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REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Summary Report on the UNESCO Future Forum on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), with special emphasis on the Caribbean – The Challenges for International Development Cooperation in the 2010's

SUMMARY

This document contains the summary report on the UNESCO Future Forum on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), with special emphasis on the Caribbean – The Challenges for International Development Cooperation in the 2010's, which was held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on 8 July 2010, following the consultation with National Commissions of the Latin America and the Caribbean region on the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5).

This Future Forum offered a timely opportunity to analyse – with representatives of many National Commissions for UNESCO of the region as well as representatives of international and regional organizations – the major trends affecting SIDS, discuss common approaches and envision new strategic opportunities for UNESCO.

UNESCO FUTURE FORUM
on
Small Island Developing States (SIDS), with Special Emphasis on the Caribbean –
The Challenges for International Development Cooperation in the 2010's

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 8 July 2010

I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THE FORUM

1. Immediately following the regional consultation of the Director-General with National Commissions of Latin America and the Caribbean on the preparations of the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (draft 36 C/5), held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, the UNESCO Future Forum was held focusing on “Small Island Developing States, with Special Emphasis on the Caribbean – Challenges for international Development Cooperation in the 2010s”. This UNESCO Future Forum in Trinidad and Tobago offered a timely opportunity to analyse – with representatives of many National Commissions for UNESCO of the region as well as representatives of the major international and regional organizations – the major trends affecting SIDS, discuss common approaches and envision new strategic opportunities for UNESCO.

2. **SIDS constitute a priority group of countries in UNESCO’s Medium-Term Strategy 2008-2013 (34 C/4).** In line with the **2005 Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for the Implementation (MSI) of the Barbados Plan of Action (BPoA) for the Sustainable Development of Small Island States**, UNESCO has developed an integrated approach to sustainable island living and development, emphasizing interregional linkages and cooperation. Action in support of SIDS aims mainly at the promotion and development of quality education, focused particularly on addressing SIDS issues and needs, the adoption of evidence-based policies for sustainable development and their translation into effective on-the-ground practice, as well as the safeguarding of tangible and intangible heritage.

3. In September 2010, during the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly, a high-level meeting will be held in New York to conduct a five-year review and thorough assessment of the progress made with regard to MSI and thus to provide the international community with an opportunity to conduct a thorough assessment of the progress made, lessons learned and constraints encountered in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy and agree on what needs to be done to further address the vulnerabilities of SIDS. The UNESCO Future Forum was designed to serve as a source of reflection, stocktaking and input for UNESCO’s own contribution and strategic responses, including highlighting the potential for South-South and North-South-South cooperation, to the September 2010 review.

II. OPENING OF THE UNESCO FUTURE FORUM

4. Moderated by **Susan Shurland**, Secretary-General of the Trinidad and Tobago National Commission for UNESCO, the Forum started with an introductory statement by **Hans d’Orville**, Assistant Director-General of UNESCO for Strategic Planning. He noted, that, in a world subject to economic and environmental crises, **SIDS, while diverse, faced a common set of unprecedented challenges** – increasingly unpredictable and severe weather, the prospect of rising sea level, biodiversity losses, geographic remoteness, small but growing populations and economic vulnerability due, in part to small markets and limited access to resources.

5. SIDS had nonetheless a record of thriving in challenging times, inventing and refining new and innovative approaches to development, social mobilization and technological adaptation. This resilience was exemplified by their success in mobilizing the international community and materialized notably when the United Nations endorsed the MSI, through which SIDS committed to promote sustainable development, eradicate poverty and improve the livelihoods of their peoples.

6. **Such a wide range of interconnected challenges could not be addressed without active international cooperation and without the kind of holistic and future-oriented approach that is the hallmark of UNESCO**, which has made SIDS a priority group of countries of its Medium-Term Strategy. In the coming years, the Organization was thus committed to continue to translate this approach into action while seeking new avenues to better assist SIDS.

