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AMERICAS RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM, INC.

Americas Relief Team

June 10, 2011

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REGIONAL CRISIS RELIEF SEVENTH ANNUAL LUNCHEON

MIAMI, FL- On June 10, 2011, Americas Relief Team held their 7th Annual Regional Crisis Relief Luncheon, aboard the Carnival Cruise ship, *Imagination*. The event drew over 200 attendees from both the private and public sectors, including government entities, corporations and non-profit organizations, all with a common interest in the health and recovery of our region in times of crises. This year for the first time, an aid effectiveness workshop was also organized into the day's events.

Americas Relief Team together with Oxfam America conducted the *Who Decides and Who's Accountable?: Aid Effectiveness and the Reconstruction of Haiti Workshop*. The workshop took place in the morning at the Port of Miami offices. A presentation was first made by Marc Cohen, Senior Researcher at Oxfam America and then was followed by a panel discussion. The panel consisted of Michel Chancy, *Secretary of State, Animal Husbandry; Haitian Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development* Russell Porter, *Director of Haiti Task Team, USAID*, Teo Babun, *Executive Director, Americas Relief Team*, and Karl Jean-Louis, *Executive Director, Haiti Aid WatchDog*.

Following the workshop, the luncheon attendees gathered to discuss aid logistics to the Americas and Caribbean following a humanitarian crisis. The luncheon's keynote speaker was USAID Assistant Administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean, Mark Feierstein. Mr. Feierstein has over 25 years of experience working with development issues in the region. Now, with his position at USAID, Mr. Feierstein is involved with sixteen bilateral missions, four regional programs and Washington-based programs for Cuba with access to a budget of over \$1 billion dollars.

Mr. Feierstein focused his discussion on the relief efforts of USAID in these countries, and strategies they are prepared to implement should a disaster strike. He stressed USAID's commitment to the empowerment of each country in the region to be able to effectively manage crisis events; as well as the importance of organizations like Americas Relief Team whose main objective is to raise awareness and provide humanitarian assistance wherever and whenever a disaster occurs.

Americas Relief Team's Executive Director, Dr. Teo A. Babun, Jr. acknowledged all the organization's partners who have shown so much support through the past several years. Partnering organizations include; POMTOC, Cross International, SAHF, Sante Shipping Lines, Harvest International, Inc., FedEx Latin America Express, DAMCO, Miami International Airport, APX International, Seaboard Marine, Food for the Poor, Inc., Port of Miami, Laparkan and US SOUTHCOM. Special recognition was given to ART's partners who helped sponsor the event. Awards were presented to Seafreight Agencies, Oxfam America and Carnival Corporation.

Americas Relief Team coordinates, facilitates, and offers the following services for victims of humanitarian emergencies in the Americas: relief aid, preparedness, development, and recovery. When disaster strikes, *Americas Relief Team* works in a coordinated basis with the governments in the target region, the U.S. government, donating corporations, air & sea cargo carriers, logistics companies, non-governmental experts and others.

Workshop Highlights



Left: Eric Olafson, Manager of Intergovernmental Affairs and Cargo Development at the Port of Miami; **Center:** Marc Cohen, Senior Researcher at Oxfam America, Russell Porter, Head of Haiti Task Force Team at USAID, Michel Chancy, Secretary of State, Animal Husbandry, Haitian Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development, Teo Babun, Executive Director of Americas Relief Team; Karl Jean-Louis, Executive Director of Haiti Aid WatchDog, Alexis Snyder, Chief of Staff for Honorable Congresswoman Frederica Wilson; **Right:** Russell Porter of USAID giving an answer during the Q&A session.

Regional Crisis Relief Annual Luncheon 2011 Special Recognitions



Left: Keynote Speaker, Mark Feierstein, USAID Assistant Administrator for Latin and America and the Caribbean; **Center:** Mark Feierstein with Teo Babun, Executive Director of Americas Relief Team, Ana Guevara, Director of Americas Relief Team and Vice President of Corporate Affairs at Walmart Latinoamerica, and Matthew Minor, Programs Director of Americas Relief Team; **Right:** Teo Babun with Gordon Buck, Vice President of Caribbean Relations for Carnival Cruise Lines.



Left: Teo Babun and Matthew Minor of Americas Relief Team with David Ross, Ana Molina-Diaz and Paule Lilly of Seafreight Agencies; **Right:** Teo Babun and Matthew Minor of Americas Relief Team with Sophia Lafontant of Oxfam America

Regional Crisis Relief Annual Luncheon 2011 Highlights



Left: Teo Babun, Executive Director of Americas Relief Team speaking about ART's programs and acknowledging its partners. **Center:** Mark Feierstein, USAID, Dana Klein, Consul General of the Republic of Macedonia, Rhoda Jackson, Consul General of the Bahamas, Lizette Hawit, Consul General of Honduras, Alvaro Gallardo, Consul General of Uruguay, Ralph Latortue, Consul General of Haiti, Teo Babun, Americas Relief Team; **Right:** Teo Babun speaking to the guests one on one



Left: Guests enjoying the five-star lunch by Carnival's world-renowned chefs; **Right:** Staff of Americas Relief Team

Americas Relief Team

Americas Relief 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. Americas Relief Team focuses on coordinating logistics through guidance, education, and state-of-the-art techniques while planning and implementing effective distribution of humanitarian aid. Americas Relief Team also coordinates storage and transportation through its members' assistance.

Americas Relief Team corporate and non-profit partners and collaborators include: ADRA; American Red Cross; Baptist Health; Belle Plume Communications; Caribbean Central America Action (CCAC); Carnival Corporation; Cross International ;DAMCO/Maersk; Laparkan; Enterprise Florida; FAVACA; Feed the Children; FedEx Latin America; Florida Stevedoring; Food for the Poor; Gateway Florida; Harvest International; IBC Airways; InterAction; International Relief and Development (IRD); JAKSAIR; LAN Airlines; Miami-Dade Aviation Department; Miami River Marine Group; Neighbors4Neighbors; Pan American Development Foundation (PADF); Port of Miami Terminal Operating Co. (POMTOC); RFC Logistics; Republica; Seaboard Marine; SeaFreight Agencies; TranLogistics; U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM); Univision; WTDC; World Vision-South Florida; World Emergency Relief-UK; and YRC Logistics.

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