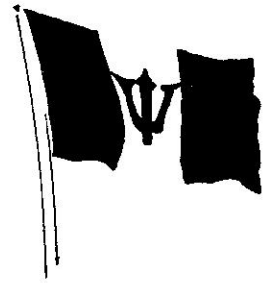




*Permanent Mission  
of Barbados to  
the United Nations*  
**STATEMENT BY**



**MS. KEREETA WHYTE  
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 AREA 3: "SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, FOOD  
SECURITY AND NUTRITION"**

**67<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON**

**MAY 5, 2014**

**United Nations Headquarters  
New York**

*Please check against delivery*

Mr. Co-Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the fourteen (14) Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). As was the case this morning when the Permanent Representative of Guyana delivered the statement on Focus Area 1 and general comments on the working document on behalf of CARICOM, we align ourselves with the statement delivered by Bolivia on behalf of the G77 and China and Nauru on behalf of AOSIS on Focus Area 2.

Mr. Co-Chair,

For CARICOM Member States, as Small Island Developing States (SIDS), agriculture broadly and, more specifically, sustainable agriculture; food security and nutrition are extremely important issues.

CARICOM is of the view that any consideration of an SDG on agriculture would be for naught without adequate means of addressing systemic issues in relation to trade. In this regard, we call for the inclusion of a Target on the elimination of harmful subsidies.

Means of implementation on this issue could include:

- I. Assistance from Multilateral agencies to developing countries for the design, implementation and financing of food safety nets, and financial instruments at the international level in order to combat food price volatility and increase agriculture production;
- II. A commitment by the international community to support development focused trade reforms within the multilateral trading system;
- III. Increase provision of investment and support for research and development on Sustainable agriculture technologies;
- IV. Capacity building and financing for the improvement of water supply systems for irrigation, water harvesting and storage for agriculture.

Mr. Co-Chair,

CARICOM welcomes the inclusion of Target E in Focus Area 2- "reduce the global rate of loss and waste along the food supply chain by 50 percent by 2030. Such a Target would undoubtedly have a tremendous impact on reducing post-harvest loss and food waste within the region.

In Target D- "by 2030 achieve access to adequate inputs, knowledge, productive resources, financial services and markets for small farmers and fishers, with a particular focus on women and indigenous peoples", CARICOM welcomes the reference to "small farmers and fishers". However, this Target appears to have too many issues clustered together. In this regard, we propose that each of these important issues pertaining to access be disaggregated.

CARICOM regards Target G- "achieve climate smart agriculture that is resilient and adaptable to extreme weather including drought, climate change and natural disasters" as unclear. Is it envisioned that climate smart agriculture, as proposed, would be through the development, for example, of mangroves that act as storm shields or would it be through agricultural practices which would have a more direct impact on crops and harvest?

It is imperative that proposed targets be clear enough to allow for the identification of appropriate MOI, result in international action and engender the creation of appropriate indicators at the national level.

I thank you.