



CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

C/o Caribbean Court of Justice, First Floor, 134 Henry Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

MEDIA RELEASE

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CCAT Regional Sensitisation

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The Caribbean Community Administrative Tribunal (CCAT) hosted a Regional Sensitisation on Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2024, at the Waterfront Judicial Centre, Port of Spain, Trinidad. The objective of the Regional Sensitisation centred around the mandate of the CCAT to operate as an impartial and independent judicial body that provides a final forum for the settlement of employment disputes for staff members of the CARICOM Secretariat and Regional Institutions under its jurisdiction, who are immune from legal proceedings before local courts. The seat of the CCAT is in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Regional Sensitisation commenced with an opening ceremony and included remarks from the President of CCAT, Mr Justice Westmin James and His Excellency Peter Cavendish, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago. The Sensitisation included multiple panels that explored various aspects of International Administrative Law—the legal framework applied by the CCAT in adjudicating disputes.

The panels were facilitated by an esteemed group of regional and international experts, including Mr Justice Westmin James, CCAT and the Inter-American Development Bank Administrative Tribunal (IDBAT); Madam Justice Eleanor Donaldson-Honeywell, United Nations Dispute Tribunal (UNDT); Judge Kieran Bradley, IDBAT, and International Monetary Fund (IMFAT); Judge Deborah Thomas-Felix, Administrative Tribunal for the International Labour Organisation (ILOAT), and (IMFAT); Senator Anthony Vieira SC; Ms Giuliana Cané (IDBAT); and Ms Lisa Shoman SC, General Counsel, CARICOM Secretariat.

Key topics discussed included an overview of International Administrative Law and its sources, common employment issues faced by international civil servants, disciplinary actions and termination procedures, harassment and discrimination, internal dispute resolution mechanisms, the role of administrative tribunal registries, and the range of remedies that the CCAT can award.

This initiative was co-funded by the European Union.

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About the Caribbean Community Administrative Tribunal:

The CCAT was formally launched in Barbados in February 2020 following its establishment by the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM in February 2019. In keeping with the assigned responsibilities under Article VII of the Statute establishing the Tribunal, the RJLSC appointed the Judges and the Registrar of the Tribunal. The CCAT is bound by principles of due process of law and its decisions are to be consistent with the principles of fundamental human rights and in accordance with international administrative law. In exceptional cases, judgments of CCAT can be reviewed by a Review Committee made up of five judges of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) after leave is granted by the Review Committee.

The Tribunal consists of five Members who are appointed for a four-year term by the RJLSC, with consideration given to an equitable geographical distribution and an appropriate gender balance. There are currently three members including a President, but two members will soon be appointed to once again achieve the full complement of five.

The Members are required to be of high moral character, intellectual and analytical ability, sound judgment and integrity and must:

- have held, hold or be qualified to hold high judicial office in a CARICOM State; or
- be jurisconsults of recognised competence with experience as such for a period of not less than ten years; or
- be jurisconsults of recognised competence with particular experience in the field of labour relations for a period of not less than ten years.

The current of Members of the CCAT are Mr. Westmin James, President of the Tribunal, Sir. Patterson Cheltenham K.A., Chief Justice of Barbados (retired); and Mrs. Dancia Penn, KC.

For more information, please contact:

The Office of the Registrar (CCAT)

Tel: (868) 612-5225

Email: ccat@caricom.org