

Puerto Plata's Tourist Port Re-Development Bid

The bid to redevelop the Puerto Plata Tourism Port is now on. Four companies out of an original eight have now been pre-qualified to officially present their proposals to the Puerto Plata Tourist & Commercial Port Development Commission.

In a meeting headed by the Director of CEI-RD (Center of Export and Investment of the Dominican Republic), Lcdo. Eddy Martinez Manzueta, Cesar Jose de los Santos (Governor of Puerto Plata), Walter Musa (Mayor of Puerto Plata), Senator Francis Vargas, Manuel Grisanty (technical assessor to the Dominican Ports Authority) and Jaime Lockward (Coordinator of Natural Resources) announced the commission will issue the terms of reference for the project by

mid August. After that time a period of 90 days will begin for those companies to present their



final proposals that will include the design, management and operation of the tourist port.

The four companies left in the bidding are Consorcio San Felipe, a consortium made up of investors from the United States, Australia and the Dominican Republic, KMS Holding Group from Miami, a partnership

between Sinercom/Prieto Nouel Electromecanica/Parson's from United States and local Investors, and Sociedad Portuaria Regional de Cartagena from Colombia.

According to the commission, all four companies presented good quality proposals to develop the Puerto Plata Tourism Port.

Walter Musa and Francis Vargas expressed the importance of the project as part of the development and the creation of better opportunities of the country's North Coast. The commission was created as part of the government's effort to improve the competitiveness of tourism in the area.

It is anticipated that the Puerto Plata Tourist Port development project could start as soon as January, 2008.

An Expensive Drink

One drink cost a British man his fiancée and everything he owned. Apparently, Jason Wilson from Cumbria, aged 24 wanted to stay out for one last pint, but his fiancée, Emma Thomason wanted to go home. When he refused, she cleared everything of his out of their home, put them in his \$20,000 van and drove it into the nearby harbour in Whitehaven.

The couple who have two children have now called off their August wedding. They had just booked a \$4,000 honeymoon to the Caribbean, bought the wedding rings and the wedding dress.

But Mr Wilson, now living with friends said, "I can't go back to her if she has a temper like that. I can't live with that for the rest of my life - I don't think nobody could."

The first Mr Wilson knew of his company van's plight came was when his boss, Graham Wilson, (no relation),

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