

**PAY AS YOU GO Insurance**  
3, 6 or 12 Months coverage

**No Excess**  
No Excess on Claims

 **First Domestic**  
Our stability secures your future  
19-21 King George V St.  
P.O. Box 1931 - Roseau  
Tel: 767-449-8202 | Fax: 767-448-5778  
Bay Street, Portsmouth  
Tel: 767-445-3494 | Fax: 767-445-3421  
Terms and conditions apply, call or visit the office for more information

**Pizza hut DELIVERY**  
MAKE IT GREAT™

**SIZZLIN' Summer Deals**

**HOT! DISCOUNTS ON YOUR FAVORITE PIZZAS**

**CALL 617 7777**

## Call for protection of traditional biological knowledge

Dominica News Online - Wednesday, June 26th, 2013 at 3:33 PM



Environment Minister, Dr. Kenneth Darroux

Environment minister, Dr Kenneth Darroux, has said that there is a need to put measures in place to ensure the protection of traditional knowledge associated with indigenous biological resources.

Speaking at the launching of a regional training workshop on drafting legislation for the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing on Wednesday, Darroux explained that resources whether from plants, animals or micro organisms, are used by a wide range of people operating in different sectors for a wide range of purposes.

The Nagoya Protocol aims to ensure that if a person, agency or organization wishes to access genetic resources such as plant and animal material in a foreign country, they must first inform the country about their intentions and get consent to access the material. There will also be provisions for the person or institution to show the benefits of their research with the source country.

Caricom Secretariat representative officer at the workshop, Theresa Yard, explained further that the protocol requires all parties to recognize and respect the knowledge, customs and practices of indigenous and traditional communities.

"The Nagoya Protocol is incumbent to help ensure that countries and communities in the Caribbean and around the world receive a fair and equitable share of the benefits that may arise from the use of their genetic resources," she stated. "I must emphasise that if Caribbean countries want to have their voices heard in the crucial negotiations after the protocol comes into force, becoming party to the protocol is an urgent and essential next step."

Joelle Harris Solicitor General of the Ministry of Tourism and Legal Affairs, added that the workshop is important to Dominica since large companies are using flora for their research and are reluctant to share the benefits of their research.

"The protocol also recognizes the rights of the indigenous people and the importance of protecting their traditional knowledge as well as that of the communities," she said. "It allows us to ensure that any use of this knowledge and resources will benefit our indigenous people and local communities as



**Send Recharge Worldwide - It's easy -**

Enter Number

Select Amount

Pay & Send Instantly

**Send now**



**Send your loved ones a gift**



**Recharge Their Mobiles NOW**

### Related Articles

Dominicans get training to improve their role in environmental protection

Gov't strengthening environmental legislation – Darroux

Loopholes in environmental laws identified

UWI Vice Chancellor named new Chairman of the ACU

Technology in Dominica, something we should be proud

much as it benefits those who come in from outside these communities to gain access to genetic resources which often involve traditional knowledge for medicinal and other purposes which can potentially lead to great monetary gain.”

Harris said with programs such as these, small islands can be protected from exploitation and ensures the sustainable use of its genetic resources.

The program is being funded by the European Union Commission and the United Nations Environment Program.

Copyright 2012 Dominica News Online, DURAVISION INC. All Rights Reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or distributed.

# GOVERNMENT OF DOMINICA PRESENTS




**Disclaimer:** The comments on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of DominicaNewsOnline.com/Duravision Inc. All comments are approved by DominicaNewsOnline.com before they are posted. We never censor based on political or ideological points of view, but we do try to maintain a sensible balance between free speech and responsible moderating.

We will delete comments that:

- violate or infringe the rights of any person, are defamatory or harassing or include personal attacks
- are abusive, profane or offensive
- contain material which violates or encourages others to violate any applicable law
- promote hatred of any kind
- refer to people arrested or charged with a crime as though they had been found guilty
- contain links to "chain letters", pornographic or obscene movies or graphic images
- are excessively long and off-message




See our full comment/user policy/agreement.

## 17 Comments

 **Kara Schmier** Like or Dislike:  0  0  
June 27, 2013




Can anybody purchase it from a bookstore?

