



Grand Lucayan Resort Freeport, Grand Bahama Island, The Bahamas

20-21 February 2013



2013



BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT & BUSINESS FORUM

At the Crossroads of 21st Century
Trade and Investment

Forum Sponsors:



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Welcome Message from The Right Honourable Perry G. Christie Prime Minister of The Bahamas

The Bahamas International Investment & Business Forum will highlight the key advantages The Bahamas, and Grand Bahama in particular, will have in capitalising on the expansion of the Panama Canal, which is due to be completed in 2014. The event will also showcase The Bahamas as a global investment destination of choice with a wide range of opportunities across a number of key sectors.

Held under the theme 'At the Crossroads of 21st Century Trade and Investment,' the Forum will be organised by the Government of The Bahamas, the Commonwealth Business Council and the Grand Bahama Port Authority.

It will be a key opportunity for us to articulate our trade and investment priorities and reach out to both domestic and international business. There will be strong participation by Ministers, key Government officials and senior business leaders from The Bahamas and overseas.

The Forum will be global in its outlook, attracting businesses and investors from the region and around the world, with a focus on Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. The Bahamas offers a fantastic gateway to the Eastern Seaboard of North, South and Central America and to the Caribbean.

As well as highlighting the potential for the development of maritime and logistics industries, the Forum will focus on opportunities in banking and financial services, tourism, real estate, ICT, business services and the knowledge economy, energy exploration, renewable energy, agriculture and manufacturing.

The event will be an ideal platform to explore the opportunities in The Bahamas and to enjoy our warm hospitality and natural beauty of our country.

I look forward to welcoming you to the Forum.

Perry G. Christie



Confirmed Speakers Include:



The Right Honourable Perry G. Christie
Prime Minister of The Bahamas



The Hon Khaalis Rolle
Minister of State for
Investment



The Hon Dr Michael
Darville, Minister for
Grand Bahama



The Hon Ryan Pinder,
Minister of Financial
Services



The Hon Kenred
Dorsett, Minister of
the Environment and
Housing



The Hon Obediah
Wilchcombe, Minister
of Tourism



Hon. G. Anthony Hylton,
Minister of Industry,
Investment and
Commerce, Jamaica



The Hon Jose Del
Castillo, Minister of
Industry and Commerce,
Dominican Republic



Ian Fair, Chairman,
The Grand Bahama
Port Authority



Joy Jibrilu, Director of
Investments,
Bahamas Investment
Authority



Commodore Davey F
Rolle, CEO, The
Bahamas Maritime
Authority



Stuart M Bowe,
President Bahamas Hotel
and Tourism Association



Aliya Allen, CEO,
Bahamas Financial
Services Board



Chester Cooper,
Chairman, Bahamas
Chamber of
Commerce & Employers
Confederation



Pamela Coke-
Hamilton, Executive
Director, Caribbean
Export



Ian Rolle, President,
Grand Bahama Port
Authority



Godfrey Smith, CEO,
Hutchison Group



Andy Thorne,
CEO, Kestrel Liner
Agency



Ashish Saraf
CEO, Facor Energy Ltd



Simon Potter, CEO,
Bahamas Petroleum
Company



Darryl D White
**Regional Vice Presi-
dent, RBC Merchant
Bank (Caribbean)
Limited**



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Tuesday 19th February

1600-2000 Registration

1830-2000 Welcome Reception

Forum Programme Day One - Wednesday 20 February

0800-0900 Registration

0915-1030 **Opening Session: At the Crossroads of 21st Century Trade and Investment**

This session will set the agenda for the Forum and highlight the potential opportunity for The Bahamas to establish itself as a 21st Century Crossroads for international trade and investment.

