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**REPORT OF THE CARIBBEAN FORUM: SHAPING A SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AGENDA TO ADDRESS THE CARIBBEAN
REALITY IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**

Bogota, 5-6 March 2013

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of meeting

1. The Caribbean Forum: Shaping a Sustainable Development Agenda to Address the Caribbean Reality in the Twenty-first Century was organized jointly by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNDG-LAC) and the Government of the host country, Colombia. It was held in Bogota on 5 and 6 March 2013.

Attendance¹

2. The Forum was attended by representatives of Colombia, as members of the host country, and by the following eight States members of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Cuba, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

3. Representing the United Nations Secretariat were members of the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and officials from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Information Centre, the Global Compact and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR).

4. The following United Nations bodies and programmes were represented: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and World Food Programme (WFP).

5. The following specialized agencies of the United Nations were represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO)/Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Maritime Organization (IMO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

6. Other intergovernmental organizations present were the Association of Caribbean States, CAF-Latin American Development Bank, the Andean Community, Central American Institute for Public Administration, Organization of American States, Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA).

7. A number of civil society organizations were also represented.

¹ The list of participants appears as annex 3 to this report.

Opening of the meeting

8. The meeting was declared open by Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guyana and Chair of the Caribbean Development Cooperation Committee, who acted as Chair of the Forum.

9. In addition to the opening address by the Chair, statements were made by Paula Caballero, Director of Economic, Social and Environmental Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia; Carlos Arturo Morales, Ambassador, Director for the Americas, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia; Diane Quarless, Chief of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean; Crispin Gregoire, Chief, Strategic Monitoring and Support, Caribbean Country Offices, United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean; and Colin Granderson, Assistant Secretary-General, Foreign and Community Relations, Caribbean Community Secretariat.

10. The Chair welcomed participants and expressed her appreciation to the people and Government of Colombia for the gracious welcome extended to the delegations. She said that the theme of the meeting emphasized the centrality of the sustainable development landscape and focused on the construction of a post-2015 development agenda and the implementation of the important undertakings reached at the Rio+20 conference. The priorities of the subregion must be duly reflected in that framework and care should be taken to avoid unduly constraining the policy space of the Caribbean members, which were at a critical juncture in their development. The subregion's structural ills –historically low growth and high unemployment, especially among youth– had been compounded by the “great recession” and by the heavy dependence of many countries on the services and financial sectors. Middle-income status, viewed through the prism of GDP, belied the structural challenges faced by the countries and constrained access to much-needed resources. The subregion was also beset by threats to citizen security and the erosion of living standards. Climate change, already evident in severe weather events of increasing frequency and intensity, would affect every dimension of human existence.

11. In the area of health, the tide of disease, both communicable and non-communicable, must be reversed. Also of seminal importance were the challenge of food security and the need to improve the quality of education. The review of progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and towards implementation of the sustainable development agenda of small island developing States (SIDS), along with the deliberations on the wide range of issues covered by the five round tables, would enable participants to identify critical elements of a Caribbean sustainable development agenda in order to guide the region's engagement in the multilateral processes that would shape the global development agenda of the future.

12. The Director of Economic, Social and Environmental Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia welcomed participants and said that the post-2015 development agenda provided an opportunity to carve out a development path that would respond to the growing needs of an increasingly globalized world. The meeting would provide insight into the challenges, opportunities and shortcomings faced by the subregion and would help to define an agenda as it moved forward. By coordinating its views and taking up a common position from the outset, the Caribbean subregion would have a greater impact on the agenda. The meeting was very timely, since, coming two days before the Conference on Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, it would enable the Caribbean to make its voice heard at the start of the post-2015 process. The Government of Colombia was conscious of the special challenges faced by the Caribbean and pledged its full support in ensuring that the proposed agenda took into account the subregion's priorities.

13. Ambassador Carlos Arturo Morales, Director for the Americas, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, extended fraternal greetings to the participants in the Forum and said that as a Caribbean nation itself, his country attached a great deal of importance to the Caribbean in its foreign policy. His Government had taken initiatives designed to promote the sustainable and integrated development of the entire subregion and to strengthen political, economic and cultural ties and cooperation with its countries. Colombia recognized the Caribbean's enormous potential for development, its abundant natural resources and outstanding human capital. He wished the participants success in their deliberations and reiterated his country's desire to continue strengthening relations bilaterally with each of the countries in the subregion as well as through the various integration mechanisms.

14. The Chief of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean said that the forum would enable the subregion to make a subtle yet fundamental contribution to reshaping the sustainable development process and help to recalibrate the regional thinking that underpinned that process. It was an opportunity to proactively ensure that in the evolving global discourse, the unique challenges faced by small, vulnerable highly indebted middle-income island and coastal States in the Caribbean were acknowledged and accommodated. The replacement of the Commission for Sustainable Development by a high-level forum was an ambitious venture but oversight and support of the SIDS sustainable development agenda through the monitoring of implementation of the BPOA should not be lost in the process. Another important outcome of Rio+20 was the launch of an intergovernmental consultative process to explore options for a more effective financing strategy to facilitate mobilization of resources in support of the sustainable development goals.

15. The current forum would set the stage for a more in-depth review of the SIDS sustainable development programme of action for the preparatory meeting to review the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy to be held in Jamaica in June in anticipation of the third Global Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa in 2014. The Caribbean would need to consider how to etch a new paradigm within the evolving sustainable development platform, to build resilience and forge the necessary global partnership and support for those States. More reliable data on migration flows and other phenomena were needed to make the case for SIDS more persuasively in international development forums. Efforts were needed to widen and deepen open regionalism and leverage meaningfully the scope for expansion and cooperation with trading blocs of the wider Latin America region. It was to be hoped that the discussions would provide greater clarity on the critical messages that must be advanced collectively by the Caribbean on the development process beyond 2015.

16. The Chief of Strategic Monitoring and Support of Caribbean Country Offices, United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean, said that his office would continue partnerships with member States to overcome specific bottlenecks regarding their development. New challenges were rapidly emerging as the Caribbean confronted the drivers of change, tackled multidimensional inequality, and sought to achieve citizen security, food security and environmental sustainability, and to ensure a future for its young people. Citizen insecurity had become a defining development challenge for Caribbean countries. Caribbean countries were now classified as middle-income countries, but better appreciation was needed by the international community of the daunting development limitations they faced as SIDS: small size; exposure to external shocks; remoteness; and a limited resources base. A new development paradigm was needed that would focus on a structural framework with equality and environmental sustainability as its major pillars. A rights-based model was evolving and income distribution, reduction of discrimination and an end to marginalization of disenfranchised segments of society were now becoming the hallmarks of a new order. The speaker identified four key dimensions for the new post-2015 agenda: inclusive social development; inclusive economic development; environmental sustainability; and peace and security. The post-2015 agenda was

expected to converge with the sustainable development goals agenda as the two could not be separated. The sustainable development goals should be a coherent and integral part of the United Nations agenda beyond 2015.

17. The Assistant Secretary-General, Foreign and Community Relations of the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) said that the development challenges faced by the small developing States of the Caribbean were compounded by their vulnerability to shocks and natural disasters, declining access to international financial resources and lack of representation in financial decision-making forums. The Caribbean countries looked forward to deepening relations with partners in the hemisphere and the United Nations family of organizations, as they refocused their attention on the development agenda to be pursued in the changing global environment. Since 1992, when the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development had acknowledged the special case of SIDS, much action had been taken by SIDS in the Caribbean. Under the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA), significant attention had been given to institutional arrangements at the national and regional levels in a number of strategic sectoral areas, such as environment, water and energy. The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency and the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre were playing a critical role in building resilience mechanisms in CARICOM member States.

18. CARICOM was helping to focus attention on the threat of non-communicable diseases and was developing strategies to reduce their prevalence. Armed violence, another serious threat to human development, was among the five leading causes of death in the Caribbean. The Community had also benefited from joint action in education, but much remained to be done to prepare children and youth for the knowledge economy. The Caribbean was focusing on SIDS-specific issues and milestones particularly those relating to the Caribbean region. The post-2015 operational framework should be sufficiently flexible and sustainable in order to reverse the vulnerabilities of SIDS. CARICOM looked forward to strengthening its partnership with Colombia and other Latin American States and recognized the central role to be played by human capital, human well-being and regional integration.

B. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Session 1 Overview of progress towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 agenda within the framework of the sustainable development in Caribbean small island developing States (SIDS)

19. The first panellist was Elizabeth Thompson, former Executive Coordinator of Rio+20 and High-level consultant for the post-2015 Development Agenda. She discussed the progress of the Caribbean countries towards fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals, drawing attention to some very positive indicators, for example, gender parity in education, which was the highest in the developing world, and primary education, which reached 95% of children. However, she said that new HIV infections were the second highest in the world and that absolute poverty had not diminished. Furthermore, the Caribbean struggled with climate change and ranked with sub-Saharan Africa as one of the most water-stressed and water-scarce areas in the world.

20. She reviewed the outcomes of United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), highlighting the fact that the World Bank had already implemented the promotion of a green accounting pilot project in 50 countries. She also drew attention to the launch of the Zero Hunger Challenge. She asked whether the sustainable development goals should complement the Millennium Development

Goals, replace them or work in tandem with them. She also sought to assist governments in defining their policy objectives and in finding ways of using the third Global Conference on Small Island Developing States, scheduled for 2014, to leverage, among other things, social and economic development, funding for SIDS, a new development thrust to advance the green economy and use of the Caribbean Sea as a carbon sink, and the achievement of a land-degradation-neutral world. She urged governments to act promptly as the window of opportunity was narrow.

21. In the ensuing discussion, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda underscored the difficulty of translating ideas into policy formulation in the short term. Ms. Thompson said that ministers of finance should participate in discussions on sustainable development. Countries needed to be conscious of the shift towards the green economy that was already evident in the marketplace. The representative of Guyana highlighted the need to explore synergies, find the intersections between the various issues and change the trajectory of growth in the region in order to improve the welfare of the people. The Chair cautioned that the countries of the region must be present in the theatres where the new conditionalities attached to the green national accounting systems were being defined to ensure that their interests were taken into account.

Session 2 Consideration of the Millennium Development Goals, the post-2015 development agenda and Rio+20 follow-up initiatives

Introductory presentation

22. Gisela Alonso, Member of the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and President of the Cuban Agency of the Environment provided an overview of the Panel's work, stating that it had been convened to give a vision and a profile that were compatible and coherent with development objectives and the aspirations of countries to improve the quality of life of their peoples. In establishing a platform for sustainable development, the international community must take into account historical problems and be mindful of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. Consumerism would not lead to sustainable development. Natural resources, the basis of sustainable development, were not infinite and must be managed with care. South-South cooperation had increased significantly in recent years, but should not be construed as replacing North-South cooperation. Island countries were highly sensitive to environmental changes and faced numerous threats, including rising sea levels and encroaching salinity.

Report on the national consultations held on the Millennium Development Goals

23. Alva Baptiste, Minister for External Affairs, International Trade and Civil Aviation of Saint Lucia said that, as one of the 50 countries currently participating in national consultations on the Millennium Development Goals, Saint Lucia would engage in a comprehensive dialogue to define its own national development strategy and offer points to the global community for consideration in the post-2015 discussions. Launched in February 2013, the consultations were being conducted through face-to-face town hall meetings, focus group discussions, rap sessions, television and radio talk shows, social media and an open-ended questionnaire circulated via the newspapers. Community-based groups, civil society organizations and State institutions, as well as the diaspora community, would be invited to share their views and vision of the future of Saint Lucia.

24. Saint Lucia had achieved gains in several of the Millennium Development Goals, including education and health, but it remained vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks. The development agenda for the Caribbean over the next 15 years should seek to achieve the following

outcomes: reduction of poverty, inequality and inequity; inclusive, employment-led growth; health and well-being; sustainable agriculture and enhanced food security; and environmental stability. That process would need the participation not only of politicians but of the entire populations of the respective Caribbean islands. Caribbean nationals needed to change their mindset and seek within themselves the answers to the problems that beset the subregion.

25. The Chair mentioned that three other countries in the subregion had recently been approved for national consultations in addition to Saint Lucia: Cuba, Jamaica and Suriname.

Update and progress on the Open-ended Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and Perspectives on the High-level Political Forum of the United Nations General Assembly on sustainable development

26. George Talbot, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Guyana to the United Nations, said that the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and that of the High-level Political Forum were expected to converge in the eventual adoption by the United Nations of a post-2015 development agenda. The discussions were at an early stage and delegations needed to have a sense of the numerous processes in train and their linkages in order to have maximum impact on the deliberations. Indeed, the Caribbean could take the opportunity to define the substantive issues that it wished to have addressed.

27. The sustainable development goals were expected to encompass food security, water, energy, green jobs, decent work, social inclusion, sustainable consumption and production patterns, sustainable cities and climate change. While the intergovernmental process had stalled on procedural questions, the United Nations Secretariat had been very active. The Secretary-General submitted an initial report, incorporating preliminary views of Member States on ideas that could be part of the rubric of these goals. The proposals included food security and sustainable agriculture, water and sanitation, energy, education, poverty eradication and health, tourism, and community culture and spirituality. The position of the High-level Political Forum in the United Nations architecture had not yet been determined. It might need to be related to both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. A hybrid arrangement might be found.

Critical issues for the Caribbean in preparation for the Third Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

28. Mr. Garfield Barnwell, Director of Sustainable Development, CARICOM Secretariat, said that the SIDS agenda should be the platform on which the Caribbean subregion articulated its approach to all the other elements of the Rio+20 agenda. Sustainable growth, which encompassed inclusive growth, shared growth, green growth and knowledge-based growth, was a vital element in that regard. Water, one of the pivotal elements for sustainability, had linkages with other crucial areas, notably energy, health, biodiversity and agriculture. The Caribbean's very high level of biodiversity per capita tied in with the issue of resource efficiency, since a host of value added products came from the biodiversity system. Two other issues were the sensitivity of ecosystems and the importance of the health component. A key challenge for the Caribbean related to implementation. Lastly, he stressed the need to develop international and public-private partnerships (PPPs).

Implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

29. Janice Miller, Under-Secretary for Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Jamaica, recalled that Principle 10, one of the 27 non-legally-binding principles adopted in 1992 in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, provided for the participation of all concerned citizens in handling environmental issues and for access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy. She said that the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, which was adopted by most European Union Member States in 1998 and entered into force in 2001, was the most noteworthy example of implementation of Principle 10. Elsewhere, a growing number of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other international initiatives promoted stakeholder participation in environmental decision-making. The outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, “The Future We Want”, also contained references to the effective engagement of civil society.

30. Led by the Government of Chile, some 10 governments in Latin America and the Caribbean, including Jamaica, had signed a Declaration on the application of Principle 10 and had approved a road map for the preparation of an instrument. Of keen interest to the Caribbean was the regional instrument or convention open to all Latin American and Caribbean countries in the region. A meeting of focal points, held in Chile in November 2012, had unanimously adopted a road map on the application of Principle 10. ECLAC had pointed out that a convention signed by ECLAC member countries would help to educate citizens on the complexity of public issues, improve political stability and send a political message to the rest of the world about the commitment of governments to strengthening democracy and sustainable development. It would also facilitate transparent decision-making and allow all citizens ownership over decisions. Moreover, it would consider sustainable development concerns and the interests of the poor. It would allow for an approach to sustainable development that was participatory and inclusive, thus ensuring more support for decisions taken at Rio+20.

31. The representative of Trinidad and Tobago asked how the panellists envisaged implementation of the undertaking made at Rio+20 to mainstream sustainable development at all levels in light of the post-2015 agenda. She also stressed the need to take into account some of the issues that would come to the fore in context of the green economy. The representative of Guyana asked how countries could ensure that they had a deliberate voice in shaping a single post-2015 agenda and did not lose the opportunity to be meaningful players in the process. The representative of Cuba said that it was vital that the subregion should take advantage of all the ongoing processes and start to prepare its position for the summit in 2014.

