



PERMANENT MISSION OF
JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT BY

*His Excellency Mr. Stafford Neil
Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations*

**IN THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

TO INTRODUCE

**DRAFT RESOLUTION A/57/L.26
ENTITLED: "COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED
NATIONS AND THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY"
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 22 C**

New York, November 20, 2002

[Final Text]

Mr. President

I have the honour to introduce, for the consideration of the General Assembly, the draft resolution entitled: *"Cooperation Between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)"* which is before the Assembly as Document A/57/L.26. I do so on behalf of the following co-sponsors: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and my own Jamaica.

Mr. President

Activities pertaining to cooperation between the United Nations and CARICOM have been dealt with in the Report of the Secretary General in Document A/57/254 prepared pursuant to paragraph 8 of Resolution 55/17 of November 7, 2000. The Report outlines the various aspects of the cooperation between the Secretariats of the United Nations and of CARICOM which involves an active process of consultation and exchange of information.

This cooperation has been growing in areas critical to the economic and social development of the Caribbean sub-region on matters such as disaster preparedness and risk reduction; follow-up action in relation to major international conferences; drug control; health; the environment and marine affairs.

Cooperation has been strengthened through the involvement of various United Nations bodies and agencies, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Mr. President

The draft resolution before the Assembly in its preambular section:

- Reaffirms the importance of regional organizations in furthering the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security within the context of Chapter 8 of the Charter;
- Notes the fruitful results of previous meetings held between representatives of the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;
- It draws attention to two initiatives of particular interest to CARICOM – first the importance of the adoption of an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea in the context of sustainable development and second the necessity for the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action on small Island Developing States (SIDS);

- Notes relevant proposals emanating from recent international conferences in particular from the World Summit for Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg and also from the United Nations Special Session on HIV/AIDS in which special recognition was given to the situation in the Caribbean region;
- It also affirms the need to strengthen the existing cooperation in the areas of economic and social development as well as in political and humanitarian affairs.

In its operative section, the draft resolution:

- Takes note of the Report of the Secretary General on cooperation between the United Nations and CARICOM as well as of efforts to strengthen that cooperation;
- It calls upon the Secretary General in association with the Secretary General of CARICOM to continue to assist in furthering development and the maintenance of peace and security within the Caribbean;
- Urges specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate in order to initiate, maintain and increase consultations and programmes with the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives, giving special attention to the areas and issues identified at the Second General Meeting in March 2000;
- The draft welcomes initiatives of member states in assisting the cooperation between the two Secretariats and recommends that the third meeting between representatives of the two Organizations be held in New York in March 2003 in order to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the agreed areas and issues and to hold consultations on such additional measures and procedures as may be required to facilitate and strengthen cooperation between the two Organizations;
- Finally, it requests a report by the Secretary General to the General Assembly during its 59th Session and for the inclusion of a provisional agenda item for its consideration.

Mr. President

I should like to announce that since the publication of the draft resolution, the following countries have become co-sponsors – Canada, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador and Japan.

Mr. President

The contents of the draft resolution are basically seeking to develop further the process of cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community. Its provisions, we believe, will receive wide support within this Assembly and it is the hope of the co-sponsors that as in previous years, this draft resolution can be adopted by consensus.

Thank you.

Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations
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