



PERMANENT MISSION OF  
JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**STATEMENT BY**

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

**In The United Nations General Assembly  
On behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**

**ON**

**THE NECESSITY OF ENDING THE ECONOMIC,  
COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL EMBARGO  
IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AGAINST CUBA**

New York, November 12, 2002

*[Final Text]*

**Mr. President**

I have the honour to speak today on behalf of the 14 Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) which are members of the United Nations.

We join with those Member States who have spoken before and supported the need to bring to an end the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.

CARICOM States wish to reaffirm the importance which they attach to the strict observance of the principles of international law and to freedom of trade and navigation. We remain opposed to the extraterritorial application of national legislation which seek to impose artificial barriers to trade and cooperation, and which is contrary to the principle of the sovereign equality of states.

Our Member States, in keeping with our policy of mutual respect, good neighbourliness and respect for the principles of the United Nations Charter, have maintained friendly relations with Cuba and we have developed mutually beneficial programmes of cooperation and trade.

CARICOM Member States enjoy traditional warm and friendly relations with the United States and in that spirit, we call for a constructive process of dialogue and normalization of relations which we believe would be in the interest of all parties. It would remove a source of tension and conflict and improve the prospects for peaceful development in our region.

**Mr. President**

The CARICOM delegations support the contents of the draft resolution before the General Assembly and we will vote in favour of its adoption.

Thank you, Mr. President.