



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY
(CARICOM)**

**DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF GUYANA
AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY
COMMISSION FOR THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE BBNJ
AGREEMENT ON
ITEM 5 (CLUSTER III, ISSUE 9) – ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE GEF
TO GIVE EFFECT TO RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE
AGREEMENT – GEF REPLENISHMENT PROCESS**

22 August 2025

CARICOM Intervention on the GEF-9 Replenishment Process

I have the honour of delivering this intervention on behalf of the Member States of the Caribbean Community. CARICOM would like to align itself with the Statement delivered by the Alliance of Small Island States.

CARICOM notes that the GEF-9 replenishment process is underway, setting the stage for the next cycle which will be between the period July 2026 to June 2030 – during which time we anticipate the entry into force of the treaty and the convening of the first COP.

As this cycle is a critical opportunity to ensure that the GEF's resources are aligned with the goals of the BBNJ Agreement, CARICOM proposes that the Co-Chairs formally communicate with the GEF Secretariat to highlight the emerging financial needs of the BBNJ Agreement, that need to be reflected in the GEF-9 replenishment priorities.

CARICOM also proposes that the Co-Chairs seek opportunities for the PrepCom to participate as observers in appropriate GEF replenishment meetings, with a view to ensuring that the interests of developing States under the BBNJ Agreement (outlined in Article 52 (6)) are brought to the attention of donor countries and that the PrepCom is updated on the outcomes of GEF-9 deliberations relevant to BBNJ.

CARICOM wishes to underscore that engagement with the GEF should prioritize the urgent financial requirements of developing countries, particularly Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), to participate fully in the Agreement's early implementation phase.

I thank you.