[Reply to this comment](#)

 **Anonymous** Like or Dislike:  0  2  
June 27, 2013

Man find something to do in your constituency. You are the worst the constituency has ever seen. BUT AGAIN THAT IS GOOD FOR THEM!

[Reply to this comment](#)

 **Anonymous** Like or Dislike:  0  0  
June 27, 2013

Good move but why the repeat of efforts. Some years aback and as recent as 3-4 years aback the DHBA initiated this ABS exercise with the lead consultant coming all the way from Costa Rica. We should be aware that Costa Rica has one of the best pieces of legislation with regards to ABS. I believe that his name was Jorge Cabrera and he did a wonderful job in getting a DRAFT piece of legislation for ABS in Dominica. Can someone from DHBA confirm? So how do we use that readily

of – Darroux



**emanipation summer**  
**Oldies Dance Party**  
Sunday August 04th, 2013  
@ the Cove  
ENTRANCE \$25.00 IN ADVANCE  
\$30.00 AT THE DOOR

**MUSIC BY!**  
DJ. SOUL SOUP, DJ. COMMODORE, MATT IN THE MORNING, PRINCE WADDE, MR. MIX, Sa F2 Melody

**Dress to Impress & Win Prizes!**  
Best Dress Male & Best Dress Female  
Win a Trip From L'express Desiles

Sponsored by: 



**Luxury Emporium**  
TAX & DUTY FREE SHOPPING

**Enjoy Month-End** **STORE WIDE SALE MADNESS**

**LEATHER MADNESS**  
**Up To 30% OFF!!**

**See STORE For More Details**  
SALES Selection CHANGES DAILY  
Bayfront, Roseau, Commonwealth of Dominica  
Tel:448-3394 Fax:448-5338 Email: land@archip.com



**DUKESVILLE DEVELOPMENT**  
www.dukesvilleda.com  
Email:Dukesville1@gmail.com  
Tel (767)277 8836 / (767) 440 7724

- Total of 46 lots (7000 – 18,000 Sq ft.) Lots can be purchased now.
- Infrastructural work started February 2013 and company can build homes on request.
- Available to Dominicans at home and abroad as well as other nationals.



**飛龍 DRAGON**

**Dragon Windows - Fond Cole**  
Proudly Made in Dominica

available info and continue with the process as apposed to starting from zero!!!

Reply to this comment



jzzzzzz

June 27, 2013

Like or Dislike: 0 0

no man 😞😞

Reply to this comment



doritos

June 27, 2013

Like or Dislike: 4 1

Nice rhetoric!time to start puting words into action!THE playing field in t savanne,unemployment in t savanne...lands for farming,the deplorable state of the roads from geneva to t savanne...you just there going on like a celebrity and getting fat and feels all is well with your constituency!!!

Reply to this comment



piti woche

June 27, 2013

Like or Dislike: 0 0

"There will also be provisions for the person or institution to SHOW the benefits of their research with the source country." I hope that word was meant to be SHARE, otherwise what good is it just to show us the benefits they obtained from our indigenous research on our product be it material or intellectual?

Reply to this comment



Me again

June 26, 2013

Like or Dislike: 0 0

Good move. Too often, companies from developed countries, with unlimited research capabilities, exploit resources of developing countries and claim rights to these resources. This strategy is another form of colonialism when the perpetrators are nations like China.

Reply to this comment



Frabo

June 26, 2013

Well-loved. Like or Dislike: 4 0

Woy! i love this verse: "Small Islands can be protected from exploitation and ensure the sustainable use of its genetic resources." Dominica has been and is being "EXPLOITED" by these Mountain Top Removers. The people who tear down mountains in order to make building and construction materials like sand and stone/aggegate, are the ones the "Environment Minister" should tackle first. Complete landscapes are being destroyed right before our eyes and no one is taking it to heart.

Reply to this comment



UDOHREADYET

June 26, 2013

Like or Dislike: 1 0

great idea!!!

