



Grand -Turk, October 12, 2010

Statement from the Governor: International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) 2010

Since 1989, the second Wednesday in October of each year has marked the International Day for Disaster Reduction. The theme for 2010 is 'Making Cities Resilient: My City is getting Ready'.

Though the Turks and Caicos Islands do not have cities the size of Shanghai, New Orleans or Osaka-Kobe, all of which are in the top ten in terms of population exposed to coastal flood hazard, we nonetheless face similar issues. These include but are not limited to: unplanned development; inappropriate construction, making lives unnecessarily vulnerable; and a concentration of economic assets on coastlines.

This is therefore a good time for us all, in and out of Government, to reflect on the importance of doing what we can to reduce the risks which natural disasters pose to our islands and to integrate disaster risk reduction processes in our development planning so as to protect and improve our critical infrastructure.

In that spirit, I invite you all to join with me, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Public Safety and the Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies in marking this International Day for Disaster Reduction.

Gordon Wetherell

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS PROGRAMME OF EVENTS TO MARK

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION (IDDR), WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2010

General

- Statements/ Press Releases – Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies (DDME), Ministry of Home Affairs and Public Safety (HAPS), and the Governor's Office

Grand Turk

- 10-min talk on IDDR theme at Ona Glinton Primary School
- Participate on **Expression** on Radio Turks and Caicos (RTC) – DDME/ Ministry of HAPS

Salt Cay

- 10-min talk on IDDR theme at Mary Robinson Primary School
- Clearing of critical portions of the drainage system
- Continuation of the blocking of the retaining wall for 3 salt ponds

South Caicos

- 10-min talk on IDDR theme at Iris Stubbs Primary School
- Clearing of critical portions of the drainage system

Middle Caicos

- 10-min talk on IDDR theme at Doris Robinson Primary School

North Caicos

- 10-min talk on IDDR theme at Adelaide Oemler Primary School
- Branch Clearing Campaign in Whitby – District commissioner Office and Providenciales Power Company

Providenciales

- 10-min talk on IDDR theme at Enid Capron Primary School
- Selected Neighborhood Clean Up Campaign – DDME and Disaster Community Groups