



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
14 September 2023

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## Seventy-seventh session

Agenda item 127 (h)

### Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 1 September 2023

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/77/L.103](#))]

### 77/337. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [46/8](#) of 16 October 1991 and all its subsequent resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community, including its resolution [75/323](#) of 9 September 2021,

*Bearing in mind* the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Welcoming* the continued commitment of the States members of the Caribbean Community to the United Nations as a principal forum for multilateral cooperation,

*Recalling* the cooperation agreement between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Caribbean Community,<sup>1</sup> and bearing in mind the cooperation activities undertaken pursuant to that agreement,

*Emphasizing* the continued importance of regular engagements between the two organizations, including contacts between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, and also between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, with a view to reinforcing cooperation and collaboration,

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1978, No. 1197.



*Recalling*, in this connection, the eleventh general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations system, held virtually on 21 and 22 July 2021, and the joint statement adopted at the conclusion of the meeting highlighting areas and opportunities of continued cooperation and strengthened collaboration,

*Recalling with appreciation* the visits of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Caribbean region, in particular his solidarity visit to Haiti on 1 July 2023, and the high-level political dialogue held between Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community and the Secretary-General on 3 July 2023 in Port of Spain, in the margins of the forty-fifth Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community<sup>2</sup> (Treaty of Chaguaramas),

*Deeply concerned* that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its severe global economic disruptions have had a significant negative impact on the sustainable development and humanitarian needs of States members of the Caribbean Community that are dependent on tourism, commodities, stable global supply chains and remittances, making the prospect of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>3</sup> more difficult,

*Remaining deeply concerned* about new and persistent challenges, including declining foreign direct investment, trade imbalances, increased indebtedness, the lack of adequate transportation, energy and information and communications technology infrastructure networks, limited human and institutional capacity and the inability to integrate effectively into the global economy, the impact of de-risking on financial institutions in the Caribbean, onerous debt, graduation from access to concessionary development funding, the lack of access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy, crime and violence, the illicit trade in drugs and arms, in particular small arms and light weapons and ammunition, the threat of terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, the fight against communicable and non-communicable diseases, food insecurity, natural disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, including slow- and rapid-onset events and associated loss and damage, as well as the high cost of imported energy and the degradation of coastal and marine ecosystems and sea level rise, and biodiversity loss, all of which have increased the vulnerabilities and seriously worsened the challenges for the sustainable development efforts of the States members of the Caribbean Community,

*Underscoring* the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States and the importance of taking urgent and concrete global action to address those vulnerabilities, including through the sustained and effective implementation of the outcome documents of the international conferences on small island developing States and their follow-up, namely, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>4</sup> the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid., vol. 946, No. 13489.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>4</sup> *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States<sup>5</sup> and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>6</sup>

*Recalling* the convening of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway on 27 September 2019 and the adoption on 10 October 2019 of its political declaration,<sup>7</sup> in which Heads of State and Government reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cooperation with and support to small island developing States in the context of sustainable development, in line with their national development strategies and priorities, and looking forward to the implementation of the calls made in the political declaration,

*Noting with appreciation* the ongoing collaboration, consultations and information exchanges that have taken place among the United Nations, the Caribbean Community and the States members of the Community aimed at strengthening cooperation and regional capacity in a broad range of areas, such as sustainable development, non-communicable diseases, drugs and crime, statistics, free and fair elections, plant and animal health, and food safety, among others,

*Deeply concerned* about the complex and multifaceted crisis in Haiti, including high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition as well as the resurgence of cholera, and recognizing the need for urgent measures to restore security and stability by addressing the structural causes of violence, such as inequalities, extreme poverty, high unemployment, human rights violations and abuses, impunity, corruption and weak public institutions, and by creating favourable conditions for the re-establishment of democratic institutions,

*Noting* the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti for a further period of one year, until 15 July 2024,

*Affirming* the need to further expand and deepen the cooperation that already exists between the Caribbean Community and the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, so as to enhance coherence and effectiveness in the partnership among the United Nations, the Caribbean Community and the States members of the Community,

*Convinced* of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,<sup>8</sup> in particular paragraphs 50 to 56 on the Caribbean Community, concerning efforts to strengthen and deepen cooperation;

2. *Welcomes* the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Chaguaramas and the establishment of the Caribbean Community;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in association with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, as well as the relevant regional organizations, to continue to assist in furthering the development and maintenance of peace and security within the Caribbean region;

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<sup>5</sup> *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>6</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution 74/3.

<sup>8</sup> [A/77/277-S/2022/606](#).

