PRESS RELEASE

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67th Bi-Annual Meeting of CARICOM Central Bank Governors[1]

BELIZE CITY, BELIZE, 20 November 2026 – The Central Bank of Belize hosted the 67th Bi-Annual Meeting of the CARICOM Central Bank Governors from 19 to 20 November 2026, at the Fort George Belize, Autograph Collection, in Belize City. Chaired by Governor Kareem Michael, the meeting brought together Governors, Deputy Governors, and senior central bank officials from across the Caribbean to deliberate on regional economic developments and initiatives aimed at strengthening financial resilience, deepening regional cooperation, and supporting sustainable economic growth.

The meeting was held under the theme, *"From Vulnerability to Capacity: Recalibrating Policy and Growth Drivers in Small States amid Global Shifts."* The theme framed the discussions on the inherent vulnerabilities faced by small open economies and the importance of strengthening policies, institutions, and regional frameworks to enhance resilience, absorb global shocks, and improve conditions for sustainable economic development.

Governors noted that small open economies continue to face challenges arising from global economic uncertainty, climate-related risks, and rapid technological change. Governors also approved measures to strengthen regional data and research capabilities, including a framework to improve the consistency, comparability, and timeliness of regional statistics.

Governors endorsed the development of a strategic roadmap to accelerate interoperable payments across the region, to be led by the Bank of Jamaica with support from the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank. They reaffirmed payment system modernization as a key pillar of regional financial integration and economic development.

Governors received a presentation from the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) on the governance framework, operating model, and payment solutions of PAPSS, which provided useful insights into regional approaches to cross-border payments and settlement in local currencies.

Governors also received a status update on the pilot of the CARICOM Payment and Settlement System (CAPSS) and agreed that potential pilot banks in the participating countries will soon be approached to take part. The meeting also reviewed progress on regional initiatives aimed at strengthening resilience and cooperation, including the Caribbean Regional Green Taxonomy, macroprudential policy development, and cybersecurity collaboration. The discussions underscored the importance of building technical expertise and institutional capacity across central banks in the Caribbean region.

[1]Mr. John Rolle (Central Bank of The Bahamas), Dr., The Most Honourable Kevin Greenidge, F.B. (Central Bank of Barbados), Mr. Kareem Michael (Central Bank of Belize), Mr. Ference Lamp (Centrale Bank van Curaçao en Sint Maarten), Dr. Timothy Antoine (Eastern Caribbean Central Bank), Dr. Gobind Ganga (Bank of Guyana), Mr. Ronald Gabriel (Banque de la République d'Haïti), Dr. R. Brian Langrin (Bank of Jamaica), Mr. Maurice Roemer (Centrale Bank van Suriname), and Mr. Larry Howai (Central Bank of Trinidad & Tobago).

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Governors also received a presentation on the proposed School of Central Banking and Monetary Policy, a joint initiative of the Central Bank of Barbados and the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus. The initiative is intended to strengthen regional central-bank capacity through training designed around the practical policy, supervisory, technological, and institutional challenges faced by small states in the Caribbean.

The 67th Meeting was held alongside the 57th Annual Monetary Studies Conference (AMSC), where Dr. R. Brian Langrin (Bank of Jamaica), Mr. Larry Howai (Central Bank of Trinidad & Tobago), and Dr., The Most Honourable Kevin Greenidge, F.B. (Central Bank of Barbados) participated in the Governors' panel discussion, moderated by host Governor Kareem Michael (Central Bank of Belize).

At the close of the meeting, Governors reaffirmed their commitment to deepening regional collaboration, strengthening policies, enhancing institutional capacity, and advancing initiatives that promote sustainable growth amid an increasingly uncertain global environment.

The Governors will reconvene in May 2027 for the 68th Bi-Annual Meeting of the CARICOM Central Bank Governors under the chairmanship of Dr. Gobind Ganga, Governor of the Bank of Guyana.

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From left to right: Dr. Timothy Antoine, Mr. John Rolle, Dr., The Most Honourable Kevin Greenidge, Dr. Gobind Ganga, Mr. Maurice Roemer, Mr. Kareem Michael, Mr. Ronald Gabriel, Dr. Brian Langrin, Mr. Larry Howai, Mr. Ference Lamp.

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