The Hon Khaalis Rolle, Minister of State for Investment

Ian Fair, Chairman, Grand Bahama Port Authority

Peter Longworth, Director-General, Commonwealth Business Council

The Hon Dr Michael Darville, Minister for Grand Bahama

Keynote Address: Rt Hon Perry G. Christie, Prime Minister of The Bahamas

1030-1100 Networking Break

1100-1200 **Advantage Bahamas: Opportunities for Investors**

This session will provide an economic overview of The Bahamas and highlight the potential opportunities for investors in a range of sectors.

Chair: Joy Jibrilu, Director of Investments, The Bahamas Investment Authority

The Hon Khaalis Rolle, Minister of State for Investment

Wendy Warren, Managing Director, Caystone Solutions

1200-1300 **Investing in Grand Bahama: Unlocking the Potential**

As the industrial centre of The Bahamas, Freeport could be the engine of economic transformation of the country. This session will profile opportunities for investment in Grand Bahama and highlight successful examples of businesses which have established themselves on the island.

Chair: Ian Fair, Chairman, Grand Bahama Port Authority

Ian Rolle, President, Grand Bahama Port Authority

Godfrey Smith, CEO, Hutchison Group

1300-1430 Networking Lunch

1430-1545 **Maritime Industries: Developing a World Leading Logistics and Transshipment Hub**

The Bahamas has developed a world leading maritime industry and stands to be one of the main beneficiaries of the expansion of the Panama Canal. This session will assess the opportunities for developing The Bahamas, and Grand Bahama in particular, as a shipping, logistics and transshipment hub.

Chair: Peter Goulandris, Deputy Chairman, Bahamas Maritime Authority

Commodore Davey F Rolle, CEO, The Bahamas Maritime Authority

Andy Thorne, CEO, Kestrel Liner Agency

Carl-Gustaf Rotkirch, Chairman and CEO, Grand Bahama Shipyard

Dr Eric Deans, Chairman, Jamaica's Logistics Hub Task Force

1545-1600 Networking Break

1600-1715 **Powering The Bahamas: Strategies for Developing Affordable and Sustainable Energy**

Reducing the cost of electricity in The Bahamas would provide a major boost to the economy and the manufacturing sector in particular. This session will assess the development of renewable energy technologies and the possibility of importing LNG. It will also look at ways that the Government and regulators can encourage investment in alternative energy sources. It will also assess the opportunities and associated risks of energy exploration.

The Hon Kenred Dorsett, Minister of The Environment and Housing

Simon Potter, CEO, Bahamas Petroleum Company

Dr Thackwray Driver, CEO, Energy Chamber of Trinidad and Tobago

Ashish Saraf, CEO, Facor Energy Ltd

1600-1715 **Special Session: Promoting the Role of Women in Business in the Caribbean**

The Commonwealth Business Women's Network has been established to help promote the role of women in business through advocating greater female representation on Boards and in senior decision making roles, develop gender based procurement of and providing a mentoring and financing network. This session will help develop a regional agenda for the CBW in the Caribbean and explore the possibility of establishing a Caribbean leadership group for this initiative.

Arif Zaman, Chair, Commonwealth Business Women (CBW)

1830-2100 Reception & Gala Dinner



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Forum Programme Day Two - Thursday 21 February

