

Co facilitators

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the member states of the Caribbean Community.

We thank you for working overtime on producing a draft that now sits before us. The draft represents in our view a good effort to capture the views of the room including of stakeholders.

You have our assurance that we will work on this basis to conclude our work by 31 July.

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Member States of the CARICOM are keen to working with you and others on further refining the document. We think the order of deliberation of the document in the plenary session is correct – going chapter by chapter. With the good faith of all, CARICOM is of the view that our plenary sessions will be sufficient to allow us to deal with the areas that need further refinement. In this vein we do not consider that informal informals will be necessary at this stage. Indeed, we are still in need of time to coordinate amongst ourselves and will take advantage of the period after we break to do so.

Turning now to the Preamble and the Declaration.

On the Preamble, CARICOM continues to have concerns for the Preamble as echoed in our statement last Friday. If we are to work on the basis of the draft that you have presented, we would like to suggest the following tweaks:

In the first paragraph of the said Preamble: a reference to Rio Declaration on Environment and Development including inter alia the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in principle 7 thereof

Under the sub-heading “Prosperity”: include in the second sentence following “We want to ensure sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth”, the language “combat inequalities in and between countries”.

Under the sub-heading “Partnership”: replace “want” with “must”

In the Declaration, we would like to suggest the following tweaks:

In paragraph 7.8: we would like to delete the word “drinking”. We note that Goal 6 is more comprehensive and not confined to the issue of “drinking water”.

In paragraph 12: we suggest replacing “recall” with “reaffirm”

In paragraph 14: we request adding after “inequality”, “in and between countries”

In paragraph 15 under Our World Today: fourth sentence add “crime and violence” after “natural disasters”

In the same paragraph we note that the usual language referring to the impacts of climate change is “adverse impacts” and not “negative impacts”

In paragraph 17, at the end of the penultimate sentence, add “and other countries in special situations”.

In paragraph 21, in the sentence starting “All forms of” please delete “gender-based”. The focus here is on discrimination and violence against women and children.

In paragraph 24, add to the list in the last sentence “crime and violence”.

In paragraph 26, replace “gender” with “sex”.

In paragraph 27, we request to delete “services” after “sexual and reproductive health care” . In the last sentence same paragraph we request deleting “devoting greater efforts to”.

For paragraph 31, as AOSIS has stated, we are on the right path. We recall that the language mirrors paragraph 8 of the Chapeau of the Open Working Group and we would like to support and call upon others to do so.

In paragraph 34, we propose the following tweaking to the third sentence: “Factors which give rise to violence, insecurity and injustice, such as inequality, corruption, poor governance, illicit financial flows, and the illegal trade in arms, are addressed in the Agenda”

In paragraph 35, we suggest replacing last sentence with the following sentence "We underline the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship, and recall that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received." para 24 of A/RES/68/4 the Declaration of the High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.

In paragraph 37, we recommend sticking to the agreed language of “empowerment of women and young people” and therefore to delete “gender” in the second sentence.

In paragraph 38, we recall that in addressing the state responsibility for development, we at the same time must address the need for a supportive international enabling environment. We propose therefore a new second sentence which can be adopted from paragraph 9 of the recently endorsed AAAA to read as follows: "At the same time, national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance"

In paragraph 44, CARICOM proposes a new formulation to read “We recognize the role of the family as a contributor to sustainable development and the need to strengthen family policy development in international efforts to achieve internationally agreed development goals”.

In paragraph 46, CARICOM recommend replacing the start of the second sentence so that it reads “We resolve to assist developing countries...” And in the last sentence we propose to change the start to read: “We recognize the need to support the maintenance of debt sustainability...”

In paragraph 49, we request the deletion of “and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda” and instead propose a paragraph 49 bis that reads " As set out in the AAAA, the FFD3 outcome, will be followed up through a dedicated ECOSOC Forum. The intergovernmental agreed conclusions and recommendations of this forum will be fed into the overall follow-up and review of the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda in the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development." [paragraph 132 of AAAA]

In paragraph 50 we have observed the conflation of two distinct issues that is the issue of strengthening data capacity and the issue of developing metrics beyond GDP. We suggest that the latter can be treated in a separate paragraph using the language of the fifth sentence as the basis: “We are committed to developing broader measures of progress to complement Gross Domestic Product”.