

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

February was the culmination of meetings and discussions between the public and private sectors at the highest level re the difficulties faced by the business community on a daily basis. The Right Honourable Prime Minister and PSOJ President, Peter Moses signed a Memorandum of Understanding which, in effect, signified both sectors' agreement to specific actions to be taken by them to remove, or reduce, some of the obstacles confronting the members of the business sector in their daily operations. Specific deadlines were set for all the action items contained in the MOU and these will be monitored closely for compliance.

CONFERENCES

The PSOJ Secretariat has information on the following international conferences and trade show:

- "Businessmen Forum of Countries to the South" to be held March 21-23 in Havana, Cuba;
- 4th Annual Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Conference scheduled for April 12-14 at the Sherbourne Centre in Barbados.
- International Machine Tool Exhibition to take place April 29-May 7 at the International Exhibition Centre in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

The first Membership Luncheon for this year saw two individuals, four companies and one association being officially welcomed into the PSOJ family. PSOJ President Peter Moses presented them with their Membership Certificates at the function which was held on March 2 at the Hilton Kingston Hotel. Guest Speaker was Mr. Peter Tulloch, Director of the Development Division at the WTO. In his presentation, Mr. Tulloch highlighted the advantages which the WTO offered developing countries and mentioned some of the special facilities which would be made available through the WTO.

SAFEGUARD ACT

The Ministry of Commerce & Technology is inviting comments on the draft "Safeguard Act 2000". This document is available for your perusal at the PSOJ Secretariat.

President Goes Visiting



Guardian Life Insurance Co. was visited by the PSOJ team on March 3. Accompanying President Peter Moses, were Membership Chairman John Burrowes and Executive Director Charles Ross. The team shared the PSOJ's history, structure, objectives and activities with Guardian Life's CEO Earl Moore and a few of the senior executives. In response, Mr. Moore spoke about his company and the very positive response that they had already received in the marketplace. He expressed an interest in joining the PSOJ and in becoming an active participant in the Jamaican business community.

Condolences

The PSOJ wishes to express deepest condolences to the families and friends of the Hon. Courtney Fletcher, O.J., C.B.E. and Mr. Pat Martin, formerly of the Caribbean Cement Company, who passed on recently. They will both be missed for their contribution to the PSOJ and the wider business community.



ISSUES

The PSOJ, through its sub-committees and member-Associations, has been actively involved in the discussions on the following issues:

- The New Companies Act
- The Charter of Rights
- The Proposed Amendments to the Labour and Industrial Relations Act (The Right to Strike).

TRAINING

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) is inviting applications from Managing Directors, Production Managers and other Department Managers to participate in an international training course on "Improving Production For Competitiveness". This will be held August 28 - September 22 in Sweden. Financial assistance is available. Interested persons should contact the PSOJ Secretariat immediately for details.

CAIC/PSOJ Seminar

The PSOJ worked with CAIC (Caribbean Association of Industry & Commerce) on the planning of a one-day seminar on "Telecommunications and Entertainment" which was held on Friday, March 17, 2000 at the Hilton Kingston Hotel.

What's Ahead!

April 18 - Private Sector Hall of Fame Dinner

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 7:00 p.m.

May - Annual Economic Seminar

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 8:30 a.m.

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