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NEW ALLIANCE BETWEEN WOMEN IN MARITIME ASSOCIATION CARIBBEAN (WiMAC) AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)

Women in Maritime Association Caribbean (WiMAC) and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) and with the technical assistance of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) sign MOU to promote the development of the port and maritime sector in Caribbean and the Americas with greater gender equality.

On May 23rd, 2023 Women in Maritime Association Caribbean (WiMAC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Organization of American States (OAS) to promote gender equality in the port industry. The MOU aims to strengthen the relationship between the two organizations establishing a framework for cooperation to enhance synergies in the implementation of programs, projects, and activities, as well as the exchange of experiences, knowledge and best practices.

Under the MOU, WiMAC and OAS, through the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) will work together to increase the scope and effectiveness of their efforts in the following areas of interest:

- a) Human capital development, including technical training through courses, seminars and workshops, in order to achieve the common objective between the parties.
- b) Cooperation with governmental and international institutions, as well as private initiatives in the execution of programs, projects and activities that promote the inclusive development of the maritime and port sectors; and
- c) Joint execution of studies and projects on topics of common interest, subject to the agreement of common interest.

The MOU was signed by Tamara Lowe-James, President of WiMAC, and Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral Development of the OAS. Speaking on the signing, Tamara Lowe-James of WiMAC said, "We are delighted to sign this MOU with GS/OAS, which will help us leverage each other's strengths and capabilities to promote gender equality and empowerment in the maritime industry. We are confident that this collaboration will open up new avenues for learning and development for both organizations."



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Kim Osborne of GS/OAS said, "Our partnership with WiMAC is a significant step towards achieving our goal of promoting gender equality and empowerment in the port sector. By working together, we can create synergies and benefits for a more inclusive and diverse port industry that fosters the growth of women in leadership positions."

The MOU signing represents a significant milestone for both WiMAC and GS/OAS and is expected to lead to many fruitful collaborations in the future.

About Women in Maritime Association Caribbean (WiMAC):

WiMAC is represented by President, Tamara Lowe-James. WiMAC is one of seven regional networks of women professionals in the maritime sector and was established under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). WiMAC is registered as an organization that works with women, maritime administrations, shipping industry partners, academic entities, women rights and gender allies, and other partners in 18 Caribbean countries and territories as a network for professional growth, gender equality in the sector, and the contribution of women to a safe and healthy maritime sector for strong Caribbean societies and economies.