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Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting  
for the Third International Conference  
on Small Island Developing States  
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**REPORT OF THE CARIBBEAN REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING  
FOR THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES**

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## **A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

### **1. Place and date**

1. The Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States was convened by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) from 2 to 4 July 2013 in Kingston, Jamaica.

### **2. Attendance**

2. Present at this meeting were representatives from the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Curaçao, the British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nauru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands. Also in attendance were representatives from the following organizations and institutions: Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies, Clinton Foundation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Hugh Cresser and Associates, International Institute for Sustainable Development, Latin American Energy Organization, Organization of American States (OAS), Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), Planning Institute of Jamaica, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations General Assembly, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and University of the West Indies; Mona Campus. The list of participants can be found in annex I.

### **3. Agenda**

3. The meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening session
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. SIDS sustainable development agenda from a Caribbean perspective: Presentations and interactive dialogue
4. Regional issues on the SIDS sustainable development agenda: Presentations and interactive dialogue
5. Response by regional, international organizations and United Nations systems in the implementation and support to the Caribbean SIDS sustainable development agenda: Presentations and interactive dialogue
6. Presentations and interactive dialogue with the United Nations system and regional organizations on ensuring integrated approaches regarding the emerging new United Nations institutional framework (Post Rio+20 outcomes and the post-2015 development agenda) and the positioning of SIDS within it

7. Interactive dialogue with major groups of the region on their contribution to the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA) and Mauritius Strategy
8. Working group discussions on regional priorities for sustainable development of Caribbean SIDS, including the elaboration of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda [CLOSED SESSION]
9. Practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the BPOA and Mauritius Strategy, based on the means of implementation framework in the BPOA [CLOSED SESSION]
10. Strengthening partnerships among and between SIDS and the international community and International Year of SIDS
11. Presentation and adoption of the draft regional outcome document
12. Closing session

## **B. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS**

### **1. Opening of the meeting**

4. A representative of Jamaica opened the meeting, welcomed participants and introduced the dialogue that would ensue. The Resident Coordinator of UNDP in Jamaica noted the purpose of the meeting, highlighting the realities, challenges and aspirations of the Caribbean subregion. He stated that climate change, natural and environmental disasters as well as the coastal and marine resources and land resources remain areas of concern to the Caribbean subregion and that there was need to strengthen human, institutional and systemic capacities.

5. The Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) exhorted the Caribbean subregion to come together to ensure that its sustainable development priorities remain on the international sustainable development agenda. The Chair underscored that the coral reefs were in danger from global warming and ocean acidification and this, in turn, would impact fisheries and sustainable livelihoods. She therefore advocated that focus be given to reducing carbon emissions with a view to curbing global warming.

6. The Director of UNDESA highlighted the importance of the post-2015 development agenda is to SIDS and suggested that the ongoing review of the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA) for SIDS and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States be undertaken within the context of that agenda.

7. The keynote address was delivered by the Honourable Minister of State, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change of Jamaica. He focused on the need for financial institutions to provide concessionary financing for SIDS to facilitate, inter alia, greater investments in low carbon or green technologies. He also suggested that SIDS support the creation of appropriate mechanisms for fisheries management, national disaggregated data and information systems, integrated coastal zone management, waste management and disaster risk management. The Minister further underscored the continuing relevance of and need for North-South and South-South cooperation, as well as triangular cooperation. He called for the realignment of official development assistance in keeping with national development plans and strategies to facilitate greater investments in job creation.

## **2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

8. The agenda was adopted without change. All Caribbean member States comprised the drafting committee that would have responsibility for preparation of the outcome document of the meeting. The Chair of the drafting committee was Jamaica; the Vice-Chairs were Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago and the Rapporteur was Grenada.

### **3. SIDS sustainable development agenda from a Caribbean perspective: Presentations and interactive dialogue**

9. An Expert in Environmental Management focused on challenges that SIDS were facing through their small size and their vulnerability. She put forward a few questions to the meeting that essentially addressed the thematic areas of energy, disasters, oceans, land degradation and sustainable consumption and production.

10. ECLAC presented the Caribbean regional Synthesis Report, noting that only three national assessment reports (NAR) had so far been received. Reports from the Mauritius Strategy +5 Review, Caribbean Forum convened by ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean; Rio+20 documents and desktop research were therefore used as secondary sources contributing to the preparation of the report. ECLAC reported that Caribbean SIDS did make some progress in the implementation of the BPoA and the Mauritius Strategy but continued to face challenges in technology, capacity and financing.

11. The representative of CARICOM focused on mechanisms to advance sustainable development in the Caribbean. He outlined the major barriers to implementing the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS/POA). In the presentation, recommendations were made for the development of a resilience mechanism that would build on a coherent set of instruments to effectively address the implementation of the SIDS/POA. At the national level, he also recommended a holistic approach to sustainable development.

12. A representative of the youth called for the inclusion of the youth in this agenda. He mentioned that youth had been alienated and the pleas of this group should be considered in planning for “The future we want”. He recommended that youth benefit from investment in education, social protection, climate change, good governance, health care, attention to the disabled, and open and honest political processes. He also suggested that youth should become more involved in governance.

13. The Youth delegate presented the results of the SIDS Regional Youth Consultation which convened from 27 June to 1 July 2013. The meeting produced the Jamaica Youth Declaration, which focuses on the following key issues for Caribbean SIDS: education, social protection, climate change, healthcare and good governance. He indicated that in school you are given a lesson and then you take a test, while in life you are given a test that teaches a lesson. He concluded that people have learned to be resilient and to create change rather than to wait for it. He expressed hope that the Youth Declaration would have an impact on the SIDS process.

