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National Emergency Management Organisation Annual Report 2000/2001

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(Photo on cover: Hurricane Joyce)

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Part 1
Annual Report of the
National Emergency Management Office
April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001

Hazard analysis and experience have confirmed that Saint Lucia is at risk from numerous hazards, both natural and technological. Based upon this analysis the role of the National Emergency Management Organisation [NEMO] is to develop, test and implement adequate measures to protect the population of Saint Lucia from the physical, social, environmental and economic effects of both natural and man-made disasters. Its responsibility is to ensure the efficient functioning of preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response actions.

The National Emergency Management Organisation is made up of a number of committees. There are two levels to the committees they are National and Local.

The National Committees are:

Emergency Works	Evaluation	Information	Supply Management
Welfare	Telecommunications	Transportation	Oil Spills
Hospitality Industry Crisis Management Unit			

The Local Committees are:

Gros Islet	Castries/C	Castries/SE	Castries/NW (Babonneau)
Anse la Raye	Canaries	Soufriere	Choiseul
Laborie	Vieux Fort/S	Micoud/N	Micoud/S Dennery/S

HIGHLIGHTS

February 2000 - Mr. Timothy James, who was the National Disaster Coordinator, commenced on pre-retirement leave. Mr. James served in this post for approximately ten years and in that time did much to make disaster preparedness a major area of concern in Saint Lucia. His retirement commenced on June 1, 2000. Miss Dawn French is presently the acting Director.

March 2000 – The Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony approved of the name change from the Office of Disaster Preparedness to that of the National Emergency Management Office. Along with this change came the renaming of the National Disaster Coordinator to Director.

August 2000 - The Disaster Preparedness and Response Act was passed thus enshrining in law the various duties of NEMO and also widening the areas of involvement of the office.

August 2000 – With the assistance of the Regional Security System the annual simulation took place. The scenario of a plane crash allowed for the Saint Lucia Air and Seaports Authority to meet its FAA commitment of testing GFL Charles Airport for crisis management.

August 2000 – NEMO with the assistance of UNDP/USAID through OECS provided retrofitting assistance to low-income families in Choiseul whose homes were destroyed or extensively damaged by Hurricane Lenny. The project ran from June to August 2000.

September 2000 and continuing - NEMO distributed a variety of supplies to committees.

October 2000 – In collaboration with the Government Information Service, NEMO produced a 6-minute video entitled ***Destruction!*** The tape is now available at NEMO for any committee or the public to borrow.

October 2000 - The Acting Director had a paper published in Chapter 15 “Simulations as an Education Tool” in Environmental Education, Communication and Sustainability Vol. 8.: Communicating Sustainability. (ed) Walter Leal Filho (ISBN: 3-631-37174-8) Also at:
<http://www.umweltprogramme.de/millennium/papers/paper3/index.html>

November 2000 – The Babonneau Disaster Committee was re-launched.

November 2000 – The Chairman of the Soufriere Committee resigned due to an increase in job responsibilities.

November to December 2000 – NEMO began an intense training regime with all local committees. The sessions began with Fire Preparedness and ended with Telecommunications.

February 2001 – Work began on the creation of a Stress Response Team (SRT). Stress is a factor, which can and does manifest itself due to emergency work. Preliminary discussions have taken place with the view of presenting the Terms of Reference to the National Emergency Management Advisory Committee (NEMAC) for the confirmation of the SRT.

February 2001 – Discussions were held with the Saint Lucia National Trust, Saint Lucia National Archives, Archaeological and Historical Society and the Folk Research Centre on how they could work with the National Damage Assessment Team to produce a more comprehensive damage report.

March 2001 – The Community Based Disaster Management Program commenced. The course focuses on the idea that disaster planning and management is much more than just responding to disasters. It is the efficient use of resources to coordinate the stages of relief, mitigation, prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction. Under this project Disaster Committees will be provided the following types of training: (i) organization and functions of a district/community disaster committee (ii) training in “surviving the next disaster”.

March 2001 - After six years of service the Chair of the National Supplies Management Committee Mr. Michael Thom submitted his resignation as Chairman.

EVENTS

Hurricane Season for the period June 2000 – November 2000

The hurricane season proved beyond all expectations to be a calm one. The met office reported that: *November 30th saw the end of the 2000 Atlantic Hurricane Season. The activity for the season was above normal with 14 named storms, 8 of which became hurricanes with 3 of these developing into major hurricanes. Despite this Saint Lucia was lucky since none of these systems impacted directly on island. The only system, which threatened the island, was hurricane Joyce in late September. This system crossed the island chain further to the south and weakened into a depression.*

In September heavy rains caused the Anse la Raye Committee to open a shelter. Anse La Raye maintained contact with NEMO via the radio illustrating in practical terms the efficient use of the telecom system.

Oil Spills

As with the 1999/2000 period the National Oil Spill committee was called in to respond to a small spill this time in the Cul de Sac River. On the morning of October 17, 2000, a section of the Cul de Sac River became polluted with an oily like substance, which was later discovered to be waste oil, which had been accidentally spilled at the Saint Lucia Clay Products facility and found its way into the Cul de Sac River.

The Oil Spill Committee has been working diligently since 1999 on the National Oil Spill response plan. It will soon be ready to present to Cabinet for approval.

Earthquake

The Seismic Research Unit (SRU) reported first that on Sunday May 21, 2000 there was a flurry of 8 quakes off Soufriere. During the latter half of the year the SRU reported that there was a second burst of events in Saint Lucia from 09:00 p.m. on November 23 to 03:00 a.m. on November 24. *“18 of the events were located in southeast Saint Lucia. The magnitude range of the events was 1.6 - 2.1. They occurred at depths less than 10 km. These were very small events but people in the immediate area may still have felt the larger ones.”*

Land slippage at Black Mallet/Maynard Hill. (September 1999)

The Ministry of Planning, Housing and Development as Chair of the Task Force continues its progress in the long-term resolution to housing residents of eighty households displaced by the Black Mallet/Maynard Hill disaster. September 2000 marked the one-year anniversary of the landslide at Black Mallet/Maynard Hill.



Fire

After numerous domestic incidents during the year; in December 2000 the Fire Department placed Saint Lucia on a fire alert.

Drought

In March 2001 the Water and Sewerage Company placed the country on drought alert.

Other

December 31, 2000 – The Basilica Minor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception was attacked as churchgoers took part in the church service. When the attack was over one (1) nun was dead and twelve (12) persons burned 5 of whom severely. There was an Egyptian hydrophilic called the Ankh painted on the door of the Church. Preliminary estimates by the Roman Catholic Church of the damage to the Basilica as of February 2001 (excluding medical) was EC\$20,000.00

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project

Commonly referred to as the World Bank Project. There are a number of components to be completed by NEMO:

1 - Technical Assistance to National Emergency Management Office

The project will strengthen human resource capacity in the NEMO in disaster preparedness and management. Technical assistance will be provided including: (i) a technical advisor to assist in mobilizing and maintaining support from business and industries; and (ii) a technical advisor in local emergency planning and mitigation activities.

2 - Emergency Communications System

The project will provide for the design and installation of an island wide emergency communication system to link national disaster officials with each district by providing base stations, repeaters and mobile radios for Local Disaster Committees to ensure effective communication during and after disasters.

