



## DHTA Fact Sheet 29 February 2008

All members are encouraged to indicate what they would like to see in upcoming Fact Sheets.

We try to have something which interests everyone! ☺

**Inside this Issue: NAYA's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting . Top 10 Eco Friendly Destinations . Living Dominica . Dominica has top scored in the Readers' Choice Awards of SCUBA DIVING . American Airlines Special Fares . Tourism minister wants LIAT to apologize to passengers for its tardy service . The Trouble With LIAT Is... . WTO to ratify ruling against EU banana imports . Worst is yet to come for U.S . Re-discover Caribbean Show . 10th annual Caribbean Conference on Sustainable Tourism Development**

## FAO Carib Agri

### PRESS RELEASE

The National Association of Youth in Agriculture (NAYA) Inc. held its fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 at the Portsmouth Youth Centre.

Out-going President, Mr. Malcolm Wallace, in his report highlighted the various successes and challenges of the organization during the 2007 year including the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Annual Secondary School Elocution/Public Speaking Competition, the Peace Gardens at the Castle Bruce Secondary School established on World Peace Day, the World Food Day Teachers Forum, among many others. Mr. Wallace also mentioned the setback to the many project activities caused by the passage of Hurricane Dean in September.

Feature Speaker and a former Public Relations Officer member of NAYA, Mr. Matthias Alexander encouraged members to embrace agriculture as an avenue for self development but in other to reap the benefits that we should keep focused, give time, energy and effort to themselves and the group. He also mentioned the need for NAYA to be more proactive in shaping youth policies that encourage youth participation in Agriculture and related fields. These sentiments were echoed as he delivered his remarks based on the theme for the AGM "Self Development through Involvement in Agriculture."

A new executive was voted in at the AGM, the following persons now comprise the Executive Committee of the Association:

Delroy Williams, President;  
Malcolm Wallace, Vice President;  
Mara Abraham, General Secretary;  
Aminah Mason, Treasurer;  
Candy Stoute, Asst. Sec/Treasurer;  
Bertilia Bethel-Victor, Public Relations Officer; and  
Mitch Jno. Charles and Aliana Talbert are Committee Members.

## Caribbean news Digital

### Two Caribbean Islands Crack the Top-10 List of Eco-friendly Destinations

Thursday, 10/01/2008

With more travelers expected to go green on their vacations next year, online travel community IgoUgo, owned by Travelocity, has come up with its top 10 eco-friendly destinations, which include locations in the Caribbean islands of St. Croix (USVI) and Dominica.

The list is based on recommendations from IgoUgo editors who reviewed the journals by some of its 350,000 members with comments by the travelers listed.

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## Living Dominica

### Will Dominica gain more than it loses from the installation of an oil refinery?

<http://livingdominica.blogspot.com/2007/04/betty-fingals-oil-refinery-discussion.html>

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## Discover Dominica Authority

For the umpteenth time, Dominica has (we have!) top scored in the **Readers' Choice** Awards of SCUBA DIVING Magazine. For 2008, **DOMINICA** has been awarded the Gold Medal as **First Place for Macro Life**. The island was also rated among the **Top Ten** for

- Top Dive Destinations
- Top Marine Life
- Top Healthiest Marine Environment
- Top Underwater Photography

**BEAU RIVE** boutique hotel in Castle Bruce has also gained recognition as one of the **Top Ten Best Bargains Latin America/Caribbean**, in the **TRIP ADVISOR Travellers' Choice Awards 2008**

We congratulate and ask you to join in recognising the members of the Dominica Watersports Association, and the relevant individuals and agencies, for their dedication to preserving the integrity of our underwater treasures, and Mark Steele and the Staff at Beau Rive for providing excellent value for money and client reviews. Last but not least, congratulate yourselves and the people around you, as one person's victory is also the victory of the Dominican community as a whole.

## CONGRATS!

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[American Airlines](#) is offering reduced rate travel for members and industry partners of the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO).

### American Airlines Special Fares

#### 1. TRAVEL AGENT FAM TRIPS

This program will offer any valid IATAN travel agent based in the Continental USA and Canada an opportunity to visit all of the Caribbean destinations served by American

Airlines or American Eagle, which includes Belize and Bermuda, during the months of May/June/September/October 2008, at a fare of \$149 per person plus applicable tax and security charges. The Star File is CARIB FAM 08. The reservation number to call for this Star File is 1-866-269-5008.

## 2. PRESS/TRAVEL WRITER TRIPS

Media fares are offered for journalists traveling to CTO member destinations and are willing to mention American Airlines in their stories. The names of the journalists and the publications they write for, as well as what they are covering, must be provided for review by American Airlines.

Please send requests for Media travel to: [Elena.fletes@aa.com](mailto:Elena.fletes@aa.com).

## 3. GOVERNMENT/HOTELIER and MEMBERS OF CTO CHAPTERS

The Star File to be used is CRB SPECIAL EVENTS. Reference to this Star File will allow travel TO and FROM the Continental USA and Canada and the Caribbean; and also travel WITHIN the Caribbean, by CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENT TOURISM PERSONNEL, AUTHORIZED HOTELIERS and MEMBERS OF CTO CHAPTERS. The telephone number to call is 1-866-269-5008.

