# Reporter

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## Unacceptable, Unfair!!

PSU says doubling of CEO's Entertainment Allowance is 'Insulting'

#### CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM

MY REF: CS/GEN/48/2022 (29)

TO:

FROM: Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister

All Chief Executive Officers

SUBJECT: VARIATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

DATE: 8th September 2022

Approval is hereby granted to vary the employment contracts of Chief Executive Officers at Clause 12 (b)— Other Allowance (Living and Entertainment Allowance) from Seven Hundred & Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) monthly to One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1500.00) monthly with effect from 1st July 2022

I look forward to your full cooperation in this regard.

H.E. STUART LESLIE CABINET SECETARY

Ce: Financial Secretary . Coordinator, HRMIS



By Michelle Sutherland

Itseems that a leaked Memo originating from Cabinet Secretary Stuart Leslie, informing

that CEO's Living and Entertainment Allowance have been doubled from \$750 to \$1500 might be the Proverbial Straw that will break the Public Service Union (PSU)'s back as they are now demanding the immediate unseizing and return of members increment.

Late on Thursday evening, President of the PSU Dean Flowers hosted a Zoom conference with the media in which he indicated that the announcement that CEO's entertainment allowance has been doubled, while Public Officers continue to have their increment frozen, is insulting, unacceptable and a downright slap in the face for hard-working

**Pg. 2** 

## Past and Present Foreign Ministers: Referendum on Pact of Bogotá not needed





### KHMH staff: Working conditions the worst ever

Tensions ran high at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital (KHMH), with the hospital's Workers Union saying that working conditions within the hospital are so bad, they are contemplating industrial action.

The KHMH Workers'

Pg. 4



## National Kriol Council invited to Constitution Commission

By Michelle Sutherland

The the National Kriol Council has finally been given a formal invitation to sit on the People's Constitution Commission (PCC), and similar to the Young Leaders Alliance of Belize (YLAB), are waiting for it to become official by way of

regulation.

On Thursday, Interim President of the National Kriol Council Marilyn Garvin confirmed that the reports of being added to the PCC are in fact true and that the group has received their official invitation on Tuesday, October 25th,

Pg. 2





furmurs of a resurrected claim from the Republic of Honduras to the ■ Sapodila Cayes in southern Belize arise from the false idea that the southernmost islands of the Sapodilla range are closer to the coast of Honduras than they are to the coast of Belize.

A look at any map will show the southernmost islands of the Sapodilla Range as being almost equi-distant from the northern coast of Honduras and the east coast of Belize.

If ownership were to be determined by nearness to the mainland, maybe Honduras would have a chance at claiming one or two from this archipelago of some 20 tiny islands. But proximity is not the only criterion used to determine ownership. There are many ICJ rulings which illustrate the principle of the law.

History and tradition play an essential role, and Honduras has never exercised any ownership or influence over any of these islands.

They have always been a part of British Honduras, now the independent Nation of

This newspaper recalls that once, when a sitting President of Honduras paid an official visit to Belize during the early years of Prime Minister Said Musa's government, The Reporter asked the President about his country's claim.

He replied that Honduras was and has always been respectful of every country's sovereignty, but that there were elements in his country's Congress which had raised the prospect of a claim.

The recent murmurs appear to be more of

They do not appear to be anything official coming from the Government of President Xiomara Castro. But Belize is right in taking them seriously.

Belize does not have a boundary treaty with Honduras as we do with Guatemala, though our two countries have always been friendly. But in today's age of machismo, where the Russian Federation is waging a war over the sovereign territory of Ukraine, and China is threatening to take Taiwan by force, and Russia is claiming Alaska as her own, more and more adventurism is to be expected.

But let's not blow this thing out of proportion. We don't need to go into crisis mode to deal

with this new hiccup.

We believe that the Briceño government is on the right track in wanting to squelch these murmurs by taking the matter for the International Court of Justice. There may be more than one way to do this, but the simpler route appears to be as a member of the Bogotá Pact.

The Bogotá Pact is a 1948 treaty in which the countries of Central and South America pledge to settle all disputes by peaceful means. Both Guatemala and Honduras are subscribers to this pact, along with the United States and 18 other countries of Central and South America.

Since Belize is not a member of the Bogotá Pact, we will need to apply for membership. If Belize is admitted, we would find it easier to deal with this re-emerging claim by Honduras.

If the claim to the Sapodillas can be disposed of as a side issue attached to the substantive dispute with Guatemala, it would be a path worth exploring. It would perhaps delay our ICJ case which is already well advanced. But this is a delay that we in Belize can live with.

If we can kill two birds with one stone, that's the thing to do!

## Unacceptable, Unfair!!

Cont'd from pg. 1

public officers across the country.

"It is unacceptable that we are being used as the sacrificial lamb so that others can continue to live good. We are putting together a plan of action and we will be meeting with our membership to get their response. We will be demanding that our increment be unfrozen and so let this be a warning to the Government and a call to public officers that we will be coming to you as members and to the Government that we will be coming to you to get back what is ours. It is unfair that we will continue to be used this way. For us, at the PSU, we have had enough and we must make a stand," warned Flowers.

As the bargaining agent for over 15,000 public officers,

Flowers said that the PSU is upset at the economic injustice that is being displayed against its members so that "political appointees" of the government can continue to live lavishly. Flowers pointed out that the additional \$750 dollars in entertainment allowance for CEO's is separate from all the other allowances such as telephone, and vehicle allowance as well as thousands of dollars in other allowances that they are privy to on a monthly basis.

Flowers reiterated that none of the current CEOs had made any sacrifice under the austerity measures that were introduced under the Barrow Administration since they had not been elected into office. That agreement under the Barrow administration, according to Flowers, which was made in April 2020 included that public officers would sacrifice their increment, while contract officers would take a 10% cut on their contract and CEO's a 50% slash on their housing and entertainment allowance. This was all done as part of the austerity measures at the time in an effort to allow the government some form of financial space while they were rebounding from the effects of the pandemic.

"When the Briceño Administration took office in November 2020, the austerity measures were extended... they strong armed 10% from public officers without their consent, and in July 2022, the GOB returned the 10% that they had taken by force. Please bear in mind that when the new set of CEOs took office in November 2020, none of them took any pay cut, so none of them made any sacrifice to the economic recovery of this country. In fact, in 2021, we learned that they would not be suffering a pay cut, or any form of economic cuts because they were classified as the 'special animals' in this animal farm. If it is that CEOs can get back what was never taken from them, then the PSU can demand the immediate unseizing of our increment," argued Flowers.

The circular dated September 8th, with a retroactive effect dating back to July 1st, 2020, was sent by the Cabinet Secretary out of the Office of the Prime Minister. On Thursday, via a call to KREM WUB Morning Vibes Show, Flowers said that the reason cited for the increase was in an effort to assist CEOs to cope with the current

## National Kriol Council invited to Constitution Commission

Cont'd from pg. 1

for them to attend the PCC's official launch, scheduled for November 14th, 2022.

Gavin told The Reporter, "Despite the mishaps along the way the Council's main concern now is to fairly represent our people. The Kriol people have a long history of working and fighting for their voices to be heard, therefore, it's only fair that they are getting that opportunity through the council and through this process."

Gavin reiterated that the Council's main focus is simple. It includes assisting in the development and creation of economic opportunity and empowerment, and ensuring the continued cultural safeguarding and retention of the Kriol culture through all means possible.

Another group that is excited about being given a seat on the PCC is the Young Leaders Alliance of Belize (YLAB) which has a

representation of over 300 youths from across the Country. YLAB's founder, Berisford Codd, also confirmed with our newsroom that they had gotten their invitation on October 18th and that their two representatives are eagerly awaiting the upcoming launch.

Codd told us that YLAB had made every effort possible to ensure their inclusion in the process by attending the House Committee meeting when the Bill was read for the first time, in an effort to make a case for inclusion, and even attended a followup meeting with the Good Governance Unit.

"Inclusion in the committee for me and my organization means that Youth, as a constituent body, will have a voice throughout the process of changing our Constitution for the better. We will have a rallying call to youth around the country to be involved in the democratic process between election cycles, oftentimes cited as a major critique of

Belizeans in general with respect to politics. This, however, must not be taken as the end of the process, but it must be a call to our youth that the work has just begun and that we must continue to come to the table as development partners in our nation's social and political economy. In doing so, we must be ready to table our researched proposals that will add to the vibrancy of processes

that we are a part of," explained Codd.

The Kriol Council made headlines a couple of weeks ago after they had publicly revealed that they were being denied a place on the PCC, despite their efforts to be included. The council had argued that it was of great importance that persons who identified themselves as Kriols living in Belize be included in such an important process.

#### THE REPORTER

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Page 3

## Past and Present Foreign Ministers: Referendum on Pact of Bogotá not needed

By Michelle Sutherland

The Opposition has called for a referendum on the Pact of Bogotá given its link to the Belize-Guatemala Dispute, but both former and current Foreign Affairs Ministers say a referendum is unnecessary.

Former Attorney General and Foreign Affairs Minister Wilfred "Sedi" Elrington told *The* Reporter Thursday that the Pact of Bogotá (officially, the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement) is simply a multilateral compact among countries in the Americas that is aimed at "pacifically" settling disputes among signatories. Elrington opined that such a function is consistent with what the Belizean people already approved in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) referendum, held in

Current Foreign Affairs Minister Hon. Eamon Courtenay explained that 2019 referendum charged the Government of Belize with the duty of bringing the BelizeGuatemala claim to an end, and the ratification of the Pact of Bogotá is merely a step in the execution of that overall mandate.

Courtenay, speaking it the Senate on Monday, said:

"Since 1982, Honduras has included a claim to the Sapodilla Cayes in its Constitution. We do believe that the Honduran claim is credible. Because both Belize and Guatemala claim the Sapodillas in our ICJ case, [and] which said cayes are claimed by Honduras in its Constitution, it is our understanding that Honduras will feel obliged to intervene in the Belize-Guatemala case now before the ICJ to assert its claim."

advice, Courtenay explained the government of Belize had engaged in negotiations with the Honduran government to settle the claim. "Regrettably, [the negotiations] have not been successful," Courtenay lamented. "If, as we believe is likely, Honduras applies to intervene

Governed by legal

the Court, it is likely to affect the Belize Guatemala case."

He also explained that once the ICJ becomes aware of Honduras' position, there is the strong possibility that "the Court will not delimit the maritime areas that appertain to the Sapodillas. Therefore, leaving unresolved a large part of our Maritime entitlement."

Maritime entitlement."
The Foreign Minister would go on to explain that such an occurrence could even hinder the Court's judgment between Belize and Guatemala. "Indeed, the ICJ may decide not to pronounce on sovereignty over the sapodillas as well as even as between Belize and Guatemala," said Courtenay.

It is the concern about the Court not pronouncing on this aspect of the Belize-Guatemala case that leads both former Foreign Minister Elrington and present Foreign Minister Courtenay to share the view that the signing onto the Pact of Bogotá is consistent with the mandate the Government of Belize received from the

Belizean people via the 2019 Referendum.

Readers may recall that the Referendum question was as follows:

"Do you agree that any legal claim of Guatemala against Belize relating to land and insular territories and to any maritime areas pertaining to these territories should be submitted to the International Court of Justice for final settlement and that it determine finally the boundaries of the respective territories and areas of the Parties?"

For his part, Elrington opined that it makes perfect sense to do all that is necessary—including signing onto the Pact of Bogotá—to ensure that the mandate to settle "any legal claim of Guatemala ... relating to ... insular territories" is fulfilled by the Government of Belize. In his view, this Pact is just another step in protecting Belize's insular interests, as the Sapodillas constitute a range of islands found in the southernmost tip of Belize's Barrier

While the Special Agreement between Belize and Guatemala is undoubtedly of a narrower, bilateral scope than the multilateral nature of the Pact of Bogotá, both instruments share in a single, core objective: That is, to provide a framework for peaceful settlements of disputes.

The Opposition's

#### Call for Referendum

Unlike the two foreign ministers, the United Democratic Party (UDP)'s official position is that the ratification of the Pact of Bogotá should have first gone to referendum.

"Thirteen unelected [Senators] cannot decide for four hundred thousand Belizeans whether or not we go the International Courts of Justice (ICJ) to settle a claim on our territory by a foreign country," the UDP declared via a press release issued after Monday's Senate meeting.

The UDP also went on to not only condemn the PUP but also the social partner senators for what they claim is "usurping Belizean rights to self-determination," and turning their backs on democracy by voting to go to the ICJ to settle a "dormant Honduran claim without any attempt to consult the Belizean people."

The UDP press release also stated, "Appointed parliamentarians have no moral authority to scoff at the Opposition's call for public consultation and referendum on a matter that will put Belize's territory on the line. ... The UDP's position on the Pact [of] Bogotá is that it must be taken to the Belizean people to decide in a referendum."

Peyrefitte also accused the social partner Senators of having had foreknowledge of the motion, which he says he was only made aware of Monday morning before the Senate meeting.

"The way the social partners responded in the senate...was

extremely shameful," he opined. "They clearly knew that that matter was coming to the senate before 8:20 Monday morning. They clearly had a discussion and they knew that that matter was coming and they had time to prepare their responses that seem to be very similar to me."

What is the Pact of Bogotá?

Officially known as the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement, the Pact of Bogotá was signed in April 1948.

The multilateral treaty mandates signatories to pursue "peaceful" means of settling disputes, with first preference being placed on exhausting regional dispute-settlement mechanisms before escalating matters to United Nations bodies.

Article 32 of the Pact of Bogotá states:

"When conciliation procedure previously established in the present treaty or by agreement of the parties does not lead to a solution, and the said parties have not agreed upon an arbitral procedure, either of them shall be entitled to have recourse to the International Court of Justice."

The Pact also states in Article 31:

"The High Contracting Parties declare that they recognize, in relation to any other American State, the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory ipso facto, without the necessity of any special agreement so long as the present Treaty is in force, in all disputes of a juridical nature that arise among them concerning. any question of international law."

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<u>FOR RENT:</u> TWO-person apartment - located at the corner West and Allenby Streets, southside Belize City. Single bedroom, spacious living room and kitchen. Secure with concrete walls and floor. Hot and cold water & Internet. Electricity and water are separate. Kitchen sink installed. \$400.00 a month with payment in advance. Call 672-4454 or 227-2503 for more details or for viewing opportunity.

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<u>VACANCY:</u> Vacancies exists for Warehouse Assistant at Cosmetic Corner. And for a Female Cook (Indian Cuisine) for staff. Please Call: 227-0145.

<u>NOTICE:</u> Be it known that **PROLAT TRADING COMPANY S.A.**, a Belize International Business Company, is in dissolution, effective **6 October 2022**. The liquidator for said Company is **Ricardo Enrique Zubieta Arias**, **Panama City**, **Panama**.

**Global Formations and Management Ltd.** 

<u>NOTICE:</u> Be it known that **LATINAMERICAN SUPPLIERS CORP.**, a Belize International Business Company, is in dissolution, effective **6 October 2022**. The liquidator for said Company is **Ricardo Enrique Zubieta Arias**, **Panama City**, **Panama**.