3 - Disaster Equipment and loss reduction materials

The project will ensure the ready availability of limited stocks of emergency supplies and "loss reduction materials"

4 - Warehousing

Immediate availability of certain materials like reinforced plastic sheeting can limit or prevent secondary losses. Because infrastructural damage often impedes the movement of limited stocks or emergency supplies and loss reduction materials for days the project will ensure the ready availability of limited stocks of emergency supplies and loss reduction materials. These will be managed at the national level by NEMO, but stored in several locations throughout the country.

5 - Community Based Disaster Management Program:

Under the project, Disaster Committees will be provided the following types of training: (i) organization and functions of a district/community disaster committee (ii) training in "surviving the next disaster". The project is set to run from January to December 2001.

Other Projects

National Consultation on Mass Causality Plan

The National simulation of 2000 revealed that there was much work to be done in the area of Mass Causality Management. Step one is to have a National Plan in place. This, if possible must be started before the simulation of 2001. PAHO has expressed an interest in providing training assistance.

Publication of list of Emergency Shelters and Re-signing of Emergency Shelters

The National Emergency Management Office together with the Ministry of Works conducted the annual inspection of Emergency Shelters. The public was invited to nominate buildings that may

provide shelter during a crisis for consideration by the inspector. Once the list has been finalized NEMO shall publish the names. Shelters shall also be identified with notice boards.

Collaborate with Fire Department to establish voluntary fire fighter groups

Together with the Fire Department, NEMO shall assist the volunteer fire-fighting program by forming groups with local committees. Once formed the Saint Lucia Fire Department shall provide training.

Launch logo competition

Upon the approval by the Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Kenny Anthony of the name change from ODP to NEMO a number of volunteers proposed a logo competition. NEMO has invited three volunteers to form a small committee dedicated to seeing that the Competition takes place. Philgience Trucking has offered partial sponsorship.

Establish Awards Night

Over the years there have been plans to thank volunteers with an Award for the hard work that Committee Members do. With this in mind, NEMO has invited the Chairmen of three local Committees to form a small committee dedicated to seeing that the Awards Ceremony take place. December 5, 2001 as the United Nations Day of Volunteers has been identified as the Awards Date.

In collaboration with the Acting Director the committee shall conduct the following:

- Set the award categories
- Set the criteria for qualification
- Vet the nominees
- Select the design of the Award/Certificates
- Plan the ceremony

Training of volunteers at local, regional and international levels

Training is an essential component of the work of the National Emergency Management Office. The office plans to continue its schedule of training for public and private sectors, volunteers and professionals.

With the Fire Department

- Fire Preparedness
- Search and Rescue in a collapsed building
- Search and Rescue in a smoke filled situation

With the Ministry of Health

- Stress Management

With volunteer trainers

- The Art of Fundraising
- Working with older persons
- The Maintenance of Situation Boards



- Warehouse Management
- Solid Waste Management & Disasters
- Storage and handling of chemicals

Damage Assessment

The damage assessment training is available as a two-day course. The course target audience is community level/district disaster committees' persons/volunteers who will actually do the initial damage assessment in their communities. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) is also developing the needs analysis part of the package, this targets the managers and should be ready for pilot testing in May 2001.

Collaborating Agency: OFDA

Incident Command System

ICS is a model tool for command, control and coordination of a response and provides a means to coordinate efforts towards a coordinated response. The system calls for an incident commander with a structure that allows for all response persons involved to manage the crisis without becoming over burdened. This is presently the system used for Oil Spill Response in Saint Lucia.

Collaborating Agency: PAHO

Mass casualty & incident command

A Mass Casualty event can occur out of a nationwide disaster. The response to such an event however requires the mobilisation of resources from Health, Police, Fire, Red Cross etc. where the Director is the overall supervisor of the response activities. He/she also has the responsibility with the Health and Welfare Sub-Committee of ensuring a permanent state of readiness to respond to a Mass Casualty event. The 2000 National simulation identified that such training was needed for all players.

Collaborating Agency: Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies for Caribbean Action, Inc. (FAV/CA)

Disaster planning for ageing society

Older people must be 'seen, heard and understood', if lives and livelihoods are to be saved in floods, wars and other disasters... In an emergency, older people are often thought of as "past it" and a waste of resources. But many older people survive precisely because they have learnt how to cope with crisis. (Help Age International – 2000)

Collaborating Agency: Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies for Caribbean Action, Inc. (FAV/CA)



Annual Simulation:

The simulation is a training tool that allows for the entire NEMO to be trained in disaster management and response. The simulation allows all to understand how their skills contribute to the response. To achieve the desired level of response volunteers must be told what is required. On an annual basis NEMO host a National simulation, which involves as many disaster volunteers on the island as possible. Simulations done in the last four years have involved an earthquake of magnitude 7.0 in 1997 an oil spill in 1998 a volcanic eruption in 1999 and a plane crash 2000. CDERA has been approached to assist with the 2001 National simulation.

The simulation proposed is a Dam Burst. The aspects of NEMO to be tested are:

- Standing Operation Procedure for an evacuation of the area. This involves Police, WASCO and Ministry of Health as well as the local committees in the area.
- SUMA – Supply Management team. SUMA is a computer program that tracks relief items.
- Damage Assessment Team
- Stress Response Team
- Mass Casualty Plan - This involves Police, WASCO and Ministry of Health as well as the local committees in the area.

Disaster planning and management has developed into much more than just responding to disasters. It now encompasses the efficient use of resources to coordinate the stages of relief, mitigation, prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction. For if one is to attempt to control any mechanism one must first study and understand it. This report records the work of the National Emergency Management Organisation over the past twelve months to continue to plan for any disaster that may affect Saint Lucia.

.....
A. L. DAWN FRENCH
Director (Ag) - NEMO

Part 2
Reports of Standing Committees

Report of the Supplies Management Committee of NEMO
March 31st, 2000 to February 28th, 2001

The Committee met once during the year and the general state of readiness to assist was confirmed.

Over the years since Tropical Storm Debby, there have been several simulations and numerous meetings and the Resource Section continues to reaffirm its willingness to mobilise and assist.

Deputy Chairman Mathurin is responsible for that section and has demonstrated that its members can be contacted at short notice.

Other Committee members attend the various meetings and workshops, which are held, and, in particular, Messrs. Mathurin and Day are becoming quite familiar with SUMA procedures. Mr. Day attended the Suma instructor's course from 21-24 August 2000 in Barbados, which covered the new Windows version of the SUMA programme together with three days of a new course in Comprehensive Relief Supplies Management; between October 17 - 21 he also traveled to Costa Rica for a hemispheric conference on the future of PAHO's SUMA intervention.

Mr. Mathurin attended the recent three day training workshop (February 26 – 28) conducted by PAHO on the Windows based SUMA programme and found it very useful though poorly attended.

The Committee also designated Ms. Alison Jean to attend the workshop since we felt that the Medical Supplies Officer would be a useful addition to the Committee and that knowledge of the SUMA programme might also be of assistance to her.

Only four representatives of the District committees attended the workshop, namely Vieux Fort, Choiseul, Babonneau and Gros Islet.

