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# REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS FORUM

## OPENING CEREMONY PROGRAMME AND BIOGRAPHIC DATA

**30 - 31 MAY, 2017  
KINGSTON, JAMAICA**

# OPENING CEREMONY

*Chair: Mr Dereck Springer, Director,  
PANCAP*

## WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

*Mr Dereck Springer, Director,  
PANCAP*

## REMARKS

*Mr Winfield Tannis-Abbott, Secretary,  
Caribbean Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS (CRN+)*

## REMARKS

*Dr Elsie Laurence-Chounoune,  
Resident Representative (ag) UNDP Jamaica*

## REMARKS

*Ms Maura Barry Boyle,  
USAID Mission Director for USAID Jamaica*

## REMARKS

*Dr Douglas Slater, Assistant Secretary-General, Human and  
Social Development, CARICOM Secretariat*

## REMARKS

*Hon. Dr Timothy Sylvester Harris, Prime Minister of St Kitts and  
Nevis*

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## FEATURE ADDRESS

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*Hon. Delroy Chuck, Minister of Justice, Jamaica*

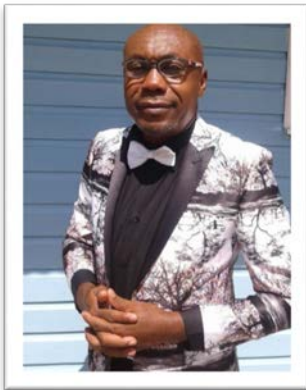
## **Mr Dereck Anthony Springer**



Mr Dereck Anthony Springer, Masters in Public Health (MPH), is the Director of PANCAP. He is a public health practitioner and behavioural specialist with 23 years of experience in the health sector, primarily in HIV and mental health. His extensive experience in policy, management and programme implementation

at the national and regional levels has been facilitated by his work with civil society, government, regional and international technical assistance agencies.

## **Mr Winfield Tannis-Abbott**



Mr Winfield Tannis-Abbott is a founding member of the National AIDS Organization in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He has served as a Board Member of the Global Network of Persons Living with HIV (GNP+). He is currently a board member of the OECS Regional Coordinating Mechanism, member of the local Country Coordinating Mechanism, Acting President of

Care, Advocacy, Reaching out to Empower St Vincent and the Grenadines (CARE SVG), and Member of the Technical Advisory Group of the CVC-Global Fund Grant. He currently serves as Secretary of the Caribbean Regional Network of persons living with HIV and AIDS (CRN+).

## **Dr Elsie Laurence-Chounoune**



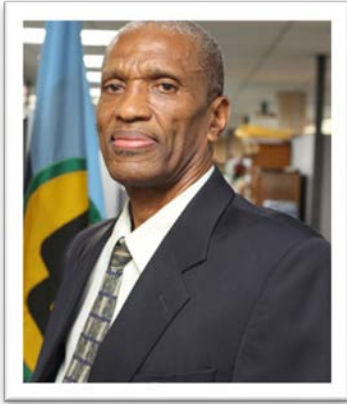
A citizen of Haiti, Dr Elsie Laurence-Chounoune is the Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Jamaica. Prior to that, she was the Chief of the Operations and Planning Section of the Office of Information and Systems Technology of UNDP in New York. She also served in Angola, Central African Republic, and Guinea. Dr Laurence-Chounoune holds a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, a Master's in Public Administration and a PhD in Public Policy; all completed in the United States of America.

## ***Ms Maura Barry Boyle***



Ms Maura Barry Boyle was appointed Mission Director for USAID Jamaica in August 2016. She has been working in international development for over 30 years. Prior to this assignment, she served as the Office Director of the General Development Office in the Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) in Bangkok, Thailand. At RDMA, Ms. Barry also served as a Regional Advisor for Local Capacity Development. Her assignments have also included serving in Afghanistan as the Deputy Office Director for USAID's Office of Democracy and Governance from 2011 - 2012. Before that, Maura served as USAID East Africa's Office Director for the Somalia. She holds an MPA in Public and Non-profit Management from New York University.

## *Dr Douglas Slater*



Dr Douglas Slater is the Assistant Secretary-General, Human and Social Development, CARICOM Secretariat.

Dr Slater assumed the position on 1 October 2013. A national of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and a Medical Doctor by profession, Dr. Slater was the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Consumer

Affairs of St. Vincent and the Grenadines from 2010-2013. In that capacity, he also served as representative of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to the ACP-EU Parliamentarians Group, and as alternate for the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance on the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) Authorities.

Dr. Slater served as Minister of Health and the Environment, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and was the CARICOM Minister of Health designated to negotiate the regional approach with the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM) during the establishment of the GF. He also served as Chairman of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)/Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM). Dr. Slater was also honoured by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat as one of the CARICOM's first Champion for Change.

***Hon. Dr Timothy Sylvester Harris, Prime Minister of St Kitts and Nevis and Lead Head for Human Resource, Health and HIV***



Hon. Dr Timothy Sylvester Harris is the current Prime Minister of St Kitts and Nevis. He previously served as the Foreign Minister from 10 August 2001 to 25 January 2013.

He graduated from the Cave Hill Campus of The University of the West Indies with a B.Sc. Degree with a First Class Honours in Accounting being the only

graduate of the B.Sc. Accounting programme to obtain this distinction.

