



STATEMENT

BY

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OF BELIZE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON BEHALF OF
THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)

AT THE

INFORMAL MEETINGS OF THE PLENARY OF THE PROCESS OF
INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT
AGENDA, PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 69/244 AND DECISIONS 69/550 AND
69/555, AND AS PART OF THE PREPARATORY PROCESS OF THE THIRD
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT, IN
ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION 68/279

21 APRIL 2015

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I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Member States of the Caribbean Community.

The CARICOM Member States associate this statement with the statements delivered by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and by the Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States. [CELAC?]

As the Group of 77 and China and AOSIS have elaborated, the Financing for Development outcome and the Post-2015 development agenda should be coherent, mutually re-enforcing and at the same time they must also be understood (for their integrity).

For both FfD and Post-2015, sustainable development will serve as their conceptual framework; and catalyzing transformation towards sustainable development as their ultimate objective; but they are distinct in scope and in substance.

'The FfD outcome is intended to elaborate a policy framework to enhance the mobilization and the provision of finance **and other means of implementation** to support sustainable development at the national and international level, drawing from a wide variety of sources.'

The Post 2015 development agenda, on the other hand, will define a set of aspirational and universal sustainable development goals for which targeted support (or means of implementation (MOI)) will be required to ensure we achieve the highest ambition.

The main point of coincidence is the means of implementation for the sustainable development goals of the Post-2015 agenda.

Amongst the SDGs, goal 17 specifically addresses means of implementation and the global partnership for development. In addition, each goal has specific MOI targets. CARICOM remains firm that none of these goals shall be re-opened or re-negotiated. Second, it considers that the work of the Statistical Commission to develop an indicative set of global indicators will address all targets including the means of implementation.

For us then the issue that should be our focus is how can the FfD outcome contribute to support specifically the implementation of Goal 17 and the other MOI targets as well as ensure coherence with the post-2015 development agenda as a whole.

To respond, the CARICOM recalls three innovative features (amongst others) of the SDGs. The first is the balance it endeavours to strike across the three dimensions of sustainable development – the economic, the social and the environmental dimensions. Related to this feature is the inter-related and inter-dependent nature of the SDGs which aims to avoid the silo approach that came to define the current Millennium Development Goals. Third is the universal nature of the agenda which shall take account of the

different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respect for national policies and priorities.

It is thus our considered view that if the FfD is to contribute to the post-2015 development agenda, it must incorporate these features, at its core. The FfD should therefore:

- ensure that it addresses the mobilization and provision of resources across the three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced and coherent manner; and,
- ensure that it provides appropriate policy guidance so that financial flows - which are expected to come from a wide variety of sources (public and private, domestic and international) and through various channels (bilateral and multilateral) - are aligned with sustainable development objectives.
- It should address the integrated nature of sustainable development. In this connection, CARICOM commends the attempt on the part of the FFD co-facilitators to identify specific deliverables that could have knock-on effects across multiple goals and targets. We consider also that generally these deliverables could have the further impact of raising the level of ambition for the Post-2015 development agenda.
- And, finally, the FfD outcome should integrate the principle of the universality of the sustainable development agenda while accounting for the different stages of development and the dynamic nature of needs of developing countries. Using SIDS as an example, the FfD outcome should address the vulnerabilities that SIDS face, which warranted their designation as a special case for sustainable development. These vulnerabilities have also given rise to unique challenges for mobilizing adequate finance at the domestic level and the resultant high dependency on public finance. The FfD should therefore ensure appropriate emphasis on an enabling global environment and global partnership for development as alluded to in the AOSIS statement balanced against the increased emphasis being placed on domestic resource mobilization.

Beyond these points, the CARICOM considers that the FfD outcome can and must contribute to the post-2015 development agenda by addressing the mobilisation and provision of climate finance. Tackling climate change is an imperative if we are to achieve our lofty objectives. But it will require means of implementation well beyond those necessary for development objectives. While we recognize the role of the UNFCCC in addressing climate finance, given the integrated nature of the new sustainable development agenda, and the fundamental challenge that climate change poses to sustainable development, it would be egregious on our part were we to treat only cursorily with climate finance.

In this context, we emphasize the need for adequate, predictable, new and additional public financing for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change. We would likewise emphasize the need for adequate, predictable, new and additional financing that would facilitate the transition to low-emission and climate resilient development. We further emphasize the need to address the special needs and circumstances of SIDs in accessing climate finance.

In sum, the CARICOM is of the view that the aforementioned core principles and objectives must be reflected in both FfD and Post 2015 outcomes. But where FfD can go further is in elaborating policy guidance and providing tangible and practical proposals for the various stakeholders at the domestic and international levels.

Finally, we also wish to underscore the criticality of distinct follow up and review processes. As already discussed, the FfD and Post-2015 are distinct in scope and substance. We should spend some time therefore in elaborating how effectively we can ensure follow up on the commitments made under each track and considering how those mechanisms can further ensure complementarity.

We look forward to engaging with all to develop these ideas further and encourage consideration of another joint session in the fifth session of the post-2015 negotiation process.

Thank you.