

# **Voter Registration in Antigua and Barbuda**

**July 2003**

**The Report of the Commonwealth  
Expert Team**

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# 1. Introduction

## **1.1.      *Terms of reference***

The government and Electoral Commission of Antigua and Barbuda (the Commission) called a registration of electors under its Representation of the People (Amendment) Acts 2001 and 2002. The process of application to register commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2003 and continued until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2003.

The Commonwealth Secretariat received a letter of invitation from the Chairman of the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission on July 21st to observe the aforementioned registration exercise<sup>1</sup>. The Commonwealth Secretariat immediately responded by sending a team of experts to observe the first part of the registration process, that of the application to register. They arrived on Antigua and Barbuda on 24<sup>th</sup> July and remained until 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2003.

The three person team consisted of:

Ms Myrtle Palacio, MBE  
Chief Electoral Officer  
Elections and Boundaries Commission, Belize  
and  
Member, Executive Board  
Association of Caribbean Electoral Organisations

Ms Karen Quaintmere  
Practice Team Manager  
Policy Directorate  
UK Electoral Commission

Ms Savita Bailur  
Programme Officer  
Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit  
Institute of Commonwealth Studies, London

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix A.

The team's terms of reference, as set out by the Commonwealth Secretary-General were as follows:

"Following an invitation to the Commonwealth Secretariat from the Chairman of the Electoral Commission to observe voter registration in Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth Expert Team is to observe relevant aspects of the organisation and conduct of the voter registration process, in accordance with the laws of Antigua and Barbuda. They are to consider the various factors impinging on the credibility of this part of the electoral process and to determine in their own judgement whether it provides a sound basis for continued preparations for the General Elections<sup>3</sup>."

## **1.2.     *The Electoral Commission***

The Commission was established by the Antigua and Barbuda Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2001 and came into being in April 2002. The Commission comprises a Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and three members. It is legislated that the Chairman and two members are appointed by the Governor-General acting on the recommendation of the Prime Minister after consultation with the Leader of the Opposition, and two other members appointed by the Governor-General acting on the recommendation of the Leader of the Opposition after consultation with the Prime Minister.

The current members and legal counsel are as follows:

|                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Chairman        | McClin S. Matthias           |
| Deputy Chairman | Bruce Goodwin                |
| Member          | Nathaniel James              |
| Member          | Winston Gomes                |
| Member          | Bishop Ewang Dorsett         |
| Counsel         | Mrs. E. Patricia Simon-Forde |

A Supervisor of Elections is appointed under section 67 of the Constitution and is mandated to perform the duties of the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission. The Supervisor of Elections is also legislated to be the Chief Registration Officer. Miss Lorna Simon is currently the Supervisor of Elections.

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<sup>3</sup> See Appendix B.

The Commission is responsible for “the general direction, control and supervision of the preparation of the voters’ register and the conduct of elections in every constituency and enforcing with respect to all election officers, fairness, impartiality and compliance with the electoral law.”<sup>4</sup>

In addition, the Commission’s functions include:

- Selecting and appointing all officers of the Commission;
- Developing and designing staff training programmes;
- Designing a non-partisan voter education programme; and
- Regulating the conduct of election officials.



**The Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission and Supervisor of Elections  
(centre)**

### ***1.3. Political background***

On 9<sup>th</sup> March 1999 the fourth post-independence election was held. This was observed by the Commonwealth Observer Group. In their interim statement, the Group expressed their “belief that the electoral process we observed on polling day had allowed the people of Antigua and Barbuda to freely express their will at the

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<sup>4</sup> The Antigua and Barbuda Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2001, S6(1)

polls”.<sup>5</sup> This election was won by the Antigua Labour Party (ALP), under the leadership of Lester Bird, who is the present Prime Minister.

Presently there are four political parties namely the ALP, the United Progressive Party (UPP), the Barbuda Peoples’ Movement (BPM), and the Barbuda Peoples’ Movement for Change (BPMC). There are 17 constituencies, 16 on Antigua and one on Barbuda.

#### **1.4. Legal framework for registration**

The legal framework for voter registration is set out by the following primary and secondary legislation:

- The Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2001
- The Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2002, Second Schedule, Registration Regulations
- The Registration (Amendment) Regulations, 2003, SI 2003, No. 12

As per the Commission’s brochure entitled ‘Voter Registration July 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> 2003’<sup>6</sup> a person is qualified to be registered as an elector for a constituency if that person:

- Is a citizen of Antigua and Barbuda;
- Is a Commonwealth citizen who has resided in Antigua and Barbuda for at least three years immediately before the qualifying date;
- Is 18 and over;
- Has resided in the constituency for at least one month immediately preceding the qualifying date.

Furthermore, the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2001, S2 defines ‘qualifying date’ as “the date on which that person applies to be registered as an elector unless in respect of any particular year of election, the Commission, by order, appoints some other date”.

Persons responsible to conduct the registration process as per legal requirements are Registration Officers and Registration Clerks appointed by the Commission.

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<sup>5</sup> The General Election in Antigua and Barbuda 9<sup>th</sup> March 1999, Report of the Commonwealth Observer Group, Commonwealth Secretariat, London 1999, page 24.

<sup>6</sup> See Appendix E.

Provision is also made for scrutineers nominated by political parties to monitor the process.

The registration procedure is stated in regulation 12 of registration regulation contained in the Registration (Amendment) Regulations, 2003. An applicant for registration shall submit an application in the prescribed form (Form 1 – Application for Registration / Registration Record Card) to the registration officer for the constituency in which the applicant resides. The legislation requires that the applicant,

“shall produce –

- (a) his birth certificate;
- (b) his baptismal certificate;
- (c) his certificate of naturalization;
- (d) his passport; or
- (e) his driver's licence issued in Antigua and Barbuda; and
- (f) such other evidence as may be required by the registration officer to authenticate the validity of any of the documents specified in this sub-regulation or to authenticate the information in the application.”<sup>7</sup>

At the time when the applicant submits the application, regulation requires that “the photographer appointed by the Commission shall take a photograph of every applicant” ... “and that the registration officer shall attach the photograph to the application form.”

The registration officer is required to “conduct” investigations and hold inquiries as he sees fit to satisfy himself of the applicant's eligibility or otherwise to be registered as an elector. If the registration officer disallows an application, he is required to issue to the applicant a prescribed notice of disallowance, setting out reasons for disallowance. The applicant may deliver a statement of appeal to the registration officer within seven days from the date of the notice of disallowance.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Antigua and Barbuda Statutory Instruments 2003, No. 12, The Registration (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 made by the Electoral Commission, with the approval of the House of Representatives, under section 28 of the Representation of the People Act - Cap.379, Regulation 6 and 7 amending Regulation 12(1), (2) and (3), and Regulation 13 respectively in the principal Regulations.