The structure of the Committee was changed in 1996 and comprises two sections for easier Management.

a) The CORE section comprising the Chairman and two deputies plus the representatives of:

- Red Cross
- Ministry of Community Development
- Ministry of Trade (Supplies)
- Customs-SUMA
- Chamber of Commerce
- SLHTA



b) The RESOURCE section, coordinated by a deputy Chairman, comprises the representatives of:

Kiwanis	Toastmasters	Lions	SDA Relief Agency
Rotary	Boy Scouts	Girl Guides	Cadet Corps

M.A.J. Thom
March 7th, 2001

The current Members of the Supply Management Committee are as follows:

Michael Thom	Chairman
David Popo	Deputy Chairman
Andre Mathurin	Deputy Chairman
Hubert Pierre	Red Cross
Octavien Stephens	Ministry of Trade (Supplies)
Peter Plummer	Customs-SUMA
Lucien Isidore	Asst. Sec. Regional Admin.
Juliette Popovic	SLHTA
Trevor Bristol	Chamber of Commerce
Clarence Casimir	Kiwanis
Julius Gilliard	Toastmasters
Linda Hippolyte	Lions
Pastor Theodore Jaria	SDA Relief Agency
Marcus Day	Rotary
Juliana Gaillard	Boy Scouts
Sharon Willie	Girl Guides
Lucius Lake	Cadet Corps
Salvation Army	Representative to be identified
Alison Jean	Medical Supplies Officer-Victoria Hospital

National Oil Spill Committee

Report on Activities for the period 2000 - 2001

March 5, 2001

2000 - 2001 REPORT

The Year 2000 was a relatively quiet year for the Committee. During this period the committee was called to respond to a minor oil spill, which took place in the Cul-de-Sac River.

Below is a summary of the Committee's activities for the period January to December 2000:

- January 25-26 - Participated in the National Emergency Management Organisation annual Consultation.
- March 16 - Oil Spill Committee met to review the contingency plan. Committee members agreed to rename the Committee to the **Oil Pollution Action Committee** (OPAC).
- March 21 - Minor Spill at Hess Oil – M/T ALTA was loading 1,000,000 barrels of Arabian Light Crude. Hess Oil activated their Contingency Plan. Clean up operations were successful and lasted approximately twenty minutes.
- May 23 –26 - Participated in a “Regional Workshop on Oil Spill Preparedness, Response & Cooperation for the Wider Caribbean” – Curaco, Netherlands.
- June 14 - Completion of first draft of National Oil Spill Plan.
- August 16 - Participated in the Regional Security System (RSS) mass casualty exercise.
- October 17 - Cul-de-Sac Oil Spill – Spillage of used oil into the Cul-de-Sac River from the Saint Lucia Clay Products establishment. Quick action on the part of Hess Oil Saint Lucia followed by a response from the Fire Service and the Marine Police resulted in a successful clean-up operation.

Recommendation:

There is now a need for additional training for first responders. This is due to the fact that both the Fire Department and the Marine Police Unit were involved in the reassignment of personnel as well as the recruitment of new staff in some instances.

To ensure that the First Responders are equipped with the required equipment to handle a minor oil spill incident, there is a need to acquire one (1) mini “Oil Skimmer”.



Future Activities:

The following is a preliminary list of activities, to be undertaken for the period January – December 2001:

- Finalise the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (June 2001) and present to the Cabinet of Ministers for approval.
- First responder training to Marine Police and Fire Service Personnel.
- Field visits to various establishments that handle medium to large quantities of Oil and or hazardous liquids. The main objective of these visits will be to:
 - (a) Evaluate whether or not there is a potential threat to the environment;
 - (b) Observe operational procedures at these facilities and
 - (c) To determine the status of agency contingency plans in this regard.

Dermot Saltibus

Chairman Oil Spill Committee

Report of the Hospitality Industry Crisis Management Unit April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2000

The Hospitality Crises Management Unit from April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2000 undertook the following activities' -

1. Coordinated the annual tourism industry disaster preparedness consultation in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Office (June 2000).
2. Amended the Hospitality Industry Disaster Preparedness Plan to streamline the lines of communication between the various agencies.
3. Coordinated a two-day small hotels disaster mitigation-training workshop in collaboration with the Caribbean Hotel Association, the National Emergency Management Office and St Lucia Hotel and Tourism Association.
 - A. Assisted in the development of hurricane preparedness plan for small properties
 - B. Distributed copies of the Caribbean Hotel Hurricane Preparedness manual to small property owners.
4. Administered the tourism sectors' participation in a National Disaster Preparedness Simulation Exercise.
5. Activated the Hospitality Crises Management and Communications Unit and instituted recording tools for pre-disaster and post disaster situations including:
 - A hotel pre-disaster needs reporting form highlighting critical areas for assistance.
 - A post disaster damage assessment form.
6. Updated and circulated the list of contact persons and emergency contact numbers to industry stakeholders.
7. Coordinated fire safety training program for the staff of the Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with the St. Lucia Fire Service.



Planned Activities for April 2001 to March 2002.

Training:

1. Disaster Preparedness focus group training for small accommodation establishments - island-wide (April 2001)

2. Tourism Industry Annual Hurricane Preparedness Consultative Meeting (May 2001)
3. Disaster Stress Management Workshop (date to be decided)
4. Coordinate training in the use of equipment e.g. hand radios for staff and committee members. (Date to be decided)

Policy

1. Further amend the Hospitality Crises Management Plan to incorporate the major tourism related agencies including the National Conservation Authority.
2. Incorporate a clause outlining the requirements for disaster preparedness including the mandatory display of emergency numbers in hotel guest rooms and labeling of hotel exit areas and corridors, in the proposed Minimum Standard for Accommodation Establishments.
3. Prepare a document for onward submission to Cabinet on a Disaster Preparedness Policy and Plan for the hospitality industry.
4. Distribute pre and post disaster recording tools and emergency contact information to tourism industry stakeholders.

.....
Phyllis Regis
Director
Hospitality Industry Crisis Management Unit

Report of the Castries South East Disaster Committee (CASEDC)

For the period
April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001

The Castries South East Disaster Committee was formed on July 26, 1999. Our objectives is to assist NEMO in fulfilling its mandate to provide efficient disaster management to Castries South East in particular, and the country in general.

Our activities over the past few months include the following:

- A draft constitution has been approved by the Committee.
- The Committee was represented at the National Simulation Exercise less than a fortnight after its formation.
- The Committee was engaged in a Real Time Notification Simulation, which was spearheaded by NEMO on September 9, 1999.
- The Committee coordinated the activities of the first ever National Clean-up Campaign with the constituency organized by the National Trust. Over 300 jumbo bags of garbage was disposed on October 31, 1999.
- A couple of hazard mapping visits around the constituency were conducted, as well as the ability to respond when needed, had been tested and proven. A report of the survey was sent to the District Representative.
- The Committee brought Christmas cheer to the families, which were housed in shelters in Soufriere by donating Christmas toys to the children.
- The Committee sponsored and organized two major sporting events involving football from all major communities in promoting the work of the community and to galvanize support from residents.

The Committee held several meetings for leaders of organization, groups and churches in sensitizing them of the need to be prepared for potential disasters.

Some members have received training and have already began to share their knowledge with persons even outside the constituency.

The Chairman of the Committee attended the 14th Annual Governor's Conference in Tampa, Florida.

One notable accomplishment is the placing of a 20-foot container outside our station through the kind courtesy of NEMO. This container has now been lifted off the ground, and is ready to receive supplies from NEMO.

A comprehensive review of emergency shelters was conducted throughout the constituency, in August 2000, and owners and managers have all responded favourably for inclusion into our updated list of shelters.

Contracts have been approved with the following business places: Shell Bexon Service Station, Jules Enterprises, Kamakie's Wholesale, Management Building Supplies, Vere Pierre, American Drywall.

