

OECS to Hand over Vessel to The Saint Lucia National Trust

Written by Media

Wednesday, 23 February 2011 09:04 -

(OECS Secretariat, Castries, Saint Lucia) The OECS Secretariat will next week hand over a new vessel to the Saint Lucia National Trust.

The brief handing over ceremony will be held at the Fisheries Complex in Vieux Fort at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday February 23, 2011.

The vessel, which was recently purchased from a Saint Lucia based agency, is estimated at a value of US \$129,804.00 and is being presented to the Trust to assist with its management of the Point Sable Environmental Protection Area, a conservation site, located on the south coast of Saint Lucia.

The vessel is meant to boost the conservation efforts of the Saint Lucia National Trust; in particular, the Trust is expected to use the vessel to increase surveillance of the marine area of Point Sable, and to improve the general management of area.

This vessel is the third so far purchased by the OECS Secretariat through the OPAAL project and OECS officials anticipate that the Trust will soon intensify its operations in the area in order to heighten public awareness of its importance to biodiversity conservation, improve sustainable livelihoods and promote long-term preservation for future generations.

The vessel was procured through the OPAAL project, a five year development project, being executed by the OECS Secretariat through its Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU), in partnership with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) acting as an Implementing Agency of the GEF; and the Fond Français de l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM) of the Government of France.

In previous years, similar vessels have been purchased for the Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) in St Vincent and the Grenadines and the North East Marine Management Area in Antigua and Barbuda.

OECS to Hand over Vessel to The Saint Lucia National Trust

Written by Media

Wednesday, 23 February 2011 09:04 -

-END-

Media Contact: Tecla Fontenard - tfontenard@oecs.org (758) 455-6366/6327

Subject Contacts: Anthony Sammie – mariaisland@candw.lc

Susanna Scott - sscott@oecs.org (758) 455-6369/6365