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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SLASPA and local Stakeholders collaborate to improve safety of Sea Bathers and Boaters

Castries – Monday March 3, 2008 - The Saint Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority (SLASPA) and the Ministry of Physical Development Environment and Housing in collaboration with various local stakeholders have embarked on a project to create bathing/swimming zones at Rodney Bay as part of efforts to improve the safety of sea bathers and boaters.

The project started within the Reduit Beach Area, being one of the popular local beaches. Three clearly distinguished bathing/swimming zones are visible from the sea shore with the bright orange and white floating buoys in front of the Ramp, St. Lucia Yacht Club and the Bay Gardens Beach Resort. In between the swimming areas, there are two corridors which provide an entry/exit for power crafts – inclusive of jet skis. The seaward entrance to these corridors are marked off by Green and Red Navigational buoys to ensure vessels remain on the correct side of the channel to prevent any collisions.

The safety of sea bathers/swimmers is further enhanced with the placement of “NO WAKE” buoys at the end of the power craft corridors, towards sea-side. These buoys would alert the captains of vessels to slow down when approaching the designated areas. In addition, three white buoys have been placed at the 200 yards mark from the shoreline, to indicate the point from which vessels can commence boating activities.

SLASPA remains committed to working with local stakeholders to improve the safety of sea users. SLASPA therefore encourages boaters to utilize the corridors and abstain from anchoring

within the 200 yards mark. Swimmers / bathers are also advised to use dedicated swimming / bathing zones at all times to avoid crossing into the boat corridors.

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