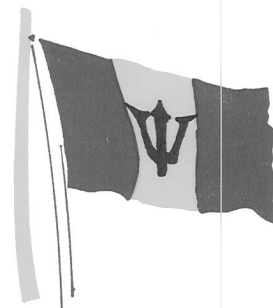




*Permanent Mission
of Barbados to
the United Nations*



INTERVENTION BY

BARBADOS

on behalf of

Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

**at the Closing of
2nd Prepcom of UNCSD**

March 8th 2011

Distinguished Co-Chair

The Caribbean Community was pleased to participate in the last two days of interactive discussion and sharing of ideas and strategies for the Rio+20 process. CARICOM remains committed to fully engaging in the process of charting the way forward to ensuring integration of sustainable development into the regions' development paradigm.

The importance of this negotiating process to CARICOM cannot be over emphasized. Our region comprises a diverse group of over 6 million persons. We firmly believe that the process going forward must allow adequate opportunity for sub-regional consultation and inclusion of concrete proposals from the region on practical measures that are needed to implement the agreed goals and targets of sustainable development. Focused and ongoing discourse within our region as well as with the other SIDS regions is essential. We therefore call on developed countries and the UN System to support the convening of sub-regional consultations and a SIDS inter-regional preparatory meeting to ensure that the concerns and priorities of this group - which has been recognized as a special case for sustainable development at Rio - will be fully reflected in the outcomes of Rio+20.

On the road to Rio, we cannot ignore the inputs from non-governmental stakeholders and we must develop mechanisms to ensure feedback and interaction with these actors. In addition we believe that the report of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability, and its recommendations, must find a meaningful entry point into this process.

Mr. Chair, we are very hopeful that this process will produce outcomes that are results oriented with built-in targets and benchmarks that will guide future implementation.

I thank you Co-Chair