



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Permanent Mission to the United Nations  
305 E. 47<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, N.Y. 10017

Telephone: 212-541-4117  
Fax: 212-757-1607

CARICOM statement

By

H.E. Dr. Walton Webson, Ambassador

Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda

To the United Nations

on

Organizational Session, Main Session  
73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the General Assembly

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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**CARICOM Statement  
Fifth Committee  
Organizational Session, Main Session  
73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the General Assembly  
9<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the fourteen Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). CARICOM wishes to align itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished Representative of the Republic of Egypt on behalf of the G77 and China, and the distinguished Representative of El Salvador on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

**Madam Chair,**

CARICOM wishes to congratulate you and the other members of the bureau on your election, to lead this Committee in a timely manner. CARICOM assures you that you can count on its support and cooperation throughout the session.

CARICOM expresses its gratitude to the previous Chair, Ambassador Tommo Monthe, Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations, for the capable manner in which he guided our work during the last session, and extend our appreciation to the outgoing bureau for their excellent support.

We would also like to recognize the dedicated Secretariat staff, ably led by Ms. Sharon Van Buerle, for their invaluable service in facilitating the work of this Committee.

CARICOM wishes to recognize the presence of Mr. Chandru Ramanathan, Acting Controller, Office of Programme Planning Budget and Accounts (OPPBA) and Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administration and Budgetary Question (ACABQ).

**Madam Chair,**

CARICOM thanks the bureau and the Fifth Committee Secretariat for the preparation of the programme of work and the status of preparedness of the relevant documents, which, we believe will be reviewed and adjusted during

The heavy agenda that we have to dispense with, calls for flexibility, compromise and deep understanding of the concerns on various issues.

CARICOM would like to assure you of its full cooperation, and stands ready to play its part towards ensuring a successful outcome of the session.

We stand ready to work with you, your bureau and the Secretariat, and look forward to the flexibility and support of our partners, and to a timely completion of the programme of work during this session.

I thank you.