32. Mr. Barnwell said that there were three possible scenarios in relation to the post-2015 agenda: identifying the gaps and meeting all the unfulfilled promises relating to the Millennium Development Goals; defining sustainable development goals and looking at the gap between the two types of goals; and articulating SIDS concerns within the 2014 agenda. He said that they should make the most of the 2014 SIDS meeting and ensure a greater level of coherence, synergies and sequencing of the SIDS agenda. Climate change was of paramount importance and needed to be addressed with a great sense of urgency. Minister Baptiste stressed that, as middle-income countries, Caribbean SIDS no longer qualified for certain types of assistance and that the emphasis should be on the economic health of their nations. The deterioration in economic indicators was partly due to the rise in interest-related expenditures and extreme weather events.

33. Participants also said that the private sector should play a greater role in discussions on sustainable development and asked whether an instrument on overall access to information would not be more relevant than one confined to environmental matters.

Session 3 Advancing development in addressing the vulnerability of Caribbean SIDS through resilience building

Theme 1 Promoting human development, citizen security and human rights in Caribbean SIDS

34. Discussions on theme 1 were moderated by John Maginley, Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation and Culture, Antigua and Barbuda. Minister Maginley said that although the Caribbean islands ranked differently in terms of development, in most cases, increased longevity, clearly a success, created new challenges. In terms of fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals, most of the islands had moved on to universal secondary education but some groups, notably young men, had been left behind. Citizen security and social violence were serious problems. The randomness with which violence was perpetrated and the widespread use of firearms were alarming. Human rights, democracy and citizen participation were viewed as pathways to change. Governments had responded to inequalities by setting up social safety nets and, in particular, provided free education, free school books, free school meals and universal health care. The issue of deportees was a serious problem and the islands needed to share a watch list. As open tourism-based markets, they were encouraging visitors, but people from all walks of life were flooding in and governments needed to know who they were.

35. Jacqueline Sharpe, International Planned Parenthood Federation, said that the Caribbean might be moving up the Human Development Index, but disaggregation of data revealed real pockets of vulnerability. It was essential to uphold the human rights of the entire population. Strides had made in health and education, but, again, there were vulnerable groups. Sexual and reproductive rights needed to be placed squarely on the table, along with gender equity and equality, HIV/AIDS, and maternal and infant mortality and morbidity. The problems of sex workers should be addressed, since they intersected with the issue of migration and human trafficking. Age-appropriate sex education should be integrated into the school curriculum, since lack of such education fuelled issues of poverty. Sexual and other forms of abuse increased the burden of disease, both mental and physical, among the persons affected. The gay, lesbian and bisexual community suffered greatly from direct violence and discrimination in many societies.

36. Professor Anthony Harriot said that the *Human Development Report* on the Caribbean 2010 had revealed that the majority of the population viewed ordinary criminal violence as the number one priority for action by their governments. In his view, one response should be to make State agencies more responsive to, and protective of, the people for whom they were responsible. In that regard, the small size of Caribbean territories could be considered a huge advantage. By decentralizing, small States could organize community-based policing. The community was an excellent framework for helping make young people useful and productive citizens and for reintegrating certain elements into society. The *Human Development Report* showed a few promising practices in the Caribbean in reducing social vulnerability and violence. Good programmes existed in several countries and should be properly documented, disseminated and replicated across the region.

37. Carissa Etienne, Pan American Health Organization, said that health was a human right and was critical to human development. Progress towards realization of health goals in Latin America and the Caribbean, albeit significant, masked great disparities. Hence, it was imperative to anchor discussions on how

to reach vulnerable populations. Human security and public health were deeply intertwined. As long as disparities existed within populations, the countries of the region would be unable to achieve citizen security.

38. The World Health Organization was advocating universal health coverage and all Member States had committed to that vision. Health care should be delivered on a timely basis. Universal health cover meant guaranteeing prompt access to good quality health services without the risk of impoverishment. The social and environmental determinants of health included clean water and sanitation and access to the labour market. Primary health care did not mean poor health care for poor people. Universal health care was a way of addressing health priorities according to countries' priorities.

39. In the discussion that followed, participants raised questions about the quality of education; its relevance to the twenty-first century and the need to prepare students for new types of literacy; the need for relevant, good quality teacher training; the affordability of universal health care; the need for citizens to decide what health issues must be covered; the need for preventative care and lifestyle changes; and equitable distribution of resources across the different levels of education. It was pointed out that health care might be free at the point of access but that it was never cost-free. Sharing costs and pooling processes could be useful approaches. It was also stated that the issue of age-appropriate sex education posed constraints because of broadly divergent views within countries.

40. The representative of UNAIDS said that a commitment was needed across the region to reach the excluded population. A rights-based approach to development was needed. That was one of the missing pieces in the CARICOM architecture on human rights. Furthermore, a partnership between civil society and government might provide access to vulnerable populations.

41. The moderator said that universal access meant care for all, not necessarily care for everything. New technologies had ushered in new expectations, but the State was slow in keeping up with such changes.

Theme 2 Promoting inclusive growth through diversification, creativity and innovation in Caribbean SIDS

42. Arnaldo Brown, Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica, who acted as moderator for the above theme, said that a new economic model for development was needed that leveraged the creative abilities of people. Inclusive growth must deliver decent jobs together with acceptable levels of recreation and self-actualization. The subregion had achieved only limited diversification, moving from a model based on agricultural monoculture to a "services monoculture". The creativity of the Caribbean people was well known, but the region lacked the ability to channel its innovative work to the best effect. A number of binding constraints restricted efforts at innovation: weak institutions, poor infrastructure, and the high cost of finance. Interest rate spreads were exceedingly high, as were collateral requirements. There was insufficient focus on developing indigenous technologies, while research and development levels lagged far behind best practices. Poor infrastructure maintenance programmes, in particular in the area of transport, acted as a major impediment to the region.

43. Wages were low and conditions precarious. Vulnerability and fragility were the hallmarks of the Caribbean. Natural disasters had cost the region billions. The region needed to reduce red tape and lower the costs of doing business. A regional approach including regional registries might be useful. Better incentives for venture capital could be introduced along with lower discounts and lending rates. A culture of lifelong learning and on-the-job training should be promoted. Bulk purchasing and energy futures could be pursued. Migration was now being viewed as circulatory. Many returning migrants introduced new technologies and knowledge acquired during their stay abroad. A migration and development policy,

coupled with a diaspora policy that leveraged the creative energies of that population, could have a positive impact.

44. Rosina Wiltshire, the CARICOM Advocate for Gender Justice, said that the Caribbean, once regarded as a model of development, was moving backwards in key indicators. It was impossible to solve a problem from the level of consciousness that created it in the first place. The core objectives of the old economic model had been designed in a colonial framework in which people and resources were to be controlled in the interests of a few. Cultural diversity had thrived in spite of the educational model, although competition and control had been rife between the haves and the have-nots, between more and less successful countries and between different ethnic groups. Emotional and physical violence were embedded in the system and there were high levels of violence against women. The dismemberment of Caribbean cultural institutions had serious impacts, especially on youth. The human rights model was crucial for achieving well-being and education for all. The speaker stressed the need to revisit the fundamentals in order to attain inclusive growth and to work towards enabling an inclusive government system. Small changes could result in big gains.

45. Douglas Camacho, Insurance Association of the Caribbean, referred to the divide between governments and the private sector. He said that the infrastructure was woefully weak and doing business was exceedingly difficult. He criticized the insularity of all the small islands and deplored the fact that it was difficult to obtain financing at a time when the financial institutions in the region were at their most liquid. An enabling environment was needed to facilitate business and investment in the region.

46. In the ensuing discussion, participants made the following points: businesspeople and policymakers did not share the same values, but needed to meet in a constructive spirit; many Caribbean people equated service with servitude and needed to overcome that attitude; ways should be found for Caribbean firms to patent their inventions.

Theme 3 Building resilience and social cohesion by leveraging cultural capital and community empowerment in Caribbean SIDS

47. Winston Moore, Senior Lecturer, Cave Hill Campus, University of the West Indies, said that social cohesion had long been recognized as essential to the long-term development of nations. Budget cuts in response to the economic slowdown had made it difficult to finance social resilience. In most countries, unemployment had been creeping up; youth unemployment was currently estimated at about 30% and had been linked to crime and violence in the subregion. Degrading ecosystems caused landslides and had an impact on food security. The large and porous borders of SIDS facilitated drug trafficking, which was also related to other crime. Climate change had to be addressed since a large proportion of Caribbean communities were settled along the coast and sea-level rise would have serious implications for them. The high prevalence of non-communicable diseases resulted in premature loss of life. He cited two success stories in the subregion: the establishment of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre and the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility.

