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STATEMENT

by

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on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

at the

Economic and Social Council

Operational Activities for Development Segment

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United Nations Headquarters

Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the 14 Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). CARICOM wishes to thank the Secretary General for the report contained in document A/70/62-E/2015/4 on the implementation of resolution 67/226 on the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) of operational activities for development of the United Nations system. CARICOM also endorses the statement to be delivered by South Africa on behalf of the G77 and China.

Mr. President,

CARICOM welcomes the opportunity to assess the implementation of the QCPR mandates as we must ensure that the operational activities of the United Nations Development System deliver in supporting Member States to implement the Post 2015 development agenda. We also note with appreciation the conclusion in the Secretary General's report, that notable progress has been made in implementing several provisions of resolution 67/226 and look forward to further improvements in reporting and measurement of UN development activities, particularly as it relates to progress in delivering on the global priority of poverty eradication.

CARICOM also wishes to thank the panellists for their insightful presentations which help with contextualising our discussion this morning.

Mr. President,

Once completed, the Post 2015 development agenda will be one that is more dynamic, integrated, and broader in scope, scale and coverage than the Millennium agenda. From the perspective of CARICOM, the United Nations Development System must therefore continue to improve the flexibility of its development programmes, and their linkages to poverty eradication and sustainable development, as well as their relevance to national and regional development priorities. These efforts must be complemented by action in three key areas in order to support States in their implementation of the Post 2015 development agenda.

1. Improved integration and coordination

CARICOM welcomes the progress made in improving the coordination between United Nations entities in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, in particular in the last few years. Nevertheless, as we embark on a more integrated development agenda, these efforts at coordination must be implemented with greater urgency across the UN development system, and must apply not only to those countries that have adopted the UN "Delivering as one" approach. Improvements in integration and coordination should also build synergies with regional approaches that have been adopted by Member States and the priorities set out therein. One step towards this objective would be a revised development assistance matrix which would clearly articulate and delineate the focus of the various UN entities as well as other regional and sub-regional agencies. This will ensure the delivery of much needed development assistance in a cost-effective manner.

2. Funding allocation

CARICOM notes with concern the continued trend for an increase in non-core resources for development activities while core resources remain stagnant. In this regard, we note the

conclusion in the Secretary General's report that the increase in non-core resources indicates that donors and programme countries continue to value the programmes on offer in the United Nations system. Nevertheless, we wish to underscore that it is the availability of core resources which lends itself to the most flexible, effective and impartial allocation of resources across the United Nations development system. Furthermore, as we move to the implementation of a more complex development agenda, based on the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, flexibility in the allocation of resources according to regional and national priorities will become increasingly critical. We note with appreciation the efforts underway to address the effectiveness of non-core resources through, inter alia, the structured dialogues within the UN development system, and we endorse the request by the Joint Inspection Unit for Member States, when providing earmarked contributions, to make them predictable, long term and in line with the core mandate and priorities of the organizations. Nevertheless, we stress that these remedial efforts, although important, are not a substitute for the critical need for an increase in core resources in support of development activities.

3. Capacity building

Developing countries, in particular those within the CARICOM sub-region, will require focused and expanded institutional and capacity building support in order to effectively implement the Post 2015 development agenda at national and regional levels. CARICOM has consistently called for increased support in the area of data collection and statistical analysis as a sine qua non for our States to be able to adequately implement and measure progress in achieving the sustainable development goals as the core of the Post 2015 development agenda. CARICOM notes that a number of other developing countries, regardless of income classification, will require improved assistance in this critical area. In addition, capacity building in data collection and statistics analysis must be complementary with improvements in policy design and management in order to effectively mainstream the global development framework into national policies and strategies. In this regard, we take note with appreciation of the information provided concerning preparatory efforts aimed at ensuring that United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and other planning instruments place capacity development at the centre of strategic planning in time for 2015. We call for the acceleration of these efforts, which should become a key area of specialised work for the United Nations development system in supporting implementation of the Post 2015 development agenda.

Mr. President,

You can count on the support of CARICOM Member States in all efforts to continue to ensure that our policy decisions at the multilateral level are aligned with our shared development objectives and will redound to the benefit of our people at all levels.

I thank you.