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CONSULTATIONS ON VENDOR'S REGISTRATION PROGRAMME A SUCCESS

Castries, St. Lucia, August 21, 2018 - The Castries Constituency Council last week enjoyed affable and positive consultative meetings with Vendors plying their trade within the city of Castries.

The consultations, which were attended by merchants from the Vendors arcade, provisions and craft Markets and roadside traders, focused on the significant components and benefits from the soon to be launched Vendors' Registration Programme.

The meetings were chaired by Communications Manager, Jason Hullingseed who spoke fully to the plans and vision for the Registration Programme.

"I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all who attended. We support your efforts, your determination and the work that you do and give our assurance that through the Vendors' Registration Programme every vendor will benefit greatly as it's our way of doing things better for you," Hullingseed explained.

Also in attendance were His Worship, Mayor Peterson D. Francis, CEO Mr. Wilfred Pierre, Councillors Augustin Victor and Christopher Mitchel and staff members of the Market Department.

Addressing the consultations, Mayor Francis noted the need for vendors to display unity whilst urging that they take advantage of the Vendors' Registration Programme.

"As part of that programme vendors will receive, among other benefits, free access to public comfort stations, job letters identifying them as authorized vendors and provisions to gain National Insurance Corporation (NIC) retirement and Health Insurance packages. We are now modifying our programme so that all vendors listed under our Vendors' Registration Programme will benefit meaningfully."

Vendors were also addressed by the CEO Mr. Wilfred Pierre who explained that Council's idea is to make things better for them.

" Things will change, but it's for the better. There is need for appropriate systems and structure."

The meeting, one of many consultative meetings with city merchants, saw over 90 per cent of Vendors in attendance.

Over seventy (70) persons have registered for the Vendors' Registration Programme which will be launched in the coming weeks.

END.