



**AmericasRelief**

**May 21, 2007**

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***Carnival Corp Facilitates III Annual Regional  
Crisis Relief and Logistic Luncheon***

*MIAMI, FL— May 21, 2007 – Government officials joined Florida corporations, relief organizations, and representatives from Costa Rica, Grenada, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Barbados in expressing their concern for effective preparations and organized logistics to help reduce deaths occurring in the wake of disasters.*

*With the new hurricane season approaching AmericasRelief Team is hosted a luncheon aboard the Carnival cruise ship, Imagination, on May 17th, at the Port of Miami to facilitate the discussions on this year's aid logistics to the Caribbean.*

*Sam Tidwell, Chief Executive Officer of the American Red Cross for Greater Miami and the Keys unveiled a new program to work with vendors to help provide quick and effective relief to the area following any type of disaster. As the newest member of AmericasRelief Team, the Red Cross is formalizing plans for assistance following crises in the region.*

*Cliff Deeds, Managing Director of International Marketing for the FedEx Express Latin America & Caribbean Division gave a commanding presentation on the importance of corporate social responsibilities. Deeds added that "our employees are our first priority. And we are ready to place our more than 3,300 employees in more than 50 countries and territories on alert to collaborate with AmericasRelief Team to provide assistance to our friends in the Caribbean and Central America following a disaster".*

*Teo Babun, Executive Director of AmericasRelief Team expressed concern regarding the predictions by experts that the 2007 hurricane season will be especially active, and may produce up to 17 tropical storms and hurricanes. Babun urged a plan of action by each country in the Caribbean Basin, and pledged that AmericasRelief Team will do everything in their power to prepare and assist its members and friends to maximize emergency relief in the region.*

*During the event, Consul General's Beatriz Illescas, of Guatemala, Lorena Sanchez, of Costa Rica, and Edward Bushell, of Barbados, joined in expressing concern for effective preparations in the region.*

## THE SPEAKERS



**Mr. Daniel Thomas, Executive Director of Harvest International; Mr. Sam Tidwell, Chief Executive Officer of the American Red Cross for Greater Miami and the Keys; Mr. Cliff Deeds, Managing Director of International Marketing for FedEx Express Latin America & Caribbean Division ; and Dr. Teo Babun, Executive Director of AmericasRelief Team**

## EVENT GUESTS



**The Honorable Council Generals from Barbados, Costa Rica, and Guatemala provided event leadership. The governments of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Grenada and Jamaica also expressed support. A special thanks to the relief organizations attending the event: Miami Medical Team, Feed the Children, Cross International, World Vision, Red Cross, Harvest International, FAVACA, ECHO-Cuba, and Alliance for Human Services.**

## GREAT FOOD AND NETWORK



**Close to 100 friends of AmericasRelief Team representing relief organizations, corporations, foreign/local/state/and federal government and agencies attended the event.**

## LOTS OF FUN TIMES ALSO



**Special thanks to the volunteers and staff of AmericasRelief Team who worked so hard to make the event a success. Danny Thomas of Harvest International; and Jessica E. Pineda, Vanessa Pino, and Gretel Rodriguez.**

AmericasRelief Team is a nonprofit organization formed by a collaboration of corporations and nonprofit organizations to expedite relief to the Caribbean and Latin America in response to natural disasters and human crises. AmericasRelief Team focuses on coordinating logistics through guidance, education, and state-of-the-art techniques while planning and implementing effective distribution of humanitarian aid. AmericasRelief Team also coordinates storage and transportation through its members' assistance.

**AmericasRelief Team members include top executives from:** American Red Cross; Baptist Health; Carnival Corporation; Cross International; FedEx Latin America; Feed the Children; Lucent Technologies; Pharmed Group Corp.; Caribbean Central America Action (CCAC); Florida Stevedoring; G.O.A.L., Inc.; Miami-Dade Aviation Department; Port of Miami Terminal Operating Co. (POMTOC), Seaboard Marine; Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas (FAVACA); Food for the Poor; Gordon, Reyes & Co.; Harvest International; Pan American Development Foundation (PADF); WorldCity Media; Enterprise Florida, and World Vision-South Florida.

**Strategic Supporters include:** Acco Foreign Shipping, Inc., Aidmatrix Foundation, Airline Cargo Services, Inc., American Woolen Company International, Inc., Antillean Marine Shipping Corp., BBR Services, Inc., Center for Food Distribution and Retailing, Equipment & Systems Engineering, Inc., Family Outreach Ministries International, Inc., First Water, Inc., Florida Compassion Foundation, Florida Solar Energy Center, Global Links, Global Medical Company, Helping Hands Ministry, Inc., HOPE International Development Agency, JNK Warehousing & Distribution, Inc., ORS International LLC, Seafreight Agencies, Inc., Shield Technology Group, Inc., Water Missions International, Yellow Air Taxi.

**Caribbean Agents include:** **COSTA RICA**, Grupo Mudanzas Mundiales, **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**, Pilarte Cargo, S.A, **GUATEMALA**, Agencia General Logistica, S.A. (A.G.L), **HONDURAS**, Mayan Express Cargo, **MEXICO**, Transport Accion Mexico, **NICARAGUA**, Grupo Mudanzas Mundiales, **PANAMA**, Servicarga, S.A., **PUERTO RICO**, Omega Cargo.

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