

# Americas Relief Team www.americas relief.org

## **NEWS OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERS & FRIENDS**

#### PRESS RELEASE

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### AMERICASRELIEF TEAM'S BOARD ENDORSES NEW ORGANIZATIONAL DIRECTION

MIAMI, FL – August 6, 2007- Responding to a need to help maximize efficiency of the delivery of humanitarian aid, and to help minimize the suffering of victims of crises in the Caribbean Basin, the Board of Directors of *Americas* Relief Team has endorsed the introduction of a group of value added services to humanitarian aid organizations.

Dr. Teo A. Babun, Jr., Executive Director explained that AmericasRelief Team is about more than humanitarian aid logistics. "There is a strong element of logistics in our work, but our real heart has been to advocate, provide guidance, education, and state-of-the-art techniques to the tasks of planning and implementing effective distribution of humanitarian aid", said Babun. "Revenue made from services provided to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) will be used to fund other programs such as advocacy, and education. It's a win-win for all those entities involved in the mission of providing relief aid to victims of crises", he added.

Services to NGOs will include facilitating air and sea freight services to the Caribbean and Latin America with extremely competitive rates for the movement of humanitarian cargo, and acting as purchasing agents for humanitarian products by using the organization's vast network of vendors and contacts, amongst others.

In other Board action, the directors selected officers for the next three years. The new officers are: President/Executive Director, Teo A. Babun, Jr.; Corporate Secretary, Cliff Deeds of FedEx Express

Latin America; Corporate Treasurer, Daniel Thomas of Harvest International; and as First Vice-President, Jorge P. Rovirosa of Florida Stevedoring, Inc.

Americas Relief Team is a Florida private sector collaboration of corporations and non-profit organizations created to help our Latin America and Caribbean friends in times of crisis and disasters.

Americas Relief Team reacts to immediate crisis, provides ongoing logistics assistance, and conducts plans for future events in the region which will require effective coordination of humanitarian relief.

AmericasRelief Team works together in a coordinated basis with the government of the Caribbean country, the U.S. government, donating corporations, air & sea cargo carriers, logistics companies, non-governmental experts and others to assess damage when disaster strikes, and then effectively channel emergency relief to the most affected areas.

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## **For More information Contact:**

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Americas Humanitarian Logistics Relief Team

Getting disaster relief in effective ways to our Caribbean Basin friends