

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

**ECLAC SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
FOR THE CARIBBEAN**



**Report of the twenty-seventh session  
of the Caribbean Development  
and Cooperation Committee**



UNITED NATIONS

**ECLAC**





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Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean  
Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

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Twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development  
and Cooperation Committee  
27 April 2018  
Gros Islet, Saint Lucia

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## **REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE**

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## **A. DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee welcomed the recommendations of the fifth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable, and welcomed the establishment of a Task Force to further advance the debt for climate adaptation swap proposal from the conceptual design phase to an actionable initiative in resolution 97(XXVI), “Further advancing a debt swap initiative for the Caribbean”.
2. The Committee endorsed the proposed programme of work for the year 2020, including subprogramme 12 on subregional activities in the Caribbean, and expressed appreciation for the work carried out in the subregion during the 2016-2017 biennium in resolution 101(XXVI), “Support for the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the Caribbean”.
3. The Committee took note of the preparations underway for the thirty-seventh session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Havana from 7 - 11 May 2018.
4. The Committee agreed that the nineteenth meeting of its Monitoring Committee would be held at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain in 2019. The exact date would be determined in consultation with the Chair.
5. In addition to resolutions 97(XXVI) and 101(XXVII) mentioned above, the Committee adopted resolution 98(XXVII), “Enhancing support for capacity-building in disaster assessment and resilience-building strategies in the Caribbean”; resolution 99(XXVII), “Promoting awareness of the economic impact of de-risking in the Caribbean”; and resolution 100(XXVII), “Ensuring synergy in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action in the Caribbean subregion”.

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

### **1. Place and date of the session**

6. The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee held its 27<sup>th</sup> session in Gros Islet, Saint Lucia on 27 April 2018.

### **2. Attendance<sup>1</sup>**

7. The 27<sup>th</sup> session was attended by the following members of the Committee: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sint Maarten, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.
8. Also attending were representatives of the following countries: Argentina, France, Mexico, Spain and Venezuela.
9. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

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<sup>1</sup> See Annex II for a full list of participants.

10. Representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations attended: the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the CARICOM Development Fund (CDF), the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), and the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ).

### **3. Election of officers**

11. The delegations elected to preside over the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its 27<sup>th</sup> session were as follows:

Chair: Saint Lucia

Vice-chairs: The British Virgin Islands, Jamaica and Suriname

Rapporteur: The Bahamas

### **4. Adoption of the agenda**

12. The agenda was adopted as follows.

1. Opening of the session
2. An outlook on the sustainable development of the Caribbean
3. Promoting climate resilience and sustainable economic growth in the Caribbean
4. Second Forum of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for Sustainable Development
5. Supporting implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in synergy with the small island developing States development agenda
6. Matters relating to the programme of work
7. Thirty-seventh session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Havana, 7-11 May 2018
8. Consideration and adoption of resolutions
9. Other matters
10. Date and venue of the nineteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
11. Closure of the session

### **5. Procedural matters and organization of work**

13. The session was chaired by the Honourable Ubaldo Raymond, Minister in the Ministry of Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and the Public Service, Saint Lucia.

14. The meeting adopted the preliminary programme, setting out the organization of work.

15. The Committee was reminded that the report of its meeting was an official document to be considered at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission being held from 7 - 11 May 2018. The Committee therefore agreed that the Rapporteur would present a summary at the end of the meeting, and the Secretariat would circulate the full draft report of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee meeting on 30 April 2018 for review. It would be considered final on 2 May 2018 and prepared for presentation at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

## **6. Documentation**

16. A list of working documents submitted by the secretariat to the Committee at its 27<sup>th</sup> session is attached as annex I to the present report.

## **C. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS**

### Opening of the session (agenda item 1)

17. At the opening of the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), statements were made by the Honourable Mark Brantley, Premier of Nevis and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Aviation of Saint Kitts and Nevis; the Honourable Ubaldus Raymond, Minister in the Ministry of Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and the Public Service, Saint Lucia; and Mr. Raúl García Buchaca, ECLAC Deputy Executive Secretary for Management and Programme Analysis.

18. The Director of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean welcomed delegations to the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the CDCC. She introduced a video commemorating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of ECLAC, which traced the history, functioning and areas of development focus of the organization. The video also highlighted the work undertaken by the Port of Spain office in promoting the development of the Caribbean. She invited the Committee to join in a dialogue reflecting on the work of the Commission through the years.

19. The Premier of Nevis and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Aviation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, outgoing Chair of the CDCC, reflected on the challenges facing the Caribbean – including de-risking, the threat of climate change and catastrophic natural disasters, and high, unsustainable public debt – and the leadership role of the Chair of the CDCC in supporting Caribbean countries in facing these challenges. He pointed to the region's need to invest in disaster risk management strategies aimed at mitigation and adaptation over the medium to long term. He reiterated the importance of the Caribbean framing its development strategy within the construct of both the SDGs and the SIDS sustainable development agenda. In this regard, he noted that meetings such as the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development offered important opportunities for peer review, sharing and exchanging experiences, regional partnership and solidarity in bringing the special needs of Caribbean small States to the attention of the wider international community for redress.

20. He congratulated ECLAC on the achievement of its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which he noted was a significant milestone, and acknowledged the contribution of ECLAC to the development of the wider Latin America and to the Caribbean in particular. He highlighted his country's appreciation for ECLAC's tireless efforts and support, pointing to valuable research done by the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean on the impact of de-risking on their economy. He indicated that ECLAC was an ideal intermediary for harnessing fully the opportunities for South/South and triangular cooperation with the wider Latin America region, recognizing that Caribbean integration mechanisms needed to reach beyond the borders of the

Caribbean to be truly effective. He noted that this wider integration should be leveraged to build regional production value chains.

21. The Minister in the Ministry of Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and the Public Service, Saint Lucia delivered a statement on behalf of the Honourable Allen Chastanet, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and the Public Service, Saint Lucia, who assumed the Chairmanship of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC). Minister Raymond welcomed participants to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the CDCC. He congratulated the outgoing Chair for his capable stewardship of the CDCC during his term, and, as Saint Lucia assumed the Chairmanship, pledged his country's commitment to the work of the CDCC as the Caribbean endeavoured to advance the sustainable development agenda of Caribbean SIDS. He also took the opportunity to extend warm congratulations to the Executive Secretary, the Deputy Executive Secretary and the staff of ECLAC on the achievement of the milestone of 70 years of existence, and wished ECLAC many more years of service to the region.