14. A representative of the Office of the President-elect of the sixty-eight session of the United Nations General Assembly underscored the commitment of that office to doing its part in ensuring that the outcome of the 2014 Conference goes beyond rhetoric and is translated into meaningful contributions to the sustainable development of SIDS. She noted that despite the passage of 20 years, the geophysical and socioeconomic challenges facing SIDS remain daunting, including pressures on limited resources, relatively small watersheds, threatened supplies of water, costly public administration and infrastructure and limited institutional capacities and domestic markets. SIDS have yet to recover from the financial

crisis. Finally, she conveyed that this Conference offers the region an opportunity to define the outcomes desired from the 2014 Conference. These outcomes should specifically be about development priorities of SIDS for the next 20 years.

15. In the discussion, the representative of Guyana sought information on the agenda of the Third International Conference on SIDS. He underscored the need to focus on means of implementation, to identify the needs of the Caribbean and put them forth to the international community. Cuba noted the absence of policymaking in addressing financing, suggesting that there is also need for more emphasis on regional initiatives rather than national ones. The representative stated that it is necessary to evaluate the accomplishments of the subregion and to identify the available resources for sustainable development. The representative from Trinidad and Tobago proposed a focus on innovation for growth and the involvement of youth in sustainable development. He indicated that there is also need for a public relations campaign to raise the rate of implementation.

16. In response to Barbados' enquiry, ECLAC indicated that the deadline to complete the NAR was 31 July 2013. It was agreed that the road map to 2014 should be a priority and that the outcome document should reflect the implementation framework. Data and information are considered critical for sustainable development and there is need to strengthen national statistical entities in the Caribbean, as this is directly related to promotion for research and development and technology transfer. There is also need to include sustainable consumption and production in the deliberations. Capacity to support implementation of the Mauritius Strategy was also underscored. ECLAC suggested that the member States focus on four or five urgent thematic areas that are implementable, practical and realistic.

#### **4. Regional issues on the SIDS sustainable development agenda**

17. This session comprised five panel discussions. The first focused on climate change, natural and man-made disasters, and sustainable energy. The representative of the CCCCC presented the challenges that Caribbean SIDS were facing with the increase of temperature, changes in precipitation and the impacts on gross domestic product (GDP). He also mentioned the work on climate modelling, which is a collaborative effort among Cuba, UWI and the CCCCC. He indicated that since 1850 the temperature in the Caribbean had risen to at least 1.5°C. Over the past 100 years the precipitation patterns have also changed and it is necessary for the Caribbean to be aware of these changes, as this will have a negative impact on the subregion; for example causing severe drought. It should be noted that by the end of the century, there will be an increase in temperature if the business as usual approach is continued. He noted some of the impacts such as ocean acidification and rising sea levels, both of which will negatively impact the tourism industry.

18. Discussions focused on the impact of approaches to development which have changed since 1994 to reflect modeling projections. Cuba promoted its centre for natural resources capacity building, funded by Norway, which will be shared with the rest of the Caribbean as an example of triangular cooperation.

19. To a question on engagement of the insurance sector posed by the United States Virgin Islands, the representative of the CCCCC noted ongoing engagement through regional and international workshops with that sector, exploring risk assessment tools in respect of land management and infrastructure. He reported the launch of a project on integrating risk management into the budgets of governments to minimize the loss of investment.

20. Jamaica observed that there has been a shift away from hard science to policy options, especially market-based mechanisms in the climate change negotiations. The representative of the CCCCC responded that SIDS, least developed countries (LDCs) and other vulnerable communities need support to enable

them to participate in any market-based mechanisms. He said climate change negotiators need to insist on an international fund that will support such mechanisms.

21. The Chair provided a summary of the session by focusing on the impact of market forces in managing the impacts of climate change and in adapting to them. The response of the Caribbean subregion to the impacts of climate change in terms of adaptation and financing remained a matter of concern for SIDS. It is necessary to establish new market mechanisms to improve trade and explore new areas which will improve economic performance. The meeting agreed that an international mechanism be put in place for SIDS as proposed under green panel funds. The chair recommended that disaster risk reduction methods be institutionalized within the Caribbean states.

22. The second panel focused on sustainable energy. A representative of Belize drew attention to the Small Island Developing States Sustainable Energy Initiative (SIDS DOCK), and its usefulness in increasing energy efficiency, promoting energy security and in decreasing conventional transportation fuel use. He observed that the energy sector in the Caribbean does not presently function efficiently from a social, economic or environmental perspective. SIDS DOCK could possibly save the Caribbean some US\$5 billion a year, while significantly reducing energy dependence. He underscored the introduction of SIDS DOCK as a timely response to the need for a mechanism to help SIDS address the challenges posed by climate change.

23. A representative of Belize commented on the importance of promoting and strengthening partnerships in the energy sector where many opportunities exist. He proposed the establishment of a climate change adaptation partnership to provide the financing mechanism for energy sector transformation in SIDS. He lamented the fact that after 20 years it was still business as usual in terms of energy; a circumstance that had to change. He suggested that this could be achieved through the accelerated development and implementation of the SIDS DOCK project pipeline. This initiative could help countries to move towards low-carbon economies.

24. He discussed a new ocean-thermal energy conversion plant installed in Japan which reduced the use of fossil fuels and at the same time created new jobs. It also reduced vulnerability (including the economic) and suggested that this may be implementable in the Caribbean region.

25. The representative of CARICOM participated in the meeting via Skype. His main message was that major challenges SIDS face are affordability, overdependence and the high cost of energy. He recommended early review of alternative energy options.

26. Discussions regarding the energy challenges of the subregion ensued. The use of renewable energy technologies was emphasized and it was recommended that more focus be placed on reducing energy consumption in pursuing a low carbon economy.

27. The third panel focused on macroeconomics and trade as well as sustainable tourism. The facilitator from CDB pointed to the high debt to GDP ratios in the Caribbean which have resulted in high cost structures and low productivity, accelerating the loss of skills and talent through migration. He underscored the need to develop indicators of sustainability and to diversify Caribbean economies and improve access to financing for sustainable development.

28. The representative of ECLAC identified the major challenges faced by the Caribbean in trade and their impact on macroeconomic policy. Among these were high debt to GDP ratios, limited fiscal space and limited access to finance. He suggested a number of strategies to address the medium and long run challenges: (i) the need for an industrial policy to guide trade policy based on sustainable development, (ii) the need to reignite regional growth through the institution of agreed policies within the community, (iii)



the need to leverage foreign direct investment for structural transformation, and (iv) the need to reignite private sector participation, through creating an enabling environment, to allow increased investment in the Caribbean.

29. The representative of CTO addressed the key priorities for Caribbean SIDS within the tourism sector. She indicated that the organization focuses on marketing, policy, safety and security, climate change, disasters and HIV. Lack of financing and failure of governments to appreciate the value of the tourism sector were identified as barriers to development of the sector.

30. Discussion focused on diversification options for the subregion and the critical success factors that could be replicated. These could include new activities involving high risk through the development of novel instruments to create funding for new investments. The development of the creative industries was considered an important strategy for diversification. Another was pursuing more effective integration with Latin America. It was noted that a World Bank study identified labour problems as a deterrent to foreign direct investment (FDI); that investors needed the surety of skilled human capital to capitalize on FDI. However, investment promotion agencies needed to work within the context of an industrial policy. It was suggested that public-private partnerships and crowdfunding may be useful for development.

31. The meeting agreed that unemployment needs to be addressed. It also agreed that domestic investment and risk management policies of commercial banks are not sufficiently supportive of development policies of the subregion. It was also noted that while sustainable development was best pursued on a regional basis, regional funding in support of it was scarce. Another challenge noted was that increasingly, commodities are being produced as parts of global value chains but small firms in the Caribbean do not have the means to effectively participate in these value chains.

32. It was agreed that the capacity challenge in climate change and trade remains. One way of addressing this is through increased collaboration with regional organizations. It was proposed that a tourism investment fund and a sovereign fund be developed. The meeting also suggested that other financial tools to be explored.

33. The fourth panel focused on social policy issues. The representative of PAHO addressed the issue of health being critical to development. He noted that non-communicable diseases were a priority in the subregion, and there is need for a regional health policy to reduce inequities in the education and agriculture sector and to improve universal health coverage. The representative of OAS suggested that consideration be given to a social resilience fund to support SIDS during this challenging period. He also recommended a disaster risk reduction fund. This would address the social impacts of disasters in countries such as Haiti and post-Hurricane Ivan impacts in Grenada. The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) may be a good model to be implemented in other geographic regions. It was recommended that the causes of failure of the Technical Cooperation for Developing Countries mechanism could be evaluated and it may be a good way to access the diaspora. It was noted that social safety nets are being oversubscribed as life expectancy has been prolonged. Social cohesion is also important and many countries have developed a sustainable development index that may be good for the Caribbean. It was suggested that particular attention be given to CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) at this meeting, and that the private sector and civil society should be more engaged in discussions.

34. The final panel focused on protection, conservation and sustainable use of the region's natural resources. The representative from the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies addressed transboundary multilevel, cross scale and interdisciplinary challenges in the Caribbean. A representative from the Land Information Council of Jamaica reiterated that land management is of critical importance to the Caribbean. She mentioned that data are important, particularly accessibility to data. The need for land policies and land development plans and systems, written by Caribbean scholars, was

underscored. The representative of OAS agreed with the representative from the Land and Information Council of Jamaica that CDB first articulated this Social Resilience Fund and it could be redesigned to meet the current needs of the Caribbean.

35. In ensuing discussion, the representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis indicated the need to look at the fiscal implications of implementation of the Mauritius Strategy and to find creative ways to raise funds to support its implementation. The representative suggested that the private sector be engaged in this regard and the knowledge of communities be utilized. It was acknowledged that this implied the deepening of stakeholder consultations.

36. The representative of the United States Virgin Islands, referring to the Social Resilience Fund for the Caribbean, suggested that civil society organizations would need to carry more of the burden of providing social services. It was suggested that a group be setup to elaborate this Fund.

37. The representative of CARICOM articulated the need to address crime and violence especially among youth, and to begin to examine it from the social dimension. He recommended that, sports and culture be used to redress the risks and vulnerabilities faced by young people, advancing their development and their inclusion in development discourse.

38. A representative of Jamaica recommended embarking on short term programmes and changing the educational systems to create the expertise that is required by the subregion. Utilizing creative industries as leverage for engaging youth can result in improvement in the financial situation of the subregion and may also address the unemployment problem. She suggested that it might be appropriate to begin involving communities in planning and sharing expertise among Caribbean SIDS so as to enhance development.

39.

The delegate of Cuba reported on an initiative being pursued with the Dominican Republic and Haiti in implementing the MSI and other countries were welcomed to join. Jamaica noted that waste and sanitation was sufficiently important to be discussed at the interregional meeting.

**5. Response by regional, international and United Nations systems in the implementation and support to the Caribbean SIDS sustainable development agenda:  
Presentations and interactive dialogue**

40. The representative of UNDESA made a presentation on the support provided to Caribbean SIDS. He emphasized that the work of the United Nations is demand driven and it focuses on the needs of member States. The representative of UNDP outlined the support provided by this organization to the Caribbean and gave an account of the various initiatives at the regional level being supported and coordinated by UNDP through the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean. The representative of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States referred to the concessional financing that the United Nations was seeking to have increased in support of SIDS. The representative of UNFPA focused on sexual and reproductive health and the issue of ageing populations within the context of the demands they made on the economies of SIDS.

41. The representatives of ECLAC and Guyana provided a synopsis of the structure of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) and the roles and functions of the three subcommittees. The regional implementation Matrix was introduced as well as the Matrix of indicators. Finally, the need for measuring and monitoring was emphasized within the context of implementation of the BPoA and the Mauritius Strategy. The representative of the Sustainable Development Division of CARICOM focused on regional coordination from an environmental, as well as human and sustainable development perspective.

He emphasized the need to collaborate with partners on a thematic basis, to provide oversight for implementation of regional initiatives in the Caribbean.

42. In response to a query by the representative of Barbados, ECLAC indicated that the main challenge encountered in providing the designated support to SIDS is that of financial resources. It was also recognized that the RCM is an oversight and coordinating entity, functioning with limited resources that need to be optimized. This could only be achieved if the work of the RCM is better publicized. Communication is also a challenge for the RCM. There is also need to operationalise the national focal point mechanism. It was suggested that a greater sense of national ownership of the Mauritius Strategy agenda is needed. There was a disparity in reporting on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) progress when compared to the MSI. Therefore, while countries reported making significant progress under the MDGs, little was reported under the MSI for the same thematic area.

43. Barbados asked UNDP to indicate in which way the Small Island Developing States Technical Assistance Programme could benefit the poor. Barbados noted that Capacity 21 of the 1990s had provided support to National Councils for Sustainable Development (NCSD). With the planned Capacity 2015 Initiative, the question that now arose was which mechanisms would be needed to operationalize the NCSDs. It was also emphasized that while SIDS-SIDS collaboration remained an important focus for development in 2014, SIDS should continue to engage the regional and international development agencies. Note was made of the Pacific SIDS had a collaborative initiative on the environment as a successful example of such initiatives. UNDESA suggested that the NCSD be revitalized.

44. The representative of Dominica noted that resilience is central to the sustainable development of SIDS and enquired what strategies were being supported by CARICOM resilience building. CARICOM responded that focus had been given to the feedback required in the science policy interface. Furthermore, there is need to incorporate the traditional knowledge of communities into the applied science that underpins the policy environment. SIDS, being small in size, have strong interlinkages between the terrestrial and the marine ecosystems, and the economies are based more on the marine sector which means that challenges in environmental impact occur and we need to address these.

45. The representative of Trinidad and Tobago noted that countries did not demonstrate adequate awareness of the roles performed by different agencies. He recommended that a coordinating matrix be prepared and the functions of different agencies documented. This would promote most efficient use of scarce resources. UNDESA responded that such a matrix had been prepared two years ago and may need to be updated and shared with member States. This is a coordinated effort by the United Nations system which will provide this information.

46. Cuba further underscored the importance of coordination among agencies to enhance efficiency and minimize duplication in implementation of agency mandates. Cuba also underscored the importance of countries having sufficient time to produce quality reports at the national level and to strengthen the unity of SIDS. Cuba further called for sharing of knowledge, to communicate better and to obtain feedback. The representative noted the projects on energy and considered it important to include all member States of the subregion in such initiatives. The establishment of bilateral agreements among SIDS was encouraged.

47. Jamaica enquired of UNFPA what mechanism the organization would pursue at the regional and national levels to support SIDS in the post-2015 process. UNFPA advised of its mandate to build capacity to address growth and migration. They are involved in policy formulation and in bringing about social transformation. They also have an advocacy role. UNFPA also facilitates South-South cooperation and technical support to the countries.

48. Jamaica mentioned that with respect to monitoring mechanisms, there is a need to look at the number of international agreements and treaties upon which countries were asked to report. In this region reporting on agreements and treaties may in effect cover monitoring of progress made in implementing the MSI. There are also thematic areas included in the MSI that are not regularly reported on. It seems that focus has been on the BPoA and Mauritius Strategy and they have not been integrated with the thematic areas of other agreements and treaties. It was also suggested that a national focal point mechanism may not suffice for coordination. In going forward, it is necessary to assess the national processes on sustainable development. It may also be necessary to examine how well equipped the regional coordinating mechanism is for this function. The question of whether Caribbean SIDS could do anything else to improve coordination was raised. UNDESA reported that there would not be a new mechanism, but the Commission for Sustainable Development will be disbanded and reporting will be to Economic and Social Council. Guyana also mentioned that the national focal point was a mechanism drawn from across ministries and not a single individual. The representative also indicated that at the recently-convened meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development, there was multi-ministerial participation. CARICOM indicated that there was need to have a co-management strategy for implementation of the Mauritius Strategy.

49. The representative of the Bahamas enquired of the best mechanism to encourage South-South cooperation. She articulated that there is no structured mechanism for South-South cooperation, and as such it is necessary to find a mechanism using AOSIS for facilitation. Guyana mentioned that the role of the representatives in New York could enhance the work of the RCM.

50. ECLAC indicated that developing indicators for measuring impact of the Mauritius Strategy remains a challenge. ECLAC further stated that countries needed to strengthen their own reporting mechanisms so as to improve their reporting on progress to ECLAC. Dominica remarked that the subregion should not lose track of the importance of integrating measures for monitoring and evaluation, and suggested that countries follow the MDGs monitoring regime is a guide for measuring progress in implementation of the Mauritius Strategy.

51. With respect to South-South cooperation, Barbados proposed that the SIDS/TAP and the Small Island Developing States Network (SIDSNet) initiative could be built in as a platform to facilitate such cooperation. UNDESA stated that SIDSNet is ongoing and is an information sharing tool.

52. The representative of OAS stated that countries were under stress from the reporting obligations of many agreements and treaties. Rationalization of reporting requirements was therefore urgently required. The evaluation of the Capacity 21 Initiative led to options of having Capacity 2015. He stated the continuity of Capacity 21 and 2015 had to be properly articulated to facilitate this expected initiative. In terms of initiatives the South-South cooperation under the Training Centre for Development Cooperation (TCDC) did conduct an evaluation of the BPoA.

53. The representative of PAHO noted that TCDC had been institutionalized in PAHO. She asked the meeting to recognize that the Caribbean Public Health Agency had been established for tourism support with respect to standards for preparation of food. She suggested that the United Nations could integrate development planning through the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks which may facilitate coordination. She also recommended the formation of a United Nations interagency support group for SIDS.

54. The representative of UNDESA indicated that they have been developing a monitoring and evaluation framework for SIDS in all regions. She asked the meeting to note the success of the University Consortium across SIDS that was established after the Mauritius meeting. This was referenced as a good example of coordination.

55. The representative of Cuba indicated that the country is cognizant of the middle income classification of some countries and aid effectiveness which are not being debated. She highlighted these as important matters recommended that there be agreement on this theme.