<sup>8</sup> The Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2002, Second Schedule, Regulation 12(5) and (6).

The registration officer is required to forward the Application to register / Registration Record Card (Form 1) to the Chief Registration Officer 'as soon as practicable, and in any case, within seven days of its completion', for the Chief Registration Officer to use in compiling the electors' lists. Regulation 27 of the principal regulations is also amended by the 2003 amendment regulations, and requires the registration officer to issue to each person registered as an elector "an identification card in the Form 7 in the Appendix as soon as possible after the publication of the register of electors in which that person's name appears but, in any case, not later than seven days before the date of an election in the constituency in which the person is registered; and the identification card shall bear the photograph and the name, date of birth, address, occupation, gender, thumbprint and, where the applicant made his signature, the signature of the registered elector."

## **2. Methodology**

### **2.1. *Fieldwork***

The Expert Team visited all 17 constituencies on Antigua and Barbuda. The 17 constituencies were subdivided into 54 registration units<sup>9</sup>. The team visited 52 out of the 54 units. At the close of registration on 31<sup>st</sup> July between 5pm and 6pm the team revisited two units, namely Golden Grove Primary School in St John's Rural South and Fiennes Institute in St John's City South. The team did not visit Buckley's Primary School in All Saints West and Irene B. Williams Primary School in All Saints East and St Luke. At the units the team observed the registration process and interaction of applicants to registration staff and scrutineers, and dialogued with the same.

The team also visited public places to engage members of the community in order to triangulate specific information.

### **2.2. *Briefings***

The first briefing took place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2003 at the office of the Electoral Commission. It was firstly with the Commissioners, Legal Counsel and Supervisor of Elections. The team later toured the IT facility and observed the data entry process and spoke with data entry clerks, the systems programmer, and the hardware and

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<sup>9</sup> These are detailed in Appendix E.

software consultants. The consultants came from the Electoral Office of Jamaica (EOJ).

Subsequent briefings took place on the following dates<sup>10</sup>:

- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July – Womens' NGO;
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July – Political parties, media, Church representatives, labour and trade unions, educators, civil society and private sector organisations;
- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July – Representatives of the Free and Fair Election League at their request;
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August – final briefing with the Antigua and Barbuda Election Commission, including the Supervisor of Elections.

### **2.3. *Literature review***

The team read the relevant legislation, the Commonwealth Observer Group Election Report 1999, and other background material.

### **2.4. *Monitoring the media***

The team read a selection of newspapers and listened to various radio stations. We did not have access to the local TV station.

### **2.5. *Census data***

On 31<sup>st</sup> July the team visited the National Statistics Office to source the preliminary results of the 2001 census. While there the team also requested and received photocopies of various tables from the 1991 census report, and tables on population projections.

## **3. Findings**

### **3.1. *The registration process***

The registration process is in the following stages:

- the application for registration, taking place from July 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> 2003;

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<sup>10</sup> See Appendix C.

- the preparation and publication of a preliminary list of electors;
- a period of claims and objections “delivered to the registration officer or the Chief Registration Officer”, after the 31<sup>st</sup> day “after the last day for application for registration”<sup>11</sup>;
- the hearing of objections by a revision judge;
- the preparation and publication of a final list of electors.

In the first stage, applicants are required to bring with them proof of identity. We saw these to be Antiguan and Barbudan passports, those of Commonwealth citizens and birth certificates. Commonwealth citizens were required to prove residence of three years, which we observed was gleaned from the date of entry stamp in the passport. The process of verification for the one month residence requirement was mostly reliant on personal knowledge of the applicant by the clerks and scrutineers. The team was informed that it was only in a few cases that a physical check was needed.

The Application for Registration - Registration Record Card (RRC) is on three pages. Page one contains the demographic data and registration certificate. The photograph is attached to page two which also has the copy of the registration certificate which is given to the elector as a receipt. The fingerprints are captured on page three. Each page also has a section for residence verification. Each record card is printed with a sequential unique reference number which becomes the voter’s unique registration number.<sup>12</sup>

On presenting themselves to the registration clerk, the applicant is asked to sign part three of the form giving permission for all ten fingers to be fingerprinted. There is provision on the form to record any disabilities with regard to fingerprinting. The clerk then takes the fingerprints, the photograph and records the applicant’s height. The applicant returns to the desk to be interviewed by the clerk in respect of the demographic data. The Polaroid photograph is affixed to the RRC. During this process the applicant’s documents are examined by the registration clerk. The clerk passes the documents to the scrutineer to be examined. The team was informed by scrutineers that documents were not examined in cases where the applicant is known to them.

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<sup>11</sup> The Antigua and Barbuda Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2002, Second Schedule Part II, Registration, Regulation 16.

<sup>12</sup> A copy of the Application for Registration – Registration Record Card is attached in Appendix D.

To complete this process the applicant signs a declaration in respect of the demographic data they have given, the registration certificate and the copy. The registration clerk signs the form as do scrutineers.

The clerk records each applicant on a three part daily record sheet of which one part goes to each scrutineer and one remains with the clerk. Variables on the daily record sheet include a sequential number, unique registration number, surname, title, first names, address, occupation, and remarks. Daily record sheets are signed by all scrutineers and the registration clerk / officer, and dated.

RRCs and the daily record sheet are collected daily by the Registration Officer for the constituency. The Registration Officer takes these home to complete administrative obligations, i.e. accounting for each record card against the record sheet. The Registration Officer then delivers these to the Electoral Commission by 10:00 am the next morning. The clerks invariably took home their registration equipment for safekeeping until commencing registration again the next morning. The team questioned the practice of taking documents and equipment home, but was somewhat comforted that data can be audited through the Daily Record Sheet which was shared with the scrutineers. However, the team remains concerned as to how this practice is perceived by stakeholders and the public.

The team found inconsistencies in the identification requested even in the same constituency. Most prominent was whether a picture ID was required along with a birth certificate or whether such a certificate could be accepted along with recognition of the applicant by both scrutineers. We were further informed by those registration units using the method of scrutineer approval that this was information either heard on the radio or passed down by the Commission through registration officers. What we found exceptional was the difference in interpretation from units in the same constituency on the same day. Some registration clerks were adamant in requesting documents to be tendered as required in the manual provided by the Commission.

### **3.2.     *The technology – hardware and database systems***

Consultants were contracted from the EOJ, and the agreement and scope of work is as follows:

“The Agreement between the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission and the Electoral Office of Jamaica allows the Electoral Office of Jamaica to provide technical assistance in developing an Elector Registration System to accomplish the following:

- 1 Register eligible voters in accordance with the Representation of the People Act.
- 2 Produce a Voters' List of all eligible voters. The production of the list involves the following:
  - a. Producing a preliminary list of electors
  - b. Checking preliminary list of electors for omissions, etc.
  - c. Producing a final list.
- 3 Preparing ID cards for all eligible voters.

