Diana Ramirez *(Cuba)*

**(UNFCCC)**

The Caribbean islands need to prepare for the impact of climate change, and Cuba is the most prepared island than all others for the fore coming impact of climate change however, level of preparedness may not matter. Cuba’s position is very clear, we really believe in climate change and we know that we are responsible of changing this issue. The Cuban national coordinator was able to articulate Cuba’s position on climate change: how many communities are going to have to relocate, the way they are diversifying their agriculture and their irrigation system, etc. We have sat down and come up with national policy and had cross-sectoral discussions already.

When Cuban scientists studied the effects of climate change on the country's coastline, they discovered that a changing climate could cause sea levels to rise dangerously with devastating results. Cuba can loose as many as 122 towns along the nation's coast. In the worst case, water could be contaminated, and the land used for agriculture could be unusable.

Cuba believes that we all need to do something and find solutions together; the islands should be more worried about this issue because they will be the most affected by climate change. The several organizations such as the WHO, WMO, CCAC are doing their job however this is sadly still not enough.

Cuba cannot stress enough the importance for all countries to come together in this uncertain time of environmental change. New global initiatives and political agreements must be made in order to reduce carbon emissions that threaten our planet’s very existence. This is not simply an issue of rising sea levels. Without action, there will be a mass number of displaced refuges desperate to travel to dry land which could potentially lead to the greatest humanitarian crisis the world has ever seen.