- 0900-1015 Regional Integration and Trade: Utilising Trade Agreements for Market Access**
Through CARIFORUM The Bahamas has access to more than 15 million consumers and trade agreements with the EU, North and Central America with a potential market of nearly 1 billion consumers. This session will give consideration to the development of regional markets, as well as how more can be done to utilise trade agreements.
Chair: Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director, Caribbean Export
The Hon Jose Del Castillo, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Dominican Republic
The Hon G. Anthony Hylton, Minister of Industry, Investment and Commerce, Jamaica
The Hon Ryan Pinder, Minister of Financial Services and Trade
Simon Townend, Partner, KPMG
- 1015-1130 Banking and Financial Services: Improving Access to Finance and Opportunities for Expansion**
The Bahamas has developed a strong reputation as an international financial services centre. As well as assessing the potential for future development of the sector, the session will also look at options for improving access to finance for businesses.
Chair: Chester Cooper, Chairman, Bahamas Chamber of Commerce & Employer's Confederation
The Hon Ryan Pinder, Minister of Financial Services
Aliya Allen, CEO, Bahamas Financial Services Board
Darryl White, Regional Vice President, Corporate Banking, RBC Merchant Bank (Caribbean) Limited
Keith Davies, CEO, Bahamas International Securities Exchange (BISX)
Eric Guichard, CEO, Homestrings
- 1130-1145 Networking Break**
- 1145-1300 Tourism, Real Estate & Leisure Industries: Strengthening Value Chains**
Tourism is the lifeblood of the economy of The Bahamas. This session will consider how The Bahamas can continue to attract more visitors and further its status as a world leading tourism destination. It will also consider how The Bahamas can capture more of the value chains associated with the tourism and real estate industries.
Chair: Frank Comito, Executive Vice-President, Bahamas Hotel and Tourism Association
The Hon Obediah Wilchcombe, Minister of Tourism, The Bahamas
Stuart M Bowe, Senior Vice President, Kerzner International
Magnus Alnebeck, CEO, Pelican Bay Resort
- 1300-1415 Networking Lunch**
- 1415-1530 Value Addition, ICT, Education and Skills: Creating a Knowledge Based Economy**
Improving value addition is key to creating employment and prosperity for The Bahamas. This session will explore how The Bahamas can do more to utilise its highly educated workforce and attract more knowledge based industries to the Islands.
Chair: Winston Rolle, Former Chairman, Bahamas Chamber of Commerce & Employer's Confederation
Geoff Houston, CEO, Bahamas Telecommunications Company
- 1530-1600 Networking Break**
- 1600-1645 Investing in The Bahamas: Learning from Experience**
This session will outline the nuts and bolts of how to invest in The Bahamas as well as highlighting examples of successful investment projects and market entrants. The session will also consider projects that have been less successful and lessons learnt.
Joy Jibrilu, Director of Investments, Bahamas Investment Authority
- 1645-1700 Concluding Remarks:**
This session will draw the formal proceedings of the event to a close and highlight the key recommendations from the event. It will also outline areas for immediate follow up and further deliberations.
Ian Fair, Chairman, Grand Bahama Port Authority
Peter Longworth, Director-General, Commonwealth Business Council
The Hon Khaalis Rolle, Minister of State for Investment
- 1700-1830 Closing Reception**

Friday 22nd February

0900-1200 Site Visits (Available on Request):

Freeport Container Terminal
Grand Bahama Shipyard



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Making the Most of BIIBF 2013

Ensuring the Forum leads to real business transactions and investment is a key objective of the event. Alongside the main conference sessions, the Forum will also include an active B2B programme which will ensure you will be able to leverage the Forum for your business needs. This will include the following services:

Business Matching

- A business lounge will be available for private meetings during the Forum.
- The delegate list will be sent to all registered participants at least two weeks before the event, which will give you the opportunity to pre-arrange meetings with other participants.
- One to one meetings with Ministers and other senior decision makers will be arranged by the Forum organisers where possible.



Project Profiles

As part of the Forum we aim to collate details of projects in need of investment, from across The Bahamas and wider region. These will be used as a key tool in marketing the event and connecting potential investors.



To submit a project at no additional cost:

- **Visit** - www.cbcbglobal.org
- **Contact** - john.pembertonpigott@cbcbglobal.org / +44 (0) 2070248239

Sponsorship

A range of sponsorship options are available for those interested in corporate profiling or aligning your company with this major event. Sponsors will also have the opportunity to exhibit during the Forum.



For further information:

- **Contact** - kiran.luchmun@cbcbglobal.org / +44 (0) 2070248271

Advertising

In addition to the sponsorship packages opportunities to place advertisements within the Forum Handbook are available.