American Airlines will offer the lowest published fares waiving advance purchase, MIN/MAX stay, season, weekday. The American Airlines Marketing office in Miami will check for the lowest fare and book in the applicable inventory.

If you have any queries you can contact me or the CTO office in NewYork- Ronald Allen, Marketing Officer  
Caribbean Tourism Organization, 212-635-9530 x219

Marvlyn James  
[Head of Marketing](#)  
[Discover Dominica Authority](#)

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## E Turbo News

### Tourism minister wants LIAT to apologize to passengers for its tardy service

BY LINDA STRAKER, ETN GRENADA | JAN 06, 2008

Grenadian Tourism Minister Clarice Modeste-Curwen has said LIAT is abusing its monopoly power and wants the airline to apologise to all passengers who have suffered from its insufficiencies.

"We have suffered from LIAT in 2007 since it became a monopoly and for this New Year, we again have begin to suffer, we have reverted to the days before we had an international airport, the suffering is untenable," she said, while calling for the airline to issue an apology to Grenada and Caribbean destinations which benefits from the airline services. "A monopoly does not give anyone the right to abuse its people."

The Minister said that Grenada has suffered from a scarcity of airlift and Government is presently negotiating with other airlines to... Full story [here](#)

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## E Turbo News

### **The Trouble With LIAT Is... Grenada's prime minister expresses his concern over LIAT**

BY LINDA STRAKER | JAN 14, 2008

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (eTN) - Prime Minister Keith Mitchell told LIAT's CEO on Thursday that he is committed to the success and survival of the airline but had serious concerns about the way the service is being operated.

During a meeting at his office in Grenada, Prime Minister Mitchell told LIAT CEO Mark Darby that the current monopoly arrangement which LIAT enjoys was not necessarily working in the best interest of the traveling public.

According to a statement from the prime minister's office, Mitchell identified the unavailability of flights, the unreliability of services and the sharp increase in fares as the main problems passengers were facing. He told the CEO of LIAT that ... Full story [here](#)

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## Caribbean Net News

### **WTO to ratify ruling against EU banana imports**

By Jennifer M. Freedman|Published on Tuesday, December 11, 2007

GENEVA, Switzerland (Bloomberg): The European Union may face sanctions over its banana import policies after the World Trade Organization (WTO) ratifies a ruling that the EU has been violating global trade rules, according to two people who have seen the decision.

The ruling on Monday by a WTO compliance panel backs the findings of an interim report released last month based on a complaint by Ecuador, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the decision is still confidential.

The WTO compliance panel took a "purely formalistic approach," said Michael Mann, a spokesman for the European Commission, the EU's trade authority in Brussels, in a statement. "It is through negotiations, not litigation...[Full Story](#)

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# E-Turbo News

## Economy

### Worst is yet to come for US

#### 2008 is bumpy for US hotel business

BY HAZEL HEYER

Los Angeles, California (eTN) - At the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS) held last week in L.A., top hotel experts forecast industry meltdown in the days of the current, or impending recession. Main implications for 2008 show occupancy rates; average rates and revenues softening moderately in the US, according to the Oxford Economics. The outlook for hotel investment transactions in the United States may not look bright, but Full story [here](#)

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## Notices

### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual

#### re-DISCOVER the Caribbean Show

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL - 2008

Sherbourne Conference Centre – **BARBADOS**

Should you have **any** further questions, please contact

[re-discover@caribsurf.com](mailto:re-discover@caribsurf.com)

or telephone (246) 428 2129.

Adrian Loveridge

Co-ordinator

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10th annual Caribbean Conference on Sustainable Tourism Development (STC-10), April 28 to May 1, 2008.

The Headquarters Hotel will be Beaches Turks & Caicos Resort & Spa

#### Trade 2008 Show Dates:

Adventures in Travel Expo--WASHINGTON D.C.

March 29-30 + Washington Convention Center

For more information, Click Here

Call: 203-878-2577 x100

Email: [sales@adventureexpo.com](mailto:sales@adventureexpo.com)

Web: [www.adventureexpo.com](http://www.adventureexpo.com)

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## Links of Interest:

- [Reunion 2008](#)
- [Dominica in the Sunday Times](#)
- [Dominica's Botanic Garden](#)
- [Leader says Nicaragua, Bolivia, Cuba and Dominica should create one united force](#)
- [Geothermal development drilling begins on Nevis](#)
- [Dominica football body upset with FIFA's Warner](#)

- [Climate Change And Tourism Responding To Global Challenges](#)
- [Dominica Water Sports Association to Host Dive Fest](#)
- [Silks in the Guardian](#)
- [Dominica's Carbon Monitoring](#)
- [Worrying signals in Caricom](#)
- [Dominica tops for Sustainability](#)
- [Trends in European Internet distribution of travel and tourism services](#)

**Members are also reminded to keep visiting the DHTA's website for updated information**  
**[www.dhta.org](http://www.dhta.org)**