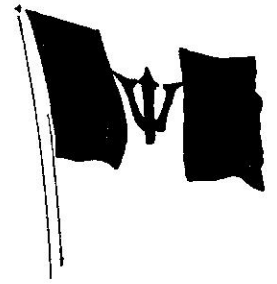




*Permanent Mission  
of Barbados to  
the United Nations*  
STATEMENT BY



**MS. KEREETA WHYTE  
FIRST SECRETARY  
PERMANENT MISSION OF BARBADOS TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE**

**ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

**ON BEHALF OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)**

**ON**

**FOCUS AREAS 13 AND 14: "CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE  
USE OF MARINE RESOURCES, OCEANS AND SEAS" AND  
"ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY"**

**67<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON**

**MAY 8, 2014**

**United Nations Headquarters  
New York**

*Please check against delivery*

Mr. Co-Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the fourteen (14) Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

Permit me to use this opportunity to note that CARICOM aligns itself with the AOSIS statement on Focus Area 12 - Climate Change, which will be uploaded on the relevant website later.

CARICOM aligns itself with the statement delivered by Bolivia on behalf of the G77 and China and the statement delivered by Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States.

Mr. Co-Chair,

### **Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Resources, Oceans and Seas**

With reference to Focus Area 13, CARICOM, welcomes the reference to "small scale fisheries" in Target C. However, as Small Island Developing States (SIDS), we would wish to see greater emphasis on this issue and accordingly we would propose that it be a standalone target. More specifically, we would propose a target "support small scale fisheries and the need to improve access and equity to fisheries and markets".

Additionally we would propose the following targets for inclusion in this focus area:

- I. "strengthening the resilience of coastal communities against environmental and economic shocks"; and
- II. "By 2020, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change on ocean acidification are minimised, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning".

While we are supportive of Targets F - "Establish Marine Protected Areas, consistent with international law" and G - "by 2030, eliminate fishing subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing", we are of the view that these should be considered as theme-specific Means of Implementation for this focus area.

Given the cross-cutting nature of this Focus Area, some of the targets could also be reflected in Focus Area 2 - "Sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition" and Focus Area 14.

### **Ecosystems and Biodiversity**

Mr. Co-Chair,

CARICOM supports a standalone goal in this area and we are appreciative of the approach taken by the Co-Chairs in the treatment of this Focus Area in the working document.

We welcome Targets D - "by 2030, ensure sustainable management of all forests and mountain ecosystems, halting deforestation and increasing reforestation by x%"; and H- "by 2030 eliminate invasive alien species".

We propose that targets A and B be combined.

We would propose the following Target: "Ensuring full implementation of regional and international regimes governing the conservation and sustainable utilisation of biological ocean resources.

I thank you.