 ${\bf Global\ Formations\ and\ Management\ Ltd.}$ 

### **Notice of Dissolution**

Notice is hereby given that **SONRIDGE HOLDINGS LIMITED** has been dissolved and struck off the International Business Companies Register with effect from **25th October**, **2022**.

Interconsult Belize Limited
Registered Agent

## Taiwan to expand economic relations with Belize

By: Lisbeth Ayuso



Vice Minister Alexander Tah-Ray Yui

The island of San Pedro will soon benefit from a new hospital, confirmed Alexander Tah-Ray Yui, the vice minister of Foreign Affairs, to a group of 25 journalists in Taipei, Taiwan last week.

Belize was represented in the group and when asked about future projects between both countries, Vice Minister Yui stated that the Economic Cooperation Agreement (ECA) which was signed by both countries in September of 2020 had finally seen its way through congress in October, paving the way for mutual exports and a state-of-the-art hospital facility in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye.

The new hospital will be fully funded by Taiwan, via a US\$16.8 million grant. The hospital will be a 45-bed, 28,000 square foot facility, providing primary and secondary care services. Yui explained that medical and construction supervisory expertise would be provided by Taiwan, but that construction would be carried out by Belizean companies.

In July, a Taiwanese commerce delegation visited Belize to open discussions and outline trade parameters for Belizean products to enter the Taiwanese market. High on their interest list were sugar and seafood. Discussions outlined market demand quantities and quality and transport

regulations. Currently most of Taiwan's seafood is sourced from Caribbean countries, and Belize now has the opportunity to expand its market. According to Vice Minister Yui, all products entering Taiwan under the current ECA, will enjoy tax free status and preferential treatment.

The original ECA signed in 2020 listed beef, pork, chicken, lobster, juices, and sugar as items of interest. In return, the ECA grants preferential tariffs for Taiwan's products to Belize, such as flat-rolled steels, brakes and cycle parts, and tools like screwdrivers, pliers, and wrenches.

The agreement also provides financial and technical assistance from Taiwan to Belize to develop institutional and technical capacities involved in the trade. These areas will include plant and animal health standards and technical regulations.

Belize is among a handful of Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries that enjoy diplomatic relations with Taiwan which China regards as a renegade province and who has urged countries to adopt the One China policy.

Belize established and maintained diplomatic relations with Taiwan since 1989.

## KHMH staff: Working conditions the worst ever

Cont'd from pg. 1

Union ("the Union") held a press conference on Wednesday, which the union's executive described as a "cry for help," as they outlined a number of issues including the fact that basic supplies and equipment that are essential for the delivery of patient care are not available.

Staff members, according to the Union, have been forced to pay for items such as gloves and surgical tape out of pocket to do their jobs. They also listed several other challenges, which include the lack of hazard allowance for medical staff, and the matter of the non-functional CT scanner that has been out of commission for approximately a decade. The union also raised concerns regarding the income tax being levied on severance pay for those leaving the KHMH, the lack of a pension for hospital staff, and the leaks in the hospital roof which they say have reached a critical point and could collapse on a patient at any time.

The Union's President Andrew Baird gave a specific example of the equipment used to resuscitate patients, explaining that the bags used in the procedure come in sizes for babies, older children, and adults, but the availability of the supplies has reached the point where staff had to use a child's bag in an attempt to resuscitate an adult. Baird said that the



KHMH CEO Chandra Cansino

situation has frustrated staff members to the point where the hospital has seen mass resignations over the past year.

"Iknow staff[members] that have been working at the KHMHM before it became what it is today, and they all say that this is the worst the KHMH has ever been," Baird said.

Baird explained that the Union had reached out to Minister of Health and Wellness Kevin Bernard asking for a meeting to discuss pertinent issues, but on two occasions the meetings were postponed, moving from early September to mid-November.

"But by the time the minister comes back from wherever he goes, Karl Heusner will fall," Baird added.

In response to the union's press conference, CEO of the KHMH Chandra Cansino held a briefing of her own shortly after. Cansino made it clear that the hospital's management does not want to fight with the union and noted that some of the union's concerns were, in fact, outside of

the management's control.

"We are here to work with the union. We do not want them as an adversary; we want them as a partner," Cansino said. "Yes we were caught blindsided by the actions and that's regretful but that does not mean we are in any way pursuing an adversarial relationship with the union because we need them and they need us."

Cansino said that as it pertains to the issue of supplies, the hospital authority is working with the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOHW) to get the essentials; however, quantities and consistency of supply are a recurring concern due to a number of factors including global shortages stemming by the COVID-19 pandemic, increases in freight cost, a number of items on the tender list for the MOHW being unavailable, and an inability of the hospital authority to purchase supplies on its own due to a lack of funds.

Cansino said that the collections department of the KHMH is offering incentives for people to pay their arrears and

receive a discount, and also noted that staff members who have spent their own money on supplies can discuss reimbursement with the hospital authority. Cansino did note, however, that with regard to tax deductions on severance pay, a legislative change would be required as such payments are taxable and the KHMH is required by law, to make such deductions. She also contended that the hospital roof, despite the leaks, is not at a point where patients are in any imminent danger.

Minister of Health and Wellness Kevin Bernard has since commented on the issue saying that some of the Union's concerns need to be addressed by the Ministry of Finance. With respect to the availability of supplies, Bernard said that some of the frustrations are with the tender system, a process that the ministry inherited from the previous administration.

"Tenders were submitted and then after its lengthy process and signing in late August suppliers then have another three months to start to ensure that deliveries are made. Now was that the process that we implemented? No, that's a process that I found that was already in the pipeline. What has happened is that this has happened even before my time and even before my predecessor's time there had been challenges with the whole tender process," Bernard said.

Bernard maintains that the Ministry is doing its best not only to address the issues but to refine the tender process to ensure more timely delivery of supplies.

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## National One Health platform launched

By William Ysaguirre

he health of hu-■ mans, agriculture and the environment are inextricably linked and depend on each other, a correlation acknowledged by the National "One Health" online platform for Belize, which the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) launched at the Best Western Biltmore Plaza Hotel in Belize City on Wednesday morning, October 26.

The Ministries of Health and Wellness, Agriculture and Food Security, Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management have partnered with PAHO/WHO in this initiative to fight the spread of disease across international borders, for which pathogens have achieved greater mobility through insect vectors that have extended their



Min. Hon. Kevin Bernard (center left) and Min. Hon. Jose Mai (center right) sign agrement with PAHO and BAHA.

range as a result of Climate Change.

Health Minister Hon. Kevin Bernard and Agriculture Minister Hon. Jose Abelardo Mai signed a partnership agreement with PAHO Belize representative Dr Noreen Jack and Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA)'s Managing Director Francisco Gutierrez to work together.

The need for cross agency cooperation was highlighted by recent concerns regarding avian influenza that can affect poultry farms.

The greatest concern for researchers like Rebecca Poulson of the University of Georgia, virologist Luis Moncla of the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia and wildlife geneticist

Andy Ramey of the U.S. Geological Survey Alaska Science Center in Anchorage is that the HPAI strain of the virus has been detected even in mammals such as seals, bobcats and skunks, though it has not yet been shown that one mammal can infect another.

As happened with the COVID-19 virus, where repeated reproduction led to new mutations of more virulent strains, the virus could conceivably mutate into a strain that may infect humans. Cases of avian flu affecting humans have been rare, even in Europe where frequent outbreaks have increased the chance for humans to be infected, and researchers hope the virus will not evolve into a strain that can infect humans, but Poulson says, "We don't know."

Warmer temperatures and climate change have presented a host of new health challenges for Belizeans, explained senior climatologist Shanea Young of the National Meteorological Service. Heat stress can pose problems for patients with heart disease. Extreme weather events can disrupt food and water supplies, leading to malnutrition, diarrhoea, and poor water quality which can cause cholera, leptospirosis and algal blooms. Environmental degradation has also forced people in other lands to migrate and become climate refugees, driving them into conflict with the people in the new lands where they sought refuge.

The combination of rainfall and warmth can lead to a proliferation of anopheles and aedes aegypti mosquitoes, which carry malaria, dengue, chikungunya, Zika which can cause encephalitis in fetuses and

West Nile virus, as well ticks which can spread Lyme disease. The Belize Vector Ecology Center is tracking all such vectors with geographic mapping, explained BVEC manager Alvaro Cruz.

Climate change has also impacted agricultural health, giving rise to more insect pests which damage crops, while BAHA seeks to control the use of pesticides to avoid the mutation of insects which are resistant to pesticides. In the same way, the Ministry of Health must control the use of antibiotics, to avoid the mutation of new strains of disease which are resistant to all antibiotics.

The last 100 years has seen the rise of several new zoonotic diseases which can spread from animals to humans, eg. SARS, COVID-19, Ebola, avian influenza, that require a cross-agency cooperation and a sharing of information which the One Health platform will make easier to do, explained public health inspector John Bodden.

## NOTICE OF COMMENCED DISSOLUTION ZORG INVESTMENTS LIMITED

("the Company")

"Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that **ZORG INVESTMENTS LIMITED**; A Company incorporated under the IBC Act of Belize commenced dissolution on **October 17th**, **2022**.

Vadym Mykolaienko of Sergiya Shishka Street. Bld.33, Nosivka City, 17100 Ukraine, is the liquidator of the company.

Frontier International Business Services Limited Registered Agent

## 2htl

## BTL SHAREHOLDERS' DIVIDEND NOTICE

Shareholders are advised that on 25th October 2022 BTL will begin to pay final dividends for the fiscal period ended 31st March 2022.

During the period 25th October 2022 to 11th November 2022, Dividend cheques for Belize District mailing addresses will be available for pick up at our BTL Headquarters at #1 St. Thomas Street and cheques with district mailing addresses will be available for pick up at the respective BTL district offices countrywide. Dividend cheques will be issued between the hours of 8:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

All cheques not picked up by Shareholders by 11th November 2022 will be distributed via registered mail on 23rd November 2022 to the mailing addresses on record. Dividend payments to be made via bank deposits will be disbursed directly to Shareholder accounts on 25th October 2022.

Please contact us for any queries at telephone number 223-8112 or via email at accounts@livedigi.com



## Caribbean spotlighting region's number one cause of death

By Britney Gordon

Taking a stand, the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) held the first-ever annual Caribbean Noncommunicable Disease (NCD), Nutrition, Mental Health Focal Points Review, and Capacity Building Meeting to address the Caribbean's long-fought battle against NCDs.

For years, the Caribbean has watched the prevalence of diabetes, high blood pressure, cancer, and other NCDs claim the lives of thousands, with hypertension cementing itself as the primary cause of death across the region. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), NCDs are significantly higher than the global average of 70 percent.

Taking place in Kingston, Jamaica, it was funded by CARPHA, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)'s Caribbean Cancer Registry Hub. There was also a virtual conference that was held last month from September 13 to 14, both functioning under the theme "Moving from Data to Information for Action on NCDs"

An overview of global, regional, and sub-regional commitments and targets for the prevention and control of NCDs was discussed as well as promising strategies to support national NCD programs, including cancer surveillance and food and nutrition surveillance systems. Additionally, participants were able to begin the development of action plans to support reporting to the regional surveillance system and conducted a business meeting of the Focal Points Network.

Regional Director for the Atlantic



Participants at the First Annual Caribbean Noncommunicable Disease (NCD), Nutrition, Mental Health Focal Points Review, and Capacity Building Meeting, Kingston, Jamaica

Region Marc Dubernet declared that AFD and CARPHA signed their first financing agreement of 1.5 million Euros to strengthen regional cooperation and promote regional public assets mobilization of expertise from French overseas territories which share the same vulnerabilities.

Dean Chambliss, the subregional program director of PAHO and WHO, remarked that in order to address NCDs, a two-pronged approach must be enacted. The implementation of public policies that directly address the risk factors through legislation, regulation, and healthful

economic incentives, and empowering individuals to make healthy decisions about their personal behavior and lifestyles and those of their families. "Both of these require the collection and analysis of data to develop evidence that will inform the fight against NCDs in the Caribbean." "Non-communicable diseases have been a burden to us in CARICOM for far too long. It is time to act effectively, time to fight, and time to safeguard the lives of current and future generations from this heavy burden," remarked Dr. Joy St. John, Executive Director of CARPHA.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Lodgment of Supplementary Information to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for Angelfish Caye LLC, for the Establishment of an Eco-Resort located twelve (12) miles southeast of Hopkins, Stann Creek District, Belize, C.A.

The General Public is hereby advised that a supplementary information report titled "Assessment on Possible Impacts to Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (BBRRS), UNESCO World Heritage Site, by the proposed Angelfish Caye LLC development", has been submitted to the Department of the Environment (DOE) on behalf of Angelfish LLC.

The General Public is hereby informed that the both the EIA report and its Supplementary Information are available for public review, free of charge, and can be examined Mondays-Fridays during normal working hours (8:00am-5:00pm) beginning October 21, 2022, at the following locations: Ignacio Cacho Library, Dangriga Town, Hopkins Berties Library, Hopkins Village and the Placencia Village Council Office, Stann Creek District, and the DOE's Office located at 7552 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan. Please practice social distancing when reviewing hard copies of the report and follow the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. Furthermore, the Additional Information, EIA report and its annexes are all available on the DOE's website at link: <a href="https://doe.gov.bz/environmental-clearance/">https://doe.gov.bz/environmental-clearance/</a> The public is invited to submit their comments in writing on or before November 17, 2022, to the DOE Office in Belmopan or email: <a href="mailto:environment.gov.bz">environment.gov.bz</a>, or by link: <a href="mailto:https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpOLScaBxyApvE7H0GtRFWSPRFbfUp8xqaOLxy5rzfsDEhZyeUAw/viewform?usp=pp">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpOLScaBxyApvE7H0GtRFWSPRFbfUp8xqaOLxy5rzfsDEhZyeUAw/viewform?usp=pp</a> url

Kindly be informed that a hybrid public consultation session for the EIA will be held on November 10, 2022, commencing at 6:30pm sharp. The in-person consultation will be held at the Belizean Dreams Resort in Hopkins Village, Stann Creek District and virtually via the Government of Belize Press Office Facebook Page.

The public is invited to participate in-person or virtually to this public consultation to express their concerns and/or provide comments/input regarding this proposed project activity.

#### CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Junior Analyst

If you are talented, committed, innovative and excited about a career in financial services and the developing capital market industry, then **Legacy Fund Limited** invites you to apply for the **Junior Analyst** position.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be deeply interested in a career in the financial market and the developing capital market industry
- A Bachelor's degree in Economics, Finance, Mathematics, Accounting, Business, or related field of study
- Minimum of one (1) year working experience in the financial industry would be considered an asset
- Must be willing to relocate to the City of Belmopan

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Manage a portfolio of client engagements and develop presentations to solve financial and strategic challenges
- Bulld complex financial spreadsheet models
- Prepare Pitch Books and PowerPoint presentations on Private Placement Memorandum (PPM), Initial Public Offering (IPO) and Mergers and Acquisition strategies
- Conduct market analysis of industry, economic research and surveillance of the financial sector
- Complete various reports including the financial analyst of the performance and position of commercial banks and credit unions, industry and Service Sector reports
- Perform data entry, verification, and maintain advisory and investment services database
- Attend daily team meeting to discuss current and upcoming projects.

