



NEWS RELEASE

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PRIME MINISTER HEADS GRENADA DELEGATION TO CANCUN

ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA; MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2010 – A Grenada delegation headed by Prime Minister Hon. Tillman Thomas has arrived in Cancun, Mexico for the 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) which will discuss ways of reducing global warming.

The Prime Minister, who also chairs the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) will join Delegates from 193 countries, some of whom gathered in Cancun one week earlier to begin to map out a policy framework for the meeting.

Mr. Thomas said while much work has been done since the Copenhagen meeting, there was still a reluctance to signing a legally binding agreement to limit green house gas emissions and keep rising temperatures below 1.5 degrees. He said AOSIS must maintain its position on the issue, since small states are the ones to suffer most from global warming and climate change.

“What we will like to see is a legally binding agreement where all countries agree on a set of procedures that will inform global governance. Until we get to that stage we will not be satisfied,” the Prime Minister said as he boarded an American Airlines flight at the Maurice Bishop International Airport in St. Georges on Monday.

Prime Minister Thomas has consistently called for greater commitment from developed countries for increased funding for projects designed to mitigate against damage and dislocation as a result of rising tides and natural disasters that are increasing in intensity.

“We, in this region, have been the most recent example of the impact of natural disasters on our economy and on our people. The effects Hurricane Tomas underscored the importance of the AOSIS position,” the Prime Minister said, noting that the region is vulnerable to other hazards as well, such as earthquakes and volcanoes.

The Grenada delegation includes, the Foreign Minister Karl Hood, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs Elizabeth Henry-Greenidge, Permanent in the Prime Minister's Ministry, Ann Isaac, Grenada's Ambassador to the United Nations, Dr. Dessima Williams and Climate Change experts, Leon Charles and Dr. Linus Spencer among others.

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