

## **ACS Secretary General meets with the Alicia Bárcena**

Thursday, September 22 2011

**The Secretary General of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) Ambassador Luis Fernando Andrade Falla, held a bilateral meeting with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Alicia Bárcena at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Port-of-Spain.**

Also in attendance were the Hugo Beteta, Subregional Director of ECLAC-Mexico, Juan Alberto Fuentes, Coordinator of National Human Development Report, UNDP Guatemala, Dr. Inés Bustillo, Director of the ECLAC Office in Washington and other officials from ECLAC Offices in Port-of-Spain and Chile.

The Secretary General was invited to attend the First Meeting of the Caribbean Development Round Table which took place on September 13 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. This Meeting was attended by Kamla Persad-Bissessar, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago as well as Winston Dookeran, Minister of Finance.

Some of the matters discussed includes, Strategies for sustainable development through public and private partnerships, Economic development in the context of politics in the small States of Central America and the Caribbean and the impact of global crisis on small states among others.

Ambassador Andrade took the opportunity to review the agenda of the ACS in the areas of the Caribbean Sea Commission, Disaster Risk Reduction, Sustainable Tourism and Trade.

He exchanged views on the possibilities of developing a way to link the Caribbean Region to Mesoamerica and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) blocks of infrastructure connectivity projects. This initiative is in the stage of exploration and consultation.

The meeting was productive and it strengthened the already good working relations of the ACS with ECLAC.

ECLAC was accepted into the ACS as a Founding Observer, at the VI Ordinary Meeting of the ACS Ministerial Council, San Pedro Sula, Honduras in December 2000.

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