#### KEY COMPETENCIES

- Strong quantitative abilities combined with the ability to conduct research to resolve problems and to think creatively and outside of the box
- Strong written communication skills specifically for drafting Private Placement Memorandum (PPMs) and Prospectuses
- Knowledge of MS Office especially MS Excel working with large data sets with numerous integrated spreadsheets
- Knowledge of financial forecasting and diagnosis, corporate finance, and information analysis
- Excellent presentation skills particularly for analysis presentations
- Ability to manage time and assigned projects with thoroughness and accuracy
- Collaborator with excellent people skills with strong work ethic and a positive can-doattitude
- Willingness to work hard in a challenging fast paced environment

#### SEND APPLICATIONS TO

Email Address: info@GloRecruitmentHR.com Email Subject: Application for Junior Analyst Attach: Resume and Cover Letter

Deadline: Friday, 11 November 2022



## Market demand drives up Food Prices, cost of living up 7.1%

By William Ysaguirre

The law of supply and demand will determine the local price of beef, chicken, fish, and other food staples, affirmed Minister of Agriculture and Food Security Hon. Jose Abelardo Mai at the Biltmore Hotel in Belize City on Wednesday, October 26.

The price of all these commodities have gone up, leading to a 7.1 percent national inflation rate, which Statistical Institute of Belize published on Wednesday along



Minister of Agriculture and Food Security
Hon. Jose Mai

with the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which was 112.0 last month, up from 104.6 in September 2021. In the past, the price of local plantation white sugar was

Our Reference: RC/02/22

Date: 27 Oct 22

maintained a 10 cents per pound, subsidized by raw sugar exports which fetched 10 times that price on world markets, but the government of Belize has no plans to implement similar subsidies to control the price of other meat protein sources which have found export markets, Mai said. Belizeans will have to match the price that fishermen, farmers and cattle ranchers are getting for their products on the export market. The government did offer consumers some relief against higher

flour prices, with 25 cents per loaf subsidy on bread, but bakers complained that it took several months for the subsidy to kick in.

The SIB reports that ground beef has gone up 9.4 percent from \$5.54 to \$6.06 per pound over the past year, and the price of beef steak, which was \$4.00 per pound a decade ago, had increased to \$8.30 in September 2021 and went up to \$8.93 last month. Mai noted happily that Belizean cattle ranchers stand to cash in on a bonanza of higher beef prices in the United States, as high grain prices have forced US ranchers to cull their herds. The U.S. is buying up Mexican beef, with a cascade effect of increasing Mexico's demand for Belizean beef. Belizeans will have to expect to pay higher prices for good quality, grain fed beef, Mai said, as the cost of corn has gone up, along with other inputs.

Conch, lobster and fish have also increased in price as fishermen found export markets, and lobster is now a luxury item at over \$30 per pound. Even finned fish has gone up from \$6.94/lb a year ago, to \$7.86/lb last month, a 13.3percent increase.

Chicken is now, supposedly the cheapest source of meat protein, is at \$3.04 per pound, a 4.1 percent increase over a year ago, due to higher input costs for animal feed, the SIB reports.

Eggs which were 29 cents each a year ago, went up 33.6 percent to 39 cents each.

Belizean poultry producers are now looking to expand production to export to the CARICOM Single Market Economy. Mai said Belizean consumers may take some comfort that the export market may not lead to any significant increase in local prices. Other CARICOM countries import a lot of chicken

from the U.S., the largest world producer of poultry, which can achieve economies of scale which Belize producers can't match. The U.S. price for chicken is currently USD\$3.30 per kilo, or USD\$1.50/lb.

Higher fuel prices, 27 percent more, were the prime driver of inflation, increasing transportation costs by 20 percent. Premium gasoline went from \$11.85 per gallon last year to \$16.89 last month. Diesel jumped from \$10.70 to \$13.52, and regular gasoline went from \$11.46, to \$13.54. This drove up fares for taxis, buses and international flights by 19.9 percent, and new cars cost 6.1 percent more. Butane went up 11.1 percent, from \$124.07 for a 100lb cylinder last year, to \$137.88.

Food prices went up 9.4 percent compared to a year ago, as staples like rice rose 14.1 percent, from \$1.37 to \$1.57/lb, Irish potatoes went up 35.6 percent to \$2.76 per pound, and flour increased by 17.4 percent to \$1.26/lb.

Vegetable cooking oil increased 35.7 percent, from \$4.35 per liter to \$5.91/lt. Watermelons went from 59 cents to 82 cents per pound, and pineapples went up 17 percent to \$1.45/1b. Bananas went up by one cent each, while oranges remained stable. Onions increased by 19.6 percent to \$2.72/ 1b, sweet peppers cost \$4.70/lb - 10.1 percent more than a year ago, and tomato went up 15.6 percent to \$3.31 per pound.

Natural milk cost 5.5 percent more at \$3.09/liter, while coconut milk went up 14.7 percent from \$3.50 to \$4.01 for 400 mls. Soy sauce went up 15.4 percent to \$5.70 for a 10-ounce bottle, up from \$4.94 a year ago.

On the plus side, red kidney beans got fractionally cheaper at \$1.93/lb, and black beans fell to \$2.04/lb.



Headquarters

British Army Training Support Unit Belize Price Barracks, British Forces Post Office 12

Telephone 00 501 225 2209

Fax 00 501 225 2362 E-mail david.hann

david.hannan347@mod.gov.uk



Notice to General Public

#### Dear Sir/Madam

Prior warning is to be given to the general public for training exercise taking place, by the British Army, in the following Training Areas:

a. 1963 Line

The training will take place during the period 12 Nov 22 – 25 Nov 22 with Live ammunition being used, along with military vehicles.

 Note LIVE Firing will be conducted at 1963 Line Training Estate – Sun 12 Nov – Sat 25 Nov 2022.

The general public should avoid the areas listed above and be aware of the presence of high numbers of British soldiers on the ground carrying weapons. At times loud explosions may be heard along with gunfire, this is normal in respect to the training being conducted.

Should any member of the general public wish to enter the areas listed above they are to be advised all roads are safe unless marked with a red lamp at night or a red flag during the day light hours. British troops will also operate checkpoints along the roads entering danger areas and can give advice to areas of training activity.

All enquires relating to British Forces training in Belize should be directed to RANGE CONTROL, BATSUB on 225 2209.

Your continued support to BATSUB is vital to the British Army and its success in operations around the world.

Yours faithfully

D Hannan Maj Training Safety Officer for Commander BATSUB

## WTO, Caribbean Development Bank strengthen efforts to help small businesses trade globally

By WTC

The WTO and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) signed today (25 October) a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations, with the aim of improving the capacity of key WTO members to benefit from international trade. The MoU was signed by WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and CDB President Dr Gene Leon.

Through the MoU, both organizations agree to collaborate on trade-related technical assistance and trade capacity-building efforts targeted at both Caribbean and non-Caribbean countries.

DG Okonjo-Iweala said: "The MOU aims to deliver specific things for the benefit of countries in the region, virtually all of whom are members of the WTO.



WTO, Caribbean Development Bank strengthen efforts to help small businesses trade globally

So, for instance, as part of a food security package how can we work together to make sure that the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement is implemented. How do we collaborate on capacity building on fisheries management, how do we get countries to deposit their instruments of acceptance [for the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement] as quickly

as possible and how do we work together on gender and trade, including collaboration with ITC."

Dr Leon added:
"Building and strengthening the bonds between the two institutions is important to make this very productive engagement work for the benefit of countries and deliver results."

The two organizations

have agreed to cooperate on multiple fronts, ranging from helping WTO members implement the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement to supporting capacitybuilding on trade statistics and assisting implementation of the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement. Both organizations have also agreed to collaborate on issues such as sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical barriers to trade, which are critical to small businesses. In addition, they will explore how trade policy can help address climate change and enhance women's participation in international trade.

The Caribbean Development Bank is a regional financial institution with a total of 28 member countries.

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Vacancy exists for a Chef to work at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Michelle Kwan.

Successful candidate will be required to obtain a security clearance and undergo a medical examination.

#### BASIC FUNCTION OF THE CHEF POSITION:

Duties include but are not limited to planning, budgeting, shopping, preparing and presenting a variety of meal services for the residence and for events of 2 to 200 guests. With an understanding of nutritional balance and essential elements, the Chef's repertoire must include a diverse and wide range of cooking styles and meal types, including appetizers for receptions, baked goods, desserts, and the ability to create vegetarian/vegan meals and cater to gluten sensitivities. The Chef will also be required to maintain expense records for each event or function, create menus, manage inventory, and assure the highest standards of safety, cleanliness, and proper food preparation and storage. The Chef is required to plan menus in advance and carry out the actual purchasing of supplies and ingredients necessary to produce the dishes reflected in the set menus. All responsibilities shall be completed on time, with integrity and honesty, and in a manner representing the highest U.S. standards of customer service.

#### QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

- · At least three years of culinary experience in a hotel/restaurant setting is required
- Associate Degree or completion of culinary/catering certificate program
  or in the absence of an Associate Degree, five years of culinary experience in a hotel or restaurant setting
- Must have a fluent command of reading, writing, and speaking English, and the ability to follow recipes
  and cooking instructions of varying complexity
- Must have initiative, good interpersonal skills and flexibility

#### WHO MAY APPLY:

Applicants must be in possession of a Belize social security card valid for employment and/or a resident/work permit, and be eligible for appointment under Belize's local laws.

#### HOW TO APPLY:

Interested candidates must submit a letter of application, current résumé, two references and all other applicable supporting documentation by email to <a href="mailto:BelmopanJobs@state.gov.">BelmopanJobs@state.gov.</a>

All applications must include in the subject line the position they are applying for (eg: Employment Application for Chef position). Incomplete applications will not be considered. For a complete copy of the position description listing all duties and responsibilities, please send an email to <a href="mailto:BelmopanJobs@state.gov">BelmopanJobs@state.gov</a> or call at 822-4011, Ext. 4231. The deadline for submitting applications is Sunday, October 30th, 2022.

#### BELIZE CITY,

#### Estate of JEAN MERLIN HYACINTH LESLIE also known as

#### JEAN MERLIN LESLIE deceased

#### STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Pursuant to Section 36 of the Administration of Estates Act, Chapter 197 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands upon or against the Estate of JEAN MERLIN HYACINTH LESLIE also known as JEAN MERLIN LESLIE, late of #33 Ebony Street, Belize City, Belize District, Belize, are required to send particulars in writing of their claims or demands to the Executors of the said estate SHARON ANDREA POLACK, MARIA ELENA SYLVESTRE and MARTHA CELITA POHL, C/o MR. PHILIP ZUNIGA, S.C., Attorney-at-Law, of 7 Cor. Saint Peter & Third Streets, King's Park, Belize City, Belize District, Belize, and to send such particulars not later than the 28th day of January, 2023, AND NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that at the expiration of the last mentioned date, the Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said JEAN MERLIN HYACINTH LESLIE also known as JEAN MERLIN LESLIE, deceased, amongst the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims or demands of which particulars have been delivered and the Executors will not be liable for the assets of the deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022.

PHILIP ZUNIGA, S.C. Attorney-at-Law for the Executors

## **Chef Sean Kuylen: OCEANA Wavemaker of the Year**

By William Ysaguirre

Ceana Belize honored Chef Sean Kuylen as National Wavemaker of the Year 2022 at Oceana's annual general meeting at the St. Catherine's Academy Multi-purpose Mercy Center in Belize City last Saturday morning, October 22.

Chef Kuylen became one of Oceana's very first influencers. His passion and commitment for Belize's marine resources sprang from his love of his native Corozal, and his childhood in Dangriga has always taken center stage. It was only natural that he should protest offshore oil drilling in Belize, and his desire to see Belizeans continue to enjoy good, healthy seafood inspired him to counsel and advocate with the fishermen he met by the riverside about the destructive impacts which certain types of fishing gear can have. He called for the elimination



Chef Sean Kuylen - Oceana Wavemaker of the Year

of plastics pollution through his online following, which now number over 13,000.

Oceana's "Fish Right, Eat Right" initiative was also the brainchild of chefs like Sean and Jennie Staines of Elvi's Kitchen, who both wanted to continue to see a steady

supply of good quality fish to inspire their creative cuisine. They pushed for local chefs and consumers to be educated about the fisheries regulations, offering incentives for restaurateurs to support the fishermen who respect the law and follow best practices that we might continue to see fish on our tables. Kuylen applauds the banning of gillnets and single-use plastics, and the moratorium on offshore oil exploration as the manifestation of Belize's leadership role in "making a conscious effort to conserve the environment and use

resources sustainably."

Kudos also went to several wavemakers whose outstanding work for Oceana's initiatives merited recognition. These included Gival Marin of Corozal, Manuel Novelo of Orange Walk, Marci Mejia of Belize City, Ethan Velasquez

of Stann Creek, Yesenia Figueroa of Toledo and the Sacred Heart College's Interact Club of Cayo. The Scouts Association of Belize also received Oceana's first ever Partner of the Year award.

Over 200 wavemakers from all six districts and the cayes assembled to recount and celebrate the achievements of the past year, and hear to counsel from guest speakers Daril Avila, the national coordinator for the Belize chapter of the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN), and Dominique Noralez of the Young Leaders Alliance of Belize (YLAB), who is also the Caribbean regional representative for the Commonwealth Youth Council. Both these youth leaders emphasized how important it is for young people to be a part of decision-making, which will determine their future, and the quality of their lives which depend on the integrity of our natural resources.

### Weh Wi Ga Fi Seh Sat. Disemba 10: Kriol Jenral Meetin da Birdz

Sat. Disemba 10: Kriol Ailan (Bird's Isle)

#### Harikayn Seezn Stil Deh Ya ... ...soh Disemba = big Kriol Meetn!

Jain di Kriol Kongsl tudeh tudeh tudeh:

https://forms.gle/yJnwTSzJjXfUC7Wf6

Satideh, Disemba 10, 2022:

#### Kriol Jenral Meetn

da Birdz Ailan (Bird's Isle) eena Yaabra, Bileez Siti.

Kohn da Birdz Ailan, Bileez Siti, fahn 10 a.m., fi di Kriol meetn fi chooz di leedaz fi di neks 2 yaaz. Afta dat, da wahn lee KRIOL BRAM. Luk owt fi moa infamayshan wans wi don wid disya harikayn seezn.

bram v. party. Wen Shakeera kip op ih bertday, wi bram til ih red. When Shakeera celebrated her birthday, we partied until the sun came up. -n party lasting until daybreak; usually held during the Christmas season. Wahn big Krismos bram mi deh da wi nayba hows. There was a big Christmas party at our neighbour's house. See: bashment, paati.

bashment n. bash; gala event or party. Slang. Wi ga big bashment fi bring een di nyoo yaa. We're having a big bash to bring in the

new year. See: bram, paati.

