



*Permanent Mission  
of Barbados to  
the United Nations*



**STATEMENT BY**

**H.E. MR. JOSEPH GODDARD  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF BARBADOS TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE**

**27<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR  
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)**

**ON**

**MAY 28, 2013**

**United Nations Headquarters  
New York**

*Please check against delivery*

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to deliver this statement for Barbados. Barbados aligns itself with the statement made by the Ambassador of Guyana on behalf of the 14 Member States of CARICOM.

Mr. Chairman,

As this is my first time taking the floor I would like to use this opportunity to welcome Señora Alicia Bárcena and her team to New York. I would also like to echo the sentiments made by the Ambassador of Guyana and thank her for the reports on the socio-economic reality in Latin America and the Caribbean for the current year.

I would also wish to acknowledge the presence of Ms. Diane Quarless, ECLAC's Director of the Regional Headquarters for the Caribbean. Barbados will continue to rely on the support of that regional office as we advance in the various Post Rio+20 processes.

Mr. Chairman,

Barbados commends the Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) for its continued efforts in the promotion of economic and social development across the region. As we in Latin America and the Caribbean, and indeed Barbados, continue to be faced with the challenging global economic situation, which continues to negatively impact our economic growth rates, social development and unemployment levels, the role of ECLAC as a regional socio-economic think-tank cannot be underscored enough.

Mr. Chairman,

Barbados is classified as a High Income Country. Consequently, this has placed us in the precarious situation where we are now often overlooked for development assistance in the form of grants and loans at concessionary rates of interest. In this regard, we welcome the call from ELAC to the international community to identify alternative methods of measuring development beyond GDP.

Mr. Chairman,

ECLAC, and by extension the sub-regional office in Trinidad and Tobago, is strategically positioned to assist the region in the post-2015 development process. Barbados continues to support the work of the sub-regional office in Port-of-Spain,

Trinidad and Tobago as it proceeds in its efforts to facilitate the wider work of ECLAC in regional integration and coordination throughout the Caribbean and anticipates its continued support in the lead-up to the international conference on Small Island Developing States which will be convened in Samoa in 2014. Following the Regional Conference which will be held in Jamaica during the period July 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> 2013, Barbados will host the Inter-Regional meeting two months later from August 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>. These two meetings will play a vital role in addressing the vulnerabilities and issues of SIDS and shaping their agenda in such a way that it will ultimately help them to overcome the myriad challenges with which they are faced.

Barbados notes with appreciation the recent publications of ECLAC including the report entitled "*Updated Economic Review of Latin America and the Caribbean 2012*" as well as its upcoming calendar of events of ECLAC for 2013 and commends the Commission for continuing to identify relevant areas of shared interest for its members. These include the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting of Experts on International Migration in Preparation for The High- Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development to be held in July in Chile and the Twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean to be held in October in the Dominican Republic.

Barbados looks forward to continuing its support of ECLAC as it endeavours to fulfill its mandate of making a significant contribution to the regions social and economic development.

I thank you.

