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## Press Release

\*For Immediate Release\*

Date: March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013

Fighting Cancer with Advocacy

Today is the start of the two-day workshop on Cervical Cancer Advocacy Capacity Building at the Sonesta Great Bay Beach Resort & Casino in St. Maarten. The workshop was arranged by The Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC) in partnership with the Sint. Maarten Ministry of Public Health Social Development And Labour - Collective Prevention Services, for members of various Caribbean Cancer Societies and Foundations. This workshop was made possible through the generous support of the American Cancer Society, Health Action Partnership International (UK) and GlaxoSmithKline.

Several pan-caribbean agencies will be represented at the conference which has confirmed registrations from: **Barbados** (Barbados Cancer Society, Cancer Support Services and the Barbados Family Planning Association), **Belize** (Belize Cancer Society), **Bermuda** (Bermuda Cancer and Health Centre), **Dominica** (Dominica Cancer Society), **Grenada** (Grenada Cancer Society), **Guyana** (Cancer Institute of Guyana), **Haiti** (Groupe de Support Contre Le Cancer), **Jamaica** (The Jamaica Cancer Society), **St. Lucia** (St. Lucia Cancer Society), **St. Maarten** (The St. Maarten Cancer Foundation, Positive Foundation, KeLaHa Projects, SZV (Social Sickness Insurance)), **Saint Martin** (AGWEDC), **The Bahamas** (Cancer Society of the Bahamas), **The Cayman Islands** (Cayman Islands Cancer Society), **St. Kitts & Nevis** (Reach for Recovery), **Suriname** (Pink Ribbon Foundation Suriname), **Trinidad & Tobago** (Trinidad & Tobago Cancer Society).

The workshop is one part of a region wide campaign to raise awareness of cervical cancer and stimulate community-based efforts to reduce the mortality rates, developed in support of the "Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Cervical Cancer Prevention and Control in Latin America and the Caribbean", approved by the 48th Directing Council of PAHO/WHO.

Professor Trevor Hassell

**President, Healthy Caribbean Coalition,**

on behalf of the Directors and members of the Healthy Caribbean Coalition

**For Additional Information, please contact**

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*The HCC was formed in 2008. It is a live network of non-governmental and civil society organisations from across the Caribbean Region that has a remit to address non-communicable disease (NCDs).*