Sub-committees were formed with the appointment of the following chairpersons:

Roger Remy – Immediate Works
Hugh Toussaint – Transportation
Peter Albert – Evaluation (with Timothy Mangal assisting)
Frederick Jongue – Health and Welfare
Eulan James – Telecommunications
Phillip Jules – Supplies

The Committee has held regular monthly meetings in addition to unplanned meetings which warrants our attention from time to time.

Our achievement over the months has been possible, not merely as a result of the commitment of the members of the Committee, but in addition to the support of NEMO, and in particular Ms. Dawn French, also Ms Martha Blanchard, the Community Development Officer, and the Honourable Menissa Rambally, District Representative of Castries South East.

It is our hope by the way of our concerns, that greater public education and information should be given to the nation, and that greater emphasis on disaster mitigation be made.

I therefore conclude, wishing for all of us a Hurricane-Free Season

.....
LENUS DETERVILLE
Chairman

**Report of the Micoud South Disaster Committee
For the period
April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001**

During the month of May 2000, the Committee received the list of selected chainsaw owners. Mr. Henry Alexander of Ti Rocher, Micoud and Mr. Francis Paul of Blanchard, Desruisseaux, who are chainsaw owners indicated that they would volunteer their services whenever the need arise. These gentlemen have been invited to Committee meetings.

During the reporting period the Committee scheduled thirty-three (33) meetings, out of these meetings, six (6) were postponed. In attendance at the meetings were nurses, police, religious groups, and clubs.

The committee was represented at the following meetings called by the NEMO Chairman:

- (a) Annual Meeting of NEMO held in July 2000;
- (b) Meeting for the impending Hurricane Joyce held on October 30, 2000; and

The committee was represented at the following meeting called by the Acting Director NEMO:

- (a) Consultation on the Disaster Preparedness Act No. 13 of 2000.

A meeting was held with the District Representative, the Acting Director of NEMO representatives of the Micoud North and South Committees and also representatives of the District Representative. The Representative commended the Committee for the hard work and member's commitment towards disaster preparedness in the community.

The Committee identified a parcel of land located in Micoud South, which will be used to place storage container. The Chairman discussed the matter with a representative from the Forestry Department in Vieux Fort and the Principal of the Desruisseaux School and they were both in agreement.

Members of the Committee attended a number of workshops organized by NEMO and members have taken the initiative to impart whatever they have learned onto other Committee members and members of the community.



The Committee along with a team from the Ministry of Works undertook a survey of shelters in the community and at present there are eighteen (18) approved shelters.

Tree cutting was a major project undertaken by the Committee during the reporting period.

Eight vehicle owners in the community have volunteered their services during a disaster. NEMO issued vehicle identification cards for these vehicles.

The Committee received stationery and other educational supplies from NEMO.

Contracts with business places are to be signed.

At the end of the reporting period the finances of the Committee stood at Six hundred, two dollars and seventy-five cents (\$602.75).

.....
VICTOR JN BAPTISTE
Chairman – Micoud South Disaster Committee

Report of the Laborie Disaster Committee
For the period
April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001

The committees met three times of the year 2000 which had to be discontinued through lack of attendance. Present at the last meeting were Hon. Velon John District representative, Community Development Officer Mr. Julian Du Bois and Mr. Norbert Cools representative of WASCO.

PARISH LAND

A letter was received from Parish Priest Reverend John Raj permitting the Laborie Disaster Committee to use the Parish Lands to place a 40ft container in reply to a letter written seeking such permission. To date the container has not been received. We are aware of efforts by NEMO to secure containers for this purpose.

TRAINING FOR FISHERMEN (Transportation Committee – Sea)

The disaster committee source training for that committee from the kind assistance of the Marine Unit. The matter was down for discussion at the Annual General Meeting of the Laborie Fishermen's Co-operative, but the AGM did not convene. The Disaster Committee has attempted to get the fishermen at a forum to discuss the important venture but their response was very poor. They are the first line of defense if an aircraft falls into the Laborie Bay.

TRAINING FOR DRIVERS (Transportation Committee – Land)

The Disaster Committee is still awaiting the Transportation Committee of persons who will be available and the preferred day and time convenient.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Permission was sort from the Ministry of Health to use a room at the Laborie Health Centre for the Laborie Emergency Operations Centre because the present location is prone to flooding and is and is unusable. Permission has since been granted.

RADIO TEST

The telecommunications Committee (CB's) arranged radio test of th enet at La Croix, Marius Cotter and Justus Cotter which was very successful. There was also a radio test at the Health Centre but the response was negative due to the absence of a repeater.

SUB-COMMITTEES

Health & Welfare, Telecommunications, Transportation, Food and Material Supplies all reported that their committee are well prepared.

FUNDRAISING

Mr. Herricks Renee – Chairperson, Transportation Committee suggested that a fund raising drive be embarked upon to purchase mobile radios for drivers. This matter will be further discussed as it relates to providing drivers with CBs.

SHELETER MANAGERS

A workshop was convened in Soufriere for Shelter Managers. The principals of the school in the Laborie area were present. The Laborie Girl's School to organise a plan of action with teachers for that school.

RELIEF SUPPLIES

The food ration, which was stored at the Laborie Police Station, was transferred to the Old Community Centre Building due to renovation of the Laborie Police Station. The Laborie Disaster Committee to identify a suitable place to store blanket, lanterns ect. A container would address this situation.

AGREEMENT

This was reviewed by the following contractors – Jn. Pierre’s Enterprises – nonperishable goods.
 Laborie Fishermen’s Co-operative - Gas
 Laborie Shell Service Station – Gas

TREE CUTTING

There was an extensive tree cutting exercise undertaken throughout the village where life and property were at risk. This was achieved through members of the beautification program.

WORKSHOPS

Banse and Laborie participated in the following workshops organized by NEMO, Search and Rescue in a smoked filled situation, the art of fund raising and telecommunications. BThe CDO Mr. Julian Du Bois attended.

BANSE COMMITTEE

The Banse Committee is a very active committee. This committee met frequently throughout the year 2000. Part of their activities for the year was a three-day seminar for their members, which was conducted by the St. Lucia Fire Service.

AUGIER COMMITTEE

The committee was not very active but in spite of this it was able to host a workshop for its members which was conducted by Mr. Dylan Tobierre.

RECOMMENDATION

There is a need to encourage government employees living in the various districts and communities especially those persons with skills and talent that can be utilized in disaster mitigation to be members of the committee.

Meetings of committees must be properly attended to provide proper planning and follow up action if the local committees are to be strong and vibrant. In many instances this is not the case.

 Primus Duplessis
 Chairman.

Report of the Gros Islet Disaster Committee
For the period
April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001

The Gros Islet Disaster Preparedness Committee in the year 2000 had an active membership of about 25 persons. This included members of the police force, shelter manager, the district nurse, Community health aids, members of the Gros Islet Town Council and other members of the community.

There was no fixed schedule for holding monthly meetings. Meetings were called from time to time and persons were notified by phone, fax etc. Whenever such meetings were called.

Our committee was able to obtain assurances from various business concerns in our community of their support in the event of a disaster or an emergency, making available to us some of their equipment including backhoes, trucks and so on. These included Cap Estate Golf Club, Ali Backhoe and Changoo Backhoe among others.

We were instrumental in helping the fire victim, Peter Joseph of the Parish Lands, with very generous assistance of the Catholic Church, to obtain all of the materials needed to rebuild his house, which had been completely destroyed by fire.

