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GORDON CORDINA is a graduate of the University of Malta and of the University of Cambridge, UK. He currently lectures at the Economics Department of the University of Malta. He had previously worked in the Economics Department of the Central Bank of Malta for nine years up to October 2001, where he headed the Department's Research Office. He is the author of a number of journal articles on public finance, macro-econometric models and welfare reform. In 1997, Mr Cordina published the study "A Structural Econometric Model of the Maltese Economy" in the *Journal of Economic and Financial Modelling*, which model remains in use at the Central Bank of Malta. Mr Cordina is currently board member of the Malta Council for Science and Technology and advisor to the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development. In recent years, he has served on a number of economic policy committees in Malta including the Commission for Welfare Reform and the Malta Council for Economic Development.

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MALCOLM HADLEY is a biologist by training. Between 1967-1972 he was scientific coordinator of the Terrestrial Productivity Section of the International Biological Programme. He then spent most of his professional career with the Natural Sciences Sector of UNESCO, as part of the secretariat for the Man and the Biosphere Programme. His primary concerns have included natural resource issues and human-environment interactions in tropical regions, and collaborative research in a number of fields including tropical soil biology and fertility. He has been involved in diverse initiatives for communicating scientific information for different audiences, including the twenty-eight volume *Man and the Biosphere* Series. From 1995-1999, he was editor of the quarterly magazine *Nature and Resources*. He has been involved in developing many island-related materials, including several overviews of UNESCO's work on island environments, territories and societies.

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CLAUDIUS PREVILLE joined the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (RNM) on January 1, 2004, as Trade Policy Adviser to the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and its member states. In this capacity, he is responsible for advising the OECS countries in developing their trade policy positions for the various negotiating theatres, and serves as

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JOHN M. UNDERWOOD, a US National, joined the World Bank in 1984, initially serving as Senior Economist, and later as Principal Economist, and Acting Lead Economist for the Debt and International Finance Division. In 1998, he became the Programme Manager for the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Department of the Latin America and Caribbean Region. In May 2000 he became Director of the Operations Policy and Country Services of the World Bank. Prior to joining the World Bank, Mr Underwood was the Chief of the International Development Section, in the International Finance Division of the US Federal Reserve Board. He was also a visiting research fellow at the Bank of Thailand and at the Rockefeller Foundation, a visiting professor at George Washington University, an economist at the US Federal Reserve Board, and a US Peace Corps Volunteer in Swaziland. Mr Underwood received his undergraduate degree in Mathematics from Iowa State University, and his PhD in Economics from the University of Minnesota.

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