

T&T still on EU tax haven list, B'dos, Grenada off

BRUSSELS—The European Union on Tuesday announced that Barbados and Grenada are among eight jurisdictions that have been removed from a new list of global tax havens following commitments made at a high political level to remedy EU concerns.

In a statement, the EU said the two Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries are joined by the Republic of Korea, Macao SAR, Mongolia, Panama, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates.

It said they have been removed from the list of non-co-operative jurisdictions for tax purposes and moved to a separate category of jurisdictions subject to close monitoring.

itoring

The EU said that the Council agreed on Tuesday that a delisting was justified in the light of an expert assessment of the commitments made by these jurisdictions to address deficiencies identified by the EU. In each case, the commitments were backed by letters signed at a high political level, it added.

"Our listing process is already proving its worth", said Vladislav Goranov, the Finance Minister of Bulgaria, which currently holds the Council presidency.

"Jurisdictions around the world have worked hard to make commitments to reform their tax

policies. Our aim is to promote good tax governance globally," he added.

The decision by the European Council leaves nine jurisdictions including T&T and St. Lucia, on the list of non-co-operative jurisdictions out of 17 announced initially on December 5, last year.

Last Friday, the St. Lucia government said it expected to join Barbados and Grenada, in being removed from the list.

Prime Minister Allen Chastanet said he had a conference call with EU officials on Friday to identify the problem areas.

"Every month there is a review committee that assesses where

the defaulting countries are, so we expect to be told specifically what the concerns are to which we will respond," Chastanet said, adding that Castries has done everything "within its power" to meet the tax requirements.

He said he hopes that by the time the next review is conducted the island will be off the so-called blacklist.

The proposal for the delisting was made by the so-called Code of Conduct Group, which gathers tax experts from the 28 EU member states. It monitors countries' commitments to abide by EU stand-

ards on tax matters.

Caribbean countries have in the past been very critical of being included on these lists insisting that they have done everything as outlined by various European organisations like the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The EU finance ministers had claimed last month that the countries on the blacklist were not doing enough to crack down on offshore avoidance schemes. (CMC)

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Sisters hacked to death after church

BELMOPAN, BELIZE—Police say they have no motive for the murder of two sisters whose nude bodies were found on a remote road in the Toledo District, a southernmost district in Belize.

The bodies of 16-year-old Josephine Oh and her 19-year-old sister, Cricencia Oh, were found with several chop wounds.

"What we have so far is that the females are from San Antonio Village and they had gone to San Jose village to attend a church service and after the church service they went to visit their brother. And it was when they were going back to their village, they were brutally attacked and their bodies were found by police," said ASP Alejandro Cowo.

"Nobody has been detained and there is no suspect at this moment," he added.

Villagers said the girls may have been killed sometime between 6.30 and 10 pm (local time) on Sunday night. They said they were last seen alive leaving the village around 6.30 on that night. (CMC)

Teenager shot, killed by police

KINGSTON, JAMAICA—Police say they have shot and killed a 16-year-old boy who was responsible for the deadly gun attack on two bus conductors that left one dead and the other hospitalised last weekend.

The authorities said that Anel Lindsay, a resident of Longville Park, Clarendon, south of here, had been responsible for the crime.

They said he was shot by a policeman shortly after he opened gunfire on two bus conductors and that they are still trying to determine a motive for the attack.

Meanwhile, police say they have arrested a teenager in connection with the death of 33-year-old Koyodian Grant, a craft vendor, who was shot dead earlier this month.

Police said they had detained the teenage boy in the St James community during the state of emergency in the parish.

Grant was shot on January 14 as he stood on the roadway and died at the Cornwall Regional Hospital.

The teenager is due to appear before the St James Family Court tomorrow.

Since the start of the year, more than 100 people have been murdered in Jamaica.

Last year, the country recorded more than 1,500 murders. (CMC)



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CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES AT THE 32ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

All Attorneys at Law are advised that:

1. The Closing Date for Nomination of Candidates for election of Officers and Members of Council is **Friday 23rd February, 2018 at 4:00pm.**
2. The 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago will be held on **Friday 23rd March, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.** in the **Convocation Hall, Hall of Justice, Knox Street, Port-of-Spain (other venues to be announced, if any).**
3. Nominations for the position of President, Vice President, Treasurer and fifteen (15) Ordinary Members (10 seniors and 5 juniors) must be made in writing on the prescribed Nomination Form. A separate nomination form is required for each position to be contested.
4. Nomination Forms can be obtained from the Office of the Law Association located at 2nd Floor, 95-97 Frederick Street, Port of Spain and can be downloaded from the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago's website <http://www.lawassociationtt.com>.
5. Pursuant to paragraph 9(2) of Part II of the Legal Profession Act 1986 only practitioner members who pay their annual subscription to the Law Association are eligible: - (a) to nominate candidates (b) to attend and vote at a general meeting or at an election of members of the Council: and (c) to be elected to the Council.
6. Every nomination form of a candidate for election to the Association and the Council shall be signed by not less than five practitioner members and endorsed by the candidate.
7. Nominations in the prescribed form shall be submitted on or before **Friday 23rd February, 2018 at 4:00pm** in nomination boxes located at the following venues:
 - a. **Port of Spain** - The Head office of the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago
 - b. **San Fernando** - Supreme Court, Harris Promenade; San Fernando
 - c. **Tobago** - Supreme Court, Bacolet Street, Scarborough

Dated this 18th day of January, 2018

Elena Araujo
Secretary
Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago