

Guyana aboard Caribbean Court

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GEORGETOWN -- Arrangements to operationalise the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) can now move forward more speedily with the ratification by Guyana of the relevant instrument to make this regional institution a reality.

Attorney-General Doodnauth Singh has disclosed that the instrument of ratification was handed over to the Caribbean Community secretary-general, Edwin Carrington, during a training seminar for the CCJ in Port-of-Spain last week.

By so doing, Guyana became the third Caricom state to ratify the instrument for the creation of the CCJ and, consequently clears the way to inaugurate the court by the latter half of 2003 since a minimum of three ratifications are required.

The first Community member state to ratify was St Lucia, whose prime minister, Kenny Anthony, is a former head of the Legal Division of the Secretariat, followed by Barbados with Prime Minister Owen Arthur declaring that he took great pride in putting his signature to a historic development for the Caribbean.

The CCJ will have original jurisdiction in interpreting disputes arising from implementation of the Caricom Treaty and is viewed as integral to the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME).

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