Prime Minister Heads Delegation to Summit of the Americas

ST. GEORGE’S, GRENADA, APRIL 11, 2012 _ Prime Minister Hon. Tillman Thomas will head Grenada’s delegation to the Sixth Summit of the Americas in Cartegena, Colombia, on April 14 and 15.

Prime Minister Thomas, accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Karl Hood and Foreign Service Officer, Podie Chitan, will leave Grenada on Thursday morning for Colombia where they will be joined by officials of the Grenada Mission to the Organisation of American States (OAS) in Washington D.C.

The meeting will discuss a wide range of issues, specific to the needs of the region, including poverty and inequality, disaster management and prevention, access to and use of technology to bridge the gap between rural and urban areas, security and regional and physical integration.

Prime Minister Thomas agrees that the summit offers a unique forum for dialogue and mutual understanding among regional leaders who can engage in private, honest, bilateral discussions on various issues.

“Grenada stands to benefit significantly, both from the summit and from bilateral meetings with leaders who have an interest in developing ties with Grenada and the Caribbean. The Summit of the Americas allows us to discuss shared challenges and concerns and come up with shared solutions,” Prime Minister Thomas said Wednesday.

Grenada will seek support from the Summit, its organs and friendly governments, for expanding access to Information Communication Technology (ICT), to enable citizens to obtain employment, education and other services offered by local, regional and international institutions.

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Grenada will also use the occasion of the Summit to engage individual countries, including Peru and Mexico, in bilateral discussions on critical issues affecting both countries. Already, relations with Mexico have provided a number of Grenadians with scholarships to Mexican institutions.

Ahead of the Cartagena Summit, Prime Minister Thomas met and held discussions with the Panamanian General Consul for Latin America and the Caribbean based in Port of Spain, Trinidad, Ceasar Gomez, in a bid to strengthen relations and explore opportunities in Trade, Maritime Security and Agriculture.

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