Silvaana Udz, Ed.D da fahn Bileez. If yu waahn tel shee bowt sohnting speshal fu put eena dis Kriol aatikl, eemayl: sudz142@gmail.com Vizit: www.nationalkriolcouncil.org



We are looking for an innovative, collaborative and strategic leader to join our team as:

#### Commercial Director



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Develop and lead a competitive retail sales and business development strategies in collaboration with key stakeholders of the business to ensure sustainable profitable growth and customer service excellence.

#### REQUIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

- MBA or other business related degree, at the Master's level
- Minimum of five (5) years senior leadership experience in retail or a
- Proven management experience at a senior, strategic level

similar industry

- Strong analytical and problem solving skills proven in a high-stakes environment
- Strong people management with the ability to influence
- Creative and resourceful in problem solving and managing priorities



tania\_requena@unicomer.com

Deadline: November 4th, 2022

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## Europe Must Address a Toxic Mix of High Inflation and Flagging Growth

by Alfred Kammer

As Russia's war in Ukraine takes a rising toll on Europe's economies, growth is flagging across the continent, while inflation shows little sign of abating.

Europe's advanced economies will grow by just 0.6 percent next year, while emerging economies (excluding Türkiye and conflict countries Belarus, Russia, Ukraine) will expand by 1.7 percent, according to projections in our latest World Economic Outlook. That's down by 0.7 percentage point and 1.1 percentage points, respectively, from July's projections.

This winter, more than half of the countries in the euro area will experience technical recessions, with at least two consecutive quarters of shrinking output; among these countries, output will fall, on an average, by about 1.5 percent from its peak. Croatia, Poland and Romania will experience technical recessions as well, with an average peak-to-trough output decline of more than 3 percent. Next year, Europe's output and income will be nearly half a trillion euros lower as compared to the IMF's pre-war forecasts—a stark illustration of the continent's severe economic losses from

the war.

And while inflation is projected to decline next year, it will stay significantly above central bank objectives, at about 6 percent and 12 percent, respectively, in advanced and emerging European economies.

Growth and inflation could both get worse than these already sobering forecasts. European policymakers have swiftly responded to the energy crisis and built adequate gas storage ahead of the heating season, but further disruptions to energy supplies could lead to more economic pain.

Our scenarios show that a complete shutoff of remaining Russian gas flows to Europe, combined with a cold winter, could result in shortages, rationing and gross domestic product losses of up to 3 percent in some central and eastern economies. On top of these, it could also result in yet another bout of inflation across the continent.

Even without any new energy supply disruptions, inflation could remain higher for longer. Most of the inflation surge so far is driven by high commodity prices primarily energy, but also food, particularly in the Western Balkan countries. While these prices might remain elevated for some time, there is hope that they will stop increasing and thereby contribute to a steady decline in inflation throughout 2023.

#### **Inflation risks**

However, o u r latest Regional Economic Outlook shows that the pandemic and Russia's war in Ukraine might have fundamentally altered the inflation process, with rising input and labor shortages contributing notably to the recent high-inflation episode. This suggests there may be less economic slack and, accordingly, more underlying inflationary pressures, than commonly thought across Europe.

These results highlight a risk to our forecasts and those by others that inflation will fall steadily next year. Other wild cards include a de-anchoring of medium-term inflation expectations, or a much sharper acceleration in wages that would trigger an adverse feedback loop between prices and wages.

European policymakers face severe trade-offs and tough policy choices as they address a toxic mix of weak growth and high inflation that could worsen.

In a nutshell, they should tighten macroeconomic policies to bring down inflation, while helping vulnerable households and viable firms cope with the energy crisis. And, in these extraordinarily uncertain times, stand ready to adjust policies in either direction in response to how the situation evolves. This will depend on whether incoming data signal higher inflation, a deepening recession which would warrant some reconsideration of policy—or both.

Central banks should continue raising policy rates for now. Real interest rates remain generally accommodative, labor markets are projected to be broadly resilient, inflation forecasts are above target, and inflation is still at risk of further increase.

#### Tightening needed

Inadvanced economies, including in the euro area, tight monetary policy will likely be needed in 2023 unless activity and employment weaken more than expected, materially bringing down medium-term inflation prospects.

A tighter stance is generally warranted in most emerging European economies, where inflation expectations are not as well anchored, demand pressures are stronger and nominal wage growth is high—often in the double digits.

Continuing to raise policy rates for now is also an insurance policy against risks, including a de-anchoring of inflation expectations or a feedback loop between prices and wages, that would require even stronger and more painful central bank responses down the road.

For example, in advanced European countries, our analysis suggests that if workers and firms start setting wages based on past inflation rather than central bank targets—as was partly the case prior to the 1990s, inflation could be nearly 2 percent higher at the end of next year. Should this happen, policy rates may need to rise by 2 percentage points and output could fall by as much as 2 percentage points more than currently projected. By contrast, if the overall demand declines—more than expected—resulting in deeper recessions and a 2 percentage points increased drop in output, both inflation and required policy rates at the end of next year could be nearly 1.5 percentage points lower than anticipated.

Fiscal policy

Fiscal policy must balance competing objectives. One is the need to rebuild fiscal space and help monetary policy in its fight against inflation. This calls for fiscal consolidation to proceed in 2023 at a faster pace in countries with less fiscal space, greater vulnerability to tighter financial conditions or stronger cyclical positions. This includes most emerging European economies

economies. But fiscal policy also needs to help mitigate the brutal impact of higher energy prices on people and viable firms. This suggests that the pace of consolidation may have to be slowed for a few months. Higher energy prices have increased European households' cost of living by some 7 percent on average this year despite the widespread measures taken to ease this burden.

Going forward, it will be important to keep energy-related support temporary to contain fiscal costs, and to maintain the price signals that will foster energy savings. Compared with price interventions, a better option is to support low- and middleincome households through lump-sum rebates on their energy bills. A close alternative is to combine general lump-sum discounts

with additional support for the poor through the welfare system, financed by higher taxes for high-income households. Yet another, less efficient alternative is to implement higher tariffs for higher levels of energy consumption; while such an approach is not fully targeted to the vulnerable, it is still a better option than broad price caps.

Finally, steady implementation of reforms that enhance productivity, relieve supply constraints in energy and labor markets, and expand economic capacity remain essential to raise growth and ease price pressures over the medium-term. This includes accelerating the implementation of the 800-billion-euro economic recovery package, the Next Generation EU programs.

Strength, coordination and solidarity pulled Europe out of the COVID-19 crisis. Once again, the task ahead is immense, but if European policymakers muster the spirit of the pandemic response, it can be accomplished.

#### **Unexplained inflation**

Almost half the recent surge in European core inflation remains unexplained by its usual drivers.

10

#### Core inflation in advanced Europe (percentage points, QoQ annualized)

Unexplained
 Energy
 Food
 Exchange rate changes and foreign inflation
 Economic slack
 Inflation expectations

5

2021

2022

Core inflation in emerging Europe

(percentage points, QoQ annualized)

-5 -5 -5 -5 -020 2021 2022 2019 2020

Sources: Consensus Economics; Haver Analytics; IMF, WEO database; and IMF staff calculations. Notes: Charts show empirical estimates of the contributions of listed conventional inflation drivers to observed (core) inflation. Unexplained refers to the extent to which actual inflation overshoots model predictions (or undershoots, when the unexplained part is negative).

## Inflation tops the list of the world's biggest worries but there's plenty more on our minds, survey suggests

By Simon Torkington

#### "Are you ok?"

It's a question we might all consider asking friends and family right now as the list of global issues we have to worry about keeps growing.

Inflation is the big concern that's causing many of us to lose sleep. Rising prices took the top spot in Ipsos's monthly What Worries the World survey.

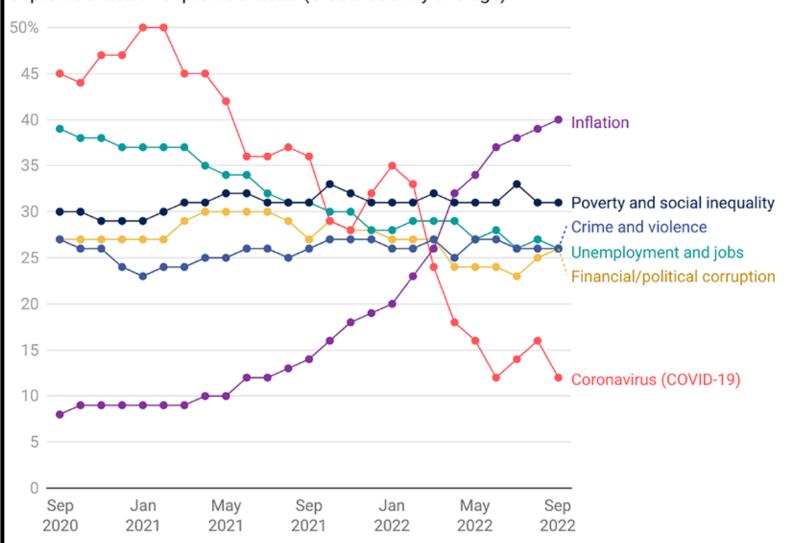
Researchers interviewed almost 20,000 adults in 29 countries to gauge what the public believes are the most pressing social and political issues.

Four in 10 surveyed said inflation was one of the most troubling issues affecting their country.

The worry over rising prices is persistent it's been the number one concern for six months in a row. The level of worry about inflation has doubled since the start of 2022, when 20% cited it as a significant problem. In this latest edition, Ipsos names Great Britain and Germany as the countries with the most significant rise in inflation worries.

Despite inflation fears, the public's perception of their country's economy is unchanged from Top global concerns over the past two years

September 2020 - September 2022 (Global country average)



Base: Representative sample of c.19,524 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, September 2020 – September 2022 Source: Ipsos Global Advisor • Created with Datawrapper

the previous month's survey. That might be described as a worry in itself, as 67% of respondents said their nation's economy was in a bad situation economically. Just 33% said their country's economy was in "good" condition.

A world of worry

Coping with rising inflation is just one concern among many as we head into the final months of 2022, as the chart below illustrates.

Ipsos says its research shows that "worry about inflation is followed by poverty

& social inequality (31%), financial or political corruption (26%), unemployment (26%), and crime & violence (26%), which make up the top five global worries".

Climate change is another major worry for people in many countries. It ranks 7th in the list, with almost one-in-five (18%) telling Ipsos that it's a big concern for their country. France has the highest proportion of people worried about the climate (34%).

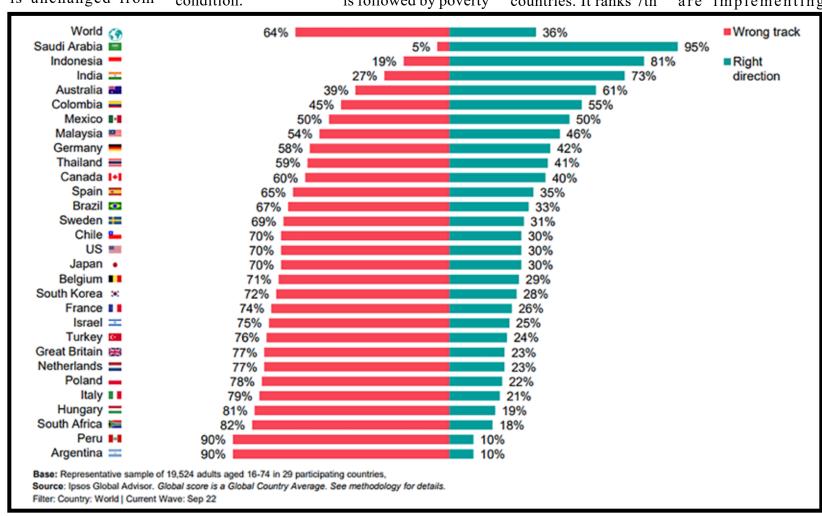
An anxious wait for solutions

Many governments are implementing

measures to reduce inflationary pressures and solve some of the other significant issues their populations are concerned about. However, according to the Ipsos survey, many respondents are not convinced their country is taking the correct approach.

As the chart above illustrates, just 36% of respondents believe their country is heading in the right direction when it comes to solving major issues of concern. Saudi Arabia (95%) and Indonesia (81%) have the most positive populations. Great Britain and France have seen the largest declines in the number of people who believe their country is heading towards better times, both down by nine percentage points. One worry that is

One worry that is receding rapidly is the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Concern about the coronavirus has fallen 23 percentage points since the beginning of the year.



#### **PUBLIC AUCTION**

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE, LA INMACULADA CREDIT UNION LTD. (LICU), CERTIFIED AND LICENSED AUCTIONEER MIGUEL A. ELLIS WILL SELL THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES On November 15, 2022

At: 9: 30 A.M. Via: Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/cju-vewk-ubv



Parcel No. 1079, Block No. 4, San Jose Palmar Registration Section containing 1.05 Acres situate in Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of ANGELICA MARIA LESLIE. Development: This empty parcel of land is found in Palmar Village which is located west of the Come & Go Gas Station. It has no access to utilities but it is located in a developing area.



Parcel No. 733, Block No. 4, Trial Farm Registration Section containing 1,227.67 Square Meters situate in Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of JESUS L. PENA surety for NEGABI FRANCISCO PENA. Development: An incomplete two storey structure; Ground floor contains 1 bedroom, 1 kitchen, dining & living and 1 bath. First floor contains only 1 bedroom. The property is located in the village and about 1 block away from the village's football field. Access to amenities is high.



Parcel No. 3217, Block No. 4, Ann Gabourel Registration Section containing 696.697 Square Meters situate in Black Water Creek Area, Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of NERY LEONARDO SOSA & JOSSELIN JANNETHE ALVARADO surety for NERY LEONARDO SOSA. Development: One slightly elevated (2) two bedroom wooden structure containing 1 kitchen, dining, living & bath. The property is located in walking distance from the Trial Farm Village burial site and in close proximity of the San Lorenzo Housing Site, Orange Walk Town















Miguel A. Ellis
P.O. Box 118, Belmopan
Ph: 634-9058
E-Mail:
miguel\_ellis@hotmail.com
Please contact LICU for financing

Parcel No. 491, Block No. 4, Trial Farm Registration Section containing 1,356.786 Square Meters situate in Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of ANGELICA MARIA LESLIE. Development: One concrete (1) bungalow type structure containing 1 bedroom, 1 kitchen, dining, living & 1 bath attached to a front porch.

Parcel No. 1107/1, Block No. 3, Sarteneja Registration Section containing 725.3 Square Meters situate in Sarteneja Village held under a Certificate of Lease and being the leasehold interest of EXEQUIEL IGNACIO VERDE. Development: The subject property is located near the Sarteneja Village airstrip & the La Inmaculada School as well as the bus terminal. Amenities within proximity are few or none.

Parcel No. 758, Block No. 1, Douglas North Registration Section containing 686.836 Square Meters situate in San Pablo Village, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of VANESA LUCELI CANUL. Development: This empty parcel of land is found off the San Juan and Douglas road and 0.5 miles away from San Pablo Village, Orange Walk. District. It has no access to utilities.