**6. Presentations and interactive dialogue with the United Nations system and regional organizations on ensuring integrated approaches regarding the emerging new United Nations institutional framework (Post-Rio+20 outcomes and the post-2015 development agenda) and the positioning of SIDS within it**

56. The meeting was advised of the newly universal membership of UNEP Governing Council, now known as the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) of UNEP. Following a recent resolution by the United Nations General Assembly, the representative from UNEP explained that the newly-named Assembly reflects the full and future participation of all 193 United Nations member States in UNEP governing body. Prior to 2012, membership had been limited to 58 countries only.

57. He commented that this was a step to “The future we want”. The landmark resolution, that strengthened the role of UNEP as the leading environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, was adopted 40 years after UNEP was established by the General Assembly, following the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment which took place in Stockholm in 1972. The upgrading to universal membership, confirmed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2012, implemented commitments made by world leaders at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to strengthen the ability and role of UNEP to deliver the environmental dimension of sustainable development.

58. He underlined that universal membership of UNEP Governing Council establishes a new, fully representative platform to strengthen the environmental dimension of sustainable development, and provides all governments with an equal voice on the decisions and action needed to support the global environment.

59. The representative of UNEP made reference to the new governance structure. He explained that UNEA replaces the Governing Council. As a follow-up to this decision, the Governing Council held its first session with universal membership in February 2013.

60. He explained that the Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER), comprised all accredited Permanent Representatives to UNEP, became the subsidiary intersessional body of UNEA governing body at the first universal session of the Governing Council held in February 2013. He described the functions of the COREPER. While ensuring support to developing country representatives, the open-ended meeting will enable the participation of capital-based representatives as well as stakeholders for a period of five days in an even year, to contribute to preparation of the agenda of its governing body and to provide advice on policy matters. This facilitates the participation of SIDS that do not have a Permanent Mission in Nairobi in COREPER block meetings. Paragraph 10 of Governing Council decision 27/2 also calls for the support of countries to participate in those block meetings. SIDS have therefore a greater chance of influencing the work of UNEP through their participation in those meetings.

61. The representative of UNEP indicated that in order to make a better contribution to the definition of the global agenda, SIDS could explore options to strengthen their participation in undertaking policy dialogue and exchanging of experiences.

62. The representative of Barbados made reference to the importance of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to discuss and make contributions from the

region to the UNEA. The representative of UNEP concurred with the Barbados representative. He made reference to Decision 27/2 of the first universal session of the UNEP Governing Council, stressing the importance of the regional ministerial environment forums for which UNEP serves as secretariat, and reported that these forums had been invited to contribute, as appropriate, to the work of this governing body.

63. UNEP concluded from the discussion that the subregion has three options to address the challenge SIDS face due to the limited number of permanent diplomatic mission in Nairobi:

- (a) SIDS can consider an arrangement that would have been them represented by the Cuban permanent mission there;
- (b) Consideration might also be given to joint representation; as provided for under the Treaty of Chaguaramas or;
- (c) Let the situation remain as is.

64. The representative of Belize drew attention to the lack of coordination in representation of the subregion. He suggested that a focal point be established to serve as the political representative in these fora. He also suggested that financial needs of the RCM should be brought urgently to the political directorate and senior policy makers in member States.

65. The representative of OAS indicated that it is time for governments to look at environmental diplomacy for investment as part of the overall foreign relations as the returns will be considerable. He indicated that there needs to be common representation in Nairobi.

66. The representative of UNEP focused on sustainable consumption and production (SCP). He recommended that this be a key area of interest that we should ensure does not jeopardize the needs of future generations. He also reported that UNEP had been assigned the role of Secretariat for SCP (after Rio+20) and that the organization is committed to promoting it. The representative of Barbados recalled that SCP had been on the agenda of the Forum of Ministers since 2003. He reported that during the last week of June 2013, a meeting had been convened in Peru where a platform for a regional framework was outlined. He further noted that in Africa and Asia there is a programme to promote sustainable consumption and production among small and medium enterprises, and that SCP was the focus of discussions at the Seventh African Round Table on SCP held in Accra, Ghana in May, 2012. He further indicated that the Caribbean had prepared a subregional action plan in 2008 which is still in draft form. The SCP issue was considered to be cross cutting and in Barbados SCP underpins the sustainable development policy. He continued to outline examples of successful SCP initiatives in promoting sustainable livelihoods. He stated that it is necessary to find a way to use the SCP platform to mobilize resources from the international community. Given the prominence of tourism in the Caribbean, he proposed that the following be developed:

- (a) Institutional support platform;
- (b) Subregional capacity development;
- (c) Sustainable tourism and engaging the communities;
- (d) SIDS need to be more engaged in the articulation of governance structure of the 10-year framework.

67. The representative of UNEP then addressed the matter of the medium-term strategy which looked at the governance mechanism of UNEP. He reported that since 2013, programming for SIDS was delivered in six programmes namely climate change, disasters and conflicts, ecosystem management, environmental governance, harmful substances and hazardous waste and resource efficiency.

68. The Deputy Executive Secretary in the Secretariat of the High-level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda focused on the report of the Secretariat. She underscored the vision to end extreme poverty and to implement the building blocks for prosperity for all. This would be achieved by integrating through a new paradigm the three dimensions of sustainable development, putting people and the planet at the centre. The key points to note in the report<sup>1</sup> are as follows:

- (a) Pursue a universal agenda;
- (b) Relevant to all and actionable by all;
- (c) Link sustainable development and poverty into a single agenda;
- (d) International system needs to work together;
- (e) Build on the foundation of peace and good governance;
- (f) Kindle solidarity.

69. The representative of UNDESA highlighted emerging issues in SIDS and indicated that they are organizing, in partnership with UNEP, parallel expert group meetings to address these issues. The UNDESA representative noted that these emerging issues are critical to the sustainable development of SIDS; are evidence-based and have an element of newness. There are 21 such issues that incorporate the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and they looked at the results of inaction in addressing these issues. They continued to explore interlinkages among these 21 issues with a view to adopting a holistic approach to addressing them.