48. Garfield Barnwell identified climate change, natural disasters and transnational crime and violence as the three main issues to be addressed in order to build resilience. The focus should be on adaptation. Caribbean SIDS contributed an infinitesimal proportion of greenhouse gases, but suffered more frequent and more devastating disasters than other SIDS. Sea-level rise was occurring at an alarming rate but temperature rises and precipitation rates were also cause for concern. The Guianas were in the forefront in terms of vulnerability to sea-level rise. A regional strategic plan based on extensive consultations with member States should be developed. The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management

Agency (CDEMA) had outlined a number of actions for addressing different scenarios. The important element in building resilience related to the issue of trust.

49. Cletus Springer of the Organization of American States recommended setting up a facility in the Caribbean to undertake scenario or futures planning in order to discern possible events that might have ramifications and decide how to adjust to them. He said that the difficulties now faced by the Caribbean could have been foreseen ever since the European Union removed preferential access for the region's bananas. In Saint Lucia, for example, many banana farmers had moved into low-end services, for the most part in tourism, leaving hundreds of acres of agricultural land to go barren. So the country suffered a triple whammy effect: decline in foreign exchange earnings; loss of productivity; and increase in food insecurity. Policies failed to respond to a rapidly evolving global situation. The inherent fragility of the Caribbean was compounded by a high degree of acquired vulnerability due to the inability to take hard decisions. Simple solutions, such as the use of hurricane straps to secure roofs exposed to hurricane force winds, could improve resilience. Use of solar panels in schools or hospitals could enhance energy security. Three recommendations were: the adoption of evidence-based policies in the Caribbean; the compilation and frequent updating of robust data to provide an integrated view of the issues; and the development of visioning scenarios and assessments to enhance the region's planning capability.

50. In the discussion that followed, participants highlighted the following points: empowerment of the people by providing them with access to information, participation and justice, as enshrined in Principle 10, was vital for the Caribbean; policymakers needed not just to know that sea levels were going to rise but to receive cost-benefit analyses of the impact of such rises; action at the local government and community levels could yield highly satisfactory results; loss of topsoil was a serious issue since it meant loss of agriculture; accountability and proper implementation of legislation were necessary to avoid further degradation of the environment. One participant announced that a school for environmental impact assessments in the Caribbean was being set up with funding from Norway and would come on stream in the first half of the year. Another participant stressed the need to educate the people who lived and worked on the shores of the Caribbean islands in sustainable management of coastal areas.

51. The representative of Cuba stressed the importance of strategic planning by sectors as an instrument for social and economic integration and environmental protection and said that concrete, integrated solutions were needed in an increasingly complex world.

52. In closing, the panellists stressed the need for corporate social responsibility and said that incentives should be tied to proper sustainability practices and consideration should be given to the science and policy interface. Community involvement, including churches, was important.

53. In summing up, Winston Moore identified seven key points: visioning (setting-up a facility to scan the future in order to identify potential threats as well as opportunities); taking the hard decisions, rather than increasing vulnerability through inaction; identifying and leveraging the strengths, talents and skills of the poor; linking social protection and innovation; enforcing legislation; adopting an integrated strategy, supported by access to information; strategic planning by sectors with a view to building sustainability at the community level.

Session 4 Strengthening governance and financial infrastructure in support of sustainable development in Caribbean SIDS

Theme 4 Enhancing institutional infrastructure and governance for sustainable development in Caribbean SIDS

54. Discussions on theme 4 were moderated by Cletus Springer, Director, Sustainable Development Department, Organization of American States (OAS). He said that an architecture of governance for sustainable development in the Caribbean would help to steer the process towards equity and environmental sustainability. Since 1992, progress had been made, notably in institution-building. Strong participatory government processes were in place along with a body of environmental law. Several challenges remained, however. They included: the differences in sustainable development objectives in terms of linking the environment to the traditional economic development paradigm; policy challenges; the need to obtain good quality data for decision-making; capacity requirements; funding challenges; and enhancing citizens' involvement to ensure accountability.

55. He recommended involving subnational actors in participatory decision-making; enhancing inter-institutional cooperation across ministries and public agencies; fostering capacity-building at all levels of government; creating appropriate platforms, including information systems and electronic databases; addressing legislative and regulatory shortcomings; adopting innovative financial approaches for the various sectors; and strengthening social programmes.

56. Gisela Alonso, President of the Cuban Agency for the Environment, said that her country was working intensively to incorporate economic, social and environmental elements in planning, with a view to achieving real economic viability. Long-term strategic assessments, based on the three dimensions of sustainability, were being conducted on a sectoral basis, with studies in the oil, tourism and mining sectors. At the instruction of the Government, the scientific community in Cuba had undertaken studies on food security, energy and climate change at the local level in order to determine what adaptation measures could be applied variously in the fields of agriculture, health and coastal management. Research into building the information society had also been commissioned. Social development and land-use planning were also being tackled at the local level. Local development was tied in with citizen advocacy in Cuba. Administrative decentralization and ministerial restructuring were being pursued to enhance the role of local government.

57. Gordon Bispham, Chair, Caribbean Policy Development Centre discussed the issue of "governance for the Caribbean we want". He said that the prerequisites were a shared vision among players, common goals, synergies for partnership and relevant information for decision-making. He cited a number of examples of good practices in sustainable development governance. He lamented the absence of the evidence-based approach at the regional, national, local and corporate levels; the low degree of advocacy and activism in the Caribbean; the absence of investment to bridge the information gap and the lack of investment in statistical and information infrastructure, which hampered monitoring of the Millennium Development Goals. He said that an inclusive and transformational vision was needed and all citizens and parliamentarians needed to be on board; a regional forum of major groups should be held annually; a CARICOM sustainable development technical group would be needed to support implementation of the region's sustainable development aspirations; and the Chaguaramas Treaty should be amended to explicitly incorporate Principle 10. The Global Environmental Facility should be approached in 2014 with a view to financing a Caribbean SIDS-wide statistical information and governance system.

58. Cletus Springer said that geographic information systems were underutilized in the Caribbean and suggested engaging in negotiations with Google. The CARICOM representative said that the region needed to provide training in capacity-building and to conduct cost-benefit analyses. The carbon footprint of export goods and services should be assessed. One participant discussed the process whereby the environment department made submissions, which were valuable in assisting the cabinet in the decision-making process. Other participants said that it was important to have a full accounting system that linked

the present with the future and that internalized external costs, such as those relating to the atmosphere and ecosystems. Analysing the carrying capacity of fragile ecosystems in the region was crucial both from an economic and an environmental perspective.

Theme 5 Financing for sustainable development in small, middle-income Caribbean countries

59. The discussions relating to theme 5 were moderated by Winston Dookeran, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago. He said that integration movements had reached their limits. The European countries needed to arrive at a fiscal compact to support an integration movement that had reached its limits in the global connected world. Many of the Caribbean subregion's agreements had to do with trade facilitation and little emphasis was placed on the production side. Furthermore, no mechanism existed for a people-driven approach, which was one of the pillars of the convergence process. Macroeconomic stability was a dynamic concept, and should be measured in terms of the ability of the economies to respond to shocks, their capacity to adjust and the existence of buffers. Indeed, since shocks were a permanent feature of the region's history, shock absorbers were essential to enable the Caribbean economies to build long-term stability in the financial sector. A strategy was needed to free up capital flows in the wider Caribbean region and beyond. The excess liquidity present in some countries needed to be channelled towards deficit areas. The financial and banking sector disposed of huge assets but very little was converted to productive enterprises.

60. The crisis had eroded the fiscal space of the economies in the region. The idea floated by the World Bank of having diaspora bonds to allow the large Caribbean diaspora communities to participate in financing the region's economies deserved to be explored. Public-private partnerships could be another source of funding, especially in the tourism and services sectors. Funds existed in the region and could be harnessed in a more creative way. He sensed that confidence was being restored. The global economy was no longer in the doldrums. The region had weathered the storm. He hoped that the current round tables would result in recommendations on ways of improving the flow of funds in the short term.