Minister Harris holds a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Administration majoring in Accounting. He participated in elective politics in 1993 and since then won his seat on a St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party ticket, in each parliamentary elections held in 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2010. Dr Harris has served as Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Housing, Minister of Education, Labour and Social Security, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Education and Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, Industry and Commerce.

He has published several works and received several award including the St Kitts Youth Council Award for Excellence in Education, the FESTAB Community Award for outstanding contribution to FESTAB and a certificate for outstanding contribution to the Cayon High School.

## *Hon. Delroy Chuck, Minister of Justice, Jamaica*



The Hon. Delroy Chuck was first elected in 1997 as a Member of Parliament (MP) to represent the Constituency of North East St. Andrew. In 2011, when the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) won the

General Elections, he enjoyed a short stint in office as the Minister of Justice. In February 2016, Mr. Chuck was once again assigned to the portfolio with the mammoth responsibility of ***‘providing a law-abiding society with an accessible, efficient and fair system of justice for all’***.

He has worked steadily at various levels of the political and governance systems. He served as Research Director, Committee on Capital Punishment, Jamaica, 1979; the Chairman, Penal Reform Committee, Barbados, 1980; University nominee, Committee on Constitutional Reform; Opposition Spokesman on Justice 1997 – 2007; Speaker of the House of Representatives 2007 – 2011.

Minister Chuck also served as a Teacher in Mathematics, Senior Lecturer in Law, columnist for the Gleaner newspaper, and commentator on social, political, economical, constitutional and legal issues. He was consultant on the Judicial System and Legal Aid in Jamaica, the author of many published papers on law and crime including ***‘Should We Hang’*** and ***‘Understanding Crime’***.

## ***Hon. Delroy Chuck, Minister of Justice, Jamaica***

(Continued)

A graduate of Kingston College where he served as Deputy Head Boy, he won a scholarship to the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona Campus, where he read for and received an Honours Degree in Special Mathematics.

His hard work and keen attention to detail paid off when he became the Jamaica Rhodes Scholar in 1973. He went on to St. Catherine's College at the University of Oxford, England, where he read Law.

## **Dr John Edward Greene**



Dr John Edward Greene, currently UN Secretary-General Special Envoy for HIV in the Caribbean and Professor Emeritus, UWI was previously the Assistant Secretary-General, CARICOM Secretariat and Senior Adviser, PAHO/WHO. At UWI, he was Pro Vice Chancellor and University Director, Institute of Social and Economic Studies.

He has authored 10 books and over 60 articles, served on many prestigious Boards and is the recipient of numerous awards. He holds a B.Sc. Economics (London University) and Ph.D. (University of British Columbia). Dr. Greene is a 2016 Caribbean American Heritage Awards (CARAH) honoree for Outstanding Public Service.



**Ambassador Manorma Soeknandan, Deputy Secretary-General, CARICOM Secretariat**



Ambassador Manorma Soeknandan, PhD, is the Deputy Secretary-General of the CARICOM Secretariat.

Before joining the CARICOM Secretariat Ambassador Soeknandan served as the first female Resident Ambassador of the Republic of Suriname to Guyana. She was also the first female Ambassador in Guyana. In January 2002, she was accredited as Ambassador to CARICOM,

Cuba and Jamaica. During her tenure as Resident Ambassador in Guyana, she was designated as the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps up to 2013 and implemented several social projects. Ambassador Soeknandan has served her country and the region in several regional committees and as such as initiated, supported and assisted in the establishment of several regional, national organisations/institutions.

## THE PAN CARIBBEAN PARTNERSHIP AGAINST HIV AND AIDS (PANCAP)

Established by a "Declaration of Commitment" issued and signed on the occasion of the meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Caribbean on 14 February 2001.

### **Original Signatories to the Partnership Commitment**

Prime Minister of Barbados · Hon. Owen Arthur  
Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis · Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas  
Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme  
on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) · Mr Peter Piot  
Director, Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization  
(PAHO/WHO) · Sir George Alleyne  
Assistant Secretary-General, Human and Social Development, Caribbean Community  
(CARICOM) Secretariat · Dr Edward Greene  
and Founder and Regional Coordinator of the Caribbean Regional Network  
of People Living with AIDS (CRN+) · Ms Yolanda Simon.

### **Vision**

An AIDS-free Caribbean

### **Organs**

The organs of PANCAP are:

General Membership  
Executive Board  
Priority Areas Coordinating Committee (PACC)  
Technical Working Groups (TWG)  
PANCAP Coordinating Unit (PCU)

The PCU is the executing arm of the Partnership and is located within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat, Georgetown, Guyana.

### **Membership**

Membership is open automatically to **all** CARICOM Member States.  
All **other** countries will be required to sign a "Statement of Commitment".

Request for membership from duly registered regional institutions/organisations within the Pan-Caribbean region; bilateral and multilateral agencies that maintain a presence in the Pan-Caribbean region; and public or private sector extra-regional organisations will be considered by the Executive Board upon submission to the PANCAP Coordinating Unit: "An Expression of Interest", "Proof of Registration" and "Evidence of work in the field of HIV and AIDS".

*For further information about PANCAP please visit:*

[www.PANCAP.org](http://www.PANCAP.org)

## NOTES

**Contact Us:**

**PANCAP Coordinating Unit (PCU)**

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