



The OECS Secretariat has assured a major regional meeting on public procurement of its full support for the best possible balanced regional system for acquiring goods and services. The OECS Secretariat's Pharmaceutical Procurement Service (PPS) as well as its Electronic Government Regional Integration of project (EGRIP) were among the key presenters at the first Caribbean Commonwealth Public Procurement Network's Technical Conference which was held in Castries from May 17th to 18th 2010.

Addressing delegates at the historic event, Head of the Functional Corporation Programme Management Unit at the OECS Secretariat, Ms. Beverly Best noted the urgency for further combined efforts in the region to help ensure the best possible standards of procurement: "...Current conditions present enormous challenges for the region, but that this is a time when those involved in procurement can really make their mark. I believe that with an appetite to adopt best practices, the desire to have stronger and more collaborative relationships among ourselves, and a scrupulous regard for the development of a reformed regulatory framework, we can build a fairer society in the region through sound and reformed procurement systems, practices and policies. The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, wants to reassure the various procurement partners here in Saint Lucia of its commitment and the keen interest of the Governments of the OECS in ensuring the viability of this partnership in building transparent, accountable procurement processes which will ensure that all potential suppliers are given fair and equitable treatment. It is especially important for successful procurement outcomes that suppliers perceive that a genuine, open and transparent environment exists for public procurement., this is at the heart of the procurement agenda for the OECS region."



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