



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, WEST INDIES

**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
HEU, CENTRE FOR HEALTH ECONOMICS**

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April 5, 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Invitation to 14th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives,
Antigua and Barbuda, October 19-21, 2022**

**THEME: Confronting the Financing Challenges of COVID-19 and the Unfinished
Universal Coverage Agenda**

The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment (MoHWE) and the Medical Benefits Scheme (MBS) of Antigua and Barbuda are delighted to collaborate with The University of the West Indies, HEU, Centre for Health Economics (UWI-HEU) and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) in hosting the 14th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives from October 19-21, 2022.

These Conferences originated from discussions and agreement at the 2006 Annual Meeting of Caribbean Social Security Organisations in Belize to establish a regional forum to enhance knowledge and capabilities in planning and administering Health Financing Initiatives.

The 14th Conference follows successful previous Conferences held in Turks and Caicos Is., 2006; Aruba, 2007; Trinidad and Tobago, 2008; St. Maarten, 2009; Belize, 2010; Bermuda, 2011; Curacao, 2012; Jamaica, 2013; Trinidad and Tobago, 2014; Turks and Caicos Is., 2015; Bonaire, 2016; Suriname, 2018; and Anguilla, 2019.

In keeping with recommendations, the 14th Conference focuses on critical matters pertaining to *'Confronting the Financing Challenges of COVID-19 and the Unfinished Universal Coverage Agenda'*. Key areas of emphasis will be lessons and perspectives from key stakeholders in managing the COVID-19 pandemic; challenges and options in securing Universal Coverage health financing systems by countries in different stages of progress and new directions addressing roadblocks to Universal Coverage.

In view of these expectations, we wish to formally extend a warm and special invitation to you to participate in the Conference. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this invitation.

Details of the Agenda, Accommodation, Registration and other arrangements will be posted shortly on the UWI-HEU's Conference website <http://conferences.sta.uwi.edu/healthfinancing/> and the MBS' website www.mbs.gov.ag.

For further information on the Conference, please contact any of our key Conference Planning team members. At The UWI-HEU, you may contact Ms. Charmaine Metivier (Charmaine.Metivier@sta.uwi.edu); Ms. Ayanna Batson (Ayanna.Batson@sta.uwi.edu); and Dr Stanley Lalta (Stanley.lalta@gmail.com) by email or by telephone at 1-868-662-9459 and 1-868-645-7351.

Alternatively, you may contact Ms. Wendy Jackson, Director of Human Resources at the MBS by email at wjackson@mbs.gov.ag or by telephone at 1-268-481-6403.

We look forward to welcoming you and to sharing knowledge on 'Confronting the Financing Challenges of COVID-19 and the Unfinished Universal Coverage Agenda' at the 14th Conference in Antigua and Barbuda.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Althea La Foucade
Director, UWI-HEU
Trinidad and Tobago



Hon. Sir Melwyn Joseph
Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment
Antigua and Barbuda