

Preparations Progressing smoothly for Commonwealth Games General Assembly

Written by

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Basseterre, St. Kitts - With one year to go before St. Kitts hosts the Commonwealth Games Federation General Assembly, preparations have progressing smoothly, so says Christine Walwyn, CEO for the Olympic Steering Committee.

The General Assembly will be held from 5th to the 11th November, 2011, at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort.

Speaking with **MiyVue.com** Ms Walwyn said, *“One year to go may sound far but each day that passes a lot more ground has to be covered.”*

Second to the Commonwealth Games, the biggest event within the global association is the General Assembly.

One of the major decisions to be taken at this meeting will be the bidding of the four countries' vying for the right to host the 2018 Commonwealth Games. The winning bid will be broadcast live at the conclusion of the St. Kitts gathering.

To properly plan for the enormous logistical challenges, some of which have already been referred to, Walwyn indicated that the Steering Committee has been meeting at least once per month.

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“Right now, preparations are ahead of schedule,” she said. “And we intend to keep them that way.”

Walwyn expects that at least 60 local volunteers will be relied upon to help out with the event.

“All sorts of planning needs will be addressed, including the organisation of a program being put together to entertain visiting non-delegates, inclusive of spouses and children,” she added.

It was also noted, that as part of the federation’s preparations, Marketing and Projects Manager for the Commonwealth Games Federation, Rachel Simon visited St. Kitts March in March to ensure that adequate personnel are developed to take care of the ‘meet and greet’ services at the airport for visiting delegates, media space allocations, the conveyance of guests from and to the airport, and transportation throughout the event, in addition to resolving immigration issues, customs concerns, and visa accreditations.

“I am pleased to say that we have met all the requirements of Ms Simon,” said Walwyn.

The CEO ended by stating that during the next 12 months, constant contact will be maintained with the parent Commonwealth Games Federation, to ensure that St. Kitts is on track for the assemble.

St. Kitts won the right to host the General Assembly from an initial field of four, which included Barbados, Kenya, and Northern Ireland. The final selection was made in New Delhi, India, in November of 2009.

The Commonwealth Games Federation is the organisation that is responsible for the direction and control of the Commonwealth Games, which is a world class, multi-sports event held once every four years.