61. Amina Mohammed, Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning, reported on progress towards the definition of a post-2015 development agenda. She said that the conversations being held around the world should contribute to a realistic set of goals. The voice of the South was much stronger. The idea was to use the current consultations to take stock of the key issues and come up with a balanced view and robust and reliable recommendations. The present discussions were preliminary to the meeting of the High-level Panel to be held in Bali from 25 to 27 March, which would be followed by a meeting in September within the framework of the General Assembly. Official development assistance (ODA) was important but was not the only source of financing. New parameters for discussion would be set for foreign direct investment and innovative partnerships.

62. Jaevion Nelson, representative of the Jamaican Forum for Lesbians, all Sexuals and Gays, said that investment in health could not be postponed. Every dollar needed to be invested strategically. Countries must undertake reforms to generate more revenue and borrow less. Some changes were already taking place and governments were committed to changing the trajectory for development. Issues of human development, human rights and citizen security needed to be addressed promptly. When communities designed and managed their own programmes, they proved to be sustainable over time. Governments needed to show greater regard for civil society and recognize the role it could play in nation-building and civil society needed to demonstrate a commitment to nation-building.

63. Rueanna Haynes, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, said that large amounts of resources existed, but were not being translated into productivity on the ground and small businesses were unable to attract financing. The Rio+20 outcome had not called for a scaling up of ODA but for greater transparency in how existing ODA was delivered by developed countries and for innovative sources of funding. It also called for the creation of a new mechanism to

assess financing needs. A report was being prepared for the General Assembly to propose strategies for achieving sustainable development objectives. A high level of advocacy was needed in the preparation of the report and in ensuring that its recommendations took into account the special circumstances of the Caribbean. Innovative forms of financing were to be expanded. Public-private partnerships were to be encouraged, but would need to be properly managed. GDP was not an adequate measure of progress or macroeconomic stability. Green economy policies should not serve as a pretext for trade restrictions.

64. The representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines said that the prescription which international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund reserved for the developing countries was driven mainly by the United States Treasury and the Washington Consensus. Those international institutions had been criticized for the numerous errors made in trying to address the problems of the developing world. Caribbean people needed to look for solutions within themselves and draw on their inherent creativity. One participant pointed out that it would be difficult to make a case for assistance from the international community when there was money in Caribbean countries that was not being mobilized, although much of those funds was in social insurance schemes and would soon be needed to face the demands of an ageing population. Another participant stressed that the subregion should come together as a matter of urgency to work out how best it could mobilize the funds by transcending national boundaries and pointed out that a common approach of that kind would give countries a great deal of leverage in their dealings with international institutions. Participants also discussed the use of diaspora bonds, the need for more resource efficiency; the possibility of raising living standards through cooperation with the business sector; and investing in green mortgages. It was also stressed that there must be a special category for small, heavily indebted, middle-income countries.

Session 5 Plenary session to consider a Caribbean statement on the follow-up to Rio+20, the Sustainable Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda

65. The participants agreed to the priority areas for attention listed in the Caribbean statement on the follow-up to Rio+20, the Sustainable Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda. The text of the Summary Conclusions containing these priority areas appears as annex 1 to this report.

Tribute to the memory of President Hugo Chávez

66. On behalf of the participants in the Caribbean Forum, the Chair read out a statement expressing sadness at the passing of President Hugo Chávez of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and presenting condolences to the Government and people of that country. The statement is attached as annex 2 to this report. At the invitation of the Chair, participants then observed a minute's silence in his memory.

Session 6 Closing ceremony

67. In the closing ceremony, statements were made by Colin Granderson, Assistant Secretary-General of CARICOM; Crispin Gregoire, Chief of Strategic Monitoring and Support, Caribbean Country Offices of the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean and Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC.

68. The Assistant Secretary General of CARICOM said that the participants had engaged in a wide-ranging and productive exchange of views underlining the concerns, the interests and the recommendations of the subregion and that those concerns were enshrined in the outcome document. The document outlined the contours of the subregional realities, and would serve as an indicative road map as the region went forward to take part in discussions at the regional and global levels. He thanked

participants for their spirited engagement in making the consultations a success. The discussions had highlighted the importance of increasing coordination and dissemination of information across sectors and the cross-cutting nature of sustainable development. They had provided new lenses through which to look at issues as well as ample food for thought. They had covered issues such as the various dimensions of equity, people-centred development and the increasing importance of green economy considerations, and emphasized the importance of relying to a greater extent on local and regional resources and leveraging those resources to help fund the subregion's development at a time of shrinking ODA and FDI. A considerable amount of work remained to be done but all participants had demonstrated that they had the will and the capacity to work together to achieve these purposes.

69. The Chief of Strategic Monitoring and Support, Caribbean Country Offices, United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean said that the Caribbean voice was leading on issues of vulnerability, resilience and climate change, citizen security, growth with equity, sustainability and SIDS. The third Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, scheduled for 2014, would be a unique platform for the Caribbean and the key challenge was to have a clear, strategic road map. A paradigm shift was in the making, finally enabling policy-makers to recognize that sustainable development had to be approached holistically. Broad positions were gaining traction as governments and civil society, non-governmental organizations and think-tanks proceeded on the post-2015 development agenda. There was growing recognition that the existing aid architecture had been designed for a different era and would need to be changed. Implementation and intergovernmental coordination were fundamental issues. People-centred accountability was becoming more and more important as a way of holding governments accountable for their commitments. The international community was on the threshold of major historical initiatives and would need to remain alert.

70. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC said that the Caribbean needed to articulate the critical messages it wanted to convey to the international community as they moved towards the post-2015 development agenda and the SIDS conference. The Caribbean, which faced serious challenges on issues ranging from low economic growth to citizen insecurity and the prevalence of non-communicable diseases, was intent on moving to a different quality integration that was beyond trade. It also needed to build resilience on the financial front. The SIDS+20 process was an opportunity to show the priorities of the Caribbean. ECLAC was eager to assist in that process. The Caribbean should indicate what its expectations from the rest of the region were, whether cooperation, investment or financial flows. She said that the ECLAC vision was very closely aligned with the notion of development from within advocated by the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia. ECLAC was committed to empowering the Caribbean to become a very important stakeholder in the global negotiations and she pledged to work unstintingly to that end.

71. In closing the Caribbean Forum, the Chair said that the Caribbean countries should make use of the opportunities presented to them, indeed create opportunities, in order to realize the development goals of the subregion and, in doing so, must be tireless in their efforts at regional integration even as they sought the support and partnership of the developed world in making their vision a reality.

Annex 1

SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS**Introduction**

At the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the international community agreed to Agenda 21 which raised awareness of the fragility of the environment and resulted in the development of strategies for achieving sustainable development. However, this agenda did not consider the special needs of small island developing States (SIDS). This need was articulated in the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (BPoA) and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (MSI).

Following this, countries committed to the Millennium Declaration, which led to the formulation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and continued to review progress in meeting the BPoA, MSI and the MDGs. In particular, the MDGs will be reviewed in 2015 and the need has arisen to define a post-2015 development agenda, and this is of relevance to Caribbean SIDS given the challenges that they face in meeting the goals of the BPoA and the MSI, and in achieving the MDGs.

The initiation of a complex process within the framework of the United Nations to define a post-2015 development agenda and, possibly, sustainable development goals engages the full participation of Caribbean SIDS, because of the need to consider the special needs of these countries as well as the challenges they are facing in meeting the various goals. This process has started with the convening of national-level consultations in Saint Lucia in respect of a post-2015 development agenda.

Caribbean SIDS are also involved in regional preparations for the third Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Development States that will be convened in Jamaica on 2-4 July 2013, as well as the Latin American and Caribbean ministerial meeting that will take place in September 2013 in Barbados. The outcomes of both meetings will feed into the global meeting to be held in Samoa in 2014. This meeting will review progress made 10 years after the MSI and 20 years after the BPoA were adopted. It is expected that this global meeting will set the stage for the post-2015 development agenda that will focus on the progress made by Caribbean SIDS in achieving the goals of the BPoA and the MSI and also address emerging issues of importance to SIDS.

