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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MV Nieuw Statendam to make inaugural call to Dominica

Roseau, Dominica - (March 21, 2022) – Dominica will welcome the MV Nieuw Statendam of Holland American Line on **Tuesday, March 22nd, 2022**. The vessel will arrive at the Roseau Cruise Ship berth at 8:00 am. This will be the ship's only scheduled call to the island for the 2021/2022 Cruise Season. This marks the 11th inaugural cruise call for the 2021/2022 Cruise Season.

MV Nieuw Statendam measures 299.75 meters in length and has a carrying capacity of 2666. Prior to Dominica, the ship is scheduled to call in at Barbados. From Dominica the ship sails to Fort de France, Martinique.

A welcome ceremony will be held to commemorate the ship's call. Government officials and stakeholders will be in attendance. Plaques and local gift items will be presented to the ship's captain. Local entertainment will form part of the ship's welcome as visitors will be serenaded by the live performance.

Since the resumption of cruise calls in July 2021, the island has received a total of 157 cruise calls as of March 7th, 2022, translating to 101,882 cruise passengers to the island's shores. Of 101,882 passengers received, 56,620 passengers have engaged in tours to the island's signature sites such as the Emerald Pool, Trafalgar Falls and Ti Tou Gorge. Passengers also engaged in activities such as whale watching, snorkeling and river tubing. The island is scheduled to receive approximately 217 cruise calls during the 2021/2022 Cruise Season.

Efforts towards the destination's preparedness and improvement of the islands health and safety protocols are ongoing. Service providers to include taxi drivers, craft & souvenir vendors, and tour guides, have undergone health and safety protocol training over the past months. Sites upgrades and necessary health and safety measures are being implemented at major cruise sites.

DDA solicits the cooperation of all tourism stakeholders in ensuring a welcoming, enjoyable, and safe experience for the cruise visitors. The Government of Dominica will continue its effort in promoting Dominica as a safe, desirable cruise destination to increase cruise calls to the island.

About Dominica: *Dominica (pronounced Dom-in-EEK-a, and not to be confused with the Dominican Republic) is a haven for adventure travelers seeking a unique vacation that includes hiking and adventure, cultural events/festivals, diving and water sports, wellness experiences, farm and sea to table cuisine, whale/dolphin watching and canyoning adventures. Dominica lies south of Guadeloupe and north of Martinique in the Eastern Caribbean. Air travelers can connect to Dominica direct from Miami on American Airlines, and make regional connections on Air Antilles, Air Sunshine, Coastal Air Transport, interCaribbean Airways, LIAT, Caribbean Airlines, Silver Airways - (Code share: American Airlines, Delta, JetBlue), from the surrounding hubs of Antigua, Barbados, Guadeloupe, Puerto Rico, St. Maarten, St Lucia, the British Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. If travelling by sea, travelers may connect to Dominica on L'Express des Iles ferry service from Guadeloupe, Martinique, and St. Lucia, and on Val'Ferry from Guadeloupe and Martinique. *Travel restrictions may apply due to the coronavirus pandemic. Please verify schedules with air and sea carriers. **