For further information:

- **Contact** - kiran.luchmun@cbcbglobal.org; / +44 (0) 2070248271





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The Location: Grand Bahama Island

Whether considering relocating your corporate headquarters, building an overseas plant, increasing your global presence, or trading with some of the largest markets in the Western Hemisphere, Grand Bahama offers unmatched investment opportunities, as well as some of the most favourable economic conditions for maximizing significant ROIs. Progressive companies know that Grand Bahama is more than just a tropical paradise – it is a foreign investment destination!

Today, Grand Bahama and its city centre Freeport has grown into a dynamic and stable economic powerhouse. Guaranteed long-term tax concessions and benefits for financial, commercial, and industrial enterprises within this unique economic trade zone, offer advantages that are far superior to anywhere else in the region. The Island's pristine natural beauty, luxury living in modern and well-planned communities, international accessibility by sea and air, excellent telecommunications, and vibrant business and commercial sectors, make it the strategic choice for investment opportunities.





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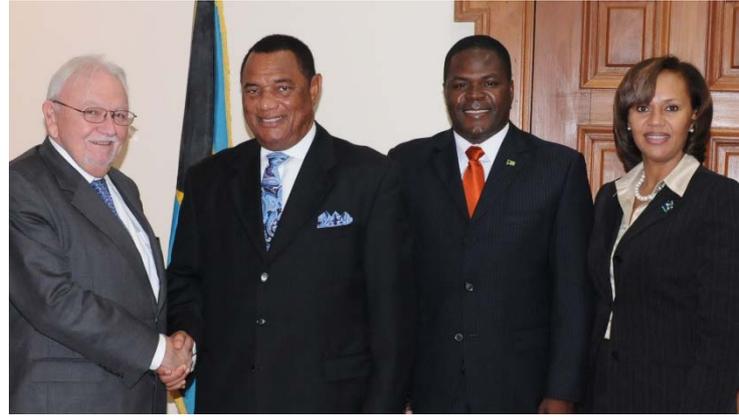
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The Hon Dr Michael Darville, Minister for Grand Bahama, Peter Longworth, Director-General, Commonwealth Business Council, The Hon Khaalis Rolle, Minister of State for Investment and Ian Fair, Chairman, Grand Bahama Port Authority at the press launch of BIIBF 2013.



Peter Longworth, Director-General, CBC, Rt Hon Perry G. Christie, Prime Minister of The Bahamas, The Hon Khaalis Rolle, Minister of State for Investment and Joy Jibrilu, Director of Investments, Bahamas Investment Authority.

The Organisers



Commonwealth Business Council

The Commonwealth Business Council (CBC) was established in 1997 with a direct mandate from Heads of Commonwealth Governments to promote trade and investment amongst 54 member nations and increase economic linkages with non-member countries.

CBC's goal is to achieve economic empowerment for shared global prosperity through the enhancement of private sector contribution to social and economic development.



Bahamas Investment Authority

The government's proactive economic growth and development policies are guided by the Bahamas Investment Authority (BIA), established to reduce bureaucratic delays for domestic and international investors. Operating from the Office of the Prime Minister, the BIA has been designated a "one-stop shop" designed to simplify investing in The Bahamas. The BIA serves as the administrative arm of the National Economic Council and Investments Board.



The Grand Bahama Port Authority

The Hawksbill Creek Agreement (HCA) gave GBPA responsibility for the development, administration and management, and provision of services within an area called the 'Port Area' (230 sq. miles). GBPA was mandated by this Agreement to build a deep water harbour, an industrial community and required infrastructure for the City. GBPA is responsible for nurturing and regulating all commercial and residential development within the 'Port Area' of Grand Bahama.

During the early 1950s American investor, Wallace Groves, and British financier, Sir Charles Hayward pioneered development on Grand Bahama Island. Their vision for development led to negotiations with the Government of The Bahamas and the signing of the Hawksbill Creek Agreement. The Agreement, executed on August 4th, 1955, created, the 'Port Area', and gave birth to the City of Freeport.

For more information and registration please visit www.cbglobal.org

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