22. The Minister thanked ECLAC for its support in convening intergovernmental meetings, and for the assistance that the Caribbean continued to receive from the Commission on a range of development issues. He also indicated that the Commission had nurtured and inspired some of the most dynamic and transformative economic thought in the region, not least through the lasting legacy of Raúl Prebisch. He noted that this tradition of stimulating ideas to address the intractable problems that the Caribbean faced was continued through the Caribbean Development Roundtable (CDR) – pointing to the ECLAC debt swap initiative as a recent example - and indicated that the Commission's efforts to promote wider dialogue on issues of common regional and global interest, in tandem with organizations of the wider United Nations system, was of great value.

23. He expressed his awareness of the role of ECLAC in offering training in damage and loss assessment and in undertaking the economic assessment of the impacts of disasters in the region, support which this organization delivered reliably for almost three decades. He also expressed the view that with the increased frequency and intensity of natural disasters which continue to impact the subregion, Caribbean countries would continue to depend on this valuable assistance from the Commission. He acknowledged the Commission's specific contribution to the development efforts of Saint Lucia, highlighting collaboration in the development of a sustainable energy policy, and research into strategies for the development of sustainable tourism.

24. The Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC conveyed the greetings of the ECLAC Executive Secretary, Alicia Bárcena, on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of ECLAC. He reviewed some of the key periods in the history of the ECLAC starting with the initial work of Raúl Prebisch who, in 1949, wrote the introduction of the first Economic Survey of Latin America which he called "The Economic Development of Latin America and some of its main problems". Prebisch's ideas placed emphasis on technological asymmetries and productivity, productive structure and inequality and constitute the foundation of the theory of development. The Deputy Executive Secretary also noted that the main thematic ideas which guided ECLAC's action in the 1970's were related to development styles, incorporating the environmental dimension which was introduced by Osvaldo Sunkel, who also contributed studies to understand inflation and the behaviour of what was referred to as the incipient transnational capitalism.

25. The meeting was informed that during most of the 1980s, the discussion focused on the short-term problems generated by external debt and inflation. During this period, under the leadership of Mr. Enrique Iglesias the organization witnessed the full integration of the Caribbean, which was reflected in the change of name from ECLA to ECLAC. In the 1990's ECLAC's central thinking was extended to fiscal policy, with the consolidation of its proposal for a Fiscal Pact. At the beginning of 2009, amid the global financial crisis, the current Executive Secretary proposed an agenda which put equality at the centre of sustainable

development and technological change as the engine for transformation of the productive matrix. Under the stewardship of Executive Secretary Bárcena, ECLAC articulated its “trilogy of equality” that integrates productive diversification and technological innovation, decent work and rights, a great environmental push to adjust to climate change, and a social compact. He noted that this integrated agenda demanded a new relationship between the market, the State and the society.

26. He also informed the meeting that ECLAC’s “Horizon 2030: Equality at the center of sustainable development” added to this trilogy, which approaches the newly adopted Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs from a perspective guided by a cognizance of the prolonged global recession and climate change, among other issues which have impacted negatively on Latin America and the Caribbean. He also touched on the pertinent issues of multilateralism and global governance, which he described as central and fundamental pillars for global well-being, that while facing serious crisis also present opportunities for new actors and ideas to shape an agenda focused on equality and sustainable development. The meeting was assured that ECLAC continued to work on core issues of inclusion and equality for sustained growth and development. In addition, he informed that the organization had aligned its structuralist framework with the wider United Nations global agenda on sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Mauritius Strategy for the Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA) and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.

27. Following the opening statements, the representatives of Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Sint Maarten, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago offered their congratulations to ECLAC on its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and for its contribution to promoting growth and equity in the region. They extended their countries’ continued support to the Commission. The representatives of Barbados and Martinique flagged the need for strengthened regional integration, and the representative of Barbados further encouraged ECLAC to undertake work on strategic planning to assist the subregion to improve its implementation rate. The representative of Guyana underscored the need for resources to support Caribbean countries in their efforts to address their development challenges, while the representative of Martinique observed that, owing to its vulnerability, the Caribbean should be more discriminating in what forms of assistance it accepted from cooperation partners.

28. The representatives of the British Virgin Islands and Sint Maarten thanked ECLAC for the technical assistance received in assessing the impact of Hurricanes Irma and Maria after their passage in September 2017. The representative of the British Virgin Islands also expressed its appreciation to ECLAC for its assistance with the sustainable development goals.

29. The representative of Cuba noted that ECLAC had been important in the defense of the economic and social interests of the Caribbean. He pointed to the role and function of ECLAC being modified within the repositioning of the United Nations, and encouraged regional leaders to continue to support the work of the Commission. The representative of the Dominican Republic noted with thanks that the work of ECLAC provided a broader vision of development, reflected diversity and similarities, and promoted understanding among member countries.

#### An outlook on sustainable development in the Caribbean (agenda item 2)

30. The Deputy Director of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean presented the essential elements of the ECLAC publication, “An Outlook on Sustainable Development in the Caribbean”. In explaining the premise of the “Outlook”, the Deputy Director indicated that the 2030 Agenda, the SAMOA Pathway and other global frameworks have defined the path to a viable and sustainable Caribbean future, since they define synergies and inter-linkages among the three sustainable development pillars over the long term, emphasizing equality and inclusiveness. He informed the meeting that the study made holistic

recommendations to address the economic, environmental and social challenges currently facing the subregion.

31. He examined key cross-cutting issues that needed to be considered in addressing these challenges, such as partnership for sustainable development, ICT for development, data for evidence-based decision making, and gender. He highlighted the fact that a gender income earning gap still existed, and intimated that cooperation and collaboration were key to bringing the important issues impacting the Caribbean to the international discussion fora.

32. The Deputy Director recalled the major economic, social, environmental and institutional challenges outlined in the study, noting that, collectively, these challenges serve to increase the vulnerability Caribbean countries, diminish the resources available for resilience-building, and limit the subregion's capacity to respond to challenges. He also informed the Committee that the Outlook examined the actions required at the national, regional and international levels, highlighting national-level imperatives such as engaging in a process of structural transformation focusing on the development of the blue economy and creative industries; enabling the private sector and facilitating entrepreneurship; placing emphasis on biodiversity, renewable energy, sustainable energy, water and waste management; and education that is more responsive to the needs of the Caribbean's youth.

33. At the regional level, he indicated that the Outlook suggested that it was crucial that there be dedicated focus on regional integration which looked beyond the limited space of the Caribbean towards opportunities for securing access to a wider market. This should be done through deepening links with Latin America, building regional value chains, supporting the ECLAC debt swap initiative, constructing a regional system for innovation, and strengthening regional infrastructure. Internationally, there was need for more effective advocacy for SIDS, increased south-south cooperation - particularly within Latin America and the Caribbean - on issues such as better use of appropriate technology, support for the ECLAC debt swap initiative, increasing access of Caribbean SIDS to concessionary long-term financing, resolution of de-risking and other threats to the regional offshore financial services sector.

