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ST. KITTS AND NEVIS LEARNING ABOUT VI NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

VI NHI's Roy Barry gives informational presentation to stakeholders prior to launch of the National Health Insurance Commission in St. Kitts and Nevis

Road Town, Tortola, March 13, 2018– The Virgin Islands National Health Insurance (NHI) is being used as a model to some countries in the Region that are on the path to introducing national health insurance programmes in the near future.

One such country, St. Kitts and Nevis, invited Deputy Director of the Social Security Board (with responsibility for NHI) Mr. Roy Barry, to make a presentation to stakeholders at a consultation on Thursday, February 22, prior to the launch of the National Health Insurance Implementation Commission in St. Kitts and Nevis the next day.

As stated in the invitation letter from Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Resources & Cooperatives, Mr. E. Alistair Edwards, Mr. Barry was asked to “provide technical guidance during the consultation and preparatory stages for the [NHI framework].”

Regarding the presentation, Mr. Barry said, “I was very pleased to share the lessons learned from the Virgin Islands NHI with our neighbours in St. Kitts and Nevis. My presentation covered the work and key players involved leading up to the launch, in addition to our structure, current policies and procedures. I know they enjoyed the presentation and took away some key lessons in how they will go about implementing their national health insurance programme.”

Like the Virgin Islands, St. Kitts and Nevis has partnered with the Health Economics Unit at the Centre for Health Economics, University of the West Indies (UWI), to assist with the development of the National Health Insurance Commission.

Virgin Islands National Health Insurance is designed to improve health outcomes and provide financial risk protection by ensuring that every resident of the Virgin Islands will have affordable access to the health services they need.

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Notes to Editor(s): Photograph is attached.

Photo caption: NHI Team Leader, Mr. Roy Barry. (Photo credit: NHI/ A. Glasgow)