Parcel No. 743, Block No. 4, Trial Farm Registration Section containing 435.387 Square Meters situate in Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of EFRAIN CAMPOS. Development: One (1) two bedroom concrete bungalow type structure containing 1 kitchen, dining, living & 1 bath attached to a verandah and a grocery shop area that is not operational.

Parcel No. 2050, Block No. 4, Orange Walk Town Registration Section containing 484.261 Square Meters situate on Smithsonian Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of ROAMIR EDWARDO GONZALEZ. Development: The empty lot is located near the far end of Smithsonian Street, Orange Walk Town.

Parcel No. 305, Block No. 4, Miller's Bight Registration Section containing 1140.611 Square Meters situate in the Honey Camp Lagoon Area, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of ELEONORA JOVITA LEIVA surety for DWENDY JUDITH CHAN. Development: This empty lot is classified as a beachfront parcel as it is situated near the Honey Camp Lagoon being approximately 12 miles from Orange Walk Town with no access to utilities.

Parcel No. 2949, Block No. 7, San Pedro Registration Section containing 445.685 Square Meters situate in San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye, Belize District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of LEON LEVI ANDERSON. Development: This empty lot is found near a man made canal and said piece or parcel of land is fairly well elevated but currently undeveloped. It is located within access of utilities including electricity and telephone.

### **UEF outraged by Afrikan Emancipation Day misrepresentation**

By Britney Gordon



The UBAD Education Foundation (UEF) does not support the decision to celebrate Afrikan Emancipation Day on an unrelated date and demands

the alteration be remedied.

In a press release issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries, the list of Public and Bank Holidays for 2023 informed that Afrikan Emancipation Day would not be observed on August 1st as it typically is internationally. Instead, the holiday was moved to July 31st.

The reasoning behind the change was not made known

in the press release, simply stating that it would be moved "in lieu of Tuesday, 1st August".

However, Musa acknowledges the association's displeasure and remarked that their concerns would be taken into consideration for 2024.

YaYa Marin Coleman, the chairperson of the UEF, however, argues that this change is unnecessary and disrespectful. In an interview with The Reporter, Marin Coleman stated, "Whether it is out of ignorance or done with malicious intent, we don't know, but we cannot accept this."

The UEF has written a letter of complaint addressed to Minister Musa explaining the significance of the date and requesting the holiday be moved back to the original date. This is not the instance in which the association has disapproved of the ministry's decisions regarding the holiday. In 2021, they wrote to express their objection to referring to the holiday as "Freedom Day". The holiday was subsequently changed back to "Afrikan

Emancipation Day".

In the e-book, "Free Your Mind" written by Dr. Aondofe Iyo, a former professor at the University of Belize, the origins of the holiday in Belize were explained, stating, "On 1 August 1888, those Belizeans who identified themselves as descendants of slaves celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of emancipation, presenting themselves to the governor as representative of 'the colored population of this Colony."

The book goes on to explain how a committee of men and a group of women, headed by laborer Simon Lamb marched to an empty lot in the center of Belize Town. The governor then granted ownership to the group and the promised emancipation institute, now dubbed the "People's Hall", was to be built by private donations.

Marin Coleman maintains that the flippancy in which the ministry regards the holiday showcases a lack of respect for the descendants of those which the holiday represents, a large population of Belize.

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At: 9: 30 A.M.

Via: Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/cju-vewk-ubv



Parcel No. 2837, Block No. 23, San Ignacio South Registration Section containing 491.53 Square Meters situate in the San Ignacio Town, Cayo District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of ALBERTO ISIAS BOBADILLA. Development: Found in the outskirts of San Ignacio Town, Cayo District. This empty plot of land is located in a developing area.



Parcel No. 370/1, Block No. 4, Miller's Bight Registration Section containing 1,499.670 Square Meters situate in the Honey Camp Lagoon Area, Orange Walk District held under a Certificate of Lease and being the leasehold interest of CARLOS GARCIA surety for JULIE LINDA GARCIA. Development: This empty lot is classified as a beachfront parcel as it is situated near the Honey Camp Lagoon being approximately 12 miles from Orange Walk Town with no access to utilities.



All that piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 184 situate in St. Mathew's Village, Cayo District being held under a Deed of Conveyance as seen recorded on Plan No. 2146 at the Lands & Survey Department in Belmopan and being the freehold interest of MIRI-AM JANET QUEVEDO surety for ABNER JONATHAN QUEVEDO. Development: The property is located in a developing and populated area of the village and is in close proximity to schools and the highway. The elevated bungalow type structure has only an exterior wooden frame.



Parcel No. 1173, Block No. 4, Carmelita Registration Section containing 1,042.9 Square Meters situate in the Carmelita Village, Tower Hill Area, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of JOSE ANTONIO LAHERA. Development The property is located in the outskirts of Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District near the Smart Tower and is a low lying area. This empty lot is located in a rural undeveloped area.



Parcel No. 824, Block No. 4, Miller's Bight Registration Section containing 1,100.87 Square Meters situate in Petville Area, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of EVRIT STEVEN MATUTE surety for VANINA TASHA MARCHAND. Development: This empty lot is found near San Estevan Village and currently located in a rural area and has little or no access to utilities.



Parcel No. 1802, Block No. 4, Ann Gabourel Registration Section containing 555.56 Square Yards situate in the San Lorenzo Housing Site, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of MARK GLENFORD MEIGHAN. Development: One concrete (1) bungalow type structure containing 3 bedrooms, 1 kitchen, dining, living & 1 bath attached to a storage area.



Parcel No. 212, Block No. 4, Guinea Grass
Registration Section containing 1,250.835
Square Yards situate in Guinea Grass Village,
Orange Walk District held under a Land
Certificate and being the freehold interest of
EDISON ALBERT JOHNSON & ROSITA JOHNSON surety for EDISON ALBERT JOHNSON.
Development: One (1) bungalow type structure containing a bedroom, kitchen and a bath area.

Miguel A. Ellis
P.O. Box 118, Belmopan
Ph: 634-9058
E-Mail:
miguel\_ellis@hotmail.com
Please contact LICU for financing



Parcel No. 672, Block No. 4, Ann Gabourel Registration Section containing 500.02 Square Yards situate in Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the freehold interest of MARIA ELENA DIAZ surety for LEONARDO DANIEL DIAZ. Development: The property houses two buildings: Building 1: is concrete and contains 2 bedrooms, 1 living & dining combined and 1 bath. Building 2: Partial incomplete roof, incomplete concrete structure with wall frames build for a 1 bedroom, kitchen, living & dining combined.



Parcel No. 3642, Block No. 4, Orange Walk Town Registration Section containing 464.454 Square Meters situate in Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District held under a Land Certificate and being the free-hold interest of RODRIGO RODRIGUEZ surety for CAROLICE CORDELIA R. RODRIGUEZ & RODRIGO RODRIGUEZ. Development: One concrete (1) bungalow type structure containing 3 bedrooms, 1 kitchen, dining, living & 2 baths attached to an office/storage area.



## Heart · Mind · Soul

## Scientists design algorithm that 'reads' people's thoughts from brain scans

S cientists can now "decode" people's thoughts without even \_\_\_\_

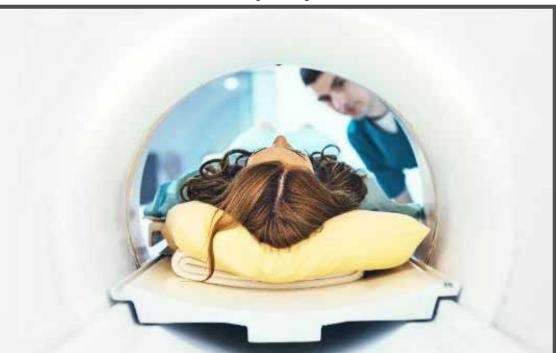
touching their heads, The Scientist reported.

Past mind-reading techniques relied on implanting electrodes deep in peoples' brains. The new method, described in a report posted Sept. 29 to the preprint database bioRxiv, instead relies on a noninvasive brain scanning technique called functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). fMRI tracks the flow of oxygenated blood through the brain, and because active brain cells need more energy and oxygen, this information provides an indirect measure of brain activity.

By its nature, this scanning method cannot capture real-time brain activity, since the electrical signals released by brain cells move much more quickly than blood moves through the brain. But remarkably, the study authors found that they could still use this imperfect proxy measure to decode the semantic meaning of people's thoughts, although they couldn't produce word-for-word translations.

"If you had asked any cognitive neuroscientist in the world 20 years ago if this was doable, they would have laughed you out of the room," senior author Alexander Huth(opens in new tab), a neuroscientist at the University of Texas at Austin, told The Scientist.

For the new study, which has not yet been peer-reviewed, the team scanned the brains of one woman and two men in their 20s and 30s. Each participant listened to



16 total hours of different podcasts and radio shows over several sessions in the scanner. The team then fed these scans to a computer algorithm that they called

a "decoder," which compared patterns in the audio to patterns in the recorded brain activity.

The algorithm could then take an fMRI recording and generate a story based on its content, and that story would match the original plot of the podcast or radio show "pretty well," Huth told The Scientist. In other words, the decoder could infer what

story each participant had heard based on their brain activity. That said, the algorithm did make some mistakes, like switching up characters' pronouns and the use of the first and third person. It "knows what's happening pretty accurately, but not who is doing the things," Huth said.

In additional tests, the algorithm could fairly accurately explain the plot of a silent movie that the participants watched in the scanner. It could even retell a story that the participants imagined telling in their heads. In the long term, the research team aims to

develop this technology so that it can be used in brain-computer interfaces designed for people who cannot speak or type.

#### **APE3 Investments Limited**

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. (1972895)

**NOTICE** is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (1)(b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on **10th October**, **2022**. The Liquidator is **Raphael Baumann of Talstrasse 83**, **8001 Zurich**, **Switzerland**.

Dated 10th October, 2022

(Sgd.) Raphael Baumann Voluntary Liquidator

1972895 - Notice of Liquidator's Appointment - APE3 Investments Limited

## SUDOKU

Medium Puzzle

						6	7
			8		5		
2		5		3			8
			4				
	6		7				
				9	2	3	
	5						9
	5 9 2	4		2	7		6
	2	8	5	2			3

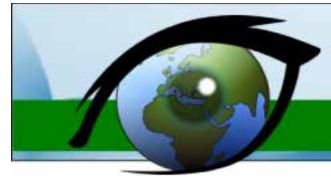
Sudoku rules are extremely easy: Fill all empty squares so that the numbers 1 to 9 appear once in each row, column and 3x3 box.

Tip. Use a soft erasable pencil. Start with the easy puzzles, then move on to the harder ones. Make small pencilmarks to show which numbers are allowed in empty squares. This will come handy when analyzing techniques are used. Never guess! Only make moves based on logical deductions. There is only one unique solution for

each puzzle.

Answer to Puzzle

3	l	7	6	Þ	G	8	7	9
9	9	8	7	7	3	Þ	6	L
6	7	Þ	1	8	9	ε	G	7
9	3	9	2	6	l	7	7	8
7	8	7	ε	G	7	L	9	6
L	L	6	8	9	Þ	7	3	9
8	7	l	9	3	6	G	7	2
7	6	3	G	7	8	9	l	Þ
7	9	G	7	l	7	6	8	3

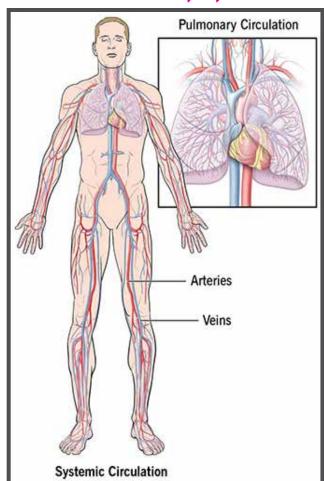


## DISCOVERY

Landscape

### Fun Facts!

### The circulatory system is more than 60,000 miles long



If a child's entire circulatory system we're talking veins, arteries, and capillaries—were laid out flat, it would stretch for more than 60,000 miles, according to the Franklin Institute. By the time we reach adulthood, our bodies have become home to approximately 100,000 miles of blood vessels. That's just one

of the mind-blowing facts that sound made up (but aren't).

The blood is pumped from the heart to the lungs, where it receives oxygen.

Red blood cells lack a cell nuclei, which allows the cells to carry more oxygen through the body.

Humans and most animals have vary-

ing shades of red blood cells. Darker cells lack oxygen and are heading to the heart and lungs to pick up more oxygen.

There are no blood vessels in the cornea. Blood vessels would obstruct your vision, so instead nourishment for the corneal cells comes from the tears.

The blood-brain barrier is a system of blood vessels that keep harmful microbes from reaching the brain while allowing certain molecules through, such as water.

The weather outside of the body controls the size of blood vessels. In warmer weather, the vessels expand to release heat, while they constrict in colder weather to retain heat.

While there are several types of muscle tissue, including skeletal, smooth, and cardiac muscles, the blood vessels only contain smooth muscle, located within the inner walls of the vessels.

Red blood cells are highly flexible and small—roughly 8 microns in diameter. They fit through capillaries in single file to carry oxygen to body tissues.

Women tend to have faster heart rates than men. This is likely related to the fact that they are usually smaller than men

Your heart can beat for several minutes outside of the body, until it runs out of energy. This is because it produces its own electrical signals.

During the average lifetime, the human heart will beat 2.5 billion times. It will average 70 to 80 beats per minute.

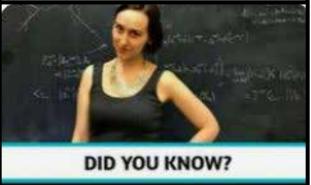
At rest, it takes approximately 6 seconds for blood to be pumped from the heart to the lungs and back again.

The thumping sounds associated with heart beats are caused by valves between the chambers of the heart closing.

A single droplet of blood contains around 5 million red blood cells.







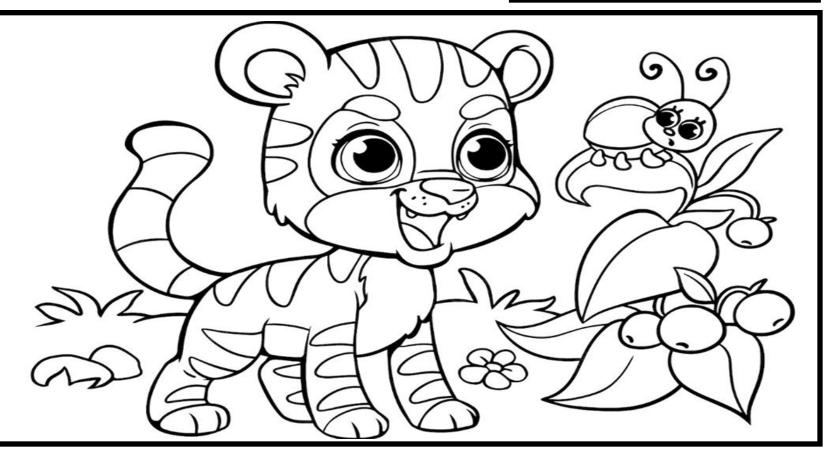
AT THE AGE OF 14 SHE BUILT & FLEW HER OWN SINGLE ENGINE AIRPLANE. STEPHEN HAWKING FOLLOWS HER ON TWITTER. AT MIT SHE GOT THE HIGHEST GRADE POSSIBLE. HARVARD UNIVERSITY CALLED HER THE NEXT EINSTEIN.