### Discussion

34. The representatives of Guyana and Jamaica noted that the Caribbean Outlook had highlighted well-known challenges facing the subregion. The representative of Jamaica acknowledged that the Outlook also proposed some solutions to those challenges. She however pointed out that the Caribbean had accomplished much in dealing with its development challenges. It was therefore important that the Outlook propose viable solutions which suggest what we could further do to help ourselves. The representative of Barbados endorsed this focus on indigenous solutions. The Deputy Director, in response stressed that it was the new approaches to considering and solving old problems that made the Outlook a valuable contribution to existing research. He encouraged delegations to take the time to read the new ECLAC publication, which will be launched during the 37<sup>th</sup> ECLAC Session being held in Havana, Cuba during 7-11 May 2018.

35. The representative of Guyana noted that the Caribbean needed to build its intellectual capacity through an improved education system. The representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis indicated that a broad-based education, including vocational training, was critical for sustainable development. He expressed concern that it was more often the subregion's boys increasingly being left behind in the education system. He also suggested that the high level of penetration of hand-held devices in the Caribbean could be leveraged for productive activity by those not academically inclined. The Deputy Director of ECLAC observed that education in the Caribbean presented a major challenge, since the region was spending a fair amount on education with a less than equitable return. He shared the view that boys currently faced greater challenges to progress in the education system.

36. The representative of Guyana noted that with respect to specific issues, the region needed to purchase and adapt technology to make it relevant to its needs. He also noted that it was important for the region to build up its entrepreneurship capacity to support job creation and that the tax system needed to be improved to generate greater revenue. In response, the Deputy Director of ECLAC noted that innovation was incremental, and that the Outlook document looked at an integrated but incremental approach to development. He indicated ECLAC was now focused on integrating the economic, social and environmental aspects of development.

37. The representative of Martinique noted that the way the region addresses actions at a regional level was very important. She indicated that Martinique had benefited from participating in regional meetings in the past. She felt that clear channels should be developed to allow Martinique and other non-independent countries to participate, discuss their challenges and seek out opportunities for collaboration.

38. The representative from Barbados noted that small States have special characteristics that made them vulnerable to external shocks, including income volatility, lack of capacity, and exposure to environmental risks. He challenged the region to deploy its intellectual capital to areas that would provide the greatest return on investment, and to tackle head-on its implementation problem. He noted that the region needed to re-examine its sustainable development model, since too many of its citizens were being left behind.

#### Promoting climate resilience and sustainable economic growth in the Caribbean (agenda item 3)

39. The Premier of Nevis and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Aviation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, presented a summary of the key issues discussed during the Fifth Meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable held in Gros Islet on 26 April 2018. This meeting explored four broad topics related to the theme “Promoting climate resilience and sustainable economic growth in the Caribbean”, namely the ECLAC debt swap initiative, investment in green industries, promoting fiscal responsibility, and addressing de-risking and challenges to the offshore banking sector.

40. In revisiting the essential elements of the ECLAC debt for climate adaptation swap initiative, he emphasized that for debt reduction to be sustainable, it must integrate both fiscal management and building resilience. He also identified the need for the OECD to change its classification of Caribbean countries from one based on income per capita to one that integrates a measure of vulnerability. On the issue of financing green investment for resilience building and structural transformation in the Caribbean, he also reviewed key modalities of the access to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Several potential areas for green industry development were identified, including the development of renewable energy, recycling, and the greening of buildings. He noted that the meeting agreed to use to fullest advantage the leadership of Antigua and Barbuda on the Board of the GCF to advance Caribbean interest in accessing these concessionary resources for green investment.

41. In considering the issue of promoting fiscal responsibility and financial management, he shared that the meeting observed that debt restructuring was only effective if it was accompanied by other fiscal and economic consolidation efforts. Additionally, fiscal responsibility commitments that were critical for efficient and effective debt management were identified, these being the formulation of an accountability framework; independent oversight; a robust reporting framework; the conduct of public expenditure reviews; fiscal rules and enforcement through, among other things, sanctions.

42. He informed the Committee that the meeting examined the issue of de-risking, noting that this development represented an acute financial shock to the region. The meeting noted that several countries had been negatively impacted by the cessation of correspondent banking relationships, due in part to false perceptions that these were countries without regulation, especially in their offshore sectors, despite

considerable reform efforts undertaken. Among the recommendations proposed by the meeting to address this challenge were the need to strengthen AML/CFT; tax and transparency; the harmonization of legislation and regulations to improve compliance with standards; the consolidation of domestic banks and development of a unified compliance framework; and the launching of a media campaign to offset the reputational damage that had been done to the region due to de-risking.

Second Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for Sustainable Development  
(agenda item 4)

43. The Director of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean presented a summary of the Second Meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, which took place in Santiago Chile from 18 – 20 April 2018. This Forum, created by member States in 2016, is a multi-stakeholder regional platform for the follow-up, review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. It is a unique platform that links global, regional and subregional levels to ensure coherence between the different subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, including the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, the Statistical Conference of the Americas, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Regional Conference on Women, among others.

44. The Forum was attended by more than one thousand delegates from 28 countries, UN agencies, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations, and civil society and private sector organizations from Latin America and the Caribbean. More specifically, 13 Caribbean countries<sup>2</sup> attended the second meeting of the Forum, which reviewed the main elements of regional progress to date under the SDGs and the challenges so far in implementing the 2030 Agenda, and gave focus to the theme “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies”. Specifically, the Forum reviewed progress on SDG 6 - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all; SDG 7 - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all; SDG 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; SDG 12 - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; SDG 15 - Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss; and SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

45. With respect to specific challenges in implementing the SDGs to date, she stated that the Forum identified several areas for review in 2018. These included: (a) Crafting of a medium-term vision towards 2030 and return of planning; (b) Creation of interinstitutional and intersectoral national architecture; (c) Integration of SDGs into development plans and budgets, including investment; (d) Measurement of indicators and strengthening of statistical capacities; (e) Prioritization of the means of implementation; and (f) New spaces for dialogue between government, companies and citizens.

46. The Director informed the Committee that the Forum also agreed that in 2019, SDG 4 - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all; SDG 8 - Promote sustained, inclusive & sustainable economic growth, full & productive employment decent work for all; SDG 10 - Reduce inequality within and among countries; SDG 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; SDG 16 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels; and SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for

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<sup>2</sup> Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Sint Maarten

sustainable development, would be reviewed under the theme “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”.

47. She highlighted that the second meeting of the Forum agreed that there was a particular focus on accelerating the implementation and raising awareness on the 2030 Agenda’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), recommended the inclusion of a specific session on youth during the next meeting of the Regional Forum, and proposed the creation of a mechanism for the participation of civil society organizations, in facilitating the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

#### Discussion

48. The representative of Jamaica expressed appreciation for the Forum, noting that it provided a productive space for peer learning, seminars and rich presentations. The representative of Guyana also indicated that his country appreciated the Forum as a meaningful medium for information sharing. He highlighted the emphasis many countries place on small businesses as a way of achieving social and economic inclusion and using the SDG implementation process itself to bring about social and economic change.