The Scope of Work covers two areas:

- 1 Data entry and printing;
- 2 System development and delivery.”<sup>13</sup>

The team observed 26 data entry clerks each operating a workstation with a scanner attached. There are three servers and one mirror server: one server for the database, one for files and one for the application. Additional back-up is provided on tapes on a daily basis. However, these were stored on site.

The software for the database is customised utilising the EOJ database system as the basis. It was written in SQL utilising a database application called Sybase. From information we gathered, this system mirrors the EOJ system. There are security features in the software:

- Nine levels of access;
- Verification of data entry by re-keying;
- Each user has a unique password;
- User audit trail.

The primary output is the Register of Electors.

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<sup>13</sup> Scope of work between the Commission and the Electoral Office of Jamaica (EOJ) – provided to the Expert Team by the Commission.

After data entry, the Registration Record Cards (RRCs) which form the manual database system were stored in a secure environment (see picture below).



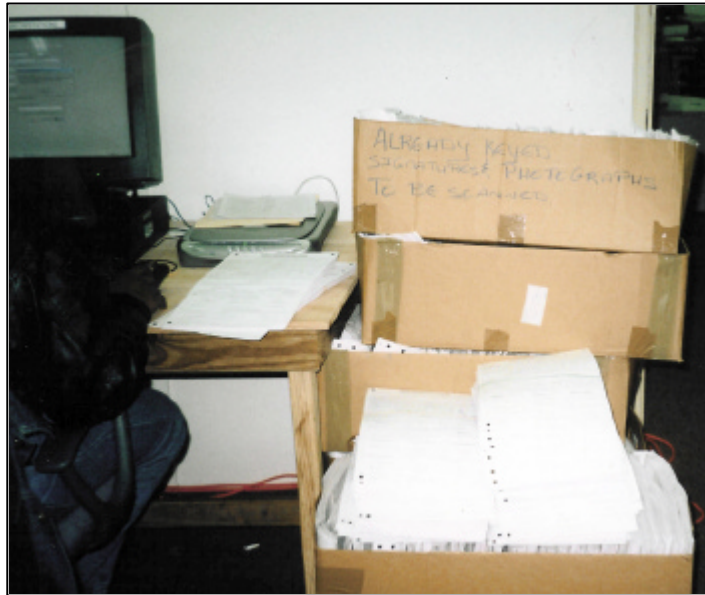
**RRCs are stored in filing cabinets with combination locks**

### **3.3. *Data capture***

The team were informed that 26 data entry clerks observed comprised of 19 nationals and 7 brought in by the Consultants from Jamaica. The Consultants were involved with the selection and training of all data entry clerks.

The process of capturing the data as we observed it includes the following stages:

The source of the data is the RRC which were batched in groups of twenty, each batch having a control header. The data consisted of demographic and biometric data. The latter consisted of fingerprints, photograph and signature. The demographic data were captured by keyboarding the information and the biometric data were scanned. Each record was verified by re-keying the data. The team was informed that the verifier was a clerk not involved in the initial data entry of the record.



Access to the data entry is controlled (above); Scanning biometric data (above right); Data to be entered (right); The data entry room (below).

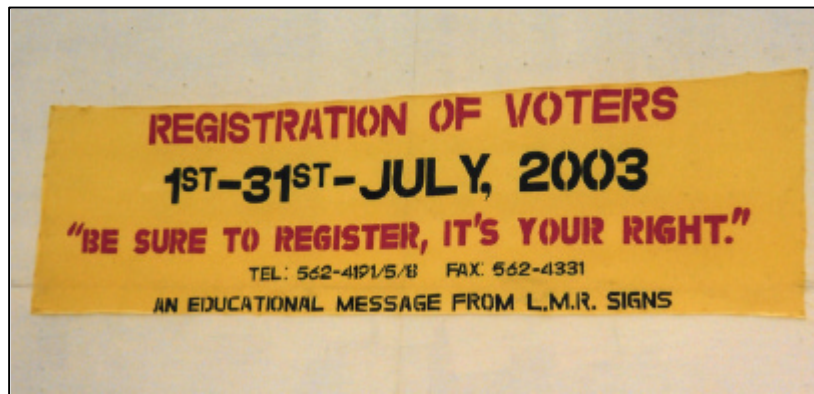


The scanning process requires that the fingerprints taken are of sufficient quality for the images to be captured by the scanning technology. We were informed that initially a number of RRCs had to be returned for the fingerprinting to be redone. This was confirmed by clerks in the registration units.

### **3.4. Information campaign**

According to the Commission, the public was alerted from October 2002 through press releases, jingles on the radio and through talk shows to what they were doing in respect of voter registration. They also met with both political parties.

The team heard a jingle on the radio utilising calypso music urging people to come out to register. The team saw five wall-posters, four around St John's and one on Barbuda, and also saw five banners hung across roads on the way from St John's City to St Paul's constituency in the south east of Antigua. The posters and banners invited people to register and gave the dates of the registration period. All contained the theme "Be sure to register, it's your right" (see picture below).



**Poster urging citizens to register**

The Commission also disseminated a four-part brochure with information on registration including where and how to register, and registration qualifications<sup>14</sup>.

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<sup>14</sup> See Appendix E.

The team was informed that advertisements were run on the television channel 29 by the Commission. However, we were unable to verify this.

The team described this section as “information campaign” as it was not sufficiently in-depth and structured to be considered a voter education programme.

### **3.5. Registration staff and scrutineers**

The team were told by the Commission, the registration staff and the scrutineers that training was provided by the Commission, with a duration of two weeks for registration staff and two days for scrutineers. Two manuals were provided – an *Antigua and Barbuda Elector Registration System Manual*, and an *Antigua and Barbuda Elector Registration System, Instructions for Scrutineers/Political Representatives, Elector Registration Exercise 2003*. These were prepared for the Commission by the EOJ. The registration clerks and officers were recruited by the the Commission<sup>15</sup>, and the scrutineers by the political parties.

The team observed that both clerks and scrutineers were primarily women with a fair representation of young people. Registration officers were mainly mature women. All staff members encountered were amiable, open, efficient, and freely discussed their work. In many cases there was very little distinction between registration staff and scrutineers, particularly when badges were not being worn.

Broadly, the team found that scrutineers understood their role well describing it in terms of “observing”, “monitoring”, or “verifying” the process. In four units, the scrutineers did not see their role as very important. In three other units, it was felt that training was inadequate.

