

**STATEMENT BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF CARIBBEAN  
STATISTICIANS (SCCS) REGARDING ACTIVITIES PERTAINING TO THE  
PRODUCTION OF A NEW SET OF GOALS, TARGETS AND INDICATORS  
FOR THE “BEYOND 2015 INITIATIVE”**

1. The Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS)<sup>1</sup> at its Thirty-Ninth (39<sup>th</sup>) Meeting, held in Georgetown Guyana, on the 27-29 October 2014, considered the “Post-2015 Agenda”. Given the special circumstances of CARICOM Member States and Associate Members as Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the generally inadequately resourced and overstretched national statistical systems that would be further impacted by the need for a vast range and quantity of data and statistics to monitor the Post 2015 Agenda, the SCCS would like to bring the following to the attention of:

[The Relevant National Authorities that are engaged in the Post 2015 process, such as Ministries of Foreign Affairs],

[The United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC)],

The SCCS, having considered, *inter alia*:

- (a) Post-2015 Development Agenda: Goals, Targets and Indicators Special Report (2012);
- (b) Post-2015 Development Agenda: Goals, Targets and Indicators Conference Report (2012);
- (c) Statistics and Indicators for the Post-2015 development agenda - [UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda]-(2013);

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1. The Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians acting within the framework of the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community was established in accordance with Resolution No. 54/74/4 by the Fourth Meeting of the Common Market Council of Ministers, in 1974 to foster increased recognition of the importance of adequate statistical services to the countries of the Region; to widen the scope and coverage of statistical data collection; and to improve the quality, comparability and timeliness of statistics produced.. The SCCS which is convened by the CARICOM Secretariat comprises Chief Statisticians of Member States, Associate Members and other Caribbean Countries; representatives of National, Regional and International Organisations.

- (d) A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development-Report of the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (2013)
- (e) Indicators for Sustainable Development Goals (Draft, 2014);
- (f) Questionnaire of the Friends of the Chair on Broader Measures of Progress (2014);
- (g) Reports of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Meetings of the CARICOM Advisory Group on Statistics (AGS),

Reached the following position:

- Member States and Associate Members are urged to collaborate with and fully support their Relevant National Authorities that are engaged in the Post 2015 process;
- Member States and Associate Members are also urged to collaborate with the Friends of the Chair and to participate to the fullest extent possible in activities regarding broader measures of progress, particularly those leading to a final set of goals, targets and indicators;
- Notwithstanding the fact that due attention seems to be given to the issue of Statistical Capacity Building in the Report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (2013), the SCCS is of the opinion that given that the current set of MDGs (8 Goals, 21 Targets and 60 Indicators) never achieved full coverage in the CARICOM Region, the situation with the broader measures of progress will most likely result in even lower coverage for CARICOM Member States and Associate Members;
- The SCCS will support any set of Goals, Targets and Indicators arrived at after a wide and proper consultation process, but urges the international

Statistical Community to push for a **dual set** - the **full set** comprising all the goals, all the targets and all the indicators, and a **core set**, comprising all the goals, all the targets and a **selection** of indicators **manageable** by CARICOM\_SIDS;

- The core set of indicators should be the starting point for CARICOM\_SIDS and countries should aim to migrate to the full set in a specific timeframe. In addition, **the Caribbean Specific Millennium Development Goals (CSMDGs) indicators** which were produced by the CARICOM Region to enable greater relevance of the MDGs, and to some extent reflect some of the issues/indicators that are now being suggested for incorporation in the post-2015 monitoring framework, such as, disaggregation of the indicators by sex, the monitoring of Non-Communicable Diseases and Early Childhood Development, should also inform the process moving forward in CARICOM.