

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

MESSAGE TO SIXTH GENERAL MEETING  
BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM  
AND THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY  
AND ITS ASSOCIATED INSTITUTIONS

Georgetown, 28 July 2011

*Delivered by Mr. Oscar Fernandez Taranco,  
Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs*

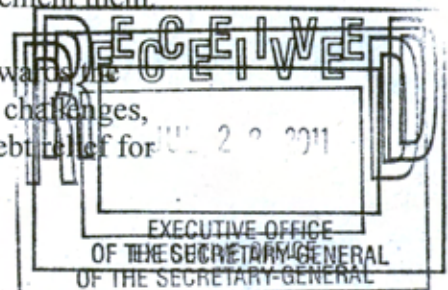
I am pleased to convey my greetings to the CARICOM Secretariat and its associated institutions, and to thank Acting Secretary-General Applewhaite and her team for hosting this important event.

The Caribbean Community is a key United Nations partner in achieving our shared goals of development, security and human rights. I commend your strong commitment to multilateralism and regional integration, and your leadership on global challenges, including combating climate change, strengthening democracy, rebuilding after disasters and stopping the spread of global epidemics. I am grateful to the Heads of Government of CARICOM for their participation in last month's General Assembly High-Level Meeting on AIDS, and I look forward to your continuing leadership at the September High-Level Meeting on Non-Communicable Diseases.

The Caribbean region faces many challenges. These include the negative effects of the global financial crisis, the widening impacts of climate change, and the threats to governance and public safety posed by organized crime. Such transnational risks cannot be addressed by any single country on its own. Rest assured that the UN system has heard the region's call for more coherent engagement. This meeting provides a further opportunity to build on our long-standing partnership.

Our shared efforts to develop the UN-CARICOM Regional Strategic Framework have allowed us to map our activities in the region and identify areas of redundancy or duplication. I am pleased that the recommendations contained in the final report on the Framework were fully endorsed by both the CARICOM Secretariat and the UN system. Let us now work together to implement them.

The Caribbean region has made commendable progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, yet those efforts face significant challenges, including the increase in fuel and food prices. The questions of debt relief for



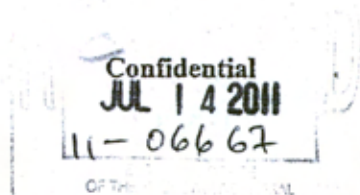
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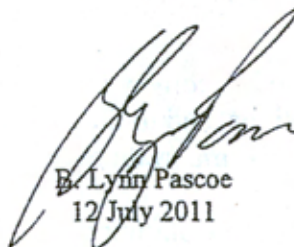


Note to Mr. Nambiar

**SECRETARY'S GENERAL MESSAGE TO THE SIXTH GENERAL MEETING  
BETWEEN CARICOM AND THE UNITED NATIONS**

*(Prev. related  
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11-05735)*

Following previous communications regarding the Sixth General UN-CARICOM Meeting to be held on 28 and 29 July in Georgetown, Guyana, DPA would like to recommend that the Secretary-General sends a message to the meeting to be delivered by the Head of the UN Delegation. Should you concur with this recommendation, please find enclosed a draft message for your approval.

  
B. Lynn Pascoe  
12 July 2011

*SC#108/002 ; com/11/001*



**SG Message to the 6th UN-Caricom Meeting**

Angeli Badelles to: SGCentral

14/07/2011 01:18 PM

Maria Zaroui, Silva Armani, Sandar Hla, Stephen Paparo,  
Cc: Mauricio Davila Morlotte, Valerie Bonnand, Elizabeth Wanic,  
Ruxandra Ferascu

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Dear Colleagues,

Please find attached the "word.doc" for the above-mentioned subject. Also, please find the .pdf signature from Mr. Pascoe to Mr. Nambiar. Hard copies are on their way up.

Thank you.

