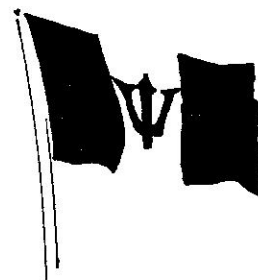




*Permanent Mission
of Barbados to
the United Nations*
STATEMENT BY



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FIRST SECRETARY
PERMANENT MISSION OF BARBADOS TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

AT THE

**ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

ON BEHALF OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)

ON

**FOCUS AREAS 15 AND 16: “MOI/GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP
AND PEACEFUL SOCIETIES, RULE OF LAW AND
GOVERNANCE”**

**67TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

ON

MAY 9, 2014

**United Nations Headquarters
New York**

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Mr. Co-Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member states of CARICOM. We beg your indulgence at the outset as the statement on the Means of Implementation is longer than what CARICOM would usually deliver. This is because of the number of areas to be dealt with under the subheading of Focus Area 15.

CARICOM aligns itself with the statement made by Bolivia on behalf of the G-77 and China and the statement to be delivered by Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States.

The OWG has made good progress in its work towards defining SDGs as the core of an ambitious agenda. We must now provide the relevant and actionable commitments on MOI to ensure that our ambition becomes credible.

CARICOM believes that our ultimate objective in this regard is to provide a concrete, comprehensive and coherent overall framework that is complemented by an appropriate monitoring mechanism.

Essentially, it has two dimensions - the linkage of MOI to specific goals and a standalone goal on MOI.

Linkage of MOI to Specific Goals. The first is to determine the particular means that will be required in broad terms to achieve each of the goals and targets that we decide on and then to link those means to the goals and targets to assure their implementation. This might conceivably consist of support for specific targeted actions at the level of each goal and target that might include such aspects as the kinds of multi-stakeholder partnerships that could reasonably be needed and assist in achieving such goals and targets. These concrete proposals should replace the current place-holders for "appropriate MOI" in any future iteration of the document. They can also be further developed in conjunction with and in a manner that is coherent with the stand-alone goal on MOI.

Stand Alone Goal on MOI. The second dimension speaks to the aspects, means and approaches that are both common to all the goals and which go beyond any specific focus area. The latter we believe speak in a larger way to aspects that are catalytic and which also help to create the enabling environment at the national and global levels to foster the achievement of each of the SDGs and all of the SDGs as a whole. It is this second category of means of implementation that should constitute the substance of the stand – alone goal on MOI. Taken together, they provide the platform to which reference was made earlier.

In keeping with this approach, we have already made specific suggestions in our consideration of the various focus areas on the specific MOI that may be relevant to each. We now provide comments on the stand alone goal on MOI.

Stronger / More Concrete Treatment of MOI. On the whole we believe the treatment of MOI is insufficient. We think there is need for greater specificity in the framing of the issues. They should go beyond the broad framing of similar issues in Goal 8 of the MDGs framework to underpin what is expected to be a revitalised and transformative development agenda. We note that in general, that the targets in this focus area more often than not contain no sufficiently quantifiable elements in the targets and benchmarks. For instance, target “e” to “promote transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies to developing countries” while oft repeated does not give guidance as to how this might be accomplished. This focus area should answer the question as to what is doable very clearly so that our ambition can be tempered accordingly.

Revitalized Global Partnership. The global partnership section should be reconfigured. We consider that the global partnership for development encompasses all the elements in focus area 15. It should not by any means be redefined or reduced to the engagement with stakeholders. A revitalized partnership is central to renewed confidence in the global development agenda and “a new spirit of solidarity, cooperation and mutual accountability”. The remaining target in the section, on the accountability framework to monitor the implementation of commitments by all actors, should in our view be considered within the larger context of the elaboration of the post 2015 development agenda.

Reference to SIDS and Other Countries in Special Situations. The global partnership has played a role in bringing greater focus to the special needs of the most vulnerable countries. We notice that apart from LDCs in a few places, there is no mention of other categories of countries, such as SIDS in the MOI section and in the document as a whole. This is an oversight that should be corrected. References to these categories would be especially relevant in relation to the use of measures beyond GDP, ODA, trade, debt and capacity building.

Debt Sustainability. There is need for a better treatment of issues related to external debt. Debt sustainability issues continue to stymie the developmental pursuits of many of our member states. We propose the strengthening of target m to include debt restructuring and the inclusion of a new target on the establishment of a standing intergovernmental sovereign debt work-out mechanism.

Human Resources Development. CARICOM suggests to reformulate target “t” to read: “develop and strengthen human resources development frameworks in developing countries, especially LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, in support of national plans to achieve sustainable development goals, including in relation to agriculture, water, energy, health, migration, DRR and sustainable natural resources management”.

ICTs for Development. One issue to which we see the need to return at a later stage is in relation to a more explicit reference to harnessing the considerable

potential of ICTs for development on which there was some discussion in the stocktaking phase but which seems to have fallen off the agenda.

Co-Chair,

We see the need for a more focused discussion on the means of implementation, particularly in light of other on-going processes. We recall the exchange with the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Experts and would appreciate the guidance of the co-chairs on how an understanding can be fostered on the appropriate treatment of discussions on the means of implementation and how a division of labour might be achieved to avoid duplication.

Peaceful Societies, Rule of Law and Governance

Co-Chair,

With reference to Focus Area 16, we believe peaceful societies, rule of law and capable societies are key enablers for sustainable development and therefore cannot be divorced from the goal framework.

We believe the issues pertaining to this Focus Area should be treated in a cross cutting manner to support implementation of other proposed goals. Indeed, there is a high correlation between Targets in this Focus Area and others already included across the goal framework.

We do wish to note that we see some value in having a separate goal of Rule of Law and Capable Institutions.

Our specific comments on targets in this Focus Area are as follows:

- Target A should be merged with Target F in Focus Area 10 in Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements.
- Target B is too vague and wide ranging and accordingly would be difficult to implement. In this regard, it might be more appropriate to focus on specific deliverables that address inequalities already contained in Focus Areas 1, 4, 5, 8 and 10.
- We fully support Target C. However, we believe there is scope to incorporate a reference to present and future generations in this target.
- Target E should be addressed in the Focus Area on sustainable cities and human settlements.
- Target E should not be expressed as a percentage decrease. Rather, it should be expressed in a general sense.

I thank you.