A few staff and scrutineers commented that they were bored due to the slow pace of registration. Most felt that there were a number of people still to come before close of registration and that they were not satisfied with the numbers. In some areas, it was mentioned that potential applicants walked past the unit every day without entering to register. The reasons given for staying away included not wanting to be fingerprinted, not liking the new process of photographing and that the process was perceived to be too tedious. We were told that some of those who stayed away were the young

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<sup>15</sup> See Appendix F for a list of names of registration officers.

people who besides the above reasons, had a problem with accessing photographic ID. The staff and scrutineers informed the team that for the last week of registration, to ease the requirement of photographic ID, recognition by scrutineers and the production of a birth certificate was acceptable. However, the team encountered this in practice on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July.

### **3.6.      *Registration units***

Registration units, located within communities, varied in terms of size and facilities. Although signposting was not always clearly visible, the community appeared to be aware of their location. A few units were cramped with very little waiting area, had there been a rush. A police officer was in attendance at every unit. Only four units were seen as accessible for the disabled/wheelchair users.



**A registration unit in Antigua (left); Waiting to register (below).**



### **3.7. *Voter registration and census data***

The preliminary statistics received from the Commission on the morning of August 1<sup>st</sup> is data up to and including the 30<sup>th</sup> of July. The total persons registered at this time was 39,334, some 4196 RRCs were spoilt, indicating that a total of 43,530 RRCs were issued to that date. From the team's observation of the units visited on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, registration was up relative to the preceding days. However, contrary to expectations expressed by staff and scrutineers, not a large number of persons could be observed registering on the last day. It is unfortunate that as the team compiles this report, final figures are not available to be able to make a comparative analysis with the census data.

The size of the constituencies ranged from the largest St. John's Rural East (3727), followed closely by St. John's Rural West (3469) and St. George (3398). The smallest constituencies are Barbuda (725) followed by St. Phillips South (1097) and St. John's City South (1227). According to the media, close to the end of the day on July 31<sup>st</sup>, application for registration had exceeded the 42,000 mark. In our first discussions with the Commission on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July, the expected projection was 40,000 – 45,000. However, this was a “guesstimate” and there appears to be no linkage with the Statistics unit.

According to the 1991 Census Report, Table 15<sup>16</sup>, the population of Antigua and Barbuda was 59,335. Of this, 47,021 were nationals and 12,334 non-nationals. A large percentage of the non-nationals represented people from the Caribbean region, the largest groups being from Dominica and Guyana. In all non-nationals represented 21.79% of the total population at the census period in 1991. The age cohort 15 – 19 is comprised of the following: 15 – 17 58% and 18 – 19 42%.

A recent census was conducted in 2001 which is still being analysed for several variables, including age cohort, non-nationals that would have been useful for comparison with the statistics of registered electors. The preliminary estimate for the total resident population is 75,741. Not included in this, are 120 persons as crew on board ships in harbour, and 1665 hotel and guesthouse visitors. Included in this figure are 158 “long-term guests” in hotels<sup>17</sup>.

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<sup>16</sup> The 1991 Census Report, p. 62, Table 15: Population by Country of Birth and Sex.

<sup>17</sup> Antigua and Barbuda Preliminary Census Report 2001, p. 6, Table 3: Preliminary Estimate of Population by sex and selected characteristics.

Through the kindness of Mr Franck Jacobs of the Statistics Division, the team also acquired population estimates by sex and age cohort for the years 2001 to 2011. Total population estimated for 2003 is 78,580 persons. The population for the age group 0 -15 is estimated to be 24,822. For the age group 15 - 80+, the estimate is 53,758. The age group 15 – 19 consists of 7227 persons. Applying the 1991 trend to the 2003 estimate mentioned above, the 18 – 19 age group will consist of approximately 3036 persons. Therefore, the approximate number of persons 18 – 80+, or of registration age, is 49,567.<sup>18</sup> In considering this figure, it is important to note that it would include persons who would be ineligible to register primarily due to residence and nationality.

### **3.8.     *The media***

Presently there exists public and private media in Antigua and Barbuda. The team observed a free media, in that both print and radio were able to give their views on issues in the country such as crime and the political scene (including voter registration). For example, one letter to the editor in *The Daily Observer* captioned “The Many Faces of Dictatorship” expressed bulleted points of disenchantment, including several criticizing the government, and one the electoral process.<sup>19</sup> Frequent calls to the *Observer Radio* voiced concern about the voter registration system. One such example was the issue of the IDs being produced off Antigua and Barbuda, in another country, the main concern being that the individuals’ data would be out of the control of the Commission. The team also heard DJs inviting listeners, especially the youth, to register during various programmes.

On 1<sup>st</sup> August 2003, the team heard a talk-show on *Observer Radio* in which the Free and Fair Election League claimed that the Expert Team observing the voter registration exercise in Antigua and Barbuda was not a Commonwealth team. This came after meeting with two members of the League at their request. The team subsequently received an unsigned faxed press briefing, attached in Appendix I. The team consulted two members of the League on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August to confirm their knowledge and association with the press briefing. Both confirmed and gave the following reasons for such actions:

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<sup>18</sup> Please make note that this figure is not definitive, and make note of the calculations. It represents an effort to arrive at an estimate of voter age population in Antigua and Barbuda.

<sup>19</sup> *The Daily Observer*, Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, p. 3.

- They were engaged with ongoing dialogue with the Commonwealth Secretariat
- As such the team should have been knowledgeable of the existence of the Free and Fair Election League and should have been personally contacted rather than the other way around

The team shared with the League a copy of the Commonwealth Secretariat's press release.

### **3.9. *Issues and concerns***

Subsequent to meetings with stakeholders, the team noted the following concerns:

- Lack of confidence in the Electoral Commission and the registration process
  - o initial internal rift which spilled out into the public arena;
  - o the RRCs and registration equipment taken home by registration staff;
  - o perceived inconsistency in information given out in respect of the registration process, i.e. the relaxing of the requirement for photographic ID with the birth certificate.
- Voter education
  - o This was not comprehensive;
  - o Information given by the Commission was seen as reactive rather than proactive;
  - o Information provided late in the day.
- Fingerprinting
  - o People have reservations about the fingerprinting;
  - o Questioning the need for fingerprinting all ten fingers;
  - o Concern that particularly the young may have stayed away from the registration process because of the fingerprinting.
- Registration data being taken off Antigua and Barbuda in order to produce the ID cards
  - o Suspicion regarding security of the data.
- Proof of residence
  - o The public was not in agreement with the dependence on scrutineers making a decision on residence;
  - o Residence was not properly verified;
  - o Scrutineers and clerks did not know most persons and as such were not qualified to decide on an applicant's residence.

- Nationality
  - o Perceived sudden upsurge in the issue of Antiguan passports to Caribbean nationals;
  - o Antiguan perceived to be experiencing difficulties in obtaining passports.
- Registration period - timing and length
  - o People away on vacation;
  - o Lead up to carnival time;
  - o One month not long enough.
- Funding
  - o Dependent on the Consolidated Fund;
  - o The process was under funded;
  - o Funding received late in the day;
  - o Late payment to registration staff.
- Community outreach
  - o Community groups were not consulted by the Commission and would like to be consulted.

