



STATEMENT

BY

HER EXCELLENCY MS. JANINE COYE-FELSON
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
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

21 MAY 2015

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Co-facilitator,

I have the honour to deliver these remarks on behalf of the Member States of the Caribbean Community.

You will recall from previous sessions that the CARICOM expressed its concerns for the tweaking of targets or a technical review at this stage of our proceedings. After reviewing the Revised Targets Document¹, we are even more convinced that such an exercise will not produce the desired results you expect it to achieve. There is still no cogent rationale for the basis of the selection of the goals. More generally, the criteria that you initially suggested for purposes of tweaking have ostensibly not been adhered to – that is, specificity, measurability and consistency with level of ambition as expressed in existing international commitments, standards and agreements. In some cases, substantive changes have been made and in others ambition has moved up or down depending on interpretation. We reinforce what G77 has stated before that there is no need for further deliberation on tweaking.

We turn next to the matter of filling in the blanks for targets where ‘X’ appears. As we have stated, we are open to consideration of how we may treat with these targets. Here again however we do not find that the proposed revisions are helpful.

The CARICOM Secretariat itself has weighed in on some of the revisions, emphasizing lack of baseline and potentially high costs for implementation. For targets revised to provide for “substantial increase” or conversely “substantial reduction” they are as vague as utilizing “X” as a filler.

They have also noted that some targets have been made more ambitious such as 4.4 and 4 (c) but at the same time still vague. In other cases such as 15.1 and 15.2, the targets have been made more complex and simultaneously less ambitious, notwithstanding the reference to Aichi targets. 15.2 in particular has been split into two different timebound targets with a less ambitious timeframe for halting deforestation, restoring degraded forests and increasing afforestation and reforestation.

In many cases we are advised that it would be more relevant in advancing goals were we to establish baselines from which then specific percentages could be ascertained and used to replace the “X’s”. It may be that our intergovernmental negotiation process will not be able to conclude such an exercise and that it may be left to regional and/or national processes to conclude. For the CARICOM, these other options should not be discarded.

Thank you.

¹ Circulated by the President of the General Assembly on 7 May 2015.