In collaboration with the St.Lucia Fire service an attempt was made to re-establish a Fire Auxiliary in Gros Islet. It was felt that with Gros Islet being a large town, second only to Castries in it's level of economic activity, with a rapidly growing population and with quite a few of our major hotels located within that area, that it was crucially important that some organized fire fighting volunteer unit needed to be put in place at the local level. This would help make up for the logistical problems involved in getting a fire appliance from Castries along the busy Castries – Gros Islet Highway.

Fire-fighting training sessions were organized every Sunday morning and although the public was invited to participate in the program, which would culminate with the formal establishment of the Gros Islet Fire auxiliary, there was no interest shown by the general public. In the end only the police participated in these sessions. This initiative was therefore not considered a success.

It was also decided that in order the Gros Islet area, it was important to establish sub-committees in the various outlying communities like Monchy, Grand Riviere and Corinth, which would attend the needs of these areas by coordinating the disaster mitigation efforts within these areas while liaising with the Gros Islet Disaster Preparedness Committee. Such an arrangement would resolve certain logistical problems, augment our pool of volunteers and make our organization more effective.

In pursuance of that objective, persons were contacted in these various communities in an effort to establish these committees. Such persons included health aids, members of Mothers and Fathers groups and as many other community activists as could be identified. As a result of our efforts we were able to assist in the establishment of Monchy Disaster Preparedness Committee. We continue to hold discussions with persons in the other communities and it is expected these other communities will follow.

The Gros Islet Disaster Preparedness Committee recognizes certain weaknesses within its organizational structure, which it hopes to correct during the course of the next few months. Some of its sub-committees

tend to operate in a somewhat ad hoc fashion and would require some strengthening. The Fund raising committee needs to be galvanized into activity from its present comatose state.

Plans for the year 2001:

1. To prepare a constitution that would guide the operations of the Gros Islet Disaster Committee
2. To increase our membership through membership drives.
3. To participate fully in all training activities organized by NEMO and to organize training sessions for our membership through the Red Cross Society, the Fire Department and the Met Office.
4. To continue in our efforts to establish Disaster Management Organisations in the outlying Communities.
5. To orgainse fund-raising events.

Egbert Lucien
Chairman – Gros Islet Disaster Committee

**Report of the Dennery Disaster Committee
For the period
August 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001**

The members of the Committee were kept informed by means of their once monthly meetings on disaster related issues. Ending the year in a party mood with a Christmas Party on December 23, 2000.

One of the more significant events was held on December 1, 2000, when a fundraising dance was hosted for the benefit of two (2) fire victims. The victims shared a two-apartment wooden house, which was lost by fire in August 2000. A total of nine hundred and twenty three dollars (\$923.00) was derived from the venture, a wooden bed and kitchen utensils including cooking gas cylinder were purchased from the proceeds. The victims (viz) Miss Angella Lewis and Mr. Gabriel Victor of La-Point, Dennery received the items purchased on their behalf on December 23, 2000.

A quantity of food and clothing items were donated to an other fire victim Miss Patriana Marquis a mother of three (3) children of St Peter's Lane, Dennery. The family lost all their belongings, when fire gutted their homes on 15 February, 2001.

The committee continued its services of providing training for its members and other local service groups by holding two separate workshops on 7th October and 21st October 2000 respectively.

There were various members from the local committee who participated in the ongoing training in Community Disaster management organised by N.E.M.O. as indicated below.

These programs attended includes the following:

Fire Preparedness	held on 5 th November 2000
Consultation on National Disaster Act	held on 28 th November 2000
Search and Rescue	held on 5 th December 2000
Search and Rescue in a smoke filled situation	held on 9 th January 2001
Stress Management	held on 25 th January 2001
The Art of Fundraising	held on 5 th February 2001
Telecommunications Training	held on 21 st March 2001

The Dennery Disaster Committee Plan of Activity of the first half of Year 2001.

Activities	Tentative Dates
Assimilation Exercise "Tidal Wave"	19 th May, 2001
Beautification Project in conjunction with St Mary's College	29 th June 2001
Preparatory work for the twinning with Sourfiere	7 th May 2001
19 th Anniversary Celebrations	27 th May 2001
Cake and Ice Cream Sale	27 th May 2001
One day trip to Martinique	30 th May 2001

Theresa Howell
Deputy Chair.

Part 3
Work program

WORK PROGRAMME – 2001/2002

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1. Introduction
2. Critical Assumptions
3. Objectives
4. Outputs
5. Programme Areas:

General Administration

- Institutional Strengthening of NEMO
- Upgrade of NEMO Research and Documentation Office
- Institutional Strengthening of Local Committees
- Stress Management Team
- Travelling Exhibition

Training/Education:

- Damage Assessment
- The Art of Fund Raising
- The Maintenance of Situation Report Boards
- Stress Management
- Special needs of the Elderly
- Fire Preparedness
- Shelter Management
- Warehouse Management
- Public Awareness
- Use of Computers
- Mass Casualty Management
- National Clean up campaign
- Oil Spill Training

Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project (World Bank Project):

- Technical Assistance to NEMO
- Community Based Disaster Management
- Warehousing
- Telecom

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Hazard analysis and experience have confirmed that Saint Lucia is at risk from numerous hazards, both natural and technological, these include:

- ❖ Metrological Hazards: hurricanes, tropical storms, tornadoes, storm-surge, floods and drought.
- ❖ Environmental Hazards: marine pollution, oil and hazardous material spills.
- ❖ Transportation Accidents: air – aircraft; land – vehicular; marine – ships.

The role of the National Emergency Management Organisation [NEMO] is to develop, test and implement adequate measures to protect the population of Saint Lucia from the physical, social, environmental and economic effects of both natural and man-made disasters.

Its responsibility is to ensure the efficient functioning of preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response actions.

This Work Programme therefore seeks to promote a comprehensive integrated approach to disaster management by bringing about greater partnership between government, the private sector, non-governmental organisations, donor agencies and regional organisations in an effort to enhance the institutional and human resource capacity, improve national coordination of comprehensive disaster management programmes and activities and provide for the incremental acquisition of the necessary resources.

2.0 CRITICAL ASSUMPTIONS

In order to successfully implement this programme, the following critical assumptions have been made:

- (1) That emergencies in Saint Lucia may be categorised in two ways. Those that are preceded by a build-up [slow onset] period, which can provide the National Disaster Office with advance warnings, which is used to facilitate timely and effective activation of national arrangements.
- (2) That other emergencies occur with little or no advance warning thus requiring mobilization and almost instant commitment of National resources, with prompt support from Regional and International assistance just prior to or after the onset of such emergencies.
- (3) That the Government of Saint Lucia will endorse the programme and seek to provide the financial and human resources and administrative facilitation required for its implementation
- (4) That the private sectors, non-governmental organisations and other donors will provide support in a spirit of partnership.

- (5) That the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency will endeavour to provide technical support, wherever possible, for the programme.
- (6) That key government and private sector agencies will continue to develop their individual disaster management plans, support the development of sectoral disaster management plans and provide tangible support to the Director and National Emergency Management Office.
- (7) That community disaster management planning will become an integral part of the national effort so as to empower communities to take greater responsibility for their protection and safety.
- (8) That the lessons learnt from past hazard impacts would influence the review and updating of disaster management plans and procedures.

3.0 OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen the administration of the National Emergency Management Office to provide leadership and coordination in disaster management in Saint Lucia.
- To provide specialised training in Disaster Management for relevant sectors and agencies.
- To educate and inform the population about the hazards facing the islands by improving the public education and awareness programmes.
- To improve and strengthen the shelter management programme.
- To develop a Hazard analysis/ vulnerability map by reviewing and updating existing specialised plans and procedures and consolidating them into a national comprehensive plan, with the cooperation of public and private sectors.
- To develop and implement a system of Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis following a major hazard impact.

