

Brazil and Caribbean Abolish Visas for Their Diplomats

Contributed by Nelson Motta
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The governments of Brazil and Granada signed two cooperation agreements this Monday, April 24, at a meeting between the Brazilian Minister of Foreign Relations, Celso Amorim, and the Prime-Minister and Chancellor of Granada, Keith Mitchell and Elvin Nimrod. The encounter took place at the Botanical Gardens, seat of the local government.

The agreements have to do with technical cooperation and suspending the need for visas on diplomatic and official passports. The head of the Brazilian foreign ministry's North and Central America/Caribbean Department, ambassador Gonçalo Mourão, explained that the basic technical cooperation agreement was a Brazilian proposal.

"It is precisely to enable us to expand our cooperation programs with that country," he commented.

As for the agreement to suspend the need for visas on diplomatic and official passports, he observed that this will facilitate official contacts between the Caribbeans and Brazil, as well as those between Brazilian government authorities and representatives of that region.

According to the Brazilian foreign ministry, some areas were pinpointed in which Brazil and Granada share an interest in establishing technical agreements.

They include civil defense (warning and alarm systems, community orientation, and the handling of corpses and solid wastes), manioc cultivation, sheep and goat raising, hospital infrastructure, nursing training, and food security.

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