7. Climate change, an issue of vital importance for SIDS, remained and would remain high on UNESCO's agenda. In the coming years, SIDS would hugely benefit from the **increased activities of UNESCO in the field of climate knowledge and of oceans and sea**, where it has a long recognized experience. During the next years, UNESCO would be active in developing initiatives on **Climate Change Education** and in improving its **support to university networks and inter-university cooperation** through the transfer of knowledge across borders. Mr d'Orville added that **SIDS could also greatly benefit from the South-South Cooperation Programme for Education** which UNESCO had launched in 2007 with the establishment of a South-South Cooperation Fund.

8. Recalling that 2010 was the International Year of Biodiversity, he stressed that UNESCO would aim at expanding and **reinforcing its network of Biosphere Reserves** as they represented laboratories of scientific and educational cooperation.

9. The **cultural diversity and vibrancy of the Caribbean SIDS was part of their wealth**, as demonstrated by the importance of cultural tourism in the region. As 2010 was also the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, the international community had to **acknowledge the potential and contribution of the Caribbean states to dialogue, mutual understanding, tolerance and a building of a culture of peace**.

10. In the area of communication and information, UNESCO's main objective was to **enhance information literacy and knowledge of sustainable development challenges** and practices through the development of community media, the training of journalists or the capacity-building of professionals in the field of ICTs.

11. Addressing the needs of groups like **women** and **youth** would be another major challenge for the Caribbean and every committed actor would need to reflect about the most effective programmes in this regard.

12. In his opening address, **Davidson Hepburn**, President of the UNESCO General Conference and Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of the Bahamas to UNESCO, underlined his commitment to make sure that the mandate of UNESCO and the voice of SIDS would both be well reflected in the debates to be held in New York in September 2010 at the five-year review of MSI, which he was to attend in his capacity as President of UNESCO's General Conference. Consequently, he expected the UNESCO Future Forum to produce some positive guidelines in order to refine UNESCO's approaches in implementing the Mauritius Strategy.

13. Indeed, while the adoption of MSI was in itself a very hopeful sign that the interests of the Small Island States were given added attention by the international community, he believed that this **international recognition needed to go even further**. He pointed to a certain number of key areas where the debates in this UNESCO Forum could contribute to better advocacy for small island countries: the Internationally Agreed Development Goals (IADGs), climate change, natural disasters, or biodiversity resources. In all these areas, he noted that, despite substantial progress, renewed and **increased efforts were needed not only on the part of SIDS, but also on the part of the international community and the United Nations in particular, which need to acknowledge and address the specificities of this Group**.

14. In order to obtain such added global recognition, **SIDS had to avoid the fragmentation of their enterprises** and reinforce the dynamics that gave way to the 2005 Mauritius Declaration and Strategy. To add momentum to this coalescence, **SIDS also had to become better at working**

together at the regional level, which on strong political commitments as well as investments in such fields as education, the sciences, culture and communication, are all absolutely indispensable for development.

15. **Marcia de Castro**: United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC) in Trinidad and Tobago and UNDP Resident Representative welcomed the holding of the UNESCO Future Forum as a timely initiative. She reviewed the excellent collaboration among United Nations system organizations in the Caribbean in favour of SIDS and highlighted the important role UNESCO can play in strengthening education in the region.

III. KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Keynote Address by Juliana Johan Boodram – Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Economic and Social Restructuring and Gender Affairs, Government of Trinidad and Tobago as represented by Mr Joseph Howard, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Planning, Economic and Social Restructuring and Gender Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago

16. **Joseph Howard, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Trinidad and Tobago's Ministry of Planning, Economic and Social Restructuring and Gender Affairs**, underlined the need to **fully acknowledge the complexity characterizing the development of the people, the economies and the societies of the Caribbean**. Of prime concern were **the environmental challenges that emerged from issues related to climate change and natural disasters**, with the latter's impact estimated to be US \$136 billion. As was demonstrated by the earthquake which struck Haiti in January 2010, the Caribbean SIDS' **exposure to natural disasters could cause incalculable damage to the social institutions and infrastructures**, including education and health, and constrain progress towards the MDGs.

