



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: HIGH

Minister Cox participates in 45th Annual Conference of the Caribbean, Americas and the Atlantic Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

The 45th Annual Conference of the Caribbean, Americas and the Atlantic Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) in Turks and Caicos kicked off earlier today, July 24, 2023, and will continue until July 27. Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development and Family Services, was one of the many Government Officials in attendance. This year's conference is being held under the theme *'Building a Resilient Region in the Face of Global Challenges'*. This significant event brings together Parliamentarians from the Caribbean, the Americas and the Atlantic Region, and seeks to address matters that are relevant to, and impact on the region as a whole.

During the conference today, attendees engaged in fruitful discussions on food security and biodiversity. This topic was of particular interest for the Ministry due to its steadfast commitment in promoting sustainability. It was agreed that collaborative efforts will play a vital role in advancing the development of the region, as Government Officials from across the Caribbean region shared their opinions, experiences, leading to the exchange of knowledge and ideas. The presenters included Senator Arriana Hodgson from Bermuda; the Honourable Marval White from Monserrat and the Honourable Josephine O. Connolly from Turks and Caicos.

Preparing for natural disasters was also a major focus during the conference today. The importance of managing crises and emergencies was also highlighted. Presenters included the Honourable Fitz. Jackson from Jamaica; the Honourable Jamell. R. Robinson from Turks and Caicos; and Bacchus Rolle from Bahamas.

It is anticipated that practical solutions can be formulated to combat these issues facing the Caribbean region.

Among others, also in attendance were Senator the Honourable Nigel de Freitas - President of the Senate; and Senator Dr. Varma Deyalsingh.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services remains commitment towards achieving sustainable human and social development, and looks forward to further meetings aimed at enhancing the lives of vulnerable citizens.

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For more information:

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Government Officials at the 45th Annual Conference of the Caribbean, Americas and the Atlantic Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association



Minister Cox and Supreme Court Registrar in Turks and Caicos, Narendra Lalbeharry. Mr Lalbeharry is also a Trinidadian national.



(l-r) Senator Dr. Varma Deyalsingh ; Minister Cox; and Senator the Honourable Nigel de Freitas
- President of the Senate