



**Statement
by
Ms. Rueanna Haynes, First Secretary**

**Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United
Nations
on behalf of CARICOM**

at the

**ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development
Panel 2: Dialogue with the Heads of UN Funds and
Programmes**

Monday 22 February, 2016
United Nations Headquarters

Thank you Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver these brief remarks on behalf of the 14 Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). CARICOM aligns itself with the statements delivered by Thailand on behalf of the G77 and China and by the Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).

CARICOM Member States wish to express their appreciation to the panel for their informative presentations. The group is pleased to have this opportunity to engage on the positioning of UN funds and programmes for implementation of the 2030 sustainable development agenda. The group reiterates its appreciation for the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the 2012 QCPR which was presented again this evening.

CARICOM Member States wish to commend the efforts of the UN development system to achieve greater coherence, coordination and accountability in its work. Nevertheless, we note that in the context of the need to move beyond the MDGs, taking into account the lessons learned in their implementation, there is an even greater need for further coordination and collaboration in the work of UN funds and agencies at the regional and national levels to support implementation of the 2030 sustainable development agenda.

The need for transparency, accountability and flexible longer term planning would therefore be paramount.

Mr. President,

The group posed a number of questions and made recommendations in the previous panel which were not addressed and so they will be re-stated here.

CARICOM wishes to stress that the updated Secretary General's report on the implementation of the QCPR should address the following:

- further plans for integrated approaches at country level between UN agencies, funds and programmes in line with the 2030 sustainable development agenda

- further clarity on the scope of capacity building support to be made available to member states, in particular for the purpose of institutional strengthening for implementation and follow up and review activities in relation to the 2030 sustainable development agenda, including in the area of data and statistics. In this regard, it was interesting to note that all of the presenters mentioned a focus on data on the need to prioritise support for data and statistics. CARICOM certainly welcomes this but it would also be interesting to be advised of whether there are any efforts underway or planned to coordinate between agencies in this endeavour.

CARICOM would also welcome the views of the panel on how the UN Development Assistance Frameworks can be further aligned to address the 2030 sustainable development agenda, noting that while many existing frameworks touch on the three pillars of sustainable development they do not address the agenda as it is currently framed. One concrete example of this is in Trinidad and Tobago where the UNDAF addresses social and economic dimensions of sustainable development but ‘other agencies’ address the environment. How can planning in the context of implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda ensure that this type of phenomenon is not perpetuated?

CARICOM would appreciate receiving the views of the panel on possible arrangements for longer term strategic and inter-agency planning in support of the 2030 sustainable development agenda. In our view this type of activity would greatly assist in improving coordination and coherence in the activities of funds and programmes at the regional and national levels.

I thank you.