17. Other challenges had to be considered: health, HIV/AIDS in particular, the impacts of globalization, the global food, energy and economic crises. Economic liberalization under the paradigm of the World Trade Organization (WTO) entailed no mechanism to cater for the special circumstances of SIDS. The challenge was therefore to **create a vision of development fostering a specifically Caribbean integration into the world economy. Migration was to be addressed as a highly complex issue** as it came with both losses – the "brain drain" – and gains – remittances. He pointed at a **significant decline in Official Development Assistance (ODA) and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) parallel to high levels of unsustainable foreign and domestic debt**, which was exacerbated by the fact that Caribbean SIDS access to concessionary lending from international institutions was **limited by the categorization of many of them as Middle-Income Countries (MICs)**.

18. The picture was not all sombre, though, thanks to the resilience of Caribbean SIDS and their commitment to regional cooperation. Improvements were nonetheless required in terms of **development and operationalization of MSI-related frameworks**. Caribbean SIDS could also benefit from increased investments in sustainable production and consumption (SCP) frameworks.

19. The Deputy Permanent Secretary evoked the success of Trinidad and Tobago in such areas as natural disaster, marine and freshwater resources, waste management or ICTs. The country faced **constraints due to shortfalls in human, institutional and financial capacity** and he advocated for an **integrated approach of the development process, social advancement and environmental conservation**. As for the effective implementation of the MSI in the region, he recommended to better engage in the **greening of the economy, the management of disaster risk, SIDS-relevant Research and Development, the strengthening of Public-Private Partnerships**, and so on.

20. He promoted the idea of a **Caribbean SIDS vulnerability index** which would take into account the absence of economic diversification, export dependence or natural disasters and thus provide a basis for the allocation of international financial and technical assistance in SIDS. This

could take the form of a Caribbean human development index integrating the vulnerabilities of these countries. While the relevancy of such an instrument remained to be debated, it was obvious that **changes were needed to better echo the situation of Caribbean SIDS at the international level.**

21. In the eyes of the Deputy Permanent Secretary, **UNESCO** could make a difference through purposeful strategic actions in its domains, notably by addressing **youth and youth violence, school enrolment, quality education, technology development and education or cultural tourism**, and by supporting the implementation of the MSI through the development of a holistic and an interdisciplinary approach **fostering comparative research among SIDS to determine common solutions to problems.**

Keynote Address by The Honourable Dr Ralph E. Gonsalves – Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

22. **The Honourable Dr Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**, acknowledged UNESCO's involvement with SIDS as illustrated by their recognition as a priority group in its Medium-term Strategy and the key role played by the Organization in the field of oceans. He also welcomed UNESCO's consideration of a universal draft declaration on ethical principles pertaining to climate change. He nonetheless urged UNESCO to increase its commitment towards Caribbean SIDS as a group, as its uniqueness had been relatively neglected by the international development cooperation community.

23. He diagnosed that Caribbean SIDS, and many other SIDS, were facing a **triple threat of globalization, climatization and stigmatization**. While the Caribbean SIDS remained **one of the most globalized** and open regions in the world, the formal apparatuses of globalization did not always embrace the interests of the subregion with equal affection. **Climate change** was the region's greatest long-term existential threat which posed a massive development challenge in the short and medium term, especially because of the daunting costs of adaptation and preservation that were beyond their individual capacity. In his view, Caribbean SIDS faced **stigmatization** in the form of OECD black lists, grey lists and white lists which stymied their efforts to diversify their economies through expansion into financial services. **Criminalization** was a fourth impediment to consider, given that the Caribbean had the world's largest murder rate, a situation that called for increased involvement by the international community since many of the drug-related crimes had causes exogenous to the subregion.

