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PRESS RELEASE

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CBS BUSINESS CYCLE SURVEY IN BONAIRE, CURAÇAO AND SINT MAARTEN

The Central Bureau for Statistics (CBS) will initiate a Business Cycle Survey (BCS) in Bonaire, Curaçao and Sint Maarten in January. The purpose of this survey is to make recent information regularly available on business and economic developments.

The survey will be conducted amongst all businesses with ten or more employees and amongst a sample drawn from businesses with fewer employees.

CBS interviewers will distribute the survey questionnaires to app. 1,150 businesses in total (82 in Bonaire, 814 in Curaçao, 254 in St. Maarten) and, if requested, will assist in filling in the questionnaire. Businesses that previously acknowledged their preference to receive the BCS survey by email will be contacted accordingly.

BCS questions deal with company's estimates on 2007 turnover, costs, investments and staffing. Additionally, a number of questions relating to the entrepreneur's opinion on a number of business indicators including confidence in the future and investment climate will be asked.

With the help of this information, both government and the business sector can take better, quicker and well-founded decisions.

The support of the business sector in the survey is, of course, essential for the success thereof. CBS therefore requests all businesses involved in the survey to

cooperate, for which CBS shows its gratitude in advance.