70. The representative of Belize enquired if consideration had yet been given to a mechanism to ensure the placement of the SIDS agenda on that High-level Panel. UNDESA indicated that once the draft report is forwarded to them, they would have an opportunity to influence the agenda. The representative from Cuba again lamented the lack of political will to carry things through.

71. The representative of the Commonwealth Secretariat reflected on the following points:

- (a) Post-2015 development agenda: A report on MDGs attainment was published and this showed data gaps in gauging progress. It is therefore necessary to fill the data gaps;
- (b) Development of a qualitative economic resilience index with the University of Malta since there were no data sets to develop a quant Mauritius Strategy for Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for Small Island Developing States;
- (c) It is necessary to build national capacities to support the development frameworks and for this, data are needed;
- (d) Institutional frameworks for assessment of progress need to be developed.

72. In terms of assessing progress, UNDESA indicated that the monitoring and evaluation framework is being developed with ECLAC. The representative of Guyana mentioned the need to engage on a path to sustainable development and that countries needed to be at a certain stage of development to be engaged in addressing development concerns.

73. A member of the High-level Panel indicated that the legacy of the MDGs is being addressed by this Panel. She reiterated that the MDGs are based on international averages and that although the goals are international in nature, it is recommended that national targets be disaggregated by quintile to determine which countries are lagging and should therefore receive support for development.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.post2015hlp.org/featured/high-level-panel-releases-recommendations-for-worlds-next-development-agenda/>

She mentioned that there should also be strategies for financing focused on thematic issues rather than countries. She suggested that the formation of PPP may be used to support projects.

74. The representative from UNEP agreed with the recommendation made by Cuba for a SIDS platform to address these processes, and he hoped that a modality for this platform could be worked out.

### **7. Interactive dialogue with major groups of the region on their contribution to the implementation of the BPoA and Mauritius Strategy**

75. This session facilitated interactive dialogue among SIDS representatives and major groups, and sought to inform the framing of the outcomes for contribution to the implementation of the BPoA and Mauritius Strategy post-2015.

76. In her opening remarks, the facilitator summarized the historical experience which led to the crafting of the global SIDS agenda, beginning from the Earth Conference in Rio in 1992, to the formation of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) in 1995, and ultimately the reformulation in 2013 of the CSD to the proposed high-level political forum for sustainable development which was one of the key outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference. On the basis of this development, she noted that the global forum for articulating SIDS issues was being diluted with an apparently reduced framework for focused advocacy on SIDS, and urged the meeting to seize every opportunity to present a strong and common voice by Caribbean SIDS at the upcoming Global SIDS Conference in Samoa in 2014. In particular, she noted the following issues as important considerations for the meeting going forward:

- (a) The need for clear strategies for the subregion to get its concerns on the global agenda;
- (b) The importance of clearly prioritizing issues for informing the SIDS agenda;
- (c) The need to clearly communicate SIDS needs and interests to the international community;
- (d) That good governance is important in promoting the advancement of the SIDS agenda, and in this regard noted also the important role to be played by the major groups.

77. The session then received three presentations from civil society organizations in the Caribbean subregion. These were:

- (a) The Caribbean Policy Development Centre based in Barbados;
- (b) The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) based in Trinidad and Tobago;
- (c) The Caribbean Farmers' Network (CaFAN) based in Antigua and Barbuda.

78. The first presentation was delivered by the representative from the Caribbean Policy Development Centre. The representative noted the organization's role in the meeting to be one of coordinating the role of civil society organizations in the SIDS+20 process. The representative also noted the key actions undertaken by the organization in this regard, and emphasized tangible contributions made by the organization. She proposed the following actions going forward to SIDS 2014:

- (a) The forging of a well-defined institutionalized mechanism for civil society participation in the SIDS+20 process;
- (b) That civil society should get an opportunity to contribute to the country notes being prepared for reports to ECLAC;
- (c) Noted the importance of giving consideration to the issue of non-communicable diseases in the preparatory discourse for Caribbean SIDS;
- (d) Called for the strengthening of social safety nets for rural women, youth, indigenous groups, disabled and the elderly;



- (e) Ascribed priority to building the resilience of Caribbean SIDS, particularly at the community level;
- (f) Called for the development of a nexus between trade and the role of SIDS in the global agenda;
- (g) Noted the need for coherence in the Caribbean agenda if it is to be effectively articulated in global SIDS discussions.

79. The Caribbean Policy Development Centre also expressed the belief that the SIDS agenda is not as conspicuous in the global agenda, and emphasised that in the meeting Caribbean SIDS issues must signal that more resources and capacity are being provided to SIDS. She concluded with the affirmation of the organization's support to regional governments in advancing these proposals.

80. The second presentation was from the representative of CANARI. He outlined this organization's core visions for the sustainable development into the future and noted the following priorities:

- (a) Participatory governance and management;
- (b) Cross-sectoral integrated development;
- (c) Regional institutions in ocean governance of the Caribbean Sea;
- (d) Participatory development of policies, and plans and development of integrating projects to address development concerns;
- (e) Integrating local and traditional knowledge as a basis for decision-making.

81. Like the Caribbean Policy Development Centre, CANARI called for a strong Caribbean position going forward to the Third International Conference of SIDS in Samoa in 2014 and for the earliest involvement of Caribbean civil society in shaping such a position.

82. The meeting received the third presentation from the representative of CaFAN via Skype. The representative outlined this organization's broad goals such as poverty reduction and environmental enhancement, through the facility of the regional small farming sector. She made the following recommendations for strengthening the role of agriculture towards this end:

- (a) Incorporate agriculture into the school curriculum;
- (b) Clustering of farmers and farmers groups;
- (c) Effective utilization of social media and all media for the promotion of the development of the agricultural sector.

83. The representative of CaFAN also noted this organization's support to the Caribbean Policy Development Centre in advocating a clear Caribbean position for SIDS going forward.

