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PRESS RELEASE

Belize NDA to GCF meets with FAO-UN Representative for Jamaica, The Bahamas and Belize.

Belmopan. March 3, 2022. 4:16 p.m.

Dr. Osmond Martinez, Chief Executive Officer and National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in the Ministry of Economic Development, along with Mr. Leroy Martinez, economist/GCF focal point, met today with Dr. Crispim Moreira, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Representative for Jamaica, The Bahamas and Belize. The meeting was held at the Laing Building in Belize City.

The purpose of the meeting was to update and discuss current and potential project/programme alignment to FAO Medium Term Plan 2022-2025. Some of the programs and other agenda items discussed were the FAO Country Programming Framework, The Horizon 2030, and the Fisheries and Coastal National Adaptation Plan of BZ\$1.2 million grant approved by GCF.

CEO Dr. Martinez emphasized that the priorities of the Government of Belize are increasing economic activity, reducing poverty, and environmental sustainability.

Dr. Moriera, who is on a one-week visit to Belize, reinstated the commitment of FAO to continue its work in Belize.

Over the past 15 years, FAO has consistently aided Belize in several areas including policy advice, advocacy and capacity building, emergency assistance and resource mobilization for the food and agriculture sector. More recently, resilience building and expansion of market access have become important features of cooperation. FAO's support continues to be instrumental, particularly in view of the country's commitment to achieving food security and rural development.

Also present at the meeting were personnel from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise.

Ends

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