Angeli

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**Angeli Badelles**

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NL - 2058T



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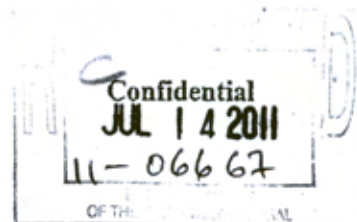


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Note to Mr. Nambiar

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BETWEEN CARICOM AND THE UNITED NATIONS**

*(prev. related  
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B. Lynn Pascoe  
12 July 2011



*ScH/08/002 ; com/11/001*

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NATIONS UNIES

**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

**MESSAGE TO THE SIXTH GENERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE UNITED  
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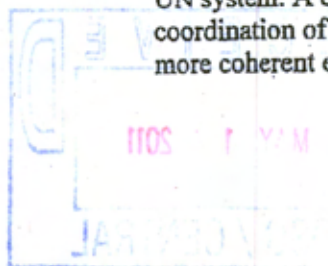
Georgetown, Guyana, 28-29 July 2011

It is a pleasure to convey my greetings to the CARICOM Secretariat and its associated institutions.

The Caribbean Community is a key partner for the United Nations. Our organizations share the goal of advancing the values of development, security and human rights. CARICOM is strongly committed to multilateralism and regional integration, and remains at the forefront tackling global challenges – from climate change to strengthening democracy to rebuilding after natural disasters to combating global epidemics. I recently thanked the Heads of Government of CARICOM for the region's active participation in the General Assembly High-level Meeting on AIDS. I look forward to the continuing leadership of CARICOM countries at the September High-level Meeting on non-communicable diseases, which I am certain will be a landmark event.

At the same time, the Caribbean region faces significant challenges. These include the negative effects of the global financial crisis, climate change and organized crime. As we have witnessed here and elsewhere, only through integration and pooling of resources, can the region effectively address transnational risks. These are challenges, however, that the region cannot and should not face alone. Rest assured that the message expressed by CARICOM leaders, calling for a more dedicated and coherent UN engagement in the region, has been heard by the UN system.

Following the Fifth UN-CARICOM General Meeting held in February 2009, the UN-CARICOM Regional Strategic Framework (RSF) was developed to provide for enhanced coordination between our two organizations. This RSF has allowed us to map our activities in the Caribbean region and identify areas of redundancy or duplication. In this connection, both the Interim and Final Report on the RSF contain key recommendations to improve the effectiveness of our partnership and enhance coherence on the ground. I am pleased that these recommendations were fully endorsed by both the CARICOM Secretariat and the UN system. A dialogue should now proceed on the best way forward to enhance coordination of UN activities in the Caribbean region and meet the demand for more coherent engagement.





During the past fourteen years, the United Nations and CARICOM have convened regular bi-annual meetings to enhance cooperation and information. These meetings are testimony to the genuine commitment of both organizations to work together. The Sixth General Meeting provides a unique opportunity to discuss how our partnership could be further strengthened and discuss targeted specific areas of cooperation. It will also give our organizations an opportunity to exchange views on issues of common concern, such as development, food security, climate change and the prospects for regional security.

These are challenging times for many countries in the world. The financial and economic crisis continues to take a heavy toll on many countries. In this context, however, the Caribbean region has made commendable progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, as evidenced during the 2010 MDG Summit.

I am fully aware that our collective efforts toward achieving the MDGs face significant challenges, including the increase in fuel and food prices. The questions of debt relief for middle-income countries and fair access to the global trading system merit therefore greater attention. I continue to raise these issues in the formal and informal meetings in which I participate, including the G8 and G20.

Climate change is yet another urgent and growing threat to development, economic growth, public health and to our very security. CARICOM and Caribbean countries of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) called attention to the specific vulnerability of Small Island Developing States to climate change and to the urgent threat that this phenomenon represents for the very survival of these nations. I have commended CARICOM countries for the leadership they have shown in the lead-up to last year's talks in Cancún, and I will count on their strong voice as we prepare for the Seventeenth Conference of the Parties later this year in Durban.

Another challenge for Caribbean countries is the growing threat posed by organized transnational crime and the proliferation of small arms and light weapons. We must consider this challenge in a regional context, as well as through the prisms of development, human rights and rule of law.

I am aware that the above-mentioned challenges will be discussed during the Sixth UN-CARICOM Meeting. Let me reiterate that the United Nations system stands ready to work with you on all these issues. I am confident that your discussions will lead to the adoption of a strategic approach to determine which initiatives could be meaningfully undertaken during the next phase of our cooperation.

To conclude, I would like to thank Acting Secretary-General Applewhaite and her team for hosting this important event. I wish you a very productive meeting and look forward to learning about its conclusions and recommendations.

Thank you.