The main concerns of the political parties:

- Antigua Labour Party (ALP)
  - o Multiplicity of difficulties from the Opposition. For example, opposition scrutineers wanting to make demands above their authority in the registration units.
- United Progressive Party (UPP)
  - o Those currently working in the registration system were historically aligned with the ruling party and with the old flawed electoral system.
- Barbuda Peoples' Movement (BPM) and Barbuda Peoples' Movement for Change (BPMC)
  - o Commission consults only with the major political parties (ALP and UPP);
  - o Registration needs special application to Barbudans.

## 4. Conclusions and recommendations

These conclusions are drawn bearing in mind the Expert Team was only present in Antigua and Barbuda during the latter part of the first phase of voter registration and

can only speak for this phase, i.e. the application to register, which ended on July 31<sup>st</sup>. The organisation and conduct of the application to register was administered effectively according to the law. The only factor that may impinge on the registration process is the perception of lack of confidence with the clerks and registration officers taking equipment and paperwork home at the end of the day. However, this is addressed in the following conclusions on this stage of the registration process. It is to be noted that there is also provision for a further important stage, that of the publication of a preliminary list and for a period of claims and objections.

- o The voter registration has been voluntary, through self-registration.
- o The process was transparent in that
  - o The law gives the political parties represented in the Parliament a clear role in directly monitoring the process;
  - o Political parties are represented by scrutineers in the registration units. Scrutineers inspect documents presented by applicants;
  - o The team noted that these scrutineers are trained and paid by the Commission, and provided with an instruction manual. Scrutineers communicated to the team that they considered themselves to be part of the monitoring and verification processes. They confirmed that they are given a copy of the Daily Record Sheet which they can use to compare against the preliminary list, in order to audit for discrepancies;
  - o The team observed that scrutineers assented to each applicant by affixing signatures on completed application forms;
  - o Scrutineers signed off on each page of the Daily Record Sheet;
  - o Scrutineers utilized notebooks for further note taking.
- o The process had clear eligibility criteria.
- o The population was generally aware of registration.
- o The registration units were accessible, in that they were situated within the community. However, most were not accessible to the physically disabled.
- o There is little external risk to the database at the Commission, as it is contained on a local area network.
- o The software provides for adequate security features.
- o It is the team's understanding that there is technical capacity building ongoing, in that two Antigua and Barbuda nationals are currently being given extensive responsibility and training, and will manage future systems.

- o The off-island production of IDs was a decision taken by the Commission for management reasons, including cost-effectiveness in order to avoid high capital expenditure for a one-time application. Members of the Commission have emphasized to the team that they will travel with CD-ROMs of the data to Jamaica and remain until production of IDs is complete.

On 1<sup>st</sup> August, the Commission supplied the team with data on the number of citizens registered up to and including 30<sup>th</sup> July 2003 (i.e. not including the final day of registration, 31<sup>st</sup> July). This is attached in Appendix G. The Commission also supplied the team with the timetable for claims and objections which starts with the publication of a preliminary electoral list on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2003 and a deadline for filing claims and objections of 6<sup>th</sup> September 2003.<sup>20</sup>

The team believes that the process of applying to register provided a sound basis for preparing for the final stage, that of claims and objections. However, we would like to recommend the following:

- o In terms of technology, although backups were made, these should also be stored off-site in a secure environment.
- o The Commission's Public Relations Unit be more proactive and link with stakeholders, including civil society and the media for broader dissemination of information.
- o The Commission should develop a structured programme for voter education.
- o The details of the off-island production of IDs, including the Commission's assurance of data security should be communicated clearly to the public.
- o The objections period be transparent and efficient in order to obtain confidence from the electorate
- o The Commonwealth Secretariat should complete its monitoring of the registration process by observing the final and important stages of objections.
- o The Commission's schedule for the claims and objections period should be communicated to stakeholders and the general public as widely as possible for continued transparency.

---

<sup>20</sup> A copy of this timetable is attached at Appendix H.

## Appendix A: Letter of Invitation



THE ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA  
ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Queen Elizabeth Highway  
P.O. Box 664  
St. John's, Antigua, W.I.

Te: 562-4191/5/8  
Fax: 562-4194  
E-mail: [elecocom@candw.ag](mailto:elecocom@candw.ag)

21<sup>st</sup> July 2003

**Mr Christopher Child**  
Commonwealth Secretariat  
Pall Mall  
London SW1Y 5HK

Dear Sir,

I refer to our discussion last week and your telephone reminder this morning and should let you know that the Electoral Commission is in full agreement with your visit to Antigua to observe our Registration exercise.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'McClin S. Matthias', written over a dotted line.

McClin S. Matthias  
Chairman

## Appendix B: Press Release



# COMMONWEALTH NEWS RELEASE

ANTIGUA AND  
BARBUDA  
AUSTRALIA  
THE BAHAMAS  
BANGLADESH  
BARBADOS  
BELIZE  
BOTSWANA  
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM  
CAMEROON  
CANADA  
CYPRUS  
DOMINICA  
FIJI ISLANDS  
THE GAMBIA  
GHANA  
GRENADA  
GUYANA  
INDIA  
JAMAICA  
KENYA  
KIRIBATI  
LESOTHO  
MALAWI  
MALAYSIA  
MALDIVES  
MALTA  
MAURITIUS  
MOZAMBIQUE  
NAMIBIA  
NAURU  
NEW ZEALAND  
NIGERIA  
PAKISTAN\*  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
SAMOA  
SEYCHELLES  
SIERRA LEONE  
SINGAPORE  
SOLOMON ISLANDS  
SOUTH AFRICA  
SRI LANKA  
ST KITT'S AND NEVIS  
ST LUCIA  
ST VINCENT AND  
THE GRENADINES  
SWAZILAND  
TONGA  
TRINIDAD AND  
TOBAGO  
TUVALU  
UGANDA  
UNITED KINGDOM  
UNITED REPUBLIC OF  
TANZANIA  
VANUATU  
ZAMBIA  
ZIMBABWE\*

03/52

28 July 2003

### Commonwealth to observe voter registration in Antigua and Barbuda

A Commonwealth Expert Team has arrived in Antigua and Barbuda to observe voter registration which is in progress.

The three-person team consists of:

**Ms Myrtle Palacio**  
Chief Electoral Officer  
Belize Elections and Boundaries Commission  
and  
Member, Executive Board  
Association of Caribbean Electoral Organisations

**Ms Karen Quaintmere**  
Practice Team Manager  
Policy Directorate  
UK Electoral Commission

**Ms Savita Bailur**  
Programme Officer  
Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit  
Institute of Commonwealth Studies, London

The team will be briefed by the Electoral Commission of Antigua and Barbuda and will meet with a range of political and civil society groups. It will then visit voter registration centres around the country.

