



Government of St. Kitts & Nevis  
Cabinet Secretariat, Government Headquarters  
Church Street, Basseterre  
St. Kitts & Nevis

## **POST-CABINET STATEMENT JULY 7, 2008**

Citizens and residents of St. Kitts and Nevis, good evening. This is the post-Cabinet briefing for Cabinet meeting held today Monday July 7, 2008.

### **INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS**

Cabinet reviewed the schedule of events to be held for the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Independence. The schedule consists of customary events such as the Independence parade as well as a selection of new events including an extra-ordinary calypso competition, Nevis vs. St. Kitts Cricket matches, and various exhibitions and displays. The Chairman of the Silver Jubilee National Independence Committee, Deputy Prime Minister Condor, updated cabinet on the official launch of the Independence Celebrations which takes place on Friday July 11 in front of the National Museum on the Bay Road. The ceremony starts at 4:30 in the afternoon. The theme for the historic celebrations is "Pride, Development, Progress – Independence – 25 Years of Success."

### **NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES**

Cabinet received a comprehensive update from the Ministry of National Security led by acting Minister of National Security, Dr the Hon Earle Asim Martin. The acting Minister was supported by Permanent Secretary Mrs. Astona Browne, and members of the top echelons of the Police Force.

The Police Commissioners brought a full report of criminal activities occurring over the previous weekend and updated members of cabinet on their ongoing interventions to combat violent crimes. The police highlighted their ongoing joint patrols in areas known for high criminal activity and the maintenance of high police presence in vulnerable areas. Random stops and searches remain a part of the ongoing strategy but the police officials resolved that these events will now occur with greater frequency.

Other specific planned interventions whose details cannot be given in this report were discussed and they received the necessary financial and other support from the Cabinet.



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## **NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON THE ECONOMY**

Every year for the past several years, the government has held national consultations economy bringing together individuals from the public sector, the business sector, the clergy, the educational fraternity, the diplomatic corps, youth organizations, political organizations, and many other sectors of society to discuss and make recommendations for the improvement of the economy. It is in the spirit of national consultation that Cabinet approved Thursday August 14 as the date for the convening of the National consultations on the Economy.

Over two hundred delegates will be invited for the historic consultations in this 25th year of our National Independence. Discussions will flow around the theme “External Shocks and Changes in the International Environment – Our Analysis and Response.” The principal objective of the consultations is to facilitate comprehensive examination of the challenges facing the economy with a view to developing recommendations in preparation for the fiscal year 2009 Strategic Planning Process.

Discussions in large measure will be centered around the following subjects:

- National Security, Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, Public Utilities, Fiscal Policy, Debt Management and Tourism.

**END**

This brings to an end the post-cabinet briefing for Monday July 7, 2008. I thank you.