4.0 OUTPUTS

At the end of this programme it is expected that the following would have been accomplished:

- 4.1 A cadre of trained personnel in specialised areas of disaster management.
- 4.2 Established Damage Assessment, Needs Analysis and Relief mechanisms, which would facilitate the identification of damage and needs and orderly distribution of supplies following a hazard impact.
- 4.3 Establish Community Disaster Management System within each constituency with personnel trained to adequately manage disaster/emergency events in their community.
- 4.4 Created a Multi-hazard Disaster Plan for Saint Lucia.
- 4.5 Improved Public Education and Information Programmes about all hazards.

- 4.6 Greater cooperation, coordination and information sharing at the national and regional level.

5.0 WORK PROGRAMME AREAS

This Work Programme will focus on the following programmatic themes:

- General Administration
- Training/Education
- Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project (World Bank Project)



Part 4
Minutes of the 2000
National Emergency Management
Organisation Annual Meeting

**MINUTES OF
NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION (NEMO) ANNUAL MEETING**

**ON SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2000
6th FLOOR
NIS CONFERENCE ROOM
at 9:20 a.m.**

PRESENT WERE:

Hon Dr Kenny Anthony	Chairman
Mr. Anthony Severin	Deputy Chairman
Hon Menissa Rambally	Member of Parliament – Castries South East
Hon Walter Francois	Member of Parliament - Soufriere
Mrs. Alison King-Joseph	Permanent Secretary – Ministry of Planning
Dr Bernard La Corbiniere	Permanent Secretary – Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
Ms Dawn French	Director (Ag.) National Emergency Management Office
Ms Theresa Howell	Dennery Emergency Committee
Mr. Victor K. Edward	Dennery Emergency Committee
Mr. David Octave	Canaries Emergency Committee
Mr. Urban Glace	Dennery North Emergency Committee
Mr. Leonard Esnard	Castries South East Emergency Committee
Mr. Augustin Jimmie	Micoud South Emergency Committee
Mr. Kennedy Burke	Chairman – Vieux Fort Emergency Committee
Mr. Egbert Lucien	Chairman – Gros Islet Emergency Committee
Mr. Victor Jn Baptiste	Chairman – Micoud South Emergency Committee
Mr. Gregor Biscette	Chairman – Micoud North Emergency Committee
Mr. Michael Lamontagne	Chairman – Soufriere Emergency Committee
Ms Imogene Mitchell	Chairlady – Choiseul Emergency Community
Mr. Cyril J. Saltibus	Deputy Chairman – Castries Central Emergency Committee
Ms Lina Modeste	Secretary – Micoud North Emergency Committee
Ms Elvina Eristhee	Secretary – Micoud South Emergency Sub Committee
Mr. Silverius Vidal	Secretary – Dennery South Emergency Committee
Mr. Martin Satney	General Manager – WASCO
Mr. Lester Arnold	WASCO
Mr. Treverne Yorke	Operations Manager – WASCO
Mr. Bruno Lamontagne	Director, Meteorological Services
Ms Tryce Lactor	Evaluation Sub-Committee
Ms Dorothy Agard	Transport Sub-Committee
Mr. Dermot Saltibus	Chairman, Oil Spills Sub-Committee
Mr. Victor Eudoxie	Chairman, Communications Sub-Committee
Mr. Michael Thom	Chairman, Supplies Management Sub-Committee
Mr. Roger Joseph	Chairman, Information Sub-Committee/Principal Info. Officer – GIS
Mr. Egbert Louis	Chairman, Evaluation Sub-committee
Mr. Kenneth Monplaisir	Chairman, Health and Welfare Sub-committee
Mrs. Velda Octave-Joseph	Community Development Officer – Micoud North

Ms Perpetua James	Community Development Officer – Dennery South
Mrs. Urania Joseph	Community Development Officer – Anse la Raye/Canaries
Ms Jackie Allain	Community Development Officer – Soufriere
Mrs. Norma Herman	Community Development Officer – Castries North West
Mr. Faustinus Faisal	Community Development Officer – Dennery North
Ms Martha Blanchard	Community Development Officer – Castries South East
Mr. Lester John	Soufriere – Self help
Mr. Augustin Gaspard	Chief Fire Officer
Dr James St. Catherine	Chief Medical Officer
Mr. Hubert Pierre	St. Lucia Red Cross
Mr. Cornelius A. Daniel	Deputy Project Coordinator, Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project – Ministry of Planning
Mr. Jude Regis	Civil Engineer – Ministry of Communications and Works
Mr. Derek Edward	Ministry of Communications and Works
Mr. Vincent Hippolyte	General Manager – SLASPA
Mr. Francis A. Nelson	Commissioner – Royal St. Lucia Police Force
Ms Maria Mombelli	Recording Secretary

ABSENT:

Hon. Mario Mitchel	Member of Parliament – Gros Islet
Hon. George Odium	Member of Parliament – Castries North-East
Hon. Calixte George	Member of Parliament - Castries
Hon Philip Pierre	Member of Parliament – Castries East
Hon Sarah Flood	Member of Parliament – Castries Central
Hon. Michael Gaspard	Member of Parliament – Castries North-West
Hon. Jon Odium	Member of Parliament – Castries South
Hon. Cyprian Lansiquot	Member of Parliament – Anse La Raye/Canaries
Hon Velon John	Member of Parliament – Laborie
Hon. Anthony Torrence	Member of Parliament – Dennery North
Hon Casius Elias	Member of Parliament – Micoud South
Hon. Fergusson John	Member of Parliament – Choiseul
Hon. Cecil Lay	Member of Parliament – Vieux Fort North
Mr. Earl Huntley	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mrs.. Veronica Guard-Weekes	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism
Mr. Gaspard Chalmagne	Chief Education Officer
Mr. George Regis	Chairman, Anse La Raye Emergency Committee
Mr. Primus Duplessis	Chairman, Laborie Emergency Committee
Mr. Hildreth Augustin	Chairman, Transportation Sub-committee
Mr. Claude Paul	Comptroller, Customs and Excise Department
Mr. Bernard Theobalds	General Manager, LUCELEC
Mr. David Ferdinand	Cable and Wireless
Ms Phyllis Regis	Coordinator, Crisis Management Unit – Tourism
Ms Terencia Gaillard	Director General, St. Lucia Red Cross
Mr. Jahto Mahal	Community Development Officer
Mr. Michael Hinds	Community Development Officer
Brenda Wilson	Community Development Officer

- Mr. Satney, Manager of WASCO requested assistance for his company in upgrading communications between the North and South via radio. WASCO to utilize National Emergency System. Mr. Eudoxie to give technical assistance.
- Dr St. Catherine requested communication system for Health Centres. Mr. Eudoxie, Dr. St. Catherine and Ms French to meet and discuss the matter.
- The Commissioner of Police stated that work is being done on the repeater on The Morne. It is not possible to communicate with Soufriere and Choiseul. He is trying to seek assistance from the French Government to upgrade facilities. Commissioner and Mr. Eudoxie to meet to discuss the matter. SLASPA and Police to renovate and enlarge building housing repeater on The Morne.
- Mr. C. Saltibus stated that there is need to train new trainers in telecommunications and have a refresher course for those who were trained by CDERA.

