

Port of Spain, (January 30, 2012) – Foreign Affairs Ministers and their representatives will meet in Port of Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago from the 8th -10th February 2012 for the 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS).

Participants of the Ministerial Meeting will include representatives of the Member States, Associate Members, Founding Observers, Observer Countries and Social Actors. The Meeting will be preceded by a two-day Preparatory session. Among other activities, delegates will review the annual reports of the Secretary General, the Chairman of the Ministerial Council and the Chairmen of the Special Committees and Special Fund; examine the Association's work programme, budget, the organizational and administrative structure; sign and ratify ACS legal instruments; and approve Ministerial agreements.

Other major highlights of the Meeting will be the elections of the fifth Secretary General, Executive Boards of the Special Committees, new governmental authorities and approval for Haiti to host the Fifth ACS Summit in Port au Prince. The ACS Secretary General is appointed in keeping with the principle of representation based on rotation for a period of four years