49. The representative of Guyana expressed appreciation for ECLAC’s presentation. He noted that Guyana was in the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through their national development strategy, focusing on green industry. The representative of Sint Marten also welcomed the recommendation of the engagement of the Forum on the issue of youth.

#### Supporting implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in synergy with the small island developing States development agenda (agenda item 5)

50. The Ag. Deputy Permanent Secretary Department of Sustainable Development in the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology of Saint Lucia presented on proposals for strengthening the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) for the implementation of the SIDS development agenda in the Caribbean. Her presentation detailed a historical review of the RCM, where she reminded the Committee that the mechanism was first proposed for monitoring development progress of Caribbean SIDS under the Barbados Programme of Action for SIDS development and the subsequent Mauritius Strategy Initiative. She noted that challenges to give full operational effect to the Mechanism along with an evolved multilateral framework, in the form of the SAMOA Pathway and the SDG framework, have necessitated a review of the RCM.

51. She addressed the specific proposals advanced for strengthening the legal and administrative framework for the mechanism, including securing mandates, reporting mechanisms, appointment of members and subcommittees, links to regional and international bodies, and financing arrangements. In the context of the evolving institutional framework for the implementation of the SIDS development agenda, her presentation proposed the location of the RCM as part of the High-Level Forum for the implementation of the SDGs.

#### Discussion

52. The representative of CARICOM reiterated the importance of the RCM in supporting the implementation of the SIDS development agenda for the Caribbean. She also noted that the RCM still provided a relevant mechanism for giving focus to SIDS issues and the SAMOA Pathway, especially considering the promotion of the SDGs. The representative of Jamaica enquired as to the cause for the apparent dormancy of the RCM in recent years, to which the ECLAC Director pointed to the prevailing

legal and administrative deficiencies of the RCM. She noted that the RCM was now seeking a renewed mandate from the CDCC.

Launch of the ECLAC/CCJ Publication (during lunch)

53. The Hon. Judge of the Caribbean Court of Justice and Chairman of the Caribbean Court of Justice Academy of Law, along with the Deputy Executive Secretary for Management and Programme Analysis of ECLAC, launched the ECLAC/CCJ publication entitled “Ensuring environmental access rights in the Caribbean: Analysis of selected case law” (LC/TS.2018/31). The Deputy Executive Secretary highlighted the fundamental nature of environmental access rights for sustainable development and the importance of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, while the Judge emphasized the Caribbean ownership and legal developments on these matters.

Matters relating to the programme of work (agenda item 6)

54. The Director of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean presented on the implementation of the programme of work for 2016-2017 and outlined plans for the work to be done in 2018-2019. She indicated that the work was linked to the work of the General Assembly relevant to the development priorities of the Caribbean. She noted that the work programme was built around the SIDS development agenda, pointed out that Financing for Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction were essential platforms for the Caribbean, and indicated that the Paris COP and issues of climate change were also relevant to the ECLAC work programme.

55. She informed the Committee that ECLAC was trying to anticipate the challenges that the region faced in the upcoming biennium in order to provide appropriate responses. Important among these challenges were higher and unsustainable public debt, climate change adaptation and resilience, adequate data for development and support for the associate members of ECLAC. She indicated that almost half of the population of CDCC countries were located among associate members; as such, in the spirit of leaving no one behind, ECLAC was committed to actively including them in its development work despite their non-independent state.

56. Two critical objectives were identified by ECLAC in collaboration with Caribbean countries; a focus on strengthening the institutional framework in Caribbean countries, and a full analysis of the statistical capacity of national statistical systems, including the producers of statistics from line ministries such as agriculture and health. The Director noted that statistical offices should collect and analyze data and make it ready for use; this would drive appropriate planning and facilitate informed and judicious decision-making.

57. The Director's presentation highlighted the subregion's continued commitment to the issues of women empowerment and also to the issue of ageing. She noted that the Caribbean had identified a unique subset of SDG indicators which were best suited to track progress in the region, and signalled that work in this regard would continue in succeeding biennia. She pointed out that ECLAC would also work alongside UNDP to build capacity to monitor the SDG process at the national level. She noted that work in this regard was continuing in the Bahamas, Grenada and Sint Maarten.

58. She informed the meeting that ECLAC was working to secure resources to advance advocacy for its debt swap initiative. ECLAC would also continue work on science and technology and innovation in collaboration with the Caribbean Telecommunications Union and International Telecommunications Union. She indicated to participants that ECLAC continued to provide support through seminars and workshops, DALA training and the assessment of censuses through its REDATAM program. Work also

continued on ways in which the region could improve its energy efficiency and transition to renewable forms of energy. She also noted that technical assistance was provided to Antigua and Barbuda, Belize and Saint Kitts and Nevis through a study on de-risking and its impacts in those jurisdictions. In addition, a yachting study was undertaken for Saint Kitts and Nevis in support of the country's efforts to diversify its tourism product.

59. She shared with the Committee the Strategic Outreach unit's production of a monthly magazine that highlighted the main areas of work of the subregional office, which was accessible via Twitter and Facebook. She also highlighted the key areas for the subregional headquarters going forward. These included: Trade and Financing for development; ICT for development and knowledge management; Social strategies for strengthening human capacity in the region; Measures to address the challenges facing youth in the region; Statistical data management and capacity; Collaboration with CARICOM on the 2020 census with considerations given to tailoring the survey to capture information related to the SDGs; and mainstreaming disaster risk management and resilience building in development planning among Caribbean countries. She signalled that work on assessing disasters was expected to increase in the future and ECLAC looked forward to collaborating with other regional agencies in this area. She signalled that a strong emphasis would be placed on resilience-building - especially building back better - as an integral part of this work.

60. The Director then introduced a short video which canvassed the work undertaken by ECLAC on damage and loss assessments and its collaboration with subregional economies to build back better following the passage of hurricanes. Following the video, the representative of Sint Maarten made a brief power point presentation on its development strategy post Hurricane Irma in 2017. She reiterated the country's commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. She indicated that the Kingdom of the Netherlands provided €550 million in support of post-hurricane reconstruction and recovery in Sint Maarten, of which €70 million was already used to fund an early recovery programme. The remaining €470 million was placed in a Trust Fund to be administered by World Bank and released in tranches; the first tranche of approximately €110 million was to be released shortly. She stressed that the country was still in the recovery phase and as such it was critical to strengthen the use of statistics for evidence-based policymaking, facilitate greater public-private-partnerships (PPPs) and adhere to ECLAC's DALA report and recovery modalities. She informed the meeting that the intent was to incorporate SDGs in the recovery plan and projects to be implemented.