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community to continue their cooperation and to enhance coherence in their engagement, within their respective mandates, so as to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their objectives and to seek answers to global challenges, including climate change, disaster risk reduction, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and sustainable development challenges, including poverty and inequality, de-risking, non-communicable diseases, transnational organized crime, terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism;

5. *Looks forward* to the convening of the twelfth general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations system;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, bearing in mind the particular vulnerabilities of the States members of the Caribbean Community, to intensify their assistance to those States to enable them to address the diverse challenges that these vulnerabilities pose to achieving sustainable development, including through the sustained and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>9</sup> the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>10</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>11</sup> the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in 2016<sup>12</sup> and the political declarations entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action”<sup>13</sup> and “Our ocean, our future, our responsibility”<sup>14</sup> adopted, respectively, at the 2017 and 2022 United Nations Conferences to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;

7. *Welcomes* the convening of the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, which will be aimed at assessing the ability of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, in Antigua and Barbuda from 27 to 30 May 2024;

8. *Notes* the commitment made by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to improve policies and programmes to address the particular needs of small island developing States, including on access to international concessional finance;

9. *Recognizes* the role of extensive immunization against COVID-19 as a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission in order to bring the pandemic to an end and realizing the Sustainable Development Goals, commends the valuable supportive role being played by the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization through the provision of technical and other resources to the Caribbean Community, including to the Caribbean Public Health Agency, and urges further cooperation in addressing communicable and non-communicable diseases, including access to and distribution of safe and effective

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<sup>9</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>10</sup> See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>11</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution 71/312, annex.

<sup>14</sup> Resolution 76/296, annex.

COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, as well as improving capacity for global pandemic prevention, preparedness and response;

10. *Notes with concern* the regression in educational gains due to school closures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, encourages further cooperation between the United Nations system and the States members of the Caribbean Community towards the development of all children and youth, including those in vulnerable situations, irrespective of sex, age, race or ethnicity, to reach their full potential, and addressing the existing challenge of male academic underachievement and promoting the contribution of information and communications technology to education and distance-learning solutions, to provide inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and distance education, including technical and vocational training;

11. *Notes with concern* the findings of the synthesis report of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which expressed, inter alia, that human activities, principally through greenhouse gas emissions, have unequivocally caused global warming, and that human-induced climate change has caused widespread adverse impacts and related losses and damages to nature and people; and notes that it is likely that warming will exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius during the twenty-first century and make it harder to limit warming to below 2 degrees Celsius unless deep reductions in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades, and in this regard stresses the urgent need to raise mitigation ambitions, enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events and encourages further cooperation between the United Nations system and the States members of the Caribbean Community in mobilizing finance for climate action to address the needs of the Caribbean region;

12. *Acknowledges* the support by the United Nations system for countries in the region affected by the adverse impacts of climate change and natural disasters, and urges further cooperation to enhance assistance to the States members of the Caribbean Community in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to disaster risk reduction for sustainable development and resilience;

13. *Welcomes* the support of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to the Caribbean Community Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency in implementing the Regional Comprehensive Disaster Management Strategy and Programming Framework 2014–2024 and the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Caribbean initiative through a systematic risk approach;

14. *Emphasizes* the active cooperation existing between the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Caribbean Community, including their ongoing work on debt and climate adaptation, such as the debt-for-climate-adaptation-swap initiative and the creation of a Caribbean resilience fund, and further encourages continued cooperation with the Community and its member States;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to further strengthen their activities to ensure that no one is left behind, including by accelerating relevant action to stem poverty and to promote regional food security to curb the global slowdown in poverty reduction through actions to reverse food insecurity and food waste and loss, encourage sustainable production and

consumption patterns, and promote healthier diets, and address the triple threat of COVID-19, conflict and climate change;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the existing cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community in supporting statistical capacity-building and data access to address existing challenges in producing, collecting, analysing and using high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data and statistics required to enable small island developing States to effectively plan, follow up on, evaluate the implementation of and track success in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, and encourages further practical steps to enhance such cooperation;

17. *Welcomes* the progress and takes note with appreciation of the interim report published by the High-level Panel on the Development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index for Small Island Developing States and looks forward to the finalization of the work of the Panel, and further encourages the international community to consider multidimensional vulnerability, including the potential of a multidimensional vulnerability index, as criteria to access concessional finance;

18. *Recognizes* the ongoing efforts to support the Government of Haiti in addressing the complex challenges to peace and security, governance and sustainable development and encourages further continuous, coherent and sustainable support of the United Nations and the international community to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Haiti to improve conditions to facilitate free and fair elections and to address the challenges of gang violence to ensure long-term security, stability, respect for human rights and sustainable development, in line with the country's priorities;

19. *Welcomes* the partnership between the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security to support the implementation of the Caribbean Community counter-terrorism strategy;

20. *Expresses appreciation* for the ongoing cooperation received from the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat in the organization of the annual commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade on 25 March and for its support and cooperation rendered in the implementation of the Remember Slavery educational outreach programme, in keeping with the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".

*99th plenary meeting  
1 September 2023*