It is within this context that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), convened a meeting entitled “The Caribbean Forum: Shaping a Sustainable Development Agenda to Address the Caribbean Reality in the Twenty-first Century” to discuss the challenges being faced by Caribbean SIDS and to provide input in defining a post-2015 agenda. This forum, which was held in Bogota on 5 and 6 March 2013, agreed on the following guidelines and priority areas for action.

1. Guidelines

It is proposed that the development agenda for the Caribbean in the twenty-first century be based on the nine guidelines set forth below, and maintain and expand the social, economic, and environmental development of the subregion's human and natural resources. The subregion regards the post-2015 development agenda as embracing the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development goals, which are complementary to each other, and as providing countries with the flexibility to identify their respective avenues for development within a coherent and single vision for the Caribbean.

Accordingly, the development of the subregion will continue to be guided by the following:

1. Poverty eradication, with specific focus on vulnerable groups, inter-generational poverty, and ensuring the sustainability of gains made in poverty reduction;
2. Participation: The subregion is committed to ensuring the participation of all segments of the population, including civil society, private sector, trade unions and the most vulnerable segments, in the development process;
3. Sustained, inclusive and equitable growth to the benefit of all citizens;
4. People-centred development;
5. Applicable regional and global agendas;
6. A comprehensive development agenda;
7. The recognition of the vulnerabilities of small island developing States;
8. Enhanced and inclusive governance;
9. The finite natural resources of the subregion.

2. Priority areas for attention

Among others, the meeting proposed the following priority areas for attention:

1. Increasing investment in research and development and furthering the patenting of inventions originating in the region;
2. Improving the availability and efficiency of regional air and sea transport;
3. Upgrading education systems from early childhood through tertiary to ensure relevance to twenty-first century realities, paying particular attention to addressing appropriate teacher training and continuing professional development;
4. Bridging the science-policy interface to inform evidence-based policymaking;

5. Ensuring the availability of education and employment opportunities for young people to contribute effectively to the creative, intellectual and economic development of their communities, countries and the region;
6. Addressing the development of our children and youth, with emphasis on their active involvement in development;
7. Prioritizing policies and actions to address citizen security, focusing on youth and gender-based violence;
8. Enforcement of legislation in the area of sustainable development;
9. Adopting a more integrated development strategy in economic, social and environmental dimensions;
10. Strategic assessment and planning in key sectors, including amendments to legislation and regulations to take account of vulnerabilities and emerging challenges and building sustainability at the community level;
11. Utilizing a futures-based approach in identifying potential threats as well as opportunities;
12. Creating a sustainable development technical group to provide advice to key regional bodies;
13. Designing a mechanism to assess the carrying capacity of the tourism industry;
14. Strengthening the capacity for preparation of cost-benefit analyses, environmental impact assessments and feasibility studies that convey the full externalities of investment and other economic decisions;
15. Examining best practice models in participatory decision-making;
16. Identifying emerging windows of opportunity in the international sphere for advancing the sustainable development agenda of Caribbean small island developing States;
17. Promoting the convergence model of development finance to convert excess liquidity in the private banking and financial sector into loans and equity for productive enterprise;
18. Devising mechanisms to minimize and adapt to the effects of economic shocks;
19. Promoting partnerships, including public-private partnerships as vehicles for development;
20. Examining ways in which the United Nations system can support countries in implementing sustainable development initiatives;
21. Advocating for special consideration to be given to small, heavily indebted middle-income countries by international financial and development institutions;
22. Advocating for the application of measures of development that address the vulnerability of Caribbean small island developing States;

23. Attracting more innovative sources of foreign direct investment;
24. Exploring innovative ways to increase engagement of the diaspora in subregional development, including through diaspora direct investment in line with national policies and priorities;
25. Resolving to ensure that the implementation of green economy policies is supported by finance and that innovative sources of finance meet the needs of the countries and that such policies be implemented on a voluntary basis and in accordance with national priorities;
26. Addressing more seriously the challenges of energy, food and water security;
27. Establishing a balance between environmental preservation and conservation including the management of the region's biodiversity resources;
28. Exploring innovative approaches to social protection and mobility;
29. Pursuing more aggressively the creation of knowledge-based economies through enhanced access to information, research and the increased application of appropriate technologies;
30. Address the multidimensional challenges of communicable and non-communicable diseases in a holistic manner, including through ensuring universal access to primary health care services for promotion, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation; and
31. Strengthening measures to address disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in order to build resilience.

Annex 2

**STATEMENT OF CONDOLENCES PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE
OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA ON THE OCCASION
OF THE PASSING OF PRESIDENT HUGO CHAVEZ**

Read out by the Chair at the Caribbean Forum: Shaping a sustainable development agenda to address the Caribbean reality in the twenty-first century

The Caribbean Forum meeting in Bogota, Colombia, expressed profound sadness at the untimely passing of President Chávez of Venezuela.

President Chávez was recognized as a genuine citizen of the Latin America and Caribbean region who sought to build a strong, united and prosperous region. He was a committed, vocal and inspirational leader who will be remembered for his unceasing willingness to challenge the status quo, demand change and take a stand against inequality, injustice and defend the rights of the poor.

The countries meeting at the Caribbean Forum paid tribute to the legacy of President Chavez and expressed condolences to the Government and people of Venezuela at this extremely sad time.

Annex 3

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**A. Estados miembros de la Comisión
Member States of the Commission****ANTIGUA Y BARBUDA/ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**Representante/Representative:

- H. John Maginley, Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation and Culture

BELICE/BELIZERepresentante/Representative:

- Martín Alegría, Chief, Environmental Officer, Department of the Environment, Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries & Sustainable Development

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Wiezsman Pat, Coordinator, Sustainable Development Unit, Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Sustainable Development

COLOMBIARepresentante/Representative:

- María Ángela Holguín, Ministra de Relaciones Exteriores, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Juan Gabriel Uribe, Ministro de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible, Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible
- Patti Londoño Jaramillo, Viceministra de Relaciones Exteriores, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Paula Caballero Gómez, Directora de Asuntos Económicos, Sociales y Ambientales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Carlos Arturo Morales, Embajador, Director de América, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Alejandra Torres, Jefe, Oficina de Asuntos Internacionales, Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible
- Isabel Cavelier, Segunda Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Juanita Castaño, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Adriana Marcela González, Departamento Nacional de Planeación (DNP)
- Ricardo Cortés, Viceministro, Ministerio de Comercio
- María Pirina, Secretaria General, Ministerio de Comercio
- Paula Arévalo, Asesora, Ministerio de Comercio
- Oscar Urbina, Consultor, Ministerio de Comercio
- Juan Carlos Llanes, Profesor Especializado, Ministerio de Trabajo
- Claudia Rodríguez, Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible
- Pedro García, Ministerio de Comercio
- Catalina Góngora, Ministerio de Salud

CUBA

Representante/Representative:

- Gisela Alonso, Directora, Agencia de Medio Ambiente, Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Dulce María Buergo Rodríguez, Consejera, Dirección de Asuntos Multilaterales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Javier Caamaño, Segundo Jefe de Misión, Embajada de Cuba en Colombia

GUYANA

Representante/Representative:

- Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- George Talbot, Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations
- Troy Torrington, First Secretary of Guyana, Permanent Mission of Guyana to the United Nations

JAMAICA

Representante/Representative:

- Arnaldo Brown, Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

Representante/Representative:

- Janice Miller, Under-Secretary for Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Elaine Sánchez, Encargada de Negocios y Cónsul General de la Embajada de Jamaica en Colombia

SANTA LUCÍA/SAINT LUCIA

Representante/Representative:

- Alva Baptiste, Minister of External Affairs, International Trade and Civil Aviation

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Kimberly Louis, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Saint Lucia to the United Nations

SAN VICENTE Y LAS GRANADINAS/SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Andreas Wickham, Resident Ambassador of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

TRINIDAD Y TABAGO/TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Representante/Representative:

- Winston Dookeran, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Peter Mitchell, Assistant Director, Socio-Economic Policy Planning, Ministry of Planning and Sustainable Development
- Garvin Pettier, Deputy Director, CARICOM Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Rueanna Haynes, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations

B. Grupo de Alto Nivel sobre la Agenda para el Desarrollo post-2015/High-level Panel of the Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Gisela Alonso, Directora, Agencia de Medio Ambiente, Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente de Cuba y miembro del Grupo de Alto Nivel
- Patrica Espinosa, Embajadora de México, y miembro del Grupo de Alto Nivel

Representantes de los integrantes titulares del Grupo de Alto Nivel sobre la Agenda para el Desarrollo Post-2015/Representative of members of the High-level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Will Ashley-Cantello, Senior Policy Adviser, Post-2015 Development Framework, Reino Unido
- Ibrahim Qatabi, Advisor
- Abdoulaye Dukule, Head of High-level Panel, Liberia Secretariat
- Johanna Teague, Asesora, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Suecia
- Andrew Light, Senior Fellow and Advisor to John Podesta (High-level Panel of the Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Development, Germany)
- Satya Sundar Tripathi, Director, United Nations Office for REDD+ Coordination in Indonesia (UNORCID)
- Heru Prasetyo, Senior Deputy Minister, Indonesia President's Unit

C. Secretaría de las Naciones Unidas United Nations Secretariat

The Secretariat-UN Secretary-General High Level Panel of Eminent persons on the Post 2015 Development Agenda/Grupo de Alto Nivel de Personas Eminentes sobre la Agenda para el Desarrollo después de 2015

- Amina Moahammed, ex officio member and Special Advisor of the Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning
- Karina Gerlach, Deputy Executive Secretary

Departamento de Asuntos Económicos y Sociales/Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

- Patricia Chaves, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Intergovernmental Support and Interagency Branch, Division of Sustainable Development

- Chantal Line Carpentier, Sustainable Development Officer, Communications and Outreach Branch, Division for Sustainable Development

- Ivo Havinga, Chief, Economic Statistics Branch, Statistics Division

Departamento de Asuntos Políticos/Department of Political Affairs

- Martha Lyn Doggett, Directora

Oficina Ejecutiva del Secretario General/Executive Office of the Secretary-General/

- Joe Colombano, Senior Economic Affairs Officer

Centro de Información de las Naciones Unidas (CINU)/United Nations Information Center

- Damian Cardona, Director para Colombia, el Ecuador y Venezuela
- Liliana Garavito, Directora Adjunta para Colombia, Ecuador y Venezuela
- Luis Eduardo Morales

ONE UN Secretariat for the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Mauricio Valdes, Chief of Staff
- Elizabeth Thompson, High-Level Consultant for the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Pacto Mundial/Global Compact

- Diana Chavez, Directora Regional para América Latina

**D. Organismos de las Naciones Unidas
United Nations bodies**

Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres (ONU-Mujeres)/United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

- Belén Sanz, Representante en Colombia
- Rosina Wiltshire, CARICOM Advocate for Gender Justice
- Leah Odle, Gender Equality Coordination Specialist
- Diana Espinosa, Programme Officer

Estrategia Internacional para la Reducción de Desastres de las Naciones Unidas/United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)

- Ricardo Mena, Jefe de la Oficina Regional para las Américas

Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF)/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

- Bernt Aasen, Director Regional
- Myriam de Figueroa, representante de UNICEF en Colombia

Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas (UNFPA)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

- Marcela Suazo, Directora para América Latina y el Caribe
- Tania Patriota, Representante en Colombia
- Lucy Wartenberg, Representante Adjunta, Colombia

**Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos (ACNUDH)/
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)**

- Cristina Ramírez

Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados (ACNUR)/Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

- Manuel Oviedo, Oficial de Relaciones Externas

Oficina de las Naciones Unidas de Servicios para Proyectos (UNOPS)/United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

- María Noel Vaeza, Directora Regional para América Latina y el Caribe
- Felipe Munevar, Director de Programas
- Rafael Cabrera, Gerente de Portafolio

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- Heraldo Muñoz, Administrador Auxiliar y Director Regional para América Latina y el Caribe y Coordinador del Grupo Regional de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo
- Jessica Faieta, Directora Regional Adjunta para América Latina y el Caribe
- Louise Agersnap, Regional Coordinator Specialist, Panamá
- George Gray Molina, Chief Economist, New York
- Silvia Rucks, Representante Residente Adjunta del PNUD en Colombia
- Crispin Gregoire, Chief, Strategic Monitoring and Support, Caribbean Country Offices, UNDF-LA-
- Lorena Acevedo, Jefe de Gabinete del Presidente del Grupo de Desarrollo de Naciones Unidas para América Latina y el Caribe
- Diego Rafael Antoni Loaeza, Programme Specialist
- José Antonio González, Asesor Principal Post 2015, Bogotá
- Nicole Igloi, Analista Política, New York
- Alessandro Preti, Coordinador Residente, Bogotá
- María Paulina García, Oficial de Coordinación, Bogotá

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA)/United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- Margarita Astrálaga, Directora y Representante Regional para América Latina y el Caribe
- Mara Murillo, Directora Regional Adjunta para América Latina y el Caribe

Programa Mundial de Alimentos (PMA)/World Food Programme (WFP)

- Deborah Hines, Representante, Oficina del Ecuador

Programa Conjunto de las Naciones Unidas sobre el VIH/SIDA (ONUSIDA)/Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

- César Nuñez, Director Regional para América Latina
- Ernest Massiah, Director regional de ONUSIDA para el Caribe, Trinidad y Tabago
- Luis Ángel Moreno, Colombia

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para los Asentamientos Humanos (ONU-Hábitat)/United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

- Mauricio Ballesteros, Asesor para el Proyecto ONU-Hábitat
- Edgar Cataño Sánchez, Habitar Programme Manager, Colombia

**E. Organismos especializados
Specialized agencies**

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura (FAO)/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

- Rafael Zavala, Representante de FAO en Colombia

Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT)/International Labour Organization (ILO)

- Guillermo Miranda, Director Regional Adjunto para la Coordinación de Políticas y Programas
- Guillermo Dutra, Asesor en Reforma de Naciones Unidas

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO)/United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

- Atilio Pizarro, Jefe, Sección de Planificación, Gestión, Monitoreo y Evaluación

Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)-Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS)/World Health Organization (WHO)-Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

- Carissa F. Etienne, Directora
- Karen Sealey, Special Advisor on UN Matters
- José Antonio Pagés, Representante en Chile de la OPS
- Teófilo Monteiro, Representante a.i en Colombia
- Sofía Leticia Morales, Asesora Principal de los Objetivos del Desarrollo del Milenio y Metas de Salud

Fondo Monetario Internacional (FMI)/International Monetary Fund (IMF)

- Axel Bertuch-Samuels, Special Representative to the United Nations

Organización Marítima Internacional (OMI)/International Maritime Organization (IMO)

- Colin Young, Regional Maritime Adviser

Organización Meteorológica Mundial (OMM)/World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

- Oscar Arango, Representative for North America, Central America and the Caribbean

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo Industrial (ONUDI)/United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

- Antonio Assefh, Representante de ONUDI y Director de la Oficina Regional en Colombia

**F. Otras organizaciones intergubernamentales
Other intergovernmental organizations**

Asociación de Estados del Caribe/Association of Caribbean States

- Alfonso Munera, Secretario General

CAF-Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina/CAF-Latin American Development Bank

- Ligia Castro, Directora de Medio Ambiente

Comunidad Andina (CAN)/Andean Community

- María Teresa Becerra, Coordinadora de Medio Ambiente

Comunidad del Caribe (CARICOM)/Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

- Colin Granderson, Assistant Secretary General Foreign and Community Relations
- Myrna Bernard, Officer-in- Charge, Human and Social Development
- Garfield Barnwell, Director, Sustainable Development Unit
- Rudolph Cummings, Programme Manager, Health Sector Development
- Evelyn Wayne, Programme Manager, Macro Economic and Trade Policies

Instituto Centroamericano de Administración Pública (ICAP)/Central American Institute for Public Administration

- Carlos Burgos Rivas, Consultor, Área de Gerencia de Proyectos

Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)/Organization of American States (OAS)

- Claudia de Windt, Senior Legal Specialist, Chief Environmental Law, Policy and Good Governance, Department of Sustainable Development
- Cletus Springer, Director, Department of Sustainable Development

Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica (OTCA)/Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization

- Robby Ramlakhan, Embajador, Secretario General
- Carlos Aragon, Director Administrativo

Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)/International Organization for Migration (IOM)

- Eduardo Medina, Coordinador Migración y Ruralidad
- Antonio José Londoño Vélez, Asesor, Inclusión Social y Sustentabilidad

Sistema Económico Latinoamericano y del Caribe (SELA)/Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA)

- Roberto Guarnieri, Secretario Permanente

**G. Otros participantes
Other participants**

- Emma Nilenfors, Consejera, Jefe de Cooperación, Embajada de Suecia en Colombia
- Helen Yaxley, Primera Secretaria, Department for International Development, Embajada del Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte
- Mayuko Takamura, Oficial, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores del Japón
- Liliana Corredor, Ministerio de Minas y Energía, Colombia
- Olga Lucía Baquero, Ministerio de Minas y Energía, Colombia
- María Rosa Ferrer Carrales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Colombia
- Andrés Soto, Asesor, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Colombia
- María Rosa Ferrer, Segunda Secretaria, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Colombia
- Pedro José García Calderón, Asesor de Relaciones Comerciales, Ministerio de Comercio
- Gary Conille, Special Advisor to President Johnoson Sirleaf, Haití

H. Organizaciones de la sociedad civil **Civil society organizations**

Articulación Feminista MARCOSUR

- Ana Cristina González Velez, Integrante de la Coordinación y Secretariado Regional hacia El Cairo+20, Bogotá

Asociación Ambiente y Sociedad

- Ana Lucía Maya Aguirre, Investigadora, Colombia

BANCOLDEX

- Laura Lanz Pombo, Ejecutiva Oficina de Cooperación y Relaciones Internacionales, Colombia
- Claudia Gutiérrez, Profesional, Oficina de Cooperación y Relaciones Internacionales, Colombia

Campaña “Beyond 2005”

- Gerard Vives, International Officer, Bruselas

Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC)

- Gordon Bispham, Chairman

Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir, A.C, México

- Aidé García Hernández, Coordinadora, Area de Relaciones Interinstitucionales, México

Centro de Apoyo Popular (CENTRAP)

- Hilda María García, Coordinadora de Proyectos Sociales, Colombia

Club Botánico Ambiental

- Mateo Botero, Lider General, Colombia

Coalición de los Pueblos por la Soberanía Alimentaria (OSC PCFS)

- Pedro Germán Guzmán Pérez, Miembro del Comité Coordinador, Bolivia

Colaborating Center on Sustainable Consumption and Production

- Andrés Rozo, Representante para América Latina, Colombia

Confederación Colombiana de ONG (CCONG)

- Philipp Schonrock, Miembro de la Junta Directiva, Bogotá
- Liliana Patricia Rodríguez Burgos, Directora

Confederación Sindical de las Américas

- Daniel Angelin, Asesor Político, Brasil
- Javier Cifuentes, delegado, Colombia

Consejo Internacional de Educación de Personas Adultas

- Marcela Ballara, Coordinadora de Programa, Chile

Consejo Internacional de Educación de Personas Adultas

- Marcela Ballara, Coordinadora de Programa, Uruguay

Corporación de Apoyo a Comunidades Populares (CODACOP)

- María Isabel Martínez Garzón, Asesora, Género y Desarrollo, Colombia

Cor Pro Adulto Mayor

- María Alexandra Cadena Fernández, Directora Ejecutiva, Colombia

Family Planning Association of Trinidad and Tobago

- Dona Dacosta Martinez, Directora Ejecutiva, Trinidad y Tobago

Federación Internacional de Planificación de la Familia/International Planned Parenthood Federation

- Marta Royo Ruiz, Directora Ejecutiva, Colombia
- Jacqueline Sharpe, Board Member

Fundación CEPISIGER para el Desarrollo Humano, Miembro CCONG

- Elisa Dulcey Ruiz, Bogotá

GAIA – Organización No Gubernamental sin Fines de Lucro

- Carolina Neme, Presidente, Uruguay

Gardian Holding Limited

- Douglas Camacho, Group President, Strategic Investment and Projects-

GCAP Y CIVICUS

- Mariano De Donatis, Coordinador Regional GCAP – Regional Ambassador CIVICUS, Buenos Aires

Iniciativa de Acceso

- Andrea Sanhueza, Coordinadora Santiago, Chile

Institute of Criminal Justice and Security (UWI)

- Anthony Harriott, Jamaica
- Winston Moore, Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics Coordinador of the MSc. Financial and Business Economics Programme, Barbados

Jamaican Forum for Lesbians, all Sexuals and Gays

- Jaevion Nelson, Youth Leader, Jamaica

La Alianza

- Lida Nuñez Uribe, Coordinadora, Colombia

Organización Alianza para la Sostenibilidad (ALISOS)

- Wendy Arenas, Directora Ejecutiva, Colombia

Organización Pro Gubernamental pro Familia

- Liliana Schmitz, Gerente de Gestión Social, Colombia

Overseas Development Institute

- Jonathan Glennie, Senior Research Fellow

Red de Educación Popular entre Mujeres (REPEM-LAC)

- Virginia Parra Martínez, Coordinación Regional, Colombia

Red de Mujeres de Educación Popular entre Mujeres Latinoamérica y el Caribe

- Natalia Rodríguez Morales, Equipo Coordinación América Latina, Colombia

Red de Organizaciones no Gubernamentales

- Addys Then Marte, Directora Ejecutiva, República Dominicana

Red Nacional de Mujeres

- Claudia Cecilia Ramírez Cardona, Vocera, Colombia

Sociedad Mundial para la Protección Animal/World Society Protection of Animals (WSPA)

- Diana Ximena Rodríguez Patiño, Coordinadora de Políticas y Gestión, Colombia
- Marcela Vargas, Gerente de Programas, Costa Rica

Unilever Andina Colombia Ltda.

- Ignacio Andres Hojas Alvarez, Senior Vicepresident Middle Americas, Colombia

World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) Scientific & Technological Communities Major Group

- Jaime Santamaria Serrano, delegado, París

World Vision International

- Arelys Bellorin, Senior Advisor Strategic Relations and Partnership, Nicaragua
- Luz Alcira Granada Contreras, Advocacy Director, Colombia

I. Secretaría Secretariat

Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL)/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

- Alicia Bárcena, Secretaria Ejecutiva/Executive Secretary
- Joseluis Samaniego, Director, División de Desarrollo Sostenible y Asentamientos Humanos/Chief, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division
- Luis F. Yañez, Oficial a cargo, Secretaría de la Comisión/Officer-in-charge, Secretary of the Commission
- Carlos de Miguel, Jefe, Unidad de Políticas para el Desarrollo Sostenible, División de Desarrollo Sostenible y Asentamientos Humanos/Chief, Policies for Sustainable Development Unit, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division
- Cielo Morales, Oficial a cargo, Unidad de Gerencia de Proyectos, División de Planificación de Programas y Operaciones/Officer in charge, Project Management Unit, Programme Planning and Operations Division
- María Amparo Lasso, Jefa, Unidad de Información y Servicios web de la CEPAL/Chief Public Information and web services section
- Rudolf Buitelaar, Jefe del Área de Desarrollo Local y Regional, Instituto Latinoamericano y del Caribe de Planificación Económica y Social (ILPES)/Chief, Local and Regional Development Area, Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)

- Heather Page, Oficial de Asuntos Ambientales, División de Desarrollo Sostenible y Asentamientos Humanos/Environmental Affairs Officer, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division
- Salvador Marconi, Estadístico, División de Estadísticas/Statistician, Statistics Division
- Guillermo Acuña, Asistente Legal, Secretaría de la Comisión/Legal Assistant, Office of the Secretary of the Commission
- Filippa Correia, Oficial de Asuntos Económicos, Oficina de la Secretaría Ejecutiva/Economic Affairs Officer, Office of the Executive Secretary

Sede subregional de la CEPAL para el Caribe/ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean

- Diane Quarless, Directora/Chief
- Charmaine Gomes, Coordinator of the Sustainable Development Unit

Oficina de la CEPAL en Bogotá/ECLAC office in Bogota

- Juan Carlos Ramírez, Director/Chief
- Olga Lucía Acosta, Asesora Regional/Regional Adviser
- Julián Cardozo, Asistente Administrativo/Administrative Assistant