84. During the discussion period, the representative of the small island developing States University Consortium took the opportunity to share with the meeting the evolving role of the seven consortium universities in providing capacity building courses for SIDS countries in areas related to the advancement of the SIDS agenda. The representative noted particularly areas such as climate change, and disaster risk management among others.

85. The representative of UNEP noted the collaboration of this organization with regional NGOs in advancing its work, but wondered if there is a good mechanism at the national level for engaging the major groups so whose views could find a place in the national position going forward to Samoa. He similarly observed that there appears to be no clear facility for engaging the regional scientific and university community. UNEP representative from Panama encouraged all participants to review the Principle 10

Initiative arising out of the Rio Declaration, which promotes access to information, public participation, and access to justice in environmental matters.

86. The representative from the United States Virgin Islands also noted the availability of water management technologies which were currently being assessed at the University and indicated that this is available for access and use by regional SIDS. This further endorsed the need to formalize participation mechanism for civil society in the SIDS process.

87. The representative from Barbados called for Caribbean SIDS to find a mechanism for the participation of Caribbean major groups in carrying the SIDS process forward and this was supported by the representative from PAHO, who also charged the United Nations to assist countries in building such a mechanism.

88. Dominica's representative observed that to build such a mechanism, it is not necessary to begin from first principles, as there are other mechanisms already existing in the subregion which have been functioning to varying degrees in the past, and those mechanisms should be explored again.

89. The session concluded with a brief summary by the facilitator, who reaffirmed the importance of regional SIDS taking full advantage of the upcoming opportunities arising out of Samoa to reinforce its case in the global framework.

#### **8. Working group discussions on regional priorities for sustainable development of Caribbean SIDS, including in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda**

90. This was a closed session and only members of the drafting committee were admitted. During this period, a draft outcome document was prepared.

#### **9. Practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the BPoA and Mauritius Strategy based on the means of implementation framework in the BPoA**

91. This session was also closed and recognized continuation of the deliberations of the drafting committee towards producing a final draft outcome document.

#### **10. Strengthening partnerships amongst and between SIDS and the international community, and International Year of SIDS**

92. Given the constraints of time, this session did not take place. However, discussion on drafting of the outcome document was opened to participation by the wider meeting with participants having observer status.

#### **11. Presentation and adoption of the draft regional outcome document**

93. The outcome document was presented to the meeting and was adopted.

#### **12. Closing**

94. The representative of the CARICOM Secretariat thanked the Government and the people of Jamaica for their hospitality in accommodating participants over the past three days in this important event. On behalf of member States, he expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to share information on best practices and expectations as the subregion engages in preparations for the Third International Conference on SIDS.

95. In closing the meeting, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Jamaica stated that the Government was pleased that the meeting was held in Kingston and it was important to get the subregion to speak with one voice in Samoa. He thanked the member States for their dedication to the process and reiterated that each Caribbean island was important to the survival of all SIDS. The Minister indicated that this is an important negotiating state for the subregion and all member States should speak unanimously. He also commended the delegates for their hard work and dedication and commitment to the people of the subregion and wished them every success as the subregion prepares for the Third International Conference on SIDS that will be held in Samoa in 2014.

Annex I**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS****A. Member States****ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

- Fitzmaurice Christian, Environment Division
- Tumasie Coostain Blair, Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations

**BAHAMAS**

- Tishka Hope Francis, Permanent Mission of the Bahamas to the United Nations
- Rhianna Mychol Neely, Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission

**BARBADOS**

- Gordon Bispham, Caribbean Policy Development Centre
- Mohammed Iqbal Degia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Patrick McConney, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
- Shantel Munro-Knight, Caribbean Policy Development Centre
- Travis Antonio Sinckler, Ministry of Environment and Drainage

**BELIZE**

- Al Binger, Caribbean Community Climate Change Center
- Weizsman Pat, Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Sustainable Development
- Lois Young, Permanent Mission of Belize to the United Nations

**CANADA**

- Vivian Gray, Development Officer, High Commission of Canada to Jamaica

**CUBA**

- Dulce Maria Buergo Rodriguez, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
- Ambassador Yuri Gala, Embassy of Cuba in Jamaica
- Mayte de las Mercedes Masot Planas, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment

**DOMINICA**

- Eisenhower Douglas, Ministry of Environment
- Vince Henderson, Permanent Mission of Dominica to the United Nations

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

- Maria Eevenia Del Castillo Cabrera, Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations
- Delio Antonio Rincon Ozuna, Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour

**GRENADA**

- Marguerite St. John Sebastian, Permanent Mission of Grenada to the United Nations

**GUYANA**

- Gitanjali Priyadarshani Chandarpal, Office of the President
- Navindranauth Omanand Chandarpal, Office of the President
- Troy Floyd Torrington, Permanent Mission of Guyana to the United Nations

**HAITI**

- Smith Gerbier, Ministry of Planning
- Jean-Claude Lappe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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- Leonie Barnaby, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
- Claire Bernard, Planning Institute of Jamaica
- Farrah Lamour Demoya Brown, Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations
- Sharon Crooks, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
- Jacqueline DaCosta, Land Information Council of Jamaica
- Marlene Daley, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
- Cyeth Denton, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- AnaKay Duke, Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining
- Elizabeth Emanuel, Planning Institute of Jamaica
- Basil Fernandez, Water Resources Authority
- Monique Gibbs, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
- Gillian Guthrie, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
- Rohan Harris, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
- Marilyn Headley, Forestry Department
- Oral Khan, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
- Gerald C. Lindo, Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining
- Georgia Marks-Doman, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
- Sherrick Matthews, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Anthony McLean, National Environment and Planning Agency
- Anthony Mco, National Environment and Planning Agency
- Janice Miller, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Sharon J. Miller, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Nicole O'Reggio, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
- Hopeton Peterson, Planning Institute of Jamaica
- Oral Rainford, Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining
- Allele Reid, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- LeAnn Roper, Planning Institute of Jamaica
- Liz Thompson, Expert in Natural Resource Management
- Nicholette Williams, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Stacey Ann Wilson, Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining

**MEXICO**

- Ambassador Gerardo Lozaus, Embassy of Mexico in Jamaica

**SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS**

- Sam Berridge, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the United Nations
- Norma Cherry-Fevrier, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science & Technology

**SAINT LUCIA**

- Vasantha Chase, Consultant
- Kimberly Louis, Permanent Mission of Saint Lucia to the United Nations

**SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

- Laura Anthony-Browne, Ministry of Finance and Planning
- Ambassador Camillo Gonsalves, Permanent Mission of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

- Peter Eversley Mitchell, Ministry of Planning and Sustainable Development
- Melissa Boissiere, Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations

**B. Associate members****BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**

- Abbi Christopher, Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour
- Kedrick Pickering, Minister for Natural Resources and Labour

**CURAÇAO**

- Ann Elizabeth Phillips, Directorate of Foreign Relations

**TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS**

- Tito Ricardo Lightbourne, Deputy Governor's Office, TCIG

**UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS**

- The Honourable John P. de Jongh Jr., Governor

**C. Other countries****NAURU**

- Margo Deiye, Permanent Mission of Nauru to the United Nations
- Ambassador Marlene Moses, Permanent Mission of Nauru to the United Nations
- Fabian Nimea, Permanent Mission of Nauru to the United Nations

**D. United Nations Secretariat****Office of the President-elect of the General Assembly (68th Session)**

- Ambassador Paulette Bethel, Chef de Cabinet
- Frances Fuller, Special Assistant to the President-elect of the General Assembly

**Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)**

- Hiroko Morita-Lou, Chief, Small Island Developing States Unit
- Carlisle Richardson, Programme Officer, Small Island Developing States Unit
- Stephanie Rambler, Assistant Programme Officer, Small Island Developing States Unit

**Department of Peacekeeping Operation (DPKO)**

- Michelle Hughes, Chief, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Section

**Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)**

- Sandagdorj Erdene Bileg, Chief, Policy Development
- Hans Damien Sass, Associate Programme Officer

**High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda**

- Karina Gerlach, Deputy Executive Secretary

## **E. United Nations system**

### **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

- Henrietta Bledman, Programme Associate, New York
- Nicole Brown, Programme Associate, Jamaica
- Lincoln Campbell, Security Associate, Jamaica
- Patrick Chesney, Chief Technical Adviser, Jamaica
- Crispin Gregoire, Head of the Caribbean Strategic Support and Monitoring Unit, Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, New York
- Lebrechtta Nana Oye Hesse-Bayne, Office of the Resident Coordinator, Trinidad and Tobago
- Elsie Laurence Chounoune, Deputy Resident Representative, Jamaica
- Arun Kashyup, Resident Representative, Jamaica
- David Payton, Senior Adviser, New York
- Sasha Shirley, Programme Associate, Jamaica
- Margaret Jones Williams, Environment and Energy Programme Adviser, Jamaica
- Ricky Wilson, Programme Manager, Environment, Energy and Climate Change, Barbados

### **United Nations Environmental Programme Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNEP)**

- Mara Murillo, Deputy Regional Director
- Christopher Corbin, Programme Officer
- Mark Griffith, Senior Programme Officer

### **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

- Jewel Quallo Roseberg, Gender Specialist
- Glen Smith, National Programme Officer

## **F. Specialized agencies**

### **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

- Alemneh Dejene, Environment and Natural Resources Service
- Jerome Thomas, Senior Officer, Rome

### **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

- Jenelle Babb, Consultant
- Veronica Campbell, Ambassador for Sport
- Erika Walker, National Programme Officer

### **World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO)**

- Gunilla Bergh, Technical Advisor, Sustainable Development, Environmental Health
- Karen Sealey, Special Advisor, United Nations Matters and Partnerships

## **G. Other intergovernmental organizations**

### **Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)**

- Justin Ram, Director, Economics Department

**Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**

- Garfield Barnwell, Head of Sustainable Development
- Michelle Lowe, Senior Coordinator - Hemispheric and Bilateral Negotiations in the Office of Trade Negotiation
- Beverley Reynolds, Policy Development and Advocacy
- Natalie Rochester King, Hemispheric and Bilateral Negotiations in the Office of Trade Negotiation
- Anya Thomas, Sustainable Development
- Joseph Williams, Head, Energy Division

**Caribbean Community Climate Change Center (CCCCC)**

- Carlos Fuller, Expert

**Commonwealth Secretariat**

- Janet Strachan, Small States, Environment and Economic Management Section, Economic Affairs Division

**Organization of American States (OAS)**

- Joan Neil, Representative, Jamaica
- Cletus Ignatius Springer, Head, Sustainable Development, New York

**European Union (EU)**

- Thomas Opperer, Delegation of the European Union to Jamaica

**H. Non-governmental organizations****Clinton Foundation**

- Elizabeth DeLucia, Climate Initiative
- Jan Hartke, Climate Initiative, Earth Council Alliance

**I. Other organizations and institutions****The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica**

- Barbara Carby, Head, Disaster Risk Reduction Centre
- Anthony Harriott, Consultant
- David C. Smith, University Consortium of Small Island States
- Michael Taylor, Climate Studies Group
- Michael Witter, Consultant

**Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE)**

Conroy Watson, Subregional Consultant

**Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO)**

- Gail Henry, Sustainable Tourism Product Specialist

**J. Other guests**

- Hugh Cresser, Consultant, Hugh Cresser and Associates
- Lloyd Seymour Gardner, President, Environmental Support Services, LLC.
- Elizabeth Thompson, Expert in Environmental Management



## **K. Secretariat**

### **Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)**

#### **Subregional headquarters for the Caribbean**

- Dillon Alleyne, Deputy Director a.i. and Coordinator, Economic Development Unit
- Charmaine Gomes, Sustainable Development Officer, Sustainable Development Unit
- Willard Phillips, Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Development Unit