The observers will depart on 2 August after completing their report to the Secretary-General. The report will subsequently be made available to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, the Electoral Commission and the leadership of the political parties taking part in the elections. It will also be available on the Commonwealth Secretariat website.

1/2

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION

Commonwealth Secretariat Marlborough House Pall Mall London SW1Y 5HX United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 7747 6385/6 Fax: +44 (0)20 7839 9081 Telex: 27678 Cable: COMSEGEN LONDON SW1  
E-mail: [info@commonwealth.int](mailto:info@commonwealth.int) Web Site: <http://www.thecommonwealth.org>

\* These countries  
are currently suspended  
from the Council  
of the Commonwealth

#### Note to Editors:

*The Expert Team's Terms of Reference are as follows:*

*"Following an invitation to the Commonwealth Secretariat from the Chairman of the Electoral Commission to observe voter registration in Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth Expert Team is to observe relevant aspects of the organisation and conduct of the voter registration process, in accordance with the laws of Antigua and Barbuda. They are to consider the various factors impinging on the credibility of this part of the electoral process and to determine in their own judgement whether it provides a sound basis for continued preparations for the General Elections."*

## Appendix C: Briefings

During our stay, we held briefings with the following representatives of political parties, press, chambers of commerce, NGOs, churches, trade unions

|                         |                                                        |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| George S. Daniel        | United Progressive Party                               |
| Dean Thomas             | United Progressive Party                               |
| Dr. L. Errol Cort       | United Progressive Party                               |
| Baldwin Spencer         | United Progressive Party                               |
| Senator Llewellyn Smith | Antigua Labour Party                                   |
| Jean Sharpe             | British High Commission                                |
| Michael Hall            | Danish Consul                                          |
| Haydn Thomas            | Ombudsman (Office of the Ombudsman)                    |
| Ermina Osoba            | University of West Indies School of Continuing Studies |
| Colin James             | Daily Observer/BBC/AP                                  |
| Ezra Christopher        | Observer Radio                                         |
| George Rick James       | Free and Fair Election League                          |
| Ernest S. Benjamin      | Free and Fair Election League                          |
| Joan Underwood          | Power (Womens' NGO)                                    |
| Patricia Hodge          | Power (Womens' NGO)                                    |
| Donald Anthonyson       | NGO/CBO Forum                                          |
| Theophilus Daniel       | All Saints Community Group                             |
| Lucilla Benjamin        | Antigua Christian Council                              |
| Reverend Thomas         | Antigua Christian Council                              |
| David Massiah           | Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union                     |
| Maurice Christian       | Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union                     |
| Linley Winter           | Bendals Community Group                                |
| Eddie Hunter            | Antigua and Barbuda Pensioners                         |
| Shirley Hesten          | Antigua and Barbuda Persons with Disabilities          |
| Roberta Williams        | GARD Center (NGO Network)                              |
| Ingrid O'Meade          | Teachers Credit Union                                  |
| Jennifer Maynard        | Antigua Girl Guides Association                        |
| Doreen Lee              | Antigua Girl Guides Association                        |
| Auckland Jarvis         | Antigua and Barbuda Beekeepers Association             |
| David Spencer           | NGO Network                                            |

## Part 1: Demographic Details

ABEC RRC 02/03

## Part 2: Photograph attached here

| <b>Antigua &amp; Barbuda Electoral Commission</b><br><b>Application for Registration - Registration Record Card</b>                   |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|-----|-------|------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> FOR OFFICE USE ONLY                                                                                          | <b>E 2027501</b>                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| 2027501                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| PLEASE TEAR ALONG DOTTED LINE                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| Electoral Commission                                                                                                                  | Part A – Declaration                                                                                                                                                             | Registration Certificate #                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| Whereas application has been made by the person named on RRC # <b>E 2027501</b> and whose                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| Signature appears therein, to be registered for the constituency and polling division noted therein, this is to certify that:         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The application has been granted by me.                                                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> The application has been granted provisionally – subject to the verification of residence which is scheduled for:                                       | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Day</td> <td style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Month</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Year</td> </tr> </table> |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  | Day | Month | Year |  |
|                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| Day                                                                                                                                   | Month                                                                                                                                                                            | Year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| _____<br>Signature of Registration Officer/Clerk                                                                                      | _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 1                                                                                                                                               | _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 3                                                                                                    | _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 4                                                                                                                                               | _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| Part B – Residence Verification                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| This is to certify that on _____ I/we visited the address stated on RRC # <b>E 2027501</b> for the person named therein and found it: |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To be his/her place of ordinary residence and further to be within the boundaries of P.D.:                   | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | <input type="checkbox"/> not to be his/her place of residence (see objection(s) and/or refusal form(s) attached) |  |  |     |       |      |  |
|                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| _____<br>Signature of Registration Officer/Clerk                                                                                      | _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 1                                                                                                                                               | _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 3                                                                                                    | _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 4                                                                                                                                               | _____<br>Signature of Scrutineer 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| _____<br>Signature of Elector                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| ABECC RRC 02/03                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| PART ONE – CENTRAL SITE COPY                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |
| <b># E 2027501</b>                                                                                                                    | NAME:                                                                                                                                                                            | CONSTITUENCY:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                  |  |  |     |       |      |  |

### Part 3: Fingerprints captured here

# Antigua & Barbuda Electoral Commission

## Application for Registration - Registration Record Card

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

E 2027501

Signature of Elector

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Left Middle (8) - Rolled</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Present</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Injured or Temporarily Damaged</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Missing or Permanently Unavailable</div> </div>  | <p>Left Index (7) - Rolled</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Present</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Injured or Temporarily Damaged</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Missing or Permanently Unavailable</div> </div> | <p>Right Index (2) - Rolled</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Present</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Injured or Temporarily Damaged</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Missing or Permanently Unavailable</div> </div> |
| <p>Right Middle (3) - Rolled</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Present</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Injured or Temporarily Damaged</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Missing or Permanently Unavailable</div> </div> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

Right Four Fingers (Index, middle, ring and little)  
Taken Simultaneously

Right Thumb Flat

Left Thumb Flat

E 2027501

Left Four Fingers (Index, middle, ring and little)  
Taken Simultaneously

ABEC RRC 02/03

PART THREE - FINGERPRINTS

Part B - Residence Verification

This is to certify that on \_\_\_\_\_ I/we visited the address stated on RRC # **E 2027501** for the person named therein and found it:

☐ To be his/her place of ordinary residence and further to be within the boundaries of P.D.:

☐ not to be his/her place of residence [see objection(s) and/or refusal form(s) attached]

