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CONCACAF SPONSORS UCCI CONFERENCE

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The University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) announces that the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF), has joined a growing band of sponsors enabling the staging of the March 2014 UCCI Caribbean Conference.

The aim of the conference is to raise awareness of the potential for corruption and decline in ethical standards across all the various sectors of society, including sports, and the consequent damaging effect on economies and social harmony. The conference will focus on strategies of various regional governments and organisations, public and private, to raise sensitivity to these threats and how to curb and eliminate them.

This latest decision to sponsor the conference has been taken by Mr. Jeffrey Webb, Vice President of FIFA and President of CONCACAF and the CI Football Association. The Confederation is specifically sponsoring a round table plenary on sports ethics.

“This is an era of profound opportunity for all of us to make a difference. It is our time to forge a common agenda, to build on solid foundations and guarantee professional excellence,” said Mr. Webb. “CONCACAF is making a commitment in the fight against corruption because it is not only about protecting the integrity of football, but also working among all stakeholders involved in order to promote positive role models.”

CONCACAF joins other sponsors such as the National Building Society of Cayman, EY (formerly Ernst & Young), Cayman National Bank, the Cayman Islands Compliance Association, Dart Enterprises, the Cayman Islands Civil Service Association Credit Union, Radio Cayman, among others.

Expressing his appreciation to the this latest sponsor, CONCACAF, UCCI’s President Roy Bodden noted the integral role of sports in life in the Cayman Islands, and the importance of football in the lives of our young boys and girls, men and women.

“We appreciate the interest and immense effort that Mr. Webb exerts in furthering the place of football in the Cayman Islands and, indeed, in the region, Mr. Bodden

said. “By supporting the conference, he further ensures that our values of integrity and ethics are preserved not only in sports but in the community as a whole.”

Conference Director Dr. Livingston Smith also added his gratitude, “The Conference Planning Committee is extremely grateful that CONCACAF is on board.” By doing so, Dr. Smith said, “CONCACAF shows its recognition of the importance of focusing on ethical issues in all aspects of society.”

The UCCI conference opens on 19 March with keynote speaker Dr. Huguette Labelle, the head of the organisation that rates governments worldwide on anti-corruption.

Dr. Labelle is the Chair of the Board of Transparency International, an organisation that works in more than 100 countries in the fight against corruption. Each year, Transparency International scores countries on a Corruption Perceptions Index regarding how corrupt their public sectors are seen to be.

Dr. Labelle will be joined by regional and local heads of states, ministers of government, and directors of anti-corruption agencies. They will be sharing ideas on how corruption can be reduced and eliminated from all sectors of communities across the region.

Already slated to attend are Prime Minister Perry Christie of the Bahamas and Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. It is anticipated that Bermuda’s Premier, the Hon. Craig Cannonier or his designate will attend.

For information on the conference, go to www.UCCIconference.ky.

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