Information Sub committee – Mr. Roger Joseph

- Mr. Roger Joseph reported that everything is in place. It is now possible to get signal to television stations.
- System set up for Cable and Wireless to get live television link with NEMO in the event of a disaster.
- Hot lines installed at all radio stations. Facilities at GIS improved, can now go live on television and radio from office.
- Encountering problems with Radio St. Lucia AM frequency. RSL is trying to access funds from government to replace equipment, they are also encountering problems with payments to LUCELEC. The Chairman requested that Ministry of Finance help settle RSL bill with LUCELEC.
- Seminar on “Dissemination of Information during a Disaster” held for media personnel. Turn out was very low.

Issues Raised

- The meeting was informed that during a disaster, media personnel are faced with the problem of persons calling to report on situations in their community and in some instances the reports are unconfirmed. The following suggestions were made:
 - Set up system for radio personnel to verify information before passing onto the public.
 - NEMO through their local committees to identify persons in the various communities who will gather information, report to the NEMO office and the NEMO in turn will pass on information to the media.
 - The Chairman suggested that GIS contact Media Managers and NEMO to discuss ways of handling callers during emergencies.

- The Chairman asked whether there are any hurricane advertisements on the media.
 - Mr. Roger Joseph informed the meeting that presently there are six (6) advertisements on television, some on the radio stations and also on the newspapers.
- Mr. Gregor Biscette of the Micoud North Committee stated that the public should be more aware of what is being said on the advertisements shown on television, and in that case the advertisements are done too fast.
 - The Information Officer informed the meeting that the advertisements are repeated daily, and as a result of the frequency in at which they are shown, the public should be able understand what is being televised.
- Mr. Roger Joseph informed the meeting that Cable TV is now being installed in Anse La Raye/Canaries, and that Cable and Wireless is working on a project to have cablevision installed island wide. The target date for completion of island wide installation is December 2001.
- The Chief Medical Officer asked whether a mechanism for communication after an emergency is in place for the Health Sector.
 - The Information Officer stated that all they need to do is to contact GIS and GIS in turn will get in touch with the radio stations.
- GIS is in the process of putting mechanisms in place to get Channel 2 functional.
- Early warning system does not work in an emergency.
 - It was recommended that a Mobile Communication Centre with a team of individuals is set up in order to disseminate information to the various communities, NEMO and the Media.
- The Chairman recommended that GIS telephone number be sent out to all Local Emergency Committees.

Meteorological Sub committee – Bruno Lamontagne

- Predication for 2000 hurricane season – 12 storms (8 hurricanes and 4 intense storms). He stated that no matter what the predictions are, we must always be prepared.

Issues Raised

- Persons are not happy with the manner in which the radio stations handles met. information – most times met information is not passed onto the public, and even in instances when this is done, persons are unable to understand some of the terms used.

- Mr. Bruno Lamontagne informed the meeting that DBS has a system in place where additional information is given on the weather. For example, they sometimes give definitions of met terms and weather tips.
- The Chairman asked Mr. Roger Joseph to send a letter to the radio stations asking them to pass on weather news so that the public can understand what is being said. He also requested that Mr. Joseph and Mr. Lamontagne set up a workshop for media personnel in “Handling Weather News”.
 - Mr. Lamontagne has made weather terms available to the media houses and these can be given as tips during the weather news. There is need for the media to simplify weather news.

Needs

- Proper radio installed at met office. In the event that telephone lines are down, the radio can be used for communicating. Mr. Eudoxie agreed to set up a radio at the office. Mr. Lamontagne also requested a radio for George FL Charles Airport. He was informed that there is a radio at the airport.
 - The Chairman instructed SLASPA to assist with the acquisition of two (2) radios for the met offices.

Damage Assessment Sub committee – Egbert Louis

The Chairman commended the committee for the work done Post-Hurricane Lenny.

- Committee to develop strategies to link with local committees in the event of a disaster.
- Ministry of Works, Ministry of Agriculture and Banana Companies have not been attending meetings.
- Need to disseminate information on damage assessment to local committees. Damage Assessment Committee together with NEMO to set up a training workshop for local committees on Damage Assessment.

Issues Raised

- Ministry of Planning most times receive two different sets of damage assessment reports – one from the Damage Assessment Committee and one from Ministry of Works, and in all cases the figures vary quite considerably.
 - The Chairman stated that Ministry of Works should be an integral part of the Damage Assessment Committee so that they could work hand in hand, to prepare one final report.

Supply Management Sub committee – Michael Thom

- Committee in place. Members are ready to assist when the need arise.

Issues Raised

- Dr. Walter Francois requested that the committee acknowledge receipt of relief supplies, especially from overseas organisations.
 - Mr. Thom stated that to the best of his knowledge the committee has acknowledged receipt of relief supplies whenever they are aware of the situation.
 - The Chairman stated that all overseas contributions should be sent to NEMO. In the event that the donating agency wants the items distributed to a particular committee, this should be stated. Mr. Roger Joseph through the web site will write to all donating agencies informing them of the decision.
- Mr. Egbert Lucien of the Gros Islet Committee stated that MR.E's for his committee had been removed from the warehouse without noticing them. Ms French informed him that since she had been asked to remove the items out of the warehouse, she had to move quickly, and as a result she forgot to inform them. The items are presently being stored at the Ministry of Communications warehouse in Dennery.
 - NEMO to get in touch with Mr. Daniel of Ministry of Planning in order to acquire a container for the committee. The meeting was informed that under the World Bank Project containers would be sourced for all local committees. In the mean time, NEMO will write to shipping companies requesting donations of containers.

Transport Sub committee – Dorothy Agard (member)

- Committee in state of readiness. Meetings held with transport owners and Ministry of Works. Tropical Shipping and Hackshaw are prepared to assist.
- Did not encounter transportation problems during the passage of Hurricane Lenny and the Black Mallet/Maynard Hill Landslip.

Issues Raised

- Mr. Kennedy Burke of the Vieux Fort South Committee stated that he has been encountering problems getting assistance with government vehicles.
- Mr. Michael Lamontagne of the Soufriere Committee stated that during the passage of Hurricane Lenny, his committee only got assistance from the Soufriere police and they were quite cooperative.
- Concerns were raised about some petrol dealers who do not honour government vouchers. The Permanent Secretary of Finance stated that a new system has been set up for purchase of petrol on credit. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) is signed by the petrol dealer, local committee and NEMO. Through this agreement, supplies can be purchased on credit and payment will be settled within 2 weeks of purchase – this system applies only to the out districts. The PS also informed

the meeting that within the Castries area only one petrol dealer accepts government vouchers – Jn Marie & Sons Petrol Station.

- The Chairman requested testing of the MOU system.
- Ms French informed the meeting that MOU's have been sent out to all local committees in order that they contact the petrol dealers and shopkeepers in their areas to get MOU's signed.
 - NEMO to contact all committees to make sure that all MOUs are signed.
- Dr Walter Francois made a request for air transportation during a disaster. Ms Agard informed him that St. Lucia Helicopters have already been contacted and they are ready to assist in time of need.

Health and Welfare Sub committee – Mr. Kenneth Monplaisir

- Mandate reviewed. Shelters have been identified. At a meeting held, individuals were assigned specific tasks to find out status of institutions, e.g. Hospitals.
- There is need to keep in touch with other committees.
- Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 12, 2000, reports on findings on status of institutions will be presented.

Red Cross has organized a workshop on **Damage Assessment**, which will be held in August 2000, the Damage Assessment committee will be invited.