Signature of Registration Officer/Clerk

---

Signature of Scrutineer 3

---

Signature of Elector

---

Signature of Scrutineer 1

---

Signature of Scrutineer 4

---

Signature of Scrutineer 2

---

Signature of Scrutineer 5

---

# Appendix E: Brochure with registration details

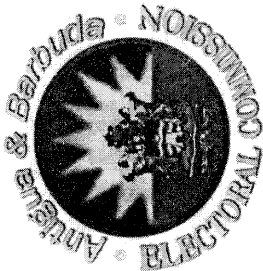
## Front Page

| Constituency               | Registration Unit Location                  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| St. Mary's North           | "A" Jennings Secondary School               |
| "B"                        | Bendals Primary School                      |
| "C"                        | Molyneux Building (Whenner Road)            |
| "D"                        | Browne's Avenue Clinic                      |
| St. Mary's South           | "A" Bolans Primary School                   |
| "B"                        | Caoner Turner's Building (Johnsons Point)   |
| "C"                        | Urlings Primary School                      |
| All Saints East & St. Luke | "A" All Saints Parish Hall                  |
| "B"                        | Irene B. Williams Primary School            |
| "C"                        | John Hughes Clinic                          |
| "D"                        | Old Road Post Office                        |
| All Saints West            | "A" All Saints Police Station               |
| "B"                        | Buckley's Primary School                    |
| "C"                        | Freemansville Primary School                |
| "D"                        | Zion Church of God Building (Sea View Farn) |
| "E"                        | House for Willy D (All Saints Road)         |

| Constituency        | Registration Unit Location                                                       |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| St. George's        | "A" New Windropes Primary School                                                 |
| "B"                 | Pigotts Primary School                                                           |
| "C"                 | Potters Primary School                                                           |
| St. Peter's         | "A" Parham Primary School                                                        |
| "B"                 | Pares Secondary School                                                           |
| St. Phillip's North | "A" Basement of Seventh-Day Adventist Church (Glanvilles)                        |
| "B"                 | Willikies Primary School                                                         |
| "C"                 | Newfield Clinic                                                                  |
| St. Phillip's South | "A" Freetown Primary School                                                      |
| "B"                 | St. Phillip's Rectory                                                            |
| "C"                 | Bethesda Primary School                                                          |
| St. Paul's          | "A" Liberta Primary School                                                       |
| "A"                 | Vacant Building in Liberta (Wilbert Richard's Building) on the corner in Liberta |
| "B"                 | Cobbs Cross Primary School                                                       |
| Barbuda             | "A" Former Police Station                                                        |



**Antigua & Barbuda  
Electoral Commission**

**VOTER REGISTRATION**

**July 1<sup>st</sup> — 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003**

**Monday to Saturday**

**7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**BE SURE TO REGISTER,  
IT IS YOUR RIGHT !**

**FOR INFORMATION**  
**CALL: 562-4191/5/8**  
**Website: <http://www.electoralcommission.gov.ag>**  
**Email: [eleccon@candw.ag](mailto:eleccon@candw.ag)**

Printed at Government Printing Office, Antigua & Barbuda

## WHAT IS REGISTRATION?

Registration is the process by which a Register of Voters or Electors is prepared.

## WHY A REGISTER OF VOTERS?

The Voters' or Electors' Register is an important part of our electoral system. Its main purpose is to confirm the eligibility of Voters in electing members to Parliament and Local Government.

# REGISTRATION QUALIFICATIONS

A person is qualified to be registered as an elector for a constituency if he:

- (a) is a citizen of Antigua and Barbuda;
- (b) is a Commonwealth Citizen (other than a Citizen of Antigua and Barbuda) who has resided in Antigua and Barbuda for a period of at least three (3) years immediately before the qualifying date;
- (c) is 18 years or older;
- (d) has resided in that constituency for a period of at least one (1) month immediately preceding that qualifying date.

On the other hand a person is disqualified from being registered as an elector and shall not be so registered if he:

- (a) is a person certified to be insane or otherwise adjudged to be a person of unsound mind under any enactment in force in Antigua and Barbuda;

- (b) is serving a sentence of imprisonment in Antigua and Barbuda;
- (c) is under sentence of death imposed on him by a court in any part of the Commonwealth or under sentence of imprisonment (by whatever name called) exceeding 12 months imposed on him by such a court under some sentence substituted therefor by a competent authority and has not suffered the punishment to which he was sentenced or received a free pardon thereof;
- (d) is under any enactment disqualified for registration as an elector.

## HOW TO REGISTER

Go to the Registration Unit in your Constituency from Tuesday 1st July to Thursday 31st July, 2003 and provide on request your Birth or Baptismal Certificate, Naturalization Certificate or Passport, or any other document the Registration Officer may ask you to provide.

WHERE TO REGISTER

| <i>Constituency</i>  | <i>Registration Unit</i> | <i>Location</i>                                 |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| St. John's City West | "A"                      | Pilgrim Holiness Building<br>(Popeshead Street) |
|                      | "B"                      | Villa Primary School                            |
| St. John's City East | "A"                      | Lion's Den                                      |
|                      | "B"                      | Tim O'Reilly Auditorium                         |

| <i>Constituency</i>    | <i>Registration Unit</i> | <i>Location</i>                            |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| St. John's City South  | "A-C"                    | Former Elections Office (Redcliffe Street) |
|                        | "D"                      | Fiennes Institute                          |
|                        | "D"                      | Heavy Spares & Rental Building (Belmont)   |
| St. John's Rural West  | "A"                      | Buckley's Building (Grays Park)            |
|                        | "A"                      | King George V Centre                       |
|                        | "E"                      | Greenbay Primary School (Building F)       |
|                        | "D"                      | Greenbay Moravian Church Basement          |
|                        | "C"                      | Five Islands Primary School                |
| St. John's Rural South | "A"                      | Technical Vocational Centre                |
|                        | "D"                      | St. John's Health Centre                   |
|                        | "C"                      | Golden Grove Primary School                |
| St. John's Rural East  | "A"                      | Emanuel Building (Old Parham Road)         |
|                        | "D"                      | Clare Hall Secondary School                |
|                        | "C"                      | Antigua Grammar School                     |
| St. John's Rural North | "A"                      | Yorks Community Centre                     |
|                        | "D"                      | Cedar Grove Primary School                 |
|                        | "E"                      | Hero House (Longfords)                     |