#### **Quietest Room!**



GOLOR ME



## PUBLIC NOTICE

Lodgement of an EIA Report, Additional Information and Public Consultation For

## "PORT OF BELIZE CRUISE TOURISM FACILITY AND CARGO EXPANSION"

Located on Caesar Ridge Road, Port Loyola area, Belize City, Belize

The General Public is hereby advised that Additional Information complementing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report for the expansion of the Port of Belize cargo facility and the establishment of a cruise port terminal and cruise tourism village has been submitted by Port of Belize Limited & Belize Logistics Terminal Limited to the Department of the Environment (DOE). The EIA report was prepared by Nextera Environmental and Engineering Consultants and Piedroba Consulting Group LLC. The EIA report and its additional information will be reviewed by the National Environmental Appraisal Committee (NEAC) before a final decision is taken by the DOE.

The General Public is hereby informed that both the EIA report and the additional information are available for public review, free of charge, and can be examined Monday to Friday during normal working hours (8:00 am to 5:00 pm) at the Port Loyola Library, National Library Service, Leo Bradley Library, Turton Library Center, all located within Belize City, and at the DOE's Office located at 7552 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan. Please practice social distancing when reviewing hard copies of the report and follow the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. Furthermore, the Additional Information, EIA report and its annexes are all available on the DOE's website at link: <a href="https://doe.gov.bz/environmental-">https://doe.gov.bz/environmental-</a> clearance/ The public is invited to submit their comments in writing on or before DOE Office 2022, to Belmopan November the email: eiaunit@environment.gov.bz., or envirodept@environment.gov.bz; link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4x5SsLjYXU7CD649P1uFYeEPD6kPEGLVWAAFx4 4Rw3O48Rw/viewform?usp=sf\_link

Kindly be informed that a hybrid public consultation session for the EIA will be held on **November 4, 2022, commencing at 6:30pm sharp**. The in-person consultation will be held at the Best Western Biltmore Plaza Hotel and virtually via the Government of Belize Press Office Facebook Page.

The public is invited to participate in-person or virtually to this public consultation to express their concerns and/or provide comments/input to the DOE regarding this proposed project activity.

## *'Violence doesn't sell'* Stepping away from crude music

By Britney Gordon

With Jamaica's recent ban on recorded material that promotes or glorifies illegal activity, complaints regarding the censorship of selfexpression abound, but the Manager of Belize Music Agency, James Sanker, says this is a "nonissue" in Belize.

When asked whether such a ban would negatively impact musical artists in Belize, Sanker said that Belizean artists do not need to worry about such a thing occurring.

Sanker said to The Reporter, "The question to start off with is, why are people trying to emulate Jamaican music in Belize in the first place? A lot of Caribbean music takes inspiration from one another but we would encourage artists to infuse Belizean culture into their music."

Sanker added, "If you look at the trends, you can see exactly what people are interested in."

He explained that being that Belizean radio stations are privately owned,

choosing to not broadcast music that promotes violence would not fall under "censorship". "Music is an industry and it needs to make money. If a station loses listeners from playing a specific type of music, then removing it would not be censorship. It would be a good business move."

Belizean artists, argued Sanker, should focus on finding broader audiences and making themselves marketable towards it. He added that with the online streaming platforms that have become popular in recent years, it has become simple for artists to reach a broader audience.

In an effort to promote Belizean artists, the Music **Industry Association** of Belize (MiAB) and NICH have created an online playlist of music by Belizean artists on the streaming platform "Spotify", which can be accessed by scanning the correlating QR code.

Earlier this month, Jamaican authorities announced that they have banned content that encourages illegal activity to limit the glorification of violence in the country. The broadcasting commission stated that these forms of media could "unwittingly

lend support to moral disengagement and further normalize criminality among vulnerable and impressionable youth, and the young adult demographic."



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Mike Hernandez Jr. Sr. J.P. Media & Communications Officer

PHONE: 501-227-2420 FAX: 501-227-2423 TOLL FREE: 1-800-624-0686 WEBSITE: travelbelize.org; email: pr@belizetourismboard.org ADDRESS: P.O. Box 325, #64 Regent Street, Belize City, Belize.

#### BTB'S NATIONAL TOURISM AWARDS 2022

Belize City, Belize, 23rd October, 2022: The Belize Tourism Board held its annual National Tourism Awards Gala on Saturday, 22nd October in Belize City. The signature event honored and celebrated the excellence of the industry's top performers for 2022.

The gala was attended by Hon. Anthony Mahler, Minister of Tourism and Diaspora Relations, other government officials, diplomatic core, industry partners, and other distinguished guests including all nominees and winners. In his remarks, Minister Mahler, thanked industry partners for their resolve to survive and remaining steadfast in their commitment to the tourism industry in the face of the pandemic.

As the governing body for the tourism industry, the BTB recognized excellence in service and efforts in several categories: Frontline Person of the Year, Tour Guide of the Year, Tour Operator of the Year, Site of the Year, Restaurant of the Year, Small Accommodation of the Year, Hotel of the Year, Posthumous Award, Minister's Award, Lifetime Achievement Award. Three new categories were introduced being Green Champion of the Year, Health and Wellness Provider of the Year and Cultural Experience of the Year. The addition of the new categories is a reflection of the dynamic growth of Belize's tourism industry over the past year.

The winners were verified by a panel of judges. The table below highlights the winners for 2022.

Category	Winner
Frontline Personnel of the Year	Charlenne Young
Tour Guide of the Year	Sherman Cain
Tour Operator of the Year	Belize Diving Adventures
Green Champion of the Year	Turneffe Flats Resort
Cultural Experience of the Year	San Antonio Women's Cooperative
Site of the Year	Blue Hole Natural Monument
Health and Wellness Provider of the Year	Om Shanti Belize Yoga and Wellness Center & School
	Ltd.
Restaurant of the Year	Elvi's Kitchen
Hotel of the Year	Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge
Small Accommodation of the Year	Off the Wall Dive Center & Resort
Lifetime Achievement Award	John Greif and Steve Schulte
Minister's Award	Verna Samuels
Posthumous Award	Sharon Matola

We cannot rewrite the chapters of history already passed, but we can learn from them, evolve and adapt. When we all help one another, everybody wins. The BTB takes this opportunity to congratulate all the winners as well as the nominees for their exceptional service and dedication to fast track our industry's recovery and strengthen Belize tourism product.

#### **About Belize Tourism Board**

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is a statutory body within the Belize Ministry of Tourism and Diaspora Relations, and it is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Minister of Tourism and Diaspora Relations. The BTB works in conjunction with members of the private sector - including the Belize Hotel Association, Belize Tourism Industry Association and Belize National Tour Operators Association - and is dedicated to building tourism in the most economically and environmentally sustainable manner. As a part of its responsibilities, the BTB promotes Belize as a premier tourism destination to both in-country and international consumers. Among its outreach to the international travel market, the BTB markets the country's unique attractions to travelers, members of the travel trade industry and media outlets in key markets. The BTB is also dedicated to developing and implementing tourism programs that will help strengthen and grow the Belizean tourism industry; promote good destination stewardship; and instill high quality standards for accommodations and travel experiences.

For more information on the BTB and its services, visit www.travelbelize.org.



## **TENDER**

#### **AC Servicing Countrywide**

BEL invites tenders for AC servicing of BEL office buildings and substations countrywide for the period January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2025, at the belowmentioned locations:

#### **Belize District**

- Corporate Headquarters, 2½ Miles Philip Goldson Highway
- Dispatch Building at Corporate Headquarters
- Magazine Road Compound
- Ladyville Compound
- · Westlake GT, 8 Miles George Price Highway
- Belize City Substation
- Ladyville Substation
- Maskall Substation

- Caye Caulker Office
- · San Pedro Office
- San Pedro Substation

#### **Corozal District**

- Corozal Office
- Buena Vista Substation
- Corozal Substation
- Chan Chen Substation

#### **Cayo District**

- Belmopan Office
- San Ignacio Office
- Belmopan Substation
- Democracia Substation
- Camalote Substation
- Santander Substation San Ignacio Substation

- **Orange Walk District**
- Orange Walk Office
- Belcogen Substation
- Orange Walk Substation

#### Stann Creek District

- Dangriga Office
- Independence Office
- Dangriga Substation
- Independence Substation
- Independence Switching Station Belize Aquaculture Limited Substation

#### **Toledo District**

- Punta Gorda Office
- Punta Gorda Switching Station

BEL requires contractors to pre-qualify as an AC technician. The bidding documents, which outline all the duties and responsibilities of the contract are available on BEL's website at www.bel.com.bz/Tenders.aspx

Bidders are invited to a virtual pre-bid meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22, 2022. Request access to the meeting by sending an email to bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz with the subject "BID #2022-708 AC Servicing Countrywide Pre-bid Meeting".

Submit bids via email to bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, November 25, 2022. Proposals will be accepted by email only and should include the subject listed in the respective bidding document.

> For more information or queries, send email to bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz

Cost incurred for preparation of the tender document is the sole responsibility of the bidder. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

### VACANC

A vacancy exists at Copal Tree Distillery.

#### Market Manager – Belize

#### About the Company:

Copalli Rum is made at Copal Tree Distillery in the Toledo District. The genesis of the brand stems from a conservationist and champion of Belize's pristine environment looking for a way to provide more economic opportunity to the people in the community.

A sustainable, farm to bottle operation outside of Punta Gorda, Copal Tree Farms is the first certified organic farm in Belize. The farmland surrounding the distillery produces all the heirloom sugarcane used to make the rums and is nestled within 22,000 acres of protected rainforest. The organic, single estate rum is made from just three ingredients: fresh pressed sugar cane juice, canopy water, & yeast.

The distillery funds a non-profit that supports many community, cultural, educational, and environmentalist causes.

#### **About the Position:**

Reporting to the Head of Sales, this Market Manager will be responsible for the sales performance in Belize including depletion goals, gaining high quality points of distribution, cocktail menus / features, displays, and key account management.

Lead, co-develop and manage all Copalli Activation Initiatives in market. Leverage all resources, partnerships, and relationships to build and execute the Belize activation plan. Grow quality, presence, awareness, and relevance among target consumers and accounts.

Develop close and effective relationships with the personnel and management of our Belizean Distributors. Identify, cultivate, educate, and motivate Key Brand Influencers; particularly bartenders, managers, and owners of On and Off Premise Target Accounts; and spirits opinion-makers.

#### **Qualifications and Training:**

- Sales experience in the beverage alcohol industry.
- Solid understanding of how the On-Premise business operates and the proven ability to independently make things happen in the On Premise.
- Self-motivated, driven, independent, entrepreneurial.
- Existing Belizean trade/account relationships.
- Strong financial acumen; understanding of pricing, ROI on programing, and budget management.
- Proven ability to drive pull thru with accounts and understand how to build brands
- Hospitality experience a plus.
- Confident public speaker with in-depth spirits knowledge.
- Solid human being that enjoys working on teams and that brings solutions to problems.
- Ability and willingness to work non-traditional hours including nights and weekends.

#### **Tasks and Responsibilities:**

#### Selling!

- Independently open new Copalli accounts
- Sell new Copalli distribution, menus, features, displays, etc.. b.
- Conduct staff trainings
- d. Build relationships with key stakeholders and inspire them to sell more Copalli
- Maintain account lists (current and targeted accounts), and personal market
- Track account velocity results via orders and reorders.

#### 2. **Planning**

- Understand Target Consumers and Accounts, brand attributes and key selling points.
  - Lead, co-develop and manage Activation Calendar: Major Events/Trade Shows/Account Events

    - Distributor Initiatives training, work-withs, incentives, programming,
    - iii. On Premise Initiatives - Key/Targeted Account development, staff training, consumer events, cocktail development, menu placements.
    - Off Premise Initiatives Key/Targeted Account development, Shelf
  - placement, merchandising/POS, display drives, tastings. Assess ROIs for all programing and ensure we are always within guidelines.
- Track progress, resolve issues, adjust based on key learnings, share successes.

#### 3. Sales Leadership

- Schedule, manage and attend distributor work-with activities.
- Support distributor activities, including sales meetings, trade tastings, and local
- Build rapport with distributor team thru personal interaction, meetings, and happy
- Work closely with distributor reps and managers to inspire them to sell more
- Independently open new accounts and create account relationships cannot be reliant on distributors – show them success and they will follow!

#### Field Marketing 4.

- Actively seek out and identify local event and promotional opportunities to help drive increased Copalli Rum brand awareness and trial.
- Lead merchandising activities in the market including installation of shelf talkers, bottle neck hangers, retail displays, branded signage, menu / cocktail features, etc.
- Lead effective and efficient communication with Copalli Leadership on all local c.
- promotions and events to ensure strategic execution.
- Manage Point of Sale assets and regional allocation.

#### 5. **Admin / Budget Compliance:**

- Manage local market budget adhering to company approval policies, expense
- reporting policies and expense management platform b. Participate in weekly team and individual sales calls with Copalli Leadership, and
- maintain a high level of communication regarding market management
- Adhere to all sales and marketing reporting routines.

#### **Location & Travel:**

- Preference is that candidate lives in or near Belize District
- Must have own reliable transportation
- Travel within country anticipated at 40% Belize, 20% Cayo, 10% each other four districts.

#### Compensation:

- Base salary
- Commission
- Bonus (based on hitting vol/distribution/KPI goals)
- Two weeks' vacation + company holidays
- Car allowance
- Laptop provided
- T&E budget to cover travel & expenses in territory

#### Resume/CV submissions: jobs@copallirum.com





#### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Individual Consultant Project Coordinator** 

**Institution: Ministry of Finance** 

**Country: BELIZE** 

**Project: Strengthening of Tax Administration Project** 

**Sector: Finance** Project No.: BL-L1031 **Operation No: 4839/OC-BL** 

Deadline: Friday, November 4th, 2022, at 4:00 pm local Belize time

The Government of Belize (GoB) has entered into a US\$ 14 Million Loan Contract Agreement (No. 4839/OC-BL) with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the execution of a five-year tax modernization project entitled "Strengthening of Tax Administration". The main beneficiaries of the Project are: (a) the Government, which will have more revenues to implement its public policies; (b) taxpayers, who will have more support and a digital environment to fulfill their tax obligations; and (c) the population, from the government policies implemented. The Ministry intends to apply a part of the proceeds towards payments for the services of **Project Support Officer**.

The objective of the position is to provide the necessary strategic, governance, organizational and administrative leadership for the Project, ensuring the effective allocation of resources, providing the financial and technical direction of the Project towards the attainment of the goals and targets, leading the physical and financial progress reporting, and serving as the main focal point of the Project with the BTS, the MoF and other public and private institutions.

The Project Coordinator is responsible for leading and guiding all matters pertaining to the effective, efficient and transparent implementation of the Project BL-L1031, through the technical, administrative and financial management of the PEU, in accordance with the procedures and stipulations contained in the Program Operational Manual (POM) and in compliance with the Loan Contract.

