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PRESS RELEASE

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European Investment Bank Eyes Guyana's Potential



Yves Ferreira

The Head of Regional Representation for the Caribbean at the European Investment Bank [EIB], Mr. Yves Ferreira began today a working visit to Guyana for a series of meetings with various stakeholders as the bank seeks to identify lending opportunities in the private and public sector. During his visit, Mr. Ferreira will meet with the Honourable Ashni Singh, Minister of Finance, representatives from the local commercial banking sector, the Guyana Power and Light [GPL], Guyana Water Incorporated [GWI], Caricom and the Private Sector.

The present mission will concentrate on opportunities in infrastructure, small and medium sized enterprises (SME) financing and climate action. Climate action is one of the EUs priorities and is highly compatible with the EIBs activities as it can contribute with its worldwide expertise in climate mitigation and adaptation.

Between 1978 and 2004, the EIB committed a total of Euro 63 million in Guyana through 9 transactions. EIB funds have been deployed for the financing of sectors such as forestry (5%), mining (58%), water and sanitation (15%) and the financial sector to support micro, small and medium sized companies' development (22%).

Mr. Yves Ferreira is currently the Head of Regional Representation for the Caribbean at the European Investment Bank. He has a 20-year development banking background previously having worked for institutions such as Agence Française de Développement and Proparco. His geographic experience includes Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, financing for various sectors including energy, and he has served as a director in development banks, private equity funds and manufacturing companies.