



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

CENTRE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP [CFSEI]

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IN RESPONSE PLEASE QUOTE.
OUR REF}

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This note is to introduce the Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative. The Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative is a formal collaboration between the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus Centre for Food Security and Entrepreneurship (CFSE) and the Barbados-based company, S V Ruth Ltd. S V Ruth Ltd. is owned by Mr. Ian Dash, a Canadian entrepreneur with strong Barbadian links. The implementation of this Initiative coincided with the launch of the interisland schooner the S V Ruth in a public ceremony at Browne's Beach, Barbados on Saturday, 6 December 2014. The CFSE is the implementing agency of the Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative. S. V. Ruth Ltd will conduct the commercial business operations of the Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative.

The objective of the Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative is to develop a new marine cargo transportation service catering for food security and green economy initiatives, initially in Barbados, the Windward Islands, and Trinidad. This exciting new development in marine transportation using ultra-modern specially designed cargo sail ships will promote sustainable development by reducing dependence on fossil-based energy, and food security by linking up countries of supply of agricultural produce to those of demand in an efficient and predictable scheduled manner. The Initiative will also promote the export of high quality manufactured Barbadian goods.

The Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative will also promote the green economy initiatives of Barbados and the rest of the region by operating a marine transportation system which extends the lowcarbon foot-print chain into the market place of the countries of import. For countries setting up green economy productive sectors based on the utilization of biodiversity and other selected natural resource assets, the development will also preserve the green identity of products for export. Plans are well advanced for setting up green economy productive sectors based on the utilization of biodiversity and selected environmental assets in several Caribbean countries in formal partnership with the CSFE and by extension, the Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative.

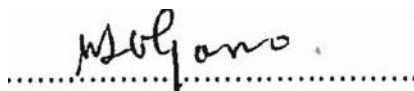
The advent of the Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative is also a climate change mitigation event for the

Caribbean, focusing on the marine sector. The plan of the Initiative is to replace the current fleet of old and inefficient oil-based motorized cargo vessels in this sector over time with ultra-modern sail cargo ships utilizing state-of-the-art wind and solar electrical systems. S/V Ruth will be the first ship of sail cargo in the fleet to be commissioned.

The Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative will also function as a training platform to meet the demand for trained mariners. With respect to Caribbean-owned vessels, most of which originate in the Windward Islands, over 80 percent of the seafarers lack formal training for their work. In addition to responding to the demand for trained mariners to work on this sector, the training will also provide employment opportunities for Barbados and other Caribbean nationals in the global shipping industry which currently reports a shortfall of trained seafarers.

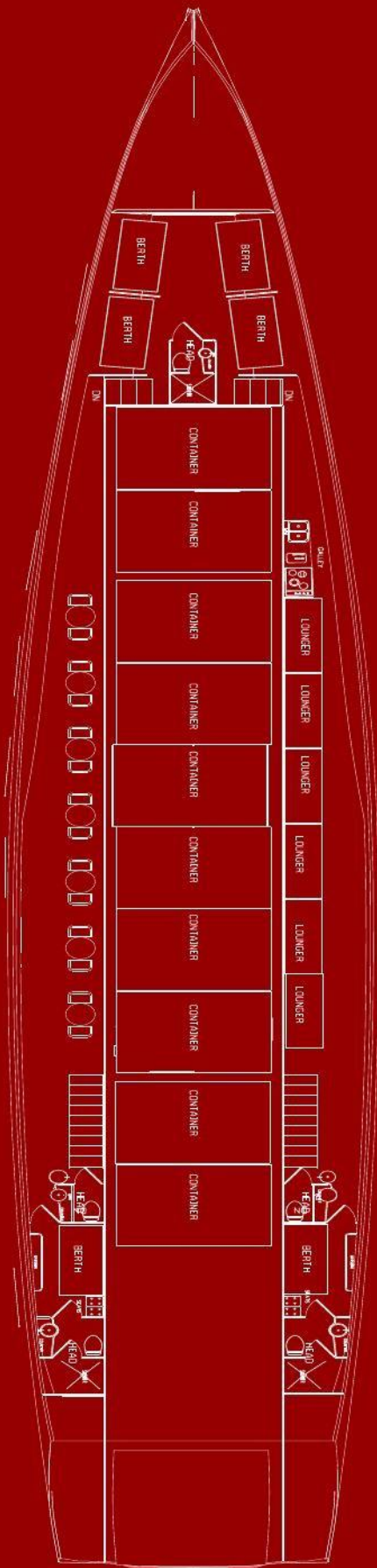
The CSFE is pleased to present this information note and looks forward to your support of the Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative. Professor Leonard O'Garro, Director of the Centre for Food Security and Entrepreneurship is available at your convenience to provide a full briefing on the work of the Centre as well as on the Caribbean Sail Cargo Initiative, should the need arise.

Very best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. O'Garro', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

Professor Leonard O'Garro,

Ph.D Director LO'G/jb



INTERIOR

SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"



CHAMPION
MARITIME

INTRODUCTION

The Government of Barbados recognizes the vital economic importance of a domestic ship building industry and associated high technology and human capacity development and training in the maritime sphere to the wealth and security of the nation.

Parliamentary legislation of the new Merchant Shipping Act 2024, Shipping (Domestic Vessels) Act 2024 , Marine Transport (Emissions Control) Act 2024-2025, the Maritime and Underwater Heritage Act 2025-2 and the Merchant Shipping (Multimodal Transport Act) 2024-29 has proactively put in place the regulatory and enabling rules which support the establishment inter alia of shipyards, green shipping lanes, sustainable maritime economic development and maritime autonomous surface ships.

Historically the financial wealth of nations has been directly tied to its manufacturing and agricultural production and its ability to export its manufactured and agricultural products and carry on trade and commerce in its own national flagged carriers or ship bottoms - built owned and crewed by its citizens.

The five new marine legislative acts which were signed into law by the President of Barbados in late 2024 and early 2025 attest to the dramatic advances to the Blue Economy envisioned by the Government of Barbados.

The establishment of the Port Trident Shipyard and Maritime Industrial Park and building the first Alpha Zulu ROPAC intra regional emissions free marine cargo vessel <500 GT has been recognized by the Government of Barbados as a climate mitigation solution and a sustainable economic development in the marine transportation sector - more specifically, shipbuilding and training.

The technological manufacturing innovations and national self reliance which organically flow from these decisions and events will have long lasting positive impacts to the economic vitality of Barbados.

Ian Dash, Chairman
Champion Maritime Limited
May 15, 2025

