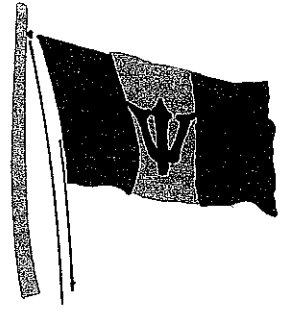




*Permanent Mission
of Barbados to
the United Nations*



Intervention by

Ms. Kereeta Whyte
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of Barbados
to The United Nations

on behalf of

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) on "Peaceful and Non-violent
Societies, Rule of Law and Capable Institutions" on the occasion of the 10th
Session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

on

Friday, April 4, 2014

CARICOM intervention: Peaceful and Non-violent Societies, Rule of Law and Capable Institutions

10th Session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG-SDGs), April 4, 2014

Co-Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the fourteen (14) Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

We believe peaceful and non-violent societies, rule of law and capable institutions are key enablers for sustainable development and therefore relevant to the goal framework. In particular, the issue of citizen security and the reduction of crime and violence has linkages to migration, sustainable cities and human settlements, and gender. In addition, we are of the view that inclusive, consultative and participatory processes for citizens' involvement are key for strengthening governance in support of achieving sustainable development objectives.

The issues in this cluster form the basis of a people-centered development model of which we are supportive. Nevertheless, we do not view them as areas where stand-alone goal setting would be either appropriate or desirable. We do however see some value in integrating some of the proposed target areas, where appropriate, in the context of other goals. Accordingly, we would wish to highlight some areas for consideration:

- Improving laws, policies and instruments designed to combat organised crime
- Reducing illicit arms transfer and trafficking through inter alia early ratification and implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty
- Reducing the number of internally displaced persons. This could be addressed within the proposed goal on "Economic Growth or Sustainable Cities and human settlements"
- Reduction of crime, violence, abuse, and exploitation, including against women and children. Similar targets have been proposed in the context of Gender Equality and women's empowerment
- Implementing policies and programmes to increase public participation in Governance
- Promoting Government accountability, transparency and responsiveness to citizens

I thank you.