#### Thirty-seventh Session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (agenda item 7)

61. The ECLAC Deputy Executive Secretary briefed the Committee on the plans and preparations for the hosting of the 37<sup>th</sup> Session of ECLAC, scheduled in Havana, Cuba, from 7-11 May 2018. He outlined the provisional agenda for the meeting, noting special aspects particularly pertinent to the Caribbean subregion. These were the Caribbean Caucus on 7 May, a segment to receive the reports of the CDR, CDCC and Caribbean Outlook on 9 May, and a Dialogue of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Caribbean on 11 May. He urged delegates to make the necessary arrangements for their participation early in order to meet the logistics and administrative requirements for participation in the ECLAC Session.

62. The representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis inquired about financing arrangements for the participation of countries at the session. The Director of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, supported by the ECLAC Deputy Executive Secretary, advised that United Nations regulations did not allow for funding the participation of government officials in intergovernmental meetings, except if a delegate was attending a technical meeting or serving in an additional capacity as technical expert.

63. The representative of Jamaica, in noting the expressed sentiment of ECLAC to put Caribbean issues first, shared her appreciation for the format of the programme and enquired of the issues to be discussed in

the Ministerial dialogue scheduled for 11 May. The Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC advised that Ministers could raise any topic of interest, since the dialogue would focus on developmental and not political issues.

64. The representative of Cuba expressed his appreciation for the quality and clarity of the presentation of the programme celebrating the 37<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission. He encouraged fulsome Caribbean participation in the Session, notwithstanding other parallel events. Given the importance of the Session and in particular the Ministerial dialogue, he urged the delegates to ensure that their Ministers of Foreign Affairs attended.

#### Consideration and adoption of resolutions (agenda item 8)

65. The members represented at the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee adopted the five resolutions contained in section D of the present report.

#### Other matters (agenda item 9)

66. The representative of Jamaica, supported by the representative of Trinidad and Tobago, informed the Committee of the recent adoption of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) on 4 March 2018. The delegates pointed out that the agreement was the first regional treaty on environmental rights of Latin America and the Caribbean, the only emanating from the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and the first in the world to include provisions on environmental human rights defenders. The Regional Agreement will open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 27 September 2018, coinciding with the high-level segment of the United Nations General Assembly. Given the active Caribbean participation during the negotiations and the importance of this treaty for environmental protection, the representatives encouraged all Caribbean countries to sign and ratify the regional agreement when it opened for signature or as soon as possible thereafter.

67. A representative from Venezuela took the opportunity to reiterate her country's solidarity with the people of the Caribbean as they worked towards enhancing their economic and social well-being. The representative also congratulated the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean for its comprehensive and diverse programme of work which it had been undertaking in support of the development efforts of the Caribbean.

#### Date and venue of the nineteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (agenda item 10)

68. It was agreed that the nineteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee would be held at the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain in 2019, with the exact date to be determined in consultation with the Chair.

#### Closure of the session (agenda item 11)

69. The representative of the Bahamas, in her capacity as Rapporteur of the meeting, presented a comprehensive summary of the day's proceedings.

70. The representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis offered a correction to the Rapporteur's report, noting that in the specific instance of funding provided to Sint Maarten for reconstruction, such moneys were in fact to be sourced from the Government of the Netherlands, and not the World Bank, as had been noted in

the report. This correction was endorsed by the representative of Sint Maarten, who further clarified that the World Bank would act as trustee for the fund, and facilitate its disbursement to support the island's reconstruction efforts. The meeting took note of this correction.

71. In his closing remarks, the ECLAC Deputy Director availed himself of the opportunity to extend the heartfelt gratitude of ECLAC to the government and people of Saint Lucia, as well as for the fulsome participation of delegates in the two days of meetings of the CDR and the CDCC. He also commended the staff of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for its excellent service as the secretariat for the meetings.

72. The Chair of the CDCC thanked the participants and secretariat for their involvement in the meetings, and formally declared the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the CDCC closed.

**D. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE AT ITS TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

**97 (XXVII) FURTHER ADVANCING A DEBT SWAP INITIATIVE FOR THE CARIBBEAN**

*The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,*

*Recalling* the United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/204, “External debt sustainability and development”, which invites creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments such as debt swaps,

*Recalling also* the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>3</sup>, which affirms the global commitment to address the challenge of financing sustainable development, particularly in developing countries,

*Noting* that the unsustainably high debt burden in the Caribbean was influenced by a series of negative external shocks compounded by structural weaknesses, including the member States’ vulnerability to natural disasters and the impact of climate change,

*Noting also* that high debt service costs in the Caribbean represent a significant outflow of financial resources, which presents a very real challenge to countries’ efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Considering* that the limited fiscal space caused by the debt overhang has made it difficult to employ countercyclical measures to promote economic recovery,

*Concerned* that Caribbean countries have had limited access to concessional external financing primarily because of their classification as middle- and high-income countries,

*Also concerned* that overcoming the debt challenge in the subregion will be very difficult considering the prospects for low growth in the medium term,

*Recalling* the ECLAC Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee resolution 93(XXVI) on advancing a debt relief initiative for the Caribbean which seeks to address, in a meaningful way, the Caribbean’s high debt, while incorporating a resilience building component which promotes economic growth, diversification, structural transformation and climate adaptation and mitigation,

*Noting* that the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway endorsed by the General Assembly on 14 November 2014 reaffirms that “small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, and we acknowledge that climate change and sea-level rise continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for some, represent the gravest threat to their survival and viability”,<sup>4</sup>

*Welcoming* the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030<sup>5</sup> in March 2015, which highlights the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction into long-term

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 69/313.

<sup>4</sup> General Assembly resolution 69/15, paragraph 31.

<sup>5</sup> General Assembly resolution 69/283.

development planning, and the Paris Agreement adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2015 which, *inter alia*, highlights the importance of building resilience and adapting to climate change for the achievement of sustainable development,

*Welcoming* the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-first session, in particular its decision 52 that financial resources provided to developing country Parties should enhance the implementation of their policies, strategies, regulations and action plans and their climate change actions with respect to both mitigation and adaptation,<sup>6</sup>

*Welcoming also* the Paris Agreement, particularly article 9, para. 1, which calls on developed country Parties to provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention,

*Recognizing* that climate change represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to Caribbean States and that considerable financial and other resources are required to address this challenge,

1. Commends the efforts made by the Commission to explore options for debt relief and fostering structural transformation for heavily indebted countries in the Caribbean;
2. Acknowledges with appreciation the training in public expenditure reviews, which promotes more effective public finance management in Caribbean States;
3. Expresses appreciation for the work of the Commission in developing a debt for climate adaptation swap initiative as a credible solution to the debt overhang, which is aimed at achieving sustainable development and climate change adaptation and expanded investment in green industries and strategies aimed at resilience-building;
4. Welcomes the establishment of a Task Force to further advance the debt for climate adaptation swap proposal from the conceptual design phase to an actionable initiative;
5. Requests all members of the Commission to support this initiative in relevant multilateral forums.

