

## NATIONAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Anguilla is a small British Dependent Territory located 63.5 degrees West and 18.10 North. The island is 16 miles long and 1 3/4 miles wide with a total area of 35sq miles. It is very flat, the highest hill, Crocus Hill, being 213 feet above sea level. The 1992 census showed that the population stood at 9,000.

The main economic activities in Anguilla are tourism, fishing, construction and offshore finance. Tourism is primarily "upscale" with luxury hotels and a few small inns and villas. Anguilla boasts that it has some of the best beaches in the Caribbean and depends heavily on tourism. Given that tourism is the main stay of the economy, it is important that the island provides proper health care. Therefore, any damage to the beaches by hurricane activity impacts heavily on the economy of the island.

Being one of the most northerly of the islands in the Leeward Islands chain, Anguilla finds itself in the path of hurricanes and has to be on the look out every year. Disaster Preparedness is the responsibility of the National Disaster Preparedness Committee which is chaired by His Excellency, The Governor. Activities are coordinated by a Disaster Preparedness Coordinator who is also the Permanent Secretary, Social Services.