#### The main responsibilities of the Project Coordinator include, among others:

- Implementing the intra- and inter-institutional coordination mechanisms with the BTS, the MOF and other public and private organizations related to and/or beneficiaries of the Project
- Promoting and disseminating the Project among beneficiaries, public entities, and other stakeholders.
- In close coordination with the pertinent technical and administrative personnel of the BTS and the
- MoF, guiding the strategic and operations planning activities of the Project. Monitoring the activities of the Project in compliance with its global strategic objectives and those of its individual technical components, as well as the targets established in the Project.
- Implementing the Programs' risk management mechanisms on the basis of the IDB tool Risk Management in Projects with Sovereign Guarantee (RMP), taking into consideration the assessment and evolution of the risk factors, the factors of probability and impact, and risk mitigation measures.
- Guiding the preparation, the periodic physical and financial progress reports to be submitted to BTS, MoF, MED, and the Bank.
- Presenting to the Bank the required data, reports and other documentation of the Project as a whole and its individual components, as established in the Loan Contract.

#### **Qualification and Experience Requirements:**

**Education:** Bachelor's Degree in Economics, Business Administration, Business Management, Project Sanagement or related fields. Certification in Project Management or a master's degree in a related field would be an asset. Participation in relevant courses/trainings in procurement, project management, time management, adership, Microsoft Projects, or similar, would also be considered an asset.

**General Experience:** A minimum of five (5) years general working experience.

**Specific Experience:** A minimum of three (3) years of experience working in project management including administration, monitoring, control and evaluation. Previous work with investments projects funded by international development agencies is a plus.

#### **Skills:** The following skills are highly desirable:

- Knowledge of Records Management
- Experience supervising staff Experience in Report Writing
- Knowledge and experience working with Microsoft Office, QuickBooks or similar accounting software
- Excellent oral and written command of the English language
- Strong organizational and time management skills and ability to multi-task, with ability to adapt to changing needs and priorities
- Solid team management, leadership and delegation skills and ability to coordinate functional activities of multiple actors
- Strong team player

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 section 5 - individual consultants and is open to all eligible candidates as defined in the

#### **Expression of Interest package should contain:**

- Cover letter briefly explaining interest, experience, and competence of the consultant
- Comprehensive resume with the Individual Consultant's experience in the assignment of similar nature. Description of similar assignments specifying start and end dates of assignments. Please provide dates, name of employing organization, titles of positions held, types of activities performed and location of the assignment.
- (iii) Copy of degrees/certificates
- List of at least two references (iv)
- Proof of nationality: copy of documentation of nationality

Interested individuals may obtain further information and request the full Terms of Reference for this post the address below during the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm local Belize time, Monday to Friday.

Qualified Individual Consultant must submit their expression of interest via e-mail to Michelle.Longsworth@bts.gov.bz no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, November 4th, 2022, marked STAP- Project Coordinator in the subject header; or applicants may also submit a hardcopy at the following address:

**Director General** 

**Belize Tax Service** 

**Strengthening of Tax Administration Project** 

**Eleanor Hall Building** 

Lake I. Boulevard, Belize City

For clarifications kindly contact: **Procurement Specialist** 

**Strengthening of Tax Administration Project** 

**Ministry of Finance** 

**Eleanor Hall Building** 

Lake I. Boulevard, Belize City Email: <u>tamara.tingling@mof.gov.bz</u>



Abstract:





#### <u> VITATION TO QUOTE – GOODS</u>

Institution: Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing

**Country: Belize** 

**Project: Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program Sector:** Infrastructure, Environment and Natural Disasters **Equipment for the Ministry of Infrastructure** 

**Development and Housing** 

Loan No.: Loan 4426/OC-BL

**Deadline:** 10:00 a.m. (Belize Local Time) on November 10th, 2022

- The **Government of Belize** has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank toward the cost of the Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments under the Contract for the Supply and Delivery of 3 Mini PCs and 3 Monitors under the Climate **Vulnerability Reduction Program.**
- 2. The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing now invites sealed quotation from eligible and qualified suppliers for the supply of the following item: 3 Mini PCs and 3 Monitors.
- 3. Bidding will be conducted through Shopping procedures specified in the Inter-American Development Bank's Policies (GN-2349-15, January 2020 – Section 3.6) for the Procurement of Works and Goods financed by the Inter-American Development Bank.
- Interested eligible suppliers may obtain the full Invitation to Quote for the required PCs and Monitors from the Program Management Unit, Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing, located on the First Floor of the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing Soils Lab Building, Power Lane, Belmopan by emailing pmupcmow@gmail.com AND cvrp.4426.3@gmail.com.
- Quotation must utilize forms provided in the invitation to quote. One (1) Original and two (2) copies are to be submitted in sealed labelled envelopes to the address indicated below. Quotations by email WILL NOT be accepted.
- Suppliers are informed that they can only quote for the type of **PCs and Monitors** specified, and quote for all items in this Invitation. Price quotations will be evaluated for all the items. Price quotations should be Inclusive of General Sales Tax.
- 7. Your quotation(s) should be submitted as per the following instructions and in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of supply in the attached Quote Submission Sheet.
  - **VALIDITY OF THE OFFER:** Your quotation(s) should be valid for a period of **90 days** from the date of receipt for
  - **SUBMISSION OF OFFERS:** Offers will be submitted on the (ii) Quote Submission Sheet including a description of specifications offered, Price Schedule for Goods and Related Services. These templates are annexed in the full Invitation to Quote. All documents must be completed without any alterations in format, and no substitutes shall be accepted. All blank spaces shall be filled in with the information requested.
- 8. The Purchaser shall award the Contract to the offer which complies substantially with the technical specifications and other requirements in these documents and represents the lowest price.
- 9. Quotation must be delivered to the address below at or before 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time) on November 10th, 2022. Electronic quote will not be permitted. Late quote will be rejected. Your quotation should be in the English language in the required format or other similar, acceptable format should be addressed and submitted to:

Mr. Rolando Chan, Program Coordinator Attention of (Name):

**Program Management Unit** Address: **Program Management Unit** 

Phone #:

**Email:** 

First Floor - Soils Lab **Ministry of Infrastructure Development** 

and Housing

Power Lane, Belmopan Cavo District, Belize 822-1942/822-0100 pmupcmow@gmail.com,

cvrp.4426.3@gmail.com **AND** procurement.officer.midh@gmail.com





#### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST **Individual Consultancy**

**Project Support Officer** 

**Institution: Ministry of Finance** 

Country: BELIZE

**Project: Strengthening of Tax Administration Project** 

Sector: **Finance** Project No.: BL-L10315 **Operation No: 4839/OC-BL** 

Friday, November 4th, 2022, at 4:00 pm local Belize time **Deadline:** 

The Government of Belize (GoB) has entered into a US\$ 14 Million Loan Contract Agreement (No. 4839/OC-BL) with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the execution of a five-year tax modernization project entitled "Strengthening of Tax Administration". The main beneficiaries of the Project are: (a) the Government, which will have more revenues to implement its public policies; (b) taxpayers, who will have more support and a digital environment to fulfill their tax obligations; and (c) the population, from the government policies implemented. The Ministry intends to apply a part of the proceeds towards payments for the services of Project Support Officer.

The objective of the position is to provide general administrative and clerical support to the PEU in compliance with IDB and national regulations.

The Project Support Officer is responsible for the overall daily affairs of the PEU as it pertains to the effective and successful completion of the various activities under the project portfolio of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and ensuring that all Projects' activities are executed in accordance with the applicable MoF and the Bank's requirements.

#### The main responsibilities of the Project Support officer include, among others:

- Provide secretarial services for the PEU.
- **(b)** Provide clerical services for the PEU.
- Work closely with the project team in coordination of a wide range of activities in order to meet project and organizational objectives, targets and demands.
- Work closely with the project team to ensure that internal and external policies and procedures are followed.
- Maintaining an adequate filing system for the PEU records, including the payment (e) records, among others.

#### **Qualification and Experience Requirements:**

**Education:** Associate degree in Business Administration, Public Administration or related fields. Participation in relevant courses/training in fields of project management, Microsoft Project, time-management, computer skills, Microsoft Office would also be considered an asset.

**General Experience:** A minimum of two (2) years general working experience.

#### **Specific Experience:**

- A minimum of one (1) year of work experience in performing administrative support services and/or secretarial duties.
- One (1) year experience working with SmartStream system is considered an asset.
- One (1) year experience working with international or national development agencies is considered an asset.
- One (1) year experience working with Microsoft Project is considered an asset.

**Skills:** (a) knowledge of records management is an asset; (b) Have excellent computer skills, including Microsoft Office; (c) task orientated and able to prioritize projects, multitask and meet tight deadlines; (d) fluent in written and spoken English with the ability to express data in a concise and clear manner; (e) team player and possess strong self-motivation and initiative; (f) professional, honest and display strong business ethics and integrity.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: <u>Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank</u> GN-2350-15 section 5 – individual consultants and is open to all eligible candidates as defined in the IDB policies.

#### **Expression of Interest package should contain:**

- Cover letter briefly explaining interest, experience, and competence of the consultant
- Comprehensive resume with the Individual Consultant's experience in the assignment of similar nature. Description of similar assignments specifying start and end dates of assignments. Please provide dates, name of employing organization, titles of positions held, types of activities performed and location of the assignment.
- (iii) Copy of degrees/certificates
- (iv) List of at least two references
- Proof of nationality: copy of documentation of nationality

Interested individuals may obtain further information and request the full Terms of Reference for this post at the address below during the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm local Belize time, Monday to Friday.

Qualified Individual Consultant must submit their expression of interest via e-mail to Michelle.Longsworth@bts.gov.bz no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, November 4th, **2022**, marked **STAP- Project Support Officer** in the subject header; or applicants may also submit a hardcopy at the following address:

**Director General Belize Tax Service** 

Strengthening of Tax Administration Project

**Eleanor Hall Building** 

Lake I. Boulevard, Belize City

For clarifications kindly contact:

**Procurement Specialist** 

Strengthening of Tax Administration Project

**Ministry of Finance Eleanor Hall Building** Lake I. Boulevard, Belize City Email: <u>tamara.tingling@mof.gov.bz</u>

## PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

## Belmopan Civic Center

BY ORDER of the Embassy of the United States of America, Licensed and Certified Auctioneer, Sheldon N.C. Arnold will sell the following items at the Belmopan Civic Center, Belmopan, Cayo District on Saturday, October 29, 2022, at 8:00 am sharp.

2016 Toyota Hilux

2014 Toyota Landcruiser Hardtop

**Household Appliances** 

Office Furniture

Office Supplies

**Computer Parts** 

**Gym Equipment** 

Portable AC

Mechanical Tool Bags

Kitchen Ware Items

Ramp used to off load cargo

**Ceiling Tiles** 

**Carpet Tiles** 

Freezer

**Pressure Washer** 

**Dump Trailer** 

**Tractor Spare Parts** 

Water Filter

#### [And other attractive items...]

Buyers must load onto their vehicles/transport by 4pm the same day of the sale.

All items will be available for viewing on Friday, October 28, 2022 between the hours of 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Belmopan Civic Center.

\*\*\*All interested bidders must be 18 years or older and will be required to register using a valid (picture) identification card on the day of the sale. Please note that all Rules and Agreements regarding this sale will be available for those viewing the Lots. Final viewing will be permitted one hour prior to the sale. \*\*\*

\*\*\*CUSTOM DUTIES AND TAXES MUST BE PAID\*\*\*

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH OR CERTIFIED CHEQUES

Sheldon N.C. Arnold
P.O. BOX 666, Belmopan
Cell # 624-5200 or 602-8308
Website: www.arnoldenterpirse.com









## e Righters

Contributed By The Human Rights Commission

Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70: 30 Articles on 30 Articles

In three concise paragraphs, Article 21 of **⊥** the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) outlines some of the fundamental principles of democracy: the will of the people should be the basis of government authority, and everyone has the right to take part in the government "directly or through freely chosen representatives." It calls for periodic, genuine elections with universal suffrage and secret ballot, and also establishes that "everyone has the right to equal access to public service."

It does not actually include the word "democracy" – which does not appear anywhere in the UDHR, apart from one reference, in Article 29, to "democratic society." Just three years after the end of World War II, the term "democracy" was already snared up in

the rapidly developing Cold War ideological disputes, with the Soviet bloc and Western countries interpreting the term quite differently.

"No famine has ever taken place in the history of the world in a functioning democracy."

— Amartya Sen, Indian winner of the 1998 Nobel Prize in economics

This Article, in making core elements of democracy a fundamental human right, reflects the resounding statement in the Preamble to the UDHR that "it is essential" that human rights must be protected by rule of law "if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression."

Fresh in the minds of the UDHR drafters was the election of Adolf Hitler through democratic processes, and his subsequent rejection of the very same processes as a foundation for the democratic state. Instead, he advanced the Führerprinzip (leader principle) based on the philosophy that the best, strongest and brightest should rule the weaker and "less pure." Such a leader would command total obedience from those under him, and he was above, and therefore could totally disregard, the rule of law. In this respect, like so many others, the UDHR can be seen as a key part of the world's attempt to inoculate itself against any future would-be dictators.

To a considerable extent it has been successful: the adoption of the Universal Declaration has been credited with helping advance the spread of democracy throughout the world since 1950, when there were just 20-25 democratic countries. Since then, the percentage of countries where the government is formed on the basis of majority rule, determined by regular elections, has risen considerably, boosted first of all by the end of colonialism and then by the collapse of Communism in the Soviet Bloc in

In recent years, the number of countries around the world holding periodic free and fair elections rose to a postwar high. However, the tide may now be receding, with various countries, including established democracies, appearing to be moving backwards. A number of think tanks and civil society organizations have reported that, after years of advance, the proportion of "free" democracies is now declining.

"I do not acknowledge that there are various models of democracy; there is just democracy itself."

- Shirin Ebadi, Iranian lawyer and winner of 2003 Nobel Peace Prize

They place the blame for this on various factors, including increasingly brazen actual (or would-be) autocrats, divisive politics and disillusioned electorates. The United States' withdrawal from its leadership role in promoting human rights at the global level is also cited. And there are signs that the younger generations of adults have little knowledge or memory of their parents' experiences under fascism and communism and may be losing faith and interest in the democratic project.

Populism, driven by parties from the political extremes, is once again pushing for power via existing democratic processes – its promoters described by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan as "charismatic individuals or fake prophets promising simplistic solutions to people's grievances through radical policies that dismiss institutions and laws as either irrelevant or inconvenient."

Democracies are not only about elections and parliaments: they also depend on effective channels for people's broader participation in policy discussions and decisions, including at the local and regional levels; and rule of law and human rights are indispensable for a truly democratic system.

A number of key rights contained elsewhere in the UDHR are among the first casualties when democracy withers. Laws are brought in to curtail freedom of expression and opinion (Article 19); and the freedom of assembly and association (Article 20) is also among the first to go, smothering civic space (often referred to as "the oxygen of democracy"). The rule of law Articles (6-11) soon follow – undermined by redrawn legislation and amendments to Constitutions designed to strengthen the leadership's hold on power.

