international arena aimed at securing the return of Bird Island to Dominica, as an essential and inalienable part or our national territory and as vital to our national development and security.

A DLM-Government will make the most determined and purposeful efforts to achieve full Caribbean unity and integration, and will support steps aimed at setting up an organization of Caribbean States to coodinate Caribbean efforts on a global basis, and to better protect Caribbean interests there.

A DLM Government will completely reorganize the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and will take steps to give more effective representation to Dominicans, especially in the French Islands. A Dominican Consul will therefore be placed in the islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique.

TOURISM :

Use the mechanisms of foreign affairs to promote and greatly expand the tourist industry in Dominica which will be reorganised to allow for the build-up of internal infrastructure and the creation of more jobs and income for our people.

HEALTH,HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES POLICY

The DLM-Alliance supports the notion that a healthy mind in a healthy body makes a healthy person, and the task of organizing a society that is self-reliant and hard working, can be done only if the citizens are of sound health. The Alliance is committed to building a strong and healthy people. To this end, we will ensure that the following is done.

* A separation of the Ministries of Health and Education to give more attention to each.
* Reorganize, expand and equip the Princess Margaret Hospital, the Portsmouth and Marigot Hospital, to provide more intensive medical care and include a dental care service, an eye unit and psychiatric services.
* Reorganize the medical services so as to move rapidly towards provison of free and top quality medical attention and subsidized drugs for all citizens.
* Emphasize the training of community health aides and dispensers and establishment of polyclinics in all districts, starting with La Plaine, Grand Bay, St. Joseph and Castle Bruce. Ensure that a doctor is stationed at each polyclinic.
* Focus special attention on the socially, most damaging health problems like diabetes, high blood pressure, malnutrition, cancer, mental illness and drug abuse.
* Expand the number of medical personnel by locating training opportunities for at least five doctors in the first year, and to increase that number in subsequent years.
* Price control of all drugs.
* Grant maternity leave with pay for three (3) months to all working mothers.
* Develop a comprehensive policy on public health, and nutrition, emphasising their preventative importance in health care.
* Monitor the importation of all foodstuffs to ascertain their nutritional quality.
* Undertake the construction of public conveniences, such as baths, laundry areas and toilets, as a priority in all villages.
* Get pipe-borne water to all villages.
* Organize a national Sanitary Garbage Disposal System.
* Eradicate the Aedes Egypti mosquito.
* Develop a programme to investigate and classify the medicinal properties of local herbs.
* Investigate the University of Dominica Medical School.

HOUSING

The housing needs of the nation have been made even more critical after Hurricane David. An Alliance Government will take immediate steps to introduce an emergency programme and shall provide :

* Government mortgage assistance at low interest rates for workers through the setting up of a National Housing Trust.
* The establishment of a strict building code.
* Price control of all building materials and state importation of the most essential items.
* State assistance in providing land, roads, water, sewage and electricity in new housing areas.
* Close coordination of all Ministries to ensure that land is available for village expansion to avoid overcrowding.

An Alliance Government shall also:

*Reorganize the Housing Development Corporation to operate beyond its present narrow scope.
* Develop a vibrant clay/brick and clay/block industry.
* Pursue the development of our timber industry, so as to provide cheap lumber to home builders.
* Pursue a vigorous urban renewal programme.

SOCIAL SERVICES

The DLM-Alliance believes that Government has the duty and responsibility to ensure that adequate social services are provided to all citizens. In particular, the Alliance feels that as a mark of recognition and respect to the contribution that the elderly have made to our society, it must be the responsibility of the Government to create the conditions and provide the necessary Legislation to protect the welfare of our senior citizens. Hence, an Alliance Government would :

* Completely reorganize the Social Security System, to include a pension and social security scheme for all workers and farmers in the country.
* Increase financial assistance, provide free medical care for the elderly and exempt them from house and land rates.