**Draft Programme – Diplomatic Week 2016**

‘*Strengthening Relationships for a More Secure and Prosperous Bahamas’*

**Friday 14 & Saturday 15 October**

Arrivals

**Sunday 16 October**

11:15 – 12:30 Service of Thanksgiving (reception immediately following)

Venue: Christ Church Cathedral

**Monday 17 October**

08:00 - 09:00 Registration and Refreshments

08:00 – 09:00 Presentations of *copies d’usage*

Venue: The Lucayan Room, Melia Hotel

09:00 – 10:00 Official Opening Ceremony (refreshments immediately following)

Keynote Speaker:

The Rt. Hon. Perry Gladstone Christie, MP, Prime Minister & Minister of Finance

Venue: Ballroom A, Melia Hotel

10:30 – 13:00 Working Session 1

*‘The Magnitude of the Damage Caused by Hurricane Matthew and What is Needed for a Speedy Recovery’*

Speaker:

The Hon. Shane Gibson, MP, Minister of Labour and National Insurance

Panelists:

Capt. Stephen Russell, Director of NEMA

Capt. Tellis Bethel, Acting Commodore, Royal Bahamas Defense Force

Mr. Ellison Ellison Greenslade, Commissioner, Royal Bahamas Police Force

Pamela Hill, Chief Executive Officer, Bahamas Power and Light Company Ltd. (BPL)

Moderator: Ambassador Stan Smith, Head, Legal Affairs Division

Venue: Ballroom B, Melia Hotel

13:00 – 15:00 Working Lunch

Topic: *The Role of Non-State Actors in Disaster Relief and Recovery’*

Speakers:

Mr. Tony Gomez, President, The Bahamas Red Cross

Mr. Timothy Ingraham, Assistant Governor, Rotary Bahamas

Mr. Eddison Sumner, CEO, Bahamas Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Emmanuel Komolafe, Chairman, Bahamas Insurance Association

Moderator: Mr. Frank Davis, Head, Economic Affairs and Technical Assistance Division

Venue: Ballroom C, Melia Hotel

15:00 – 17:30 Working Session 2

*‘The Environmental Impact of Hurricane Matthew and the Action Required’*

Speakers:

Dr. Philip Weech, BEST Commission

Mr. Eric Carey, Executive Director, Bahamas National Trust

Lady Eugenie Nuttall, Co-Chair/Director, Bahamas Reef Environment Educational

Foundation (BREEF)

Dr. Maurice Isaacs, Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources, Head- Bahamas

CITES Management Authority

Moderator: Mr. Eugene Newry, Head, International Relations Division

Venue: Ballroom B, Melia Hotel

18:30 – 20:00 Reception hosted by the Hon. Minister of Transport and Aviation

Venue: EstaVida Terrace, Melia Hotel

**Tuesday 18 October**

07:30 – 09:30 Breakfast Meeting with the Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Heads of Bahamian Missions and Bahamian Honorary Consuls

Venue: The Lucayan Room, Melia Hotel

09:30 – 12:00 Meeting of the Heads of Bahamian Missions and Bahamian Honorary Consuls

Venue: Ballroom B, Melia Hotel

12:30 – 14:00 Working Lunch for all Participants

Topic: ‘*Partnerships’*

Speaker: Mr. Amir A. Dossal, President, Global Partnerships Forum

Moderator: Allene Ambrose, Foreign Service Officer

Venue: Ballroom C, Melia Hotel

14:00 – 15:30 Media and Diplomacy Briefing for the Heads of Bahamian Missions and Bahamian Honorary Consuls

Speakers:

Mr. Elcott Coleby, Deputy Director, Bahamas Information Services

Father Dr. James Moultrie, Chairman, The Public Service Commmission

Venue: Ballroom B, Melia Hotel

15:30 – 17:00 Meeting of the Heads of Bahamian Missions and Bahamian Honorary Consuls Cntd.

Venue: Ballroom B, Melia Hotel

19:00 – 21:00 Official Dinner hosted by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister and Foreign Service Awards Ceremony

Venue: The Balmoral Club

**Wednesday 19 October**

07:00 – 16:30 Familiarization Tour to The Bahamas Agriculture and Marine Science Institute (BAMSI) for all Participants

18:30 – 20:30 Official Closing Reception hosted by the Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs

Venue: John Watling’s Distillery

**Thursday 20 October**

09:30 Presentations of Credentials

Venue: Government House

13:00 – 16:00 Budget and Finance Meeting for the Heads of Bahamian Missions

Venue: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration

**Friday 21 October**

Departures