Issues Raised

- List of shelters for Castries Central incomplete. Mr. C. Saltibus informed the meeting that he had contacted shelter managers reference their responsibility as Shelter Managers. He was disappointed at the response from the principals – most of them stated that they are unaware of the situation. Ms French informed the meeting that a workshop was held at the Red Cross Building for all Shelter Managers and she was amazed at the statements made by the principals.
- Shelters to be visited to ascertain that they can be used as shelters.
- Mr. Daniel informed the meeting that under the World Bank Project schools would be retrofitted during the summer holidays.
- In the event that a principal does not live in the same area with the school, the principal should nominate someone who lives in the area as Shelter Manager.
- Mr. Egbert Lucien requested First Aid training for Gros Islet committee members.

- First Aid training for all Local committee members will commence very soon under the World Bank Project.
- Dr. St. Catherine stated that the Ministry of Health has taken a vulnerability analysis of Health Centres and most of them are not in a state of readiness. All hospitals will remain open and only those Health Centres that are in a state of readiness will be open during a disaster.
- Mr. Lucien lamented the fact that the ambulance, which is to be used by the Gros Islet Poly Clinic, has no equipment and is being kept in Castries. The Chairman stated that a meeting should be scheduled with Mr. Lucien, the Chief Medical Officer and other relevant Ministry of Health officers to discuss the matter.

Report from WASCO General Manager – Mr. Martin Satney

- The General Manager reported that at present WASCO's Emergency Plan is under review. They have not attained the minimum level of preparedness. A committee has been set up to review the plan.
- A half-day workshop has been organized with NEMO to sensitize staff on emergencies.
- Wrote to organizations like the Poverty Reduction Fund and Basic Needs Trust Fund requesting assistance in accessing supplies and equipment for WASCO.
- Need some mobile and stand by generators.
- Need replacement parts for damaged equipment.
- Need water trucks to transport water during a disaster.
- Castries Sewage system needs to be replaced – 50 years old.
- Since there have not been any major improvement to intakes, in the event of a disaster the following intakes will be cut off – Choiseul, Vieux Fort, Dennerly and Micoud. WASCO is in the process of improving intakes.

Mr. Daniel of the Ministry of Planning informed the meeting that under the World Bank project the following will be taken care of:

- Early Flood Warning Systems
- Water Purification Plants will be built
- A tank will be constructed at Victoria Hospital, this will not be done before the end of the 2000 hurricane season

Mr. Satney requested a meeting with the Ministry of Planning to discuss water issues.

Report from Commissioner of Police

- The Special Service Unit (SSU) is in a state of readiness.
- Need to sensitize officers in hoisting of lanterns.
- Has contacted Ministry of Works for use of heavy equipment in the event of a disaster.
- Need for training in Mitigation for new officers.

Issues Raised

- Micoud North committee is quite satisfied with assistance from Micoud police.

Persons complained that sometimes they encounter problems getting assistance from the policemen and firemen. The Chairman informed Chairpersons of the local committees that in the event they encounter problems with policemen or firemen providing assistance requested or in attending meetings they are invited to, the committee should inform the NEMO office and the office will get in touch with the various Heads of the Department.

- Gros Islet quite satisfied with assistance from the police.

Mr. Michael Lamontagne made the following recommendations:

- A full-time NEMO should be set up in the South to serve the areas from Soufriere to Vieux Fort.
- A stipend for all Chairmen and Secretaries of local committees.
- Telephone allowance for Chairmen of all local committees who use their private telephones to make business calls.

Mr. Lamontagne also took the opportunity to inform the meeting of his resignation as Chairman of the Soufriere Local Committee effective November 30, 2000. This decision he had to take due to his present workload.

General Concerns/Issues

- Ministry of Works Technical Team in place in the event of a disaster. During the past quarter, mitigation works have been done and is continuing.
- The Chairman expressed concern on the delay in drainage works at Anse La Raye.
- The Commissioner of Police informed the meeting that the US Embassy will be cutting down on funds to the Marine Unit. Funds will be made available only for repairs to equipment. He

requested a formal correspondence be sent to the St. Lucia Government informing them of the situation.

- Department has five (5) sections. They are non-functional.
- The General Manager of WASCO stated that they are in the process of redefining their legislation for disaster management.
- Mr. Egbert Lucien to take an inventory of all government vehicles in his community – Gros Islet.
- Mr. Victor Jn Baptiste stated that he is not sure of which government vehicles are assigned to his area – Micoud South.
- The Chairman stated that since they are newly formed, there is need to work closely with Micoud North and Vieux Fort South committees. NEMO to redistribute to local committees list of government vehicles available in the various communities.
- Mrs. Imogene Mitchell of the Choiseul committee stated that a Fund Raising Committee has been set up within their local committee; they want to know if funds raised can be used for various projects within the community. The Chairman responded by saying that any monies raised can be used for community projects.
- Mr. M. Lamontagne asked whether monies received for a specific project can be used by the committee. He was informed that any monies received, should be deposited in the Consolidated Funds and a request can be made for these monies to be used to undertake projects in the specific community.
- Mr. M. Lamontagne passed on a cheque of \$22,056.57 to the Chairman. This cheque will be deposited in the Consolidated Funds. The Chairman took the opportunity to applaud the efforts of the Soufriere and Dennery committee in their fund raising activities.
- All chairmen of local committees to take an inventory of government vehicles in their area.
- NEMO to redistribute list of vehicles to local committees.
- All chairmen to contact suppliers re: Signing of MOU for petrol and other supplies.
- Houses in enforcement area in Barrons Drive, Soufriere, will be demolished when new houses are finished and victims have been moved into their new homes.

The Chairman once again thank everyone for attending the proceedings and informed the meeting that he had to leave to attend to another appointment. He then handed over control of the meeting to the Deputy Chairman.

The Deputy Chairman continued with the proceedings of the meeting and stated that in the interest of time, all Chairpersons of the Local Committees should hand over their reports to Ms French.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Mr. Daniel of the Ministry of Planning – Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project gave a report on the World Bank Project. The following projects will be implemented under the World Bank:
 - Works on Hewanorra Airport
 - Building of metallic bridges
 - Setting up of Gabian baskets
 - Water tanks for Victoria Hospital and NEMO
 - Retrofitting of schools
 - Technical Assistance to NEMO
 - Emergency equipment for schools and NEMO
 - Storage facilities – NEMO and Local Committees
 - Support for met services
 - Training for school shelter managers
 - First Aid Training for local committees members
 - Training in equipment operations
 - Hazard analysis and vulnerability mapping
 - Setting up of building codes

Mr. Daniel also informed the meeting that there would be more funds available under the next phase of the project.

Recommendations:

Mr. Roger Joseph made the following recommendations:

- Committee members should be sensitized on the procedures in accessing supplies for a disaster.
- NEMO meetings should be held on a quarterly basis – for immediate follow-up on issues.

Mrs. Imogene Mitchel of the Choiseul Local Committee stated that their committee is not quite sure where they should seek assistance during a disaster – Vieux Fort or Piaye. She was told that her request should be made to Vieux Fort.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

.....
A. L. DAWN FRENCH
Director (Ag) - NEMO

Part 5
Appendix

2001 - Hurricane Names

Allison
Barry
Chantal
Dean
Erin
Felix
Gabrielle
Humberto
Iris
Jerry
Karen
Lorenzo
Michelle
Noel
Olga
Pablo
Rebekah
Sebastien
Tanya
Van
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