## Appendix F: List of Registration Officers for each constituency

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| St. John's City West       | Pauline Destin             |
| St. John's City East       | Lestroy Merchant           |
| St. John's City South      | Valerie Gonsalves-Barrerio |
| St. John's Rural West      | George Phillip             |
| St. John's Rural South     | Nicole Christian           |
| St. John's Rural East      | Ismay Spencer              |
| St. John's Rural North     | Glennis Simon              |
| St. Mary's North           | Ralph Henry                |
| St. Mary's South           | Michael Francis            |
| All Saints East & St. Luke | Melrose Limerick           |
| All Saints West            | Generis Robinson           |
| St. George                 | Carlton Samuel             |
| St. Peter                  | Coralita Shadrach          |
| St. Philip North           | Mervin Gore                |
| St. Philip South           | Viviana Sheppard           |
| St. Paul                   | Albertine Richards         |
| Barbuda                    | Karen Manwarren            |

## Appendix G: Estimated number of persons registered up to and including 30<sup>th</sup> July 2003

| REGISTRATION REPORT - ALL CONSTITUENCIES |                                    |                         |                               |                       |           |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Period Ending 30th. July                 |                                    |                         |                               |                       |           |
| CONSTITUENCIES                           | TOTAL REG.<br>FROM PREV.<br>PERIOD | NO. REG. FOR<br>THE DAY | TOTAL<br>REGISTERED<br>TODATE | # OF<br>SPOILT<br>RRC | COMMENTS  |
| 1. St. John's City West                  | 2003                               | 119                     | 2122                          | 128                   |           |
| 2. St. John's City East                  | 1472                               | 98                      | 1570                          | 270                   |           |
| 3. St. John's City South                 | 1227                               |                         | 1227                          | 250                   | no report |
| 4. St. John's Rural West                 | 3277                               | 192                     | 3469                          | 493                   |           |
| 5. St. John's Rural South                | 2595                               | 165                     | 2760                          | 284                   |           |
| 6. St. John's Rural East                 | 3503                               | 224                     | 3727                          | 300                   | *         |
| 7. St. John's Rural North                | 2627                               | 130                     | 2757                          | 165                   |           |
| 8. St. Mary's North                      | 3077                               | 218                     | 3295                          | 560                   |           |
| 9. St. Mary's South                      | 1518                               | 84                      | 1602                          | 66                    | *         |
| 10. All Saints East & St. Luke           | 2647                               | 159                     | 2806                          | 248                   |           |
| 11. All Saints West                      | 2983                               | 184                     | 3167                          | 270                   |           |
| 12. St. George                           | 3203                               | 195                     | 3398                          | 241                   |           |
| 13. St. Peters                           | 2060                               | 71                      | 2131                          | 231                   |           |
| 14. St. Phillips North                   | 1255                               | 99                      | 1354                          | 182                   |           |
| 15. St. Phillip South                    | 1069                               | 28                      | 1097                          | 105                   |           |
| 16. St. Paul                             | 2127                               |                         | 2127                          | 245                   | no report |
| 17. Barbuda                              | 725                                |                         | 725                           | 158                   |           |
| <b>TOTAL REGISTERED</b>                  | <b>37368</b>                       | <b>1966</b>             | <b>39334</b>                  | <b>4196</b>           |           |
| Previous Day                             |                                    |                         |                               |                       |           |
| Difference                               |                                    |                         |                               |                       |           |

## Appendix H: Timetable for Claims and Objections Following Publication of Preliminary Register on 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2003

### TIMETABLE FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF PRELIMINARY REGISTER ON 6TH AUGUST, 2003

| NO. | ACTIVITY                                                                                               | DATE                        |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1   | Publication of electoral lists & Notice as to making claims and objections                             | 6th August, 2003            |
| 2   | Deadline for filing claims and objections                                                              | 6th September, 2003         |
| 3   | Publication of claims and objections and sending of Notices to persons objected to                     | 7th September               |
| 4   | Settlement of claims (not objected to) without hearing; disallowance of objection (Rule 18 (2) ©, (d)) | 8th September, 2003         |
| 5   | Deadline for making objections to a claim                                                              | 10th September, 2003        |
| 6   | Request for additional information from claimant or objector                                           | 11th September, 2003        |
| 7   | Deadline for receipt of information re (4) above                                                       | 17th September, 2003        |
| 8   | Hearing of claims & objections not requiring additional information                                    | 11th - 18th September, 2003 |
| 9   | Time for submission of appeal by elector of decision of Registration Officer to Commission             | 23rd September, 2003        |
| 10  | Time for Registration Officer to submit case with evidence to Commission in respect of (9) above       | 25th September, 2003        |

## Timetable for Claims and Objections according to legal requirements

| <u>TIME LIMITS</u> |                                |                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                  | 7 DAYS - Rule 12 (6) (a)       | Following Notice of Disallowance time within which statement of appeal is delivered to Registration Officer (to be heard at the time of hearing objections) |
| 2                  | 31 days - Rule (16)            | Time for making claims or objections after Publication of electoral list                                                                                    |
| 3                  | 3 days - Rule 18 (2) (d) (ii)  | Filing of objections to a claim disallowed by Registration Officer                                                                                          |
| 4                  | 7 days - Rule 18 (2) (a)       | Claimant or objector to provide additional information to Registration Officer; otherwise claim is dismissed                                                |
| 5                  | 5 days - Rule 21 (2)           | Time within which appeal of decision of Registration officer is submitted                                                                                   |
| 6                  | 7 days - Rule 21 (2)           | Time within which Registration Officer submits case of appeal to the Commission                                                                             |
| 7                  | 7 days or longer - Rule 21 (3) | Period which Commission hears appeal submitted to Registration Officer                                                                                      |
| 8                  | 7 days - Rule 22 (1)           | Time within which notice of desire to appeal to High Court is given to Commission                                                                           |
| 9                  | 21 days - Rule 22 (2)          | Time within which Commission may file notice in High Court                                                                                                  |

5/8/03

## Appendix I: Press Briefing by Free and Fair Election League

08/01/2003 16:47 FAX  
Aug-01-2003 03:16pm From-OBSERVER RADIO U1,1FM

ELECTORAL COMMISSION  
+2684819125

T-204 P.001/001 F-454 002

*Attention: Bruce Goodman*

### Press Briefing

On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2003, a two Member Team from the Free and Fair Election League met with a three Member Group that is purported to be a Commonwealth Observer Group to report on the just concluded Re-Registration Process.

The Meeting with both sides lasted for over an hour during During the Meeting certain pertinent issues leading up to and during the Re-registration Process were raised by the Free and Fair Election League and were fully discussed.

Contrary to News Report put out by the Government on the Media that that the three Member Team is a Commonwealth Observer Group, but based on information gleaned the Free and Fair Election League is satisfied that no member of the Delegation of the so called Commonwealth Observer Group works with or is attached to the Commonwealth Secretariat in London.

Mr. George Rick James, Secretary of the Free and Fair Election League will break his silence and make a detailed Statement in order to shed more light on the matter..

George Rick James  
Secretary,  
Free and Fair Election League  
1<sup>st</sup> August, 2003