24. Prime Minister Gonsalves pointed out that **the ongoing global economic and financial crisis was an economic earthquake** with aftershocks still reverberating throughout the region which could afford neither to spend its way out the crisis nor to pull its belt any more tightly onto its economic skeleton. This demanded increased development assistance, which had **many inherent shortcomings when it came to address the special situation of Caribbean SIDS**. This group of countries was indeed the victim of its relative success, embodied in the fact that they were democratic states with the status of MICs. It was challenging for them to capitalize on their embryonic success because the specificity of their situation did not fit neatly into the predetermined parameters of many development partners and especially those countries puzzlingly suffering from a so-called **donor fatigue** when they had yet to donate and provide the full amount of what they had originally promised. On the other hand, there was also a **commitment fatigue** on the part of the developing countries which had to be heeded.

25. The Prime Minister suggested, however, that Caribbean SIDS had to acknowledge their own regional shortcomings. In particular, there were three areas deserving of improvement and correction: **regional cooperation** was still largely insufficient; and the potential of the rich **Caribbean culture** remained untapped, while it could generate not only economic gains but also a sense of self and a collective Caribbean psyche. Much had to be done in order to adequately embrace the opportunities presented by greater **South-South cooperation** with emerging countries and economies of the global South.

26. In conclusion, he stressed that **international development cooperation should be re-imagined, reconfigured and refocused to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of Caribbean States**. His entire focus was meant to highlight the oft-ignored “Goal 8” of the Millennium Development Goals calling for “a global partnership for development”. This had been largely neglected despite its strategic importance. The relevant agendas and documents existed, but a genuine political commitment to apply them coherently, concretely and specifically was still wanting. Picturing the Caribbean SIDS as the barometer of the global economy, he warned that their development was inextricably intertwined and mutually dependent upon global development. “As goes the world, so goes the Caribbean. And vice versa.”

IV. ISSUES RAISED DURING THE DISCUSSION

Challenges facing SIDS

27. Owing to their geographic location and features, SIDS were particularly vulnerable to external shocks. The **global food, financial and energy crises were strongly affecting their socio-economic fabric and putting MDG achievement at risk**. Recovery in the Caribbean was projected as slow for 2010, as the regional GDP was expected to grow by 4%, after having contracted by 1.8% in 2009. While this figure hid marked differences in outlook and performance across countries, there were a number of common features to be considered. The economies of the Caribbean **SIDS** were highly dependent on services, especially tourism (up to 45% of GDP). While tourism and financial industries were expanding, diversity in production was structurally limited, with both agriculture and manufacturing contributing less to GDP, resulting in the need to import most of the goods needed by the tourism industry. As a consequence, most Caribbean countries were running at least double deficits in both their fiscal and current account balances. It was noted that currently 10 of the 14 most indebted countries **in Latin America and the Caribbean** were SIDS. These imbalances had been exacerbated by the global financial crisis, which caused a significant drop in remittances from migrants and in receipts from tourism. The subsequent slowdown in poverty reduction was leading to increased levels of crime and violence combined with high levels of migration. Hence, the current priorities were poverty, unemployment, crime and education.

28. In this context, **climate change was becoming the biggest of the “threat multipliers”**, putting many SIDS in a situation of near existential threat. There was a palpable increase in the prevalence of natural disasters, with increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, e.g. cyclones, floods and droughts. Between 1990 and 2008, there had been 165 natural hazard events in the Caribbean, affecting 16 countries. 61% were windstorm-related events – hurricanes, floods and tropical storms – the most affected countries being Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica. The impacts of such disasters were **environmental**, such as sea-level rise, coral bleaching, biodiversity loss, acidification of oceans, freshwater scarcity, etc.; **economic**, including loss of agricultural land and infrastructure, negative impacts on fisheries, etc.; and **social**, in the form of a threat to human security, health, and the destruction of human settlements. The