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<sup>6</sup> Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-first session (FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1), 2016.

**98 (XXVII) ENHANCING SUPPORT FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DISASTER ASSESSMENT AND RESILIENCE-BUILDING STRATEGIES IN THE CARIBBEAN**

*The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,*

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 58 (XIX) of 2002, 66 (XXI) of 2006 and 81 (XXV) of 2014 in support of efforts in disasters and in the training of teams of national public officers to conduct disaster assessments,

*Recalling* that the Barbados Programme of Action of 1994 affirmed that “small island developing States are particularly vulnerable to natural as well as environmental disasters and have a limited capacity to respond to and recover from such disasters”,<sup>7</sup>

*Recalling also* the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway adopted at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, which recognizes the “critical need to build resilience, strengthen monitoring and prevention, reduce vulnerability, raise awareness and increase preparedness to respond to and recover from disasters”,<sup>8</sup>

*Bearing in mind* that Caribbean small island developing States are especially vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, including drought, coastal erosion and sea level rise,

*Noting* that research by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has demonstrated that a single disaster, such as a major hurricane, can set back the development process by as much as a decade in Caribbean small island developing States,<sup>9</sup>

*Recognizing* that the methodology developed by the Commission for assessing disasters and estimating their costs constitutes an essential tool for understanding risks and gauging country needs that can be used to shape a credible appeal for donor assistance in recovery and reconstruction,

*Emphasizing* that implementing a disaster risk reduction and resilience-building strategy is a cost-effective investment towards preventing future damage and losses,

*Noting* that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030<sup>10</sup> seeks to achieve significant reduction in disaster risk and loss of life, livelihoods and well-being, with emphasis on specific challenges faced by small island developing States, by promoting better understanding of and investment in disaster risk reduction for resilience-building and strengthening disaster risk governance, as well as enhancing disaster preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction,

*Underscoring* that multisectoral and multi-hazard disaster risk management contributes to achieving sustainable development and protects social, economic and environmental gains,

*Noting* that the 2017 hurricane season generated major costs to Caribbean SIDS to the extent that five countries where ECLAC led disaster assessments - Anguilla, the Bahamas, the British Virgin Islands, Sint Maarten, and the Turks and Caicos Islands - suffered damage and losses estimated at US\$ 5.4 billion.

*Emphasizing* that all Caribbean SIDS are vulnerable to similar disasters in the future,

<sup>7</sup> United Nations, *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States*, Bridgetown, Barbados, 26 April-6 May 1994 (A/CONF.167/9), 1994, p. 4, III.1.

<sup>8</sup> General Assembly resolution 69/15, par. 51.

<sup>9</sup> A. Kambon, “Caribbean small States, vulnerability and development” *Caribbean Development Report*, vol. 1, par. 3, Port of Spain, ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, 2009.

<sup>10</sup> General Assembly resolution 69/283.

1. Requests the Secretariat, through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, to continue to aid its member States and associate members of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) with respect to mainstreaming disaster risk management and disaster risk reduction initiatives in their development plans;
2. Underscores the need to give greater attention to risk reduction, preparedness and resilience-building in the Caribbean to ensure that subprogramme 12 on subregional activities in the Caribbean can respond more effectively to the specific needs of small island developing States in the subregion, particularly in the context of climate change;
3. Calls for expanded risk analysis and disaster assessment training activities in CDCC member States and associate members to increase their capacity to gather baseline information and estimate the costs associated with disasters;
4. Calls for the integration of disaster risk management strategies into the national development plans of Caribbean small island developing States.

## **99 (XXVII) PROMOTING AWARENESS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF DE-RISKING IN THE CARIBBEAN**

*The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,*

*Noting* the Caribbean economies high dependence on international trade, foreign direct investment and remittances which are facilitated through correspondent banking services.

*Acknowledging* the financial shock resulting from de-risking, including the loss of correspondent banking services and relationships by Caribbean respondent banks arising from the reassessment of risk-reward trade-offs associated with operating in small economies,

*Recognizing* that the main driver in the de-risking of respondent banks by correspondent banks has been the perception of heightened risk among certain lines of businesses and customers, along with low profitability associated with the small scale of business within Caribbean economies,

*Concerned at* the impact of the increased loss of correspondent banking services and relationships which has eroded access to financial services for businesses and households, increased the cost of these services, threatened the existence of international financial centers, money transfer service providers and export free zones and altogether heightened economic uncertainty,

*Taking note of* the discussion on the issue of de-risking at the Twenty-Eighth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community where the need for urgent action to strengthen the integrity of the financial system in CARICOM member States and associate member countries and to address the perception of the Caribbean as a high-risk region was underscored,

*Concerned* that the detrimental spillover effects as well as macroeconomic consequences stemming from de-risking have begun to take effect across the region,

1. Takes note of the short and medium-term recommendations offered by the Commission to address the challenges faced by the region as a consequence of de-risking;
2. Endorses the need for enhanced advocacy at the national, regional and international levels to sensitize the relevant parties to the fact that the de-risking phenomenon exerts a material financial shock which negatively impacts financial flows and economic growth in the Caribbean;
3. Encourages that pre-emptive actions be taken by national financial institutions against possible de-risking including the preparation of de-risking preparedness and response plans;
4. Endorses the need to undertake analysis to estimate the actual contribution of offshore financial sectors, trade flows and export free zones to the economies of the Caribbean and to assess the potential negative impact of de-risking on these sectors;
5. Decides to promote national media campaigns to address the misperceptions regarding regulatory frameworks and tax transparency in countries potentially vulnerable to de-risking;

6. Endorses the need for sustained advocacy efforts with international development partners and the wider international community at senior policy and executive levels to facilitate a resolution of this issue in the interest of the Caribbean.

**100 (XXVII) ENSURING SYNERGY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE SMALL ISLANDS DEVELOPING STATES ACCELERATED MODALITIES OF ACTION IN THE CARIBBEAN SUBREGION**

*The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,*

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda)”, which adopted the transformative, people-centered Sustainable Development Goals,

*Recalling* the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States<sup>11</sup> and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States<sup>12</sup>, and the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway)<sup>13</sup>,

*Recalling also the* General Assembly resolution 69/15 of 14 November 2014, which endorsed the SAMOA Pathway,

*Bearing in mind* the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) resolutions 65(XXI) adopted at its twenty-first session in 2006,<sup>14</sup> 71(XXII) adopted at its twenty-second session in 2008<sup>15</sup>, and 74(XXIII) adopted at its twenty-third session in 2010<sup>16</sup>, concerning the RCM, its Technical Advisory Committee and their role in supporting implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of small island developing States,

*Recalling* General Assembly paragraph 11 of its resolution 70/299 of July 2016 which urged the United Nations System to take effective measures to reduce the reporting burden of the small islands developing States through coherent, coordinated and effective linkages between the follow-up and review arrangements for the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda and other internationally agreed outcomes<sup>17</sup>,

*Recalling also General* Assembly resolution 72/217 of 20 December 2017<sup>18</sup> on follow-up to and implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States that urged all partners to integrate the SAMOA Pathway into their respective cooperation frameworks, programmes and activities as appropriate, to ensure effective follow-up<sup>19</sup>,

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<sup>11</sup> United Nations, Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 26 April-6 May 1994 (A/CONF.167/9), 1994.