Reply to this comment



Mc carthy MARIE

June 26, 2013

Like or Dislike: 1 4

I take this opportunity to commend the Minister of the Environment and the Solicitor General for recognizing the economic potential that exits through the protection of traditional,knowledge and traditional cultural expressions. In Barbados in November of 2006 at a conference of under the



auspices of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)I had first pointed out the absurdity of moving to protect traditional knowledge by law when a lot of our traditional knowledge was outlawed by the OBEAH Act. As we know this piece of very bad law (as law) was intended to keep black people in mental bondage by forcing them to abandon any other spiritual frame of reference than the one constructed for them by the slave masters. The law is also quite possibly unconstitutional with respect to the freedom of religion which is guaranteed by the constitution.

At a recent seminar here in Dominica on the protection of Traditional knowledge and traditional Cultural Expressions I was pleased to see that the WIPO consultant had come around to my point of view that OBEAH is a valuable tool and could be considered as alternative psychiatry which has therapeutic value. Similarly the use of plants and other biological material used in OBEAH could have beneficial effects on the SOMA(body),but we can never properly evaluate these potentially beneficial effects while the practice of OBEAH is outlawed.

I am therefore calling on the Minister and the Solicitor General to move with all haste to clear the legal deck, so to speak, so that new and effective laws can be implemented to protect our traditional knowledge and to allow all of it to emerge from the shadows in which it is now cloaked.

[Reply to this comment](#)



ha

Like or Dislike: 2 0

June 26, 2013

Minister of flip flop!!!

[Reply to this comment](#)



Kaliban

Like or Dislike: 1 0

June 27, 2013

Thanks for that Mark. It is very true.

Professor Jerry Handler of the US did a study of the OBEAH ACTS of Dominica from slavery times down to the present and showed that it was a systematic de-Africanisation of the population that was intended.

At the same time there was the "Scramble for Souls" after emancipation as all the established churches rushed to capture members and use religion to control them. Meanwhile the legislature was passing all sorts of laws like "vagrancy acts" and preventing people from getting land so they had to work on estates, and laws to control sex etc. So between the church and states they had the people in blissful ignorance and dependency.

Now in the 21st century the Fundamentalists have taken over with the same tactic. The politicians are now frightened of the power of the fundamentalists so they bow and scrape to the pastors because they know that the pastors have control over the minds of potential voters!

That's why the politicians do ridiculous things like renaming mountains because superstitious manipulative pastors say so. Even Traditional Knowledge is seen by some as non-Western nonsense, and the wider malaise in our society is linked to this attitude. Thanks for opening up the debate.

[Reply to this comment](#)



Dasheen

Like or Dislike: 0 0

June 27, 2013

Like, good input Kaliban.



not me

Like or Dislike: 2 0

June 26, 2013

What is this man doing for his constituency ?

[Reply to this comment](#)

.

Like or Dislike: 0 0





June 27, 2013

NOT A FAT. a pure waste of time!

[Reply to this comment](#)



**Nkrumah Kwame**

Like or Dislike:  2  2



June 26, 2013

Good talk but action needs to be taken NOW. And while we are at it let me just say that it was because of similar concerns that i have argued that foreigners visiting our WNT (National Trail) should ALWAYS be accompanied by members of a local cadre of trained “foresters”. This, in turn, would allow for the creation of employment for young people and protect our water and biological diversity. It is TOTALLY wrong to have individuals roaming our forests and water catchments UNSUPERVISED  
HOTEP!

[Reply to this comment](#)



**Dominijen**

Like or Dislike:  1  0

June 26, 2013

Good and finally....i hope the Minister and the Ministry are serious, be they are allowing ppl to come here take out herbs and go sell and make money and we just give it to them for free. Also all the ppl comin to do research on our plants, customs, animals, natural medicines, they have databases of all our info, how do we protect those and their use, were they requested to sign any agreements indicating that the information is ours and we shld give permission for its further use... am waiting

Also i do hope that all the Ministries, legal, Agriculture and its respective departments Forestry, fisheries, ECU, etc were involved and understand the importance and need for this!

[Reply to this comment](#)

## Post a Comment

Your email is *never* published nor shared.

Name

Email

Website

Comment

                   [more »](#)

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Columns](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Announcements](#)
- [Chat](#)
- [News Links](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

### Follow Us



[Privacy Policy](#)   [Disclaimers](#)   [Comment Policy](#)   [Frequently Asked Questions](#)   [Contact Us](#)  
Copyright © 2007-2011 Dominica News Online, Duravision Inc • Roseau, Dominica • All rights reserved.