being welcomed by Vice Dean of the Consular Corps of Jamaica, Grantley Stephenson, to the Consular Corps' Diplomatic Reception during Diplomatic Week, January 2011.



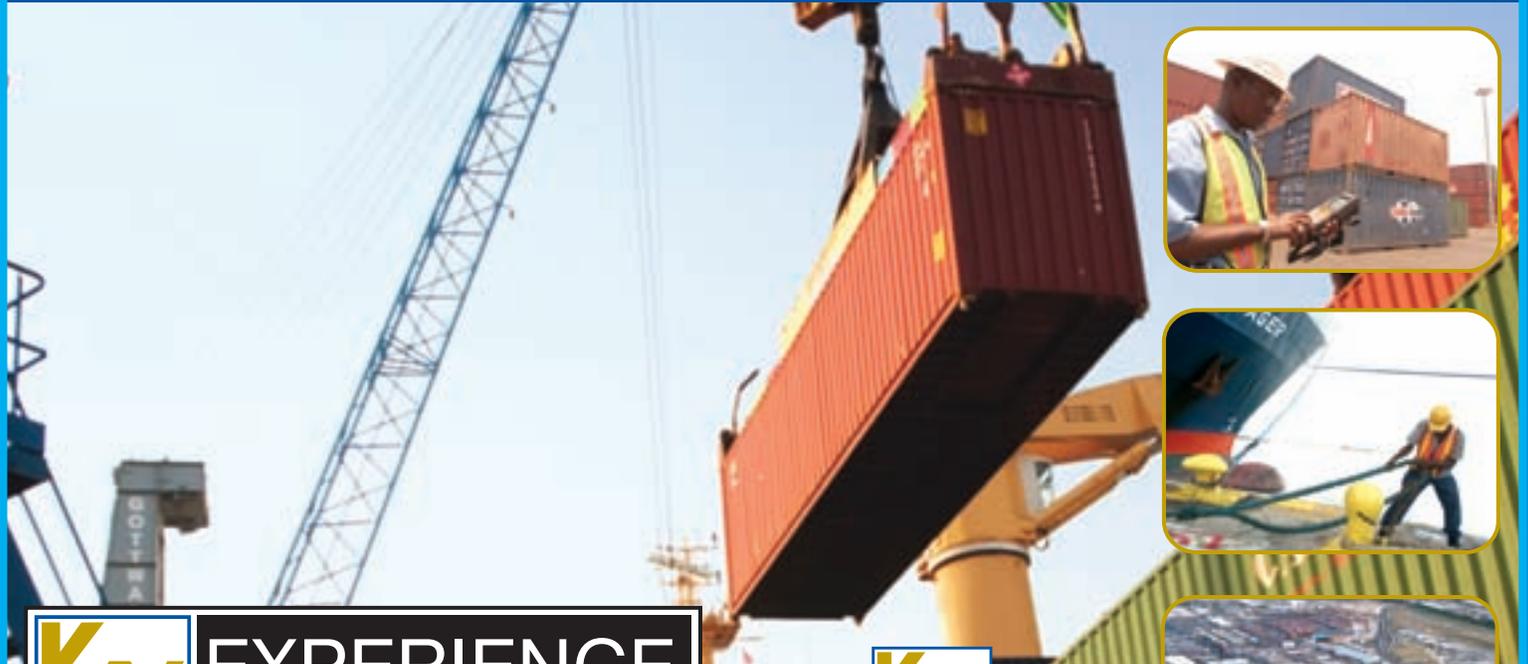
Seen at the Consular Corps' monthly general meeting from left; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Hon. Ken Baugh, Ambassador of Senegal, H. E. Nafissatou Diagne, H. E. Max Alce, Republic of Haiti.

NEWS IN PICTURES



The DPM and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Ken Baugh, in conversation with Mr. Grantley Stephenson, Vice Dean of the Consular Corps of Jamaica, at the Diplomatic Week Reception.

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