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SEAN PAUL TO HEADLINE 12TH ANNUAL DOMINICA
WORLD CREOLE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Line-Up of Confirmed Artists is Announced atop Rockefeller Center in New York City

Roseau, Dominica – (August 6, 2008) – The *Discover Dominica Tourism Authority* in conjunction with the *Dominica Festivals Committee* today announces that Grammy Award-winning artist Sean Paul will be the headline act at the 12th Annual *Dominica World Creole Music Festival*, which will take place on island over three nights from Friday October 31 through Sunday, November 2, 2008. Joining him on the exciting line-up of performers are top Creole and World Music artists such as Oliver N’goma, Tabou Combo, Kassav, Djakout Mizik, Carimi, and Grammacks, to name a few.

“We are thrilled to welcome our Caribbean brother Sean Paul to the *Dominica World Creole Music Festival*,” said Steve Bornn, Director of Tourism for the *Discover Dominica Tourism Authority* and Chairman of the *Dominica Festivals Committee*. “Securing the appearance of such a popular and prestigious artist as Sean Paul on a playbill with top world and creole music stars like Oliver Ngoma and Tabou Combo raises the standard for and the level of attraction of the *Dominica World Creole Music Festival*. Sean Paul’s unique style of reggae will superbly complement the traditional Creole music which this event celebrates.”

Sean Paul, often called the ambassador of dancehall reggae, is best known for his many hit tunes, “Gimme the Light,” “Get Busy,” “We Be Burnin’,” “Like Glue,” “Temperature,” “Baby Boy” with Beyoncé, “I’m Still In Love With You” with Sasha and “(When You Gonna) Give It Up To Me” featuring Keyshia Cole, which was featured in the hit movie “Step Up” in 2006. He earned a Grammy Award for Best Reggae Album in 2004 with his double-platinum album, “Dutty Rock,” which sold nearly 6 million copies worldwide. This success was followed up in 2005 with the release of his next album, “The Trinity,” which earned Sean Paul an American Music Award as well as four awards at the 2006 Billboard Music Awards including Male Artist of the Year, Rap Artist of the Year, Hot 100 Single of the Year and Pop Single of the Year. Born in Jamaica in 1973, Sean Paul’s newest album, tentatively titled, “The Next Thing,” is currently scheduled for release later this summer.

Additional artists scheduled to perform at the 12th Annual *Dominica World Creole Music Festival* include **Tabou Combo**, one of the most famous bands from the Caribbean. Taking

Haitian Compas music to a wide audience, they have performed in Paris, New Orleans and even Central Park in New York City. The band is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2008. Also on this year's groundbreaking line-up is **Djakout Mizik**, another popular Haitian Compas band that appeared on MTV on New Year's Eve 2007 with Wyclef Jean in a performance that marked the group's American network television debut. **Kassav**, the well-known musical group credited with establishing Zouk music, is scheduled to perform as well as **Carimi** and popular African folk music artist **Oliver N'goma**.

In a homecoming performance, *Dominica's* own **Grammacks** returns to the 12th Annual World Creole Music Festival this year. In conjunction with with Exile One, the group originated the 1970's Cadence music phenomenon, which would later give rise to Zouk music. The group headlined the first ever World Creole Music Festival in 1997 and boasts a Super Bowl performance to their credit.

Additional acts are expected to be confirmed in the coming months. *Dominica's* World Creole Music Festival is the culmination of the island's Creole Week events. A celebration of the unique sounds of creole music, the Festival is held every year beginning on "*International Creole Day*" - the last Friday in October. In 2008, the World Creole Music Festival will be held at the Windsor Park National Stadium in Roseau from Friday October 31 - Sunday November 2. *Dominica* celebrates 30 years of Independent Nationhood on Monday November 3rd.

Known as "The Nature Island" and located between the French islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique in the Eastern Caribbean, the independent nation of *Dominica* (pronounced "Dom-in-eeek-a") is the largest and most mountainous of the Windward Islands, encompassing an area of nearly 290 square miles. Of volcanic origins with mountains reaching heights of nearly 5,000 feet, rainforests that are considered among the last true oceanic rainforests in the world, more than 365 rivers, waterfalls, boiling lakes and pristine coral reefs, *Dominica's* natural diversity is truly unique. *Dominica* is also home to the last remaining settlement of the Indigenous Peoples of the Caribbean – The Carib Indians. A place where man and nature live in harmony, adventurers and nature lovers alike will revel in the Island's eco-tourism options which include scuba diving, snorkeling, mountain biking, kayaking, horseback riding, nature tours, hiking/trekking, whale, dolphin and bird watching, sailing and fishing.

Dominica continues to be recognized for its attributes and responsible tourism efforts, including being the first country in the world to receive Benchmarking designation from the prestigious eco-tourism organization Green Globe 21. *National Geographic's* Center for Sustainable Destinations ranked the island as the top sustainable island in the Caribbean and among the top ten in the world. Most recently, *Dominica* was recognized by *Islands Magazine* and was included in its 2007 Blue List for being a leader in responsible tourism and ensuring an environmentally and culturally sound island for future generations.

For more information on *Dominica*, contact the *Discover Dominica Authority* at 866-522-4057. Or, visit *Dominica's* official website: www.discoverdominica.com.

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