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TNO and University of Milan embarking on special research project



ORANJESTAD -- Last Monday morning at the Dr. Edward Chung Center for Innovation, the Prime Minister of Aruba indicated that TNO and the University of Milan are embarking on a joint research project.

TNO, which is also situated in the Dr. Edward Chung Center for Innovation, together with the University of Milan submitted a report in which they are soliciting the sum of a few million Euros for the funding of research projects. The project, dubbed "The Green Aruba Project" submitted a petition for 4.7 million Euros. Should this request be granted, it would be valid for 42 months.

The three objectives of the project are: Technical Environ-

mental, Regional Research and Education Institute; a major impact on sustainable development of Aruba and other islands in the region; Higher education job opportunities and small business opportunities.

In keeping with the rules of Eucarinet, they can expect a response to their petition during the second half of 2012.

Eucarinet is the platform created by the European Union for dialogue with the Caribbean. Eucarinet has very large sums of money available in a fund designed exclusively for use for scientific research. Aruba may also make use of these funds using set procedures. In order to adequately educate Aruba on exactly how

to access these funds, two experts from the organization was brought here by the Aruba government. These experts will offer a special seminar and workshop to all stakeholders to teach them how to prepare reports soliciting these funds.

Reportedly, between the years 2007 to 2013 there are several billion Euros that have not yet been used. What's more, for the next period to expire in 2020, there will be 80 billion Euros available. These are huge sums of money, and if Aruba succeeds in obtaining just 1% of this that would be extremely great!

Regarding the seminar held on Monday, at the University of Aruba, that was to provide an explanation of the 7de

Kader program, a program for subsidized funds, which was 50 billion Euros which, by the way, was not completely used.

At the same time they spoke about the new "Horizon 2020" program which will contain some 80 billion Euros for the period 2013 to 2020. They intend to teach Aruban organizations how to access these funds, for what type of projects these funds are available, etc.

Actually, anyone in the world can participate in this program, as long as the focus is on technology. There is no specific fund amount per region, it is dependent on each project submitted. And, what is allocated depends on the report submitted and what they want

to achieve.

According to Prime Minister Eman, if Aruba succeeds in presenting professionally prepared and accurately crafted reports, we may be able to realize different projects between Holland and the European Union on the area of technological development.

The government reported that they made good use of the expertise of TNO to prepare and present very convincing and supporting evidence for obtaining the necessary funds to accomplish the objectives they want to achieve with the project. They sincerely hope that the request will be granted and that they will get the necessary funds to execute the project as planned.

More innovation in our general medical care

ORANJESTAD -- As an improvement to our health care, Aruba has recently (last September) acquired 4 more general practitioners. Much work is also being on improving the nursing area.

The agreement with IMSAN and Baptist Health Florida entails that our nurses will receive additional courses and guidance particularly for the Oncology department. They also intend to implement a type of home care as well as

increase the care to the elderly.

There is, according to our government officials, the need to actualize the nursing profession on Aruba. For this reason there are discussions ongoing between the Hospital and the University. They are contemplating building an edifice on the Hospital grounds to be dedicated solely to the work of nursing. This is in their plans for the next 25 years. The idea is to offer the possibility for training nurses to meet the de-

mand for this entire region.

Also, the area of mental health has the attention of the government. There is a planning and budget allocated for this in 2013, and they have begun working on this together with the Capriles Clinic in Curacao.

According to the Aruba government, the general medical care on Aruba is receiving high priority and the necessary attention to ensure that we improve the quality of health care to our entire community.

Joran van der Sloot's extradition underway

Continued from page 1

Van der Sloot "offered to provide what turned out to be bogus information about the whereabouts of Holloway's remains in exchange for the money," according to the indictment. He was given \$25,000, which he used to travel to Peru to compete in a poker tournament, where he met Flores.

According to CNN, a Peru-

vian judge approved a U.S. request for "provisional detention," which is the "first step in the extradition process between Peru and the United States." A formal extradition request is expected, as is an appeal by van der Sloot, which could delay the extradition.

The 24-year-old is currently serving a 28-year sentence for

the murder of Flores.

"I think he will be extradited within the next three months," Maximo Altez, van der Sloot's Peruvian attorney, said. "He will go to trial in the United States. Once he is sentenced, he will return to Peru to finish serving his 28 years, and then go back to the States to serve whatever sentence he gets there."



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