Once the rule of law

and independence of Cont'd on pg. 22





#### **Belize Sugar Industries Ltd.**

Invites qualified and self-motivated individuals to submit applications for the post of:

> **Industrial Operations Manager** at Tower Hill, Orange Walk

ASR|BSI seeks to recruit an Industrial Operations Manager to lead and manage its sugar processing operations in Belize. This position is the top operational job in the plant and plays a key role in the ongoing success of the Company's regional growth. As an active member of the wider ASR Group, s/he will also cooperate closely with peers and senior members in other countries.

#### Qualifications and Experience:

- Master's Degree in Science, Engineering or related field
- Minimum 10 years relevant plant experience in sugar mill operations
- Supervisory and management experience of staff, projects and programs
- Bilingual skills (English & Spanish)
- Experience in Projects Management/Expansion project and 5 years' experience in a cogeneration plant are a plus

#### Skills and Competencies:

- Management skills in a sugar mill or heavy industry environment with major focus on maintenance develop strategies and resource management
- A motivating and well organized management style that leads by example
- S/he needs to have strong leadership and communication capabilities to manage and further enhance the industrial operation with close to 300 employees
- Self-motivated with exceptional work ethic
- Solid technical experience
- People skills to train, motivate and coach/mentor the team

#### Roles and Responsibilities:

Operations management at Tower Hill Sugar Mill and Belcogen Power Plant

- Optimization of mill and power plant operations
- Oversee all maintenance staff and insuring that all machinery in the factory such as conveyors, silos, storage tanks and processing equipment is working
- Ensure cost control and budget management
- Responsible for the technical management of the industrial unit and its annexes (labs, workshops, etc....)
- Overall responsibility for all electrical, mechanic, and instrumentation equipment
- Ensure all production levels are met

Provide support for development and implementation of strategic planning for and improvement of environment health and safety programs, sugar production, sugar quality, consistency and efficiency throughout the processing operations.

Letter of application accompanied by a Resume, Police Record, recent transcript and two letters of reference should be submitted to:

> **Human Resources Manager** P.O. Box 29, Tower Hill, Orange Walk Or email HR.Belize@asr-group.com

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM AND ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS IS NOVEMBER 10, 2022.

## UDP vs. UDP?

#### Recall petitioners to challenge rejection in court

By Michelle Sutherland



Alberto August

Chairman, who seems to be leading the charge in what has been dubbed the Recall Project, held a press conference with the media on Wednesday hinting that he is considering taking his fellow colleagues to court over the recent rejection of a recall petition aimed at unseating Party Leader Moses "Shyne" Barrow.

In his comments to the media, August indicated that the UDP Chairman Michael Peyrefitte had acted unilaterally in arriving at a decision, and as such, the recall team is seeking legal advice to see whether they can take the matter to the Supreme Court to have it overturned.

Failing that, it is possible that another recall might be on the horizon, as August said the team is also prepared to launch another attack and this time ensuring that they abide by the strict guidelines that have been put in place.

"The allegation coming from them is that they are retracting their signatures. In other words, they were having a change of heart. It's like the legal counsel said, they will have an opportunity to change their mind if they want to, but this is not the process for that. We are in a position where the national chairperson of the party is taking a unilateral decision on this matter. We have requested for him – while he is the national chairperson of the party, he is not the legal advisor of the party – we have requested for him to seek the advice of the legal advisor of the party and he's refusing to do so. So he's taking this matter on a unilateral stance. He is telling us that the opinion of the legal advisor will be just that – a legal opinion. But his opinion is also an opinion too."

A u g u s t w a s accompanied by attorney Norman Rodriguez, legal representative for the Recall Project, who stated that the recall petition should have been handled similarly to the election process. A process that Rodriguez says that the chairman should count the ballots the same way he received them and then declares the results.

"Delegates do not have the opportunity to cancel or retract any of those petitions once they are delivered to the chairman, it is like a normal election process. Once you go to the polls and vote, and the polls close at six or seven, you cannot go back to the returning officer and say 'I want to take back my ballot.'So that is the simple process. You have signed a petition and there is a process that you must go through. I already outlined what must happen after you sign. You cannot go and retract it and I will say that. Of course, they will say yes you can retract it, so like I said this will be a

matter that will be decided by a judge," explained Rodriguez.

During his sit-down with the media, August also challenged Peyrefitte's decision to declare that the recall had failed due to concerns surrounding the legitimacy of some of the signatures. Those, according to August, totaled nine and included four which they claimed were not alternate delegates, three from persons who did not appear on the delegates list, and lastly two from delegates who had resigned. August said that while he might be inclined to concede the first four signatures, he can certainly challenge the other five. But even if they were to concede all nine signatures, then there are still going to be 191 "valid" signatures left, which is more than enough to trigger a recall.

August also dispelled claims that delegates

were allegedly coerced or misled into signing the recall petition, and were not properly briefed about the nature of the document. That document which reportedly did not contain any heading and which contained a total of 66 signatures has also been a bone of contention among the UDP, however, August said that the document had two pages that contained the attachments, while the third did not have any heading.

Nevertheless, August said that delegates were given six reasons why the party leader should be recalled from his post at which point they were asked to sign the petition for his removal if they had agreed.

In the end, 43 of those persons had allegedly requested that their signatures be retracted from the petition, which the Chairman says invalidates the petition.

## Article 21: A Short Course in Democracy

Cont'd from pg. 21 the judiciary have been compromised, social, economic and cultural rights are endangered,

especially for those parts of the population viewed unfavourably by the party in power. The slide from democracy to dictatorship can be startlingly rapid.

Even generally well-functioning democracies suffer significant shortcomings, such as the number of women in public life. According to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the average

global percentage of women members of parliament is just 24 percent, and four national parliaments still have no women at all

The number of women ministers is also an indication of how much political will there is to render a country truly democratic in terms of gender balance. The Nordic countries in particular have made a major effort to build a society based on gender equality, and the current Norwegian cabinet is made up of equal numbers of women and men. After his election in 2015, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau also appointed an ethnically diverse cabinet with 15 women and 15 men, saying it "looks like Canada." When questioned later by journalists about why he had made – and kept – a promise of gender parity, his answer was simple: "Because it's 2015."

Disclaimer: the opinions expressed by our columnists are theirs alone, and are not necessarily reflective of the newspaper's stance on the issues touched. We believe it is critical that our columnists be allowed freedom to generate discussion through their expressions on any number of topics.



For more information or appointments contact us at 630-8703 or visit us on Cemetery Road next to Rogers Stadium.

Anodyne Therapy
Center of Belize

## Now Open:

Experiencing any of the following symptoms?

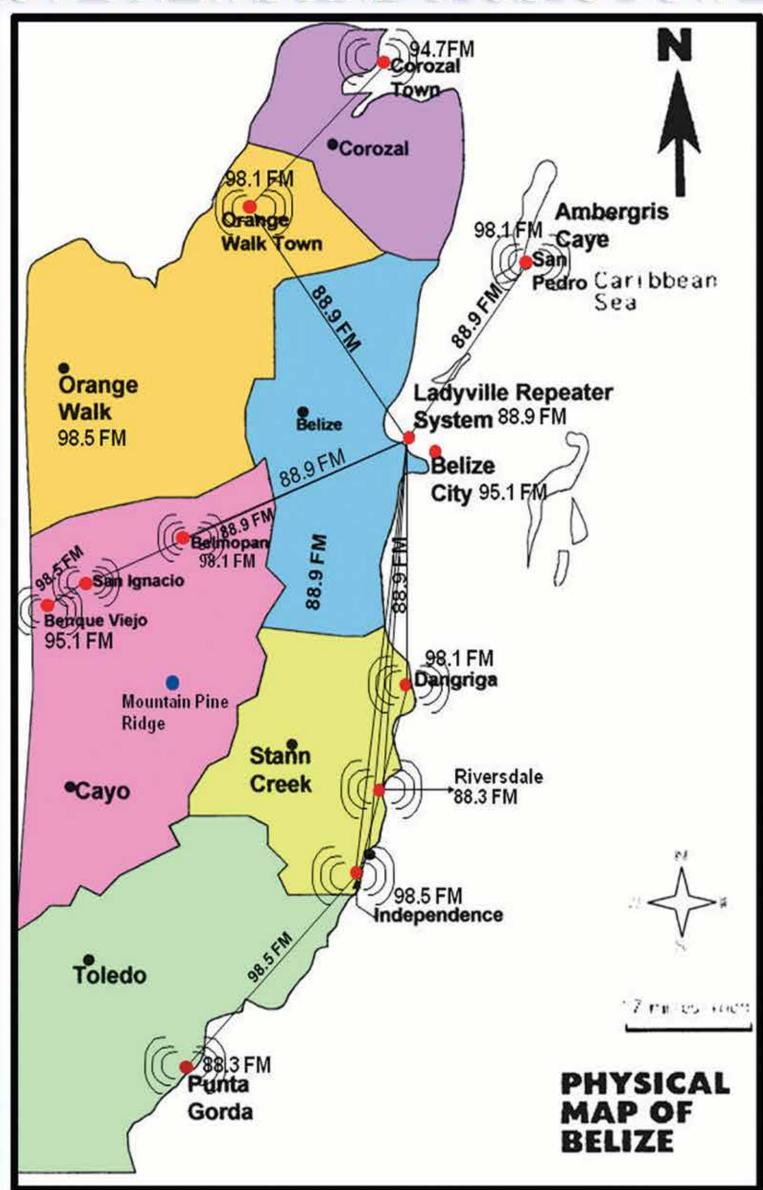
- Arthritis
- Bursitis
- Tendonitis
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Sprains
- Slow healing wounds
- · Diabetic ulcers
- · Stress Fractures
- Diabetic peripheral neuropathy

(loss of sensation or feeling)

Anoydne Therapy can help you.

How? Anodyne is a unique therapy that harnesses the healing power of infrared light. It emits special wavelengths of energy which dramatically increase circulation to injury sites and areas of chronic pain. The result is rapid relief of discomfort and pain.

## LOVE NEWS AND MUSIC POWER



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THANKS FOR CHOOSING LOVE!









#### BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

#### COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

San Pedro, Ambergris Caye; Potts Creek/Salt Creek, Belize District; Little Belize Settlement, Corozal Town, Xaibe Village, Consejo Village, Corozal District; Shipyard Settlement/August Pine Ridge Village, Hill Bank Area, Orange Walk District; Lord's Bank, Los Lagos, Hattieville, Belize District; Georgeville, Camalote Village, Cayo District; Bella Vista Village, Toledo District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Atlantic Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties. Sales currently running until 31st December 2022. Public Auction Sales will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties are sold.

#### A: San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize District:

L. Parcel No. 6824 Colonia Diego, San Pedro Ambergris Caye, Belize District;



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
San Pedro	7	4093, 4094, 4095, 4872, 4873, 4874.

#### 2. Parcel No. 6824 Colonia Diego, San Pedro Ambergris Caye, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Pedro	7	6824
Freehold property of Mr. Pable	Saca	10004.

#### 3. Parcel No. 2601 San Pedro Ambergris Cave, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Pedro	7	2601
Freehold property of Mr. Pable	Sosa	2001

#### Parcel No. 9412 approximately 13 miles northeast of San Pedro Town in Bracelette Caye on the west coast of Ambergris Caye. Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Pedro	7	9412
Freehold property of Messrs. Pair for Mr. Keith Alan Zielaskowski.	of Aces Limit	ed, surety

#### B: COROZAL DISTRICT:

1. Parcel No. 799 Waree Bight Area, near Little Belize, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Waree Bight/Freshwater Creek	3	799
Freehold property of Mr. David Neuf	eld of Little Beli	ze Com Mill.

#### Parcel No. 929 8th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal Central	1	929

#### 3. Parcel No. 178 Xaihe Village, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Xaibe	1	178
Freehold property of Mr. Abral	um Xiehols	on.

#### C: ORANGE WALK DISTRICT:

1. Parcel No. 1124 August Pine Ridge Village, Orange Walk District



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
August Pine Ridge	9	1124

#### 2 726,969 Acres Indian Creek Community, Hill Bank Area, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Sierra De Aqua	23	68,69,70,71,72,73,75,76,77,78,79, 80, & 81

#### D. BELIZE DISTRICT:

995 Acres situate at Intersection Potts Creek Road & Western Boundary of Salt Creek Work, Belize District:



ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land containing 995 acres situated on the intersection of Potts Creek Road and the western boundary of Salt Creek Work TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Messrs. Smuggler's Run Holdings Limited)

#### 2. 5 Acres situate at Junction Potts Creek Road & north bank Potts Creek, Belize District:



ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land containing 5 acres situate at the junction Potts Creek Road and the north bank of Potts Creek TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Messrs. Smuggler's Run Holdings Limited) 3. Lot No. 58 situate in Lord's Bank Village Extension, Belize District:



ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 58 situate in Lord's Bank Village Extension, Belize District comprising 1066.42 square yards TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. Freehold property of Mr. Norman Augustine Jr.)

#### 4. Lots Nos. 43 & 44 Fred Hunter's Subdivision, Mile 13 Phillip Goldson Highway, Belize District:



ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of land being Lots Nos. 43 and 44 situate Southwest of the Phillip Goldson Highway at Mile 13, Belize District, Belize being a portion of land comprised in Minister's Fiat Grant No. 15 of 1989 date 23<sup>nd</sup> February 1989 TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Being 2 vacant lots situate in the Fred Hunter Subdivision near Mile 13 on the Northern Highway, South of Los Largos in the Belize District, the freehold properties of Mr. Gildardo Cardona and Mrs. Rocio Aguilar Cardona)

#### Lot No. 307 Hattieville Village, Belize District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 307 situated at Belizean American Site near Mile 17 ½ South of George Price Highway, Hattieville Village, Belize District comprising 613.44 square meters TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Mr. Sean Delroy Nicholas)

#### E: CAYO DISTRICT:

1. Lot No. 193 Georgeville, Cayo District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of vacant land being Lot No. 193 Minister's Fiat 606 of 2013 of Georgeville Village, Cayo District, comprising of 1026.481 Square Meters, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Ms. Tanesha Salazar)

#### 2. Parcels Nos. 2286 & 2287 Camalote Village, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Society Hall	24	2286 & 2287
Freehold properties of Mr. Ron	Waight & M	ls. Karina Waight.

#### F: STANN CREEK DISTRICT

1. Parcel Nos. 440 Dangriga, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLUCK	PARCEL
Dangriga South	31	440
Freehold property of Messrs. D	angriga Cable	Vision.

#### 2. Parcel Nos. 618 Dangriga, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Dangriga South	31	618
Freehold property of Messrs. D	angriga Cable	Vision

#### G: TOLEDO DISTRICT:

1. Lot No. 2 Bella Vista Village, Toledo District:



All That piece or parcel of land known as Lot #2 located in Bella Vista Village, Stann Creek District compromising 445.892 square meters Fogether with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Mr. Robert Andrew August and Ms. Roselia E. Lizama)

#### "FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

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