CARPHA and CTO launch Tourism and Health Programme

CARPHA and CTO successfully launched the regional tourism and health programme and conducted an awareness and discussion workshop on Friday May 2, 2014 in Aruba. The keynote address was given by the Minister of Tourism, Antigua and Barbuda, John Maginley, and the “call to action” by the Premier of the Turks of Caicos islands, Dr. Rufus Ewing. Working group sessions were also held to discuss and revise the components of the programme.

This workshop was attended by multisectoral stakeholders and partners from the tourism, health and environmental sectors, including:

- Caribbean Tourism Organisation, CTO (Ms Gail Henry)
- Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association, CHTA (Mr James Hepple)
- Pan American Health Organization (Dr Ernest Pate)
- CARICOM (Dr Rudolph Cummings)
- Senators and policy makers from Aruba
- Chief Medical Officers/their representatives (Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Cayman islands, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Marteen, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Turks and Calicos Islands)
- Department of Health and Environmental Health, Aruba

The objectives of this workshop were:

- To build awareness for the CARPHA-CTO Tourism and Health Programme
- To identify other stakeholders and partners
- To discuss and revise the components and delivery of the program with key stakeholders
- To promote mutual understanding, strengthen partnership and collaboration at national and regional level between tourism, health and environment stakeholders

The key achievements of this workshop were:

- Enhanced awareness and better understanding among multisectoral stakeholders and partners for the CARPHA-CTO Tourism and Health Programme
- Revision of the components of the programme with key stakeholders for better delivery at country and regional level
- Strengthened partnership with the CHTA and their agreement for inclusion in the CARPHA-CTO MOU for partnering to execute the programme
- Announcement of funding for the programme from the Minister of Tourism, Antigua and Barbuda, and the Premier, Turks and Caicos
- Announcement by the Premier, Turks and Caicos that he will advocate for the programme at the Heads of Government forum

Please see the tourism and health section of CARPHA’s website for the presentations, video recordings of the session and photos of this workshop.

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Tourism & Health Programme