



Statement on behalf of CARICOM

By

**Ms. Rueanna Haynes, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the
United Nations**

At the

10th Session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

on

**Sustainable Cities and human settlements, Promote Sustainable Consumption and
Production and Climate Change**

United Nations Headquarters

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Mr. Co-chair,

I speak on behalf of the fourteen (14) Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). We align ourselves with the statement delivered by Bolivia on behalf of G77 and China and by Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).

Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements:

CARICOM members would support a goal on “Building Sustainable Cities and decent and affordable human settlements for all”. We note that the success of such a goal would rely heavily on local government for implementation. Consideration should also be given to the need to incorporate the live, work and play model where settlements are close to basic amenities such as schools, playgrounds and other green spaces, shopping areas and access to key government services.

Targets under a standalone goal on this area should prioritise the following:

- Eradicating and preventing slum conditions
- Ensuring access to safe and affordable drinking water and adequate sanitation for all
- Expansion in the use of policies and standards to ensure that due account is taken of environmental and social impacts of existing and planned infrastructure from a lifecycle perspective
- Improve and expand access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport with due regard for improving road safety and urban air quality
- Extending wastewater treatment
- Promoting the planning and building of climate resilient infrastructure taking into account the need for disaster risk reduction
- The promotion of energy efficient buildings

Means of Implementation:

Means of implementation on this goal should be directed toward modern infrastructure development, taking into account adaptation needs in SIDS.

Consideration should also be given to the need to incorporate the live, work and play model where settlements are close to basic amenities such as schools, playgrounds, shopping areas and access to key government services.

Sustainable Consumption and Production:

CARICOM firmly believes there is a need to address unsustainable patterns of consumption and production if we are to truly eradicate poverty and hunger as well as protect and manage the natural resource base and ecosystems which are central to development.

We support a standalone goal on SCP and are of the view that such a goal could be framed as “Promoting Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns”.

Targets under a standalone goal on the issue could include the following:

- Advancing sustainable industrial development based on energy- and resource efficient and environmentally sound industrial processes, including phase out of harmful chemicals, waste and pollution, minimising material use and maximizing material recovery, with technology cooperation and transfer to support such development
- Preventing, reducing, recycling and reusing waste
- Improving water use efficiency
- Eliminating pollution and dumping of toxic materials in water bodies, and protecting aquifers
- Increase reporting on corporate social and environmental responsibility
- Reducing waste in food production and consumption including through traditional knowledge

Means of Implementation on this issue could include:

- The principle of CBDR must apply in the implementation of targets under this goal in accordance with the 10 year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production.

Climate Change:

The treatment of climate change in the context of the sustainable development goal framework should address the urgency required for dealing with the problem of climate change, particularly as it relates to the survival of the most vulnerable states. This must be achieved without duplicating or undermining discussions within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

CARICOM has sought to propose targets across all goal areas that address the causes and effects of climate change consistent with the imperative of holding the average increase in global temperatures to well below 2 degrees or 1.5 degrees Celsius; a sine qua non for the survival and achievement of sustainable development aspirations of SIDS.

In addition to those target areas we would add the following:

- Promoting the planning and building of climate resilient infrastructure taking into account the need for disaster risk reduction
- Increased investment in low carbon solutions in energy, infrastructure and industry
- Increase water efficiency of agricultural production
- Promote the development and use of energy efficiency practices, technologies and standards in building, industry, agriculture and transport

Means of Implementation should include:

- Provision of support to developing countries for implementation of nationally appropriate mitigation action plans developed under the UNFCCC

- Enhancing capacity for comprehensive vulnerability assessments across all sectors including capacity for downscaling climate models for SIDS in the light of the newest available science
- Assistance to developing countries, in particular SIDS, in the development and implementation of low carbon development strategies which prioritise resilience and disaster risk reduction

I thank you.