SUSTAINABLE TOURISM COMING TOGETHER : Tourism Agencies Host Dialogue on Developing a Regional Agenda for Sustainable Tourism in the Greater Caribbean

Managua, Nicaragua, (February 8th, 2013) – Representatives of the leading Regional and International Agencies engaged in Tourism development in the Greater Caribbean, will convene for a historic one day meeting to explore avenues to enhance inter-agency collaboration for the promotion, growth and sustainability of the Regional Tourism Industry.

This meeting is expected to facilitate the exchange of experiences and streamlining of regional priorities, with the aim of defining opportunities for collaboration, joint project execution and subsequently the mobilisation of resources.

As primary objective is the establishment and strengthening of cooperation mechanisms in the aspects of Sustainable Tourism. Consequently, paramount on the Agenda will be the articulation of a harmonised approach to sustainable destination management and development of a joint Regional Agenda for promoting Sustainable Tourism.

The focus and unifying bond of the involved organisations is to contribute to the Sustainable Development of Tourism in the region, therefore making them an idyllic amalgamation. In this regard, the meeting is envisaged to invigorate and strengthen the fraternity between these organisations, with the outcome being, alignment of complementary work programmes and identification of gaps to attain more efficient use of resources and reduce the incidents of overlap and duplication of efforts.

The meeting will be hosted by the Minister of Tourism of the Republic of Nicaragua the Honourable, Mario Salinas Pasos in his capacity as Chair of the Special Committee on Sustainable Tourism of the Association of Caribbean States.

Delegates from the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO), the Caribsave Partnership, the Central American Tourism Integration Secretariat (SITCA for its acronym in Spanish), the Organisation of American States (OAS), the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) and the meeting's organiser the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) are expected to be in attendance as these Agencies seeks to pursue a more complimentary and cohesive relationship in the execution of their work, and thus usher in a new era of development cooperation.