



COMMERCIALIZATION OF GRAND BRAS ESTATE A FACT

ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA, JULY 8, 2014 – GIS: The Ministry of Agriculture on Tuesday morning signed a Memorandum of Understanding MOU with the Grenada Innovative Farms Limited (GIF), which signaled the commercialization of the Grand Bras Estate.

The ceremony took place at the Ministerial Complex in St. George's between Government officials and the Directors of the (GIF). GIF is a Grenadian owned and registered agribusiness company with a broad range of managerial, financial and technical expertise that will transform the operations of the Grand Bras Estate.

The signing of the MOU is considered a milestone achievement in Government's ongoing efforts to commercialize Government Estates as part of its thrust to increase domestic food production, reduce the high food import bill, increase foreign exchange earnings and create jobs in higher skilled areas.

The MOU further represents Government's leasing of 121 acres of 200 acres which comprises the Grand Bras Estate in St. Andrew. The remaining acres of estate-lands will remain under the management of the MOA for its ongoing Germ Plasm Programme.

The MOU was signed by Sen. the Hon. Simon Stiell, Mrs. Merina Jessamy, Permanent Secretary (Acting) with responsibility for Agriculture, Land and Environment, Mr. Liam James and John Ventour for GIF in the presence of Agriculture Minister the Hon. Roland Bhola.

Meanwhile Agriculture officials say the lease agreement is for 30 years. They are also recording the latest development as a significant achievement since July 2014 marks one year since Government by way of Cabinet established the committee to oversee the process.

Some of the remaining Government controlled Estates identified for commercialization are Bellevue, Mt. Reuil in St. Patrick's and Limlair on the sister isle of Carriacou.

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