<sup>12</sup> United Nations, Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005

<sup>13</sup> United Nations, Report in the Small Islands Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, Apia, Samoa, 1-4 September, 2014.

<sup>14</sup> LC/CAR/L.086.

<sup>15</sup> LC/CAR/L.196rev.1.

<sup>16</sup> LC/CAR/L.257.

<sup>17</sup> [https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/849317/files/A\\_C-2\\_71\\_L-41-EN.pdf](https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/849317/files/A_C-2_71_L-41-EN.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> Resolution A/RES/72/217

<sup>19</sup> Resolution A/RES/72/217

*Recalling* the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (TAC/RCM) for implementation of the SIDS agenda held in Bogota on 5 March 2013, which sought to revitalize the role of the RCM in supporting the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and to strengthen coordination and oversight in this regard,

*Noting* the outcome of the Seventh Meeting of the TAC/RCM of 23 March 2018 which underscored the importance of national coordinating mechanisms to support implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and 2030 Agenda while promoting integrated reporting responsibilities,

*Acknowledging* the need to enhance regional coordination in support of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda in the small island developing States of the Caribbean by strengthening the national institutional framework for sustainable development and building partnerships,

1. Reaffirms its commitment to fully operationalize the RCM in the Caribbean, with a view to monitoring and supporting integration in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;
2. Encourages its members to make every effort to mainstream the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway in their national development plans;
3. Further encourages more active pursuit of partnerships among Caribbean small island developing States and between them and other partners including through South-South and triangular cooperation;
4. Calls again upon its members, in this regard, to designate a national entity as the focal point for the RCM;
5. Requests the secretariat of the Commission, through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and in collaboration with the relevant agencies of the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community, to provide the institutional support to facilitate synergy in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway at the national and regional levels;
6. Requests the Technical Advisory Committee to develop a strategy for the mobilization of resources with a view to providing sustained support for the work of the RCM.

**101 (XXVII) SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN IN THE CARIBBEAN**

*The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,*

*Recalling* resolution 358(XVI) of 1975 of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, establishing the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) as a subsidiary organ of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to act as a coordinating body for activities relating to development and cooperation in that subregion,

*Recalling also* resolution 29(XII) of 1989 of the CDCC on the role and functioning of the Committee and resolution 55(XVIII) of 2000, which recognized the continuing relevance and pertinence of the basic principles and concepts contained in the Constituent Declaration of the Committee,

*Recalling further* resolution 75(XXIII) of 2010 of the CDCC, which emphasized the continuing relevance of the Committee in providing its members with effective support in developing regional strategies to address common global and regional challenges,

*Bearing in mind* resolution 79(XXIV) of 2012 of the CDCC, which took note of the recommendations of the second phase of the in-depth evaluation on strengthening the role of the Commission in the Caribbean subregion, and requested the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC to review the continued implementation of the recommendations and report its findings to the CDCC at its twenty-fifth session,

*Bearing in mind also* resolution 85(XXV) of 2014 of the CDCC, in which it expressed its support for the request to ensure greater inclusion of Caribbean associate members in studies and social, economic and statistical reports carried out by the Commission,

*Bearing in mind further* resolution 95(XXVI) of 2016 of the CDCC, which took note of the efforts made towards greater inclusion of Caribbean associate members in studies and social, economic and statistical reports carried out by the Commission, and requested the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC to review the implementation of the overall programme of work and the continued inclusion of the Caribbean associate members in the work carried out under subprogramme 13, and report on progress to the CDCC at its 27<sup>th</sup> session,

*Affirming* the importance of both the analytical and operational activities carried out by the Commission in the Caribbean, and the continued cooperation and collaboration between the CDCC and the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Caribbean Development Bank and the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, as well as other regional governmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Taking into account* the special development challenges of countries in the Caribbean subregion, including their small size; open, undiversified economies; fragile ecosystems; and other vulnerabilities, and the opportunity that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the SIDS Development Agenda, particularly mainstreaming the SDGs in national development planning processes, represent as a response to those challenges,

1. Takes note of the Report of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC at its eighteenth meeting held on 19 May 2017<sup>20</sup>;
2. Expresses appreciation for the work carried out under subprogramme 13 on subregional activities in the Caribbean during the 2016-2017 biennium, and particularly for the results achieved and impact derived from its implementation;
3. Endorses the proposed programme of work for the year 2020, subprogramme 12 on subregional activities in the Caribbean<sup>21</sup>, and requests the Commission to adopt it subject to the outcomes of the deliberations on that occasion;
4. Notes with appreciation the efforts made towards greater inclusion of Caribbean associate members in studies and social, economic, environment and statistical reports carried out by the Commission, including the technical support provided to those countries during the 2017 hurricane season, and calls for continued efforts towards that end;
5. Requests the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC to review the implementation of the overall programme of work of the Commission under subprogramme 12, and to report on progress in this regard to the CDCC at its twenty-eighth session.

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<sup>20</sup> LC/CAR/2017/5.

<sup>21</sup> LC/CDCC.27/8.

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

- Anthony Liverpool, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Immigration

**THE BAHAMAS**Representative:

- H.E. Reuben Rahming, High Commissioner of the Bahamas to CARICOM

Delegation members:

- Chanelle Brown, Head of the Economic Trade and Sustainable Development Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Nicola Virgill-Rolle, Director, Economic Development Planning, Office of the Prime Minister

**BARBADOS**Representative:

- Patrick McCaskie, Director, Research and Planning Unit, Economic Affairs Division, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

**BELIZE**Representative:

- Carlos Clarke, Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**CUBA**Representative:

- Carlos Fidel Martín Rodríguez, Deputy Director International Economic Bodies, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Investment

**DOMINICA**Representative:

- Samuel Carrette, Chief Development Planner and Focal Point for the Green Climate Fund, Ministry of Planning, Economic Development and Investment

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**Representative:

- Iván Ogando Lora, Director of the Caribbean Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**GUYANA**Representative:

- Amb. Rawle Lucas, Advisor to the Minister on Foreign Trade, Investment and International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana

Delegation member:

- Hector Butts, Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance

- Abigail Welch, Foreign Service Officer, Department of Foreign Trade, Investment and International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### **JAMAICA**

#### Representative:

- Sharon Miller, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

### **SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS**

#### Representative:

- Hon. Mark Brantley, Premier of Nevis and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Aviation

#### Delegation member:

- Howard Richardson, Adviser in the Ministry of Finance, Saint Kitts and Nevis

### **SAINT LUCIA**

#### Representative:

- Hon. Ubalduus Raymond, Senator and Minister in the Ministry of Finance

#### Delegation members:

- Cointha Thomas, Permanent Secretary/Director of Finance, Ministry of Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and the Public Service
- Maria Jean Baptiste, Foreign Service Officer, Department of External Affairs
- Fercinta Louisy, Foreign Service Officer, Department of External Affairs
- Anita Alexander, Information Officer, Department of External Affairs
- Alexandra Aurelien, Research Officer, Department of External Affairs
- Baron Deterville, Assistant Accountant II, Department of External Affairs
- Norma Fontaine, Senior Administrative Secretary, Department of External Affairs
- Shekeri Gravillis, Research Officer, Department of External Affairs
- Germa Inglis-Alfred, Senior Accountant, Department of External Affairs
- Benise Joseph, Energy Officer, Department of Infrastructure, Ports and Energy
- Marciana Simon, Protocol and Liaison Officer, Department of External Affairs
- Kate Wilson, Legal Officer III, Department of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development

### **SURINAME**

#### Representative:

- Oquemele Denz, First Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Suriname in the Cooperative Republic of Guyana

### **TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

#### Representative:

- Cherry-Ann Millard, Director, Multilateral relations, Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs

## **B. Associate members**

### **ANGUILLA**

#### Representative:

- Marisa Harding Hodge, Compliance Manager, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development

**BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**Representative:

- Elvia Maduro, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Premier's Office

**CURAÇAO**Representative:

- Liza-Minelly Crichlow, Cabinet Official, Ministry of Finance

**MARTINIQUE**Representative:

- Maguy Marie-Jeanne, Directrice adjointe, Performance évaluation politiques publiques et suivi satellites et organismes rattachés, Collectivité Territoriale de Martinique

**MONTSERRAT**Representative:

- Kenya Lee, Director of Economic Management, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management

**SINT MAARTEN**Representative:

- Lucrecia Morales, Programme Manager, Department of Interior and Kingdom Relations

**C. Observers****ARGENTINA**

- Nicolás Abad, Chargé d'affaires (a.i.), Embassy of the Republic of Argentina in Saint Lucia
- Glen Lake, Protocol, Logistics and Administrative Officer, Embassy of the Republic of Argentina in Saint Lucia

**FRANCE**

- Stéphane Dovert, Regional Counsellor for Cooperation, Embassy of France to the OECS Member States and Barbados
- Lucienne Larive-Mason, Project Officer for Cooperation, Embassy of France to the OECS Member States and Barbados
- Morgane Gangloff, Intern, Embassy of France to the OECS Member States and Barbados
- Geoffroy Savet, Intern, Embassy of France to the OECS Member States and Barbados

**MEXICO**

- H.E. Oscar Esparza, Ambassador of Mexico to the OECS Member States in Saint Lucia
- Maite Narváez, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Mexico to the OECS Member States in Saint Lucia

**SPAIN**

- Vicente Cacho, Chargé d'affaires, Embassy of Spain in Saint Lucia

**VENEZUELA**

- H.E. Leiff Escalona, Ambassador, Embassy of Venezuela in Saint Lucia
- Juan Echeverría, First Secretary, Embassy of Venezuela in Saint Lucia

## **D. United Nations Programmes and Funds**

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

- Stephen O'Malley, United Nations Resident Coordinator / UNDP Resident Representative for Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
- Mikiko Tanaka, United Nations Resident Coordinator / UNDP Resident Representative for the Cooperative Republic of Guyana

## **E. Specialized agencies**

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

- Godfrey Xuereb, PAHO/WHO Representative, Office of the Eastern Caribbean Countries
- Jessie Schutt-Aine, Subregional Programme Coordinator, Office of the Eastern Caribbean Countries

## **F. Other intergovernmental organizations**

### **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**

- Amrikha Singh, Programme Manager, Sustainable Development
- Evelyn Wayne, Director, Economic Policy and Development

### **CARICOM Development Fund (CDF)**

- Rodinald Soomer, Chief Executive Officer

### **Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)**

- Crispin d'Auvergne, Programme Coordinator, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management
- Norma Cherry-Fevrier, Programme Officer

### **Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ)**

- The Hon. Mr. Justice Winston Charles Anderson, Judge of the Caribbean Court of Justice and Chairman of the Caribbean Court of Justice Academy of Law

## **G. Secretariat**

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

- Raúl García-Buchaca, Deputy Executive Secretary for Management and Programme Analysis
- Daniel Titelman, Director, Economic Development Division
- Guido Camú, Chief, Public Information Unit
- David Barrio Lamarche, Environmental Affairs Officer, Division of Sustainable Development and Human Settlements
- Cristián Solís, Public Information Unit

### **ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean**

- Diane Quarless, Director
- Dillon Alleyne, Deputy Director
- Omar Bello, Coordinator, Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit
- Sheldon McLean, Coordinator, Economic Development Unit
- Johann Brathwaite, Programme Officer, Programme Support Unit
- Michael Hendrickson, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development Unit

- Willard Phillips, Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit
- Hidenobu Tokuda, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development Unit
- Dale Alexander, Senior Programme Management Assistant, Programme Support Unit
- Sita Inglefield, Personal Assistant to the Director
- Blaine Marcano, Public Information Assistant, Strategic Planning and Outreach Unit
- Machel Pantin, Research Assistant, Economic Development Unit
- Aurélie Quiatol, Meetings Services Assistant, Programme Support Unit
- Nyasha Skerrette, Research Assistant, Economic Development Unit
- Veera Deokiesingh-Fraser, Public Information Assistant, Strategic Planning and Outreach Unit
- Lindy-Ann Edwards-Alleyne, Staff Assistant, Economic Development Unit
- Ana Fernández, Staff Assistant, Statistics and Social Development Unit

Annex II**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

LC/CDCC.27/1	Provisional agenda
LC/CDCC.27/2	Annotated provisional agenda
-	Preliminary programme
LC/CDCC.27/DDR/2	The Caribbean Outlook - Summary
LC/CDCC.27/DDR/5	Summary report of the fifth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable
LC/CDCC.27/DDR/1	Implementation of the programme of work of subprogramme 13 for the biennium 2016-2017
LC/CDCC.27/DDR/3	Programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019
LC/CDCC.27/DDR/4	Proposed programme of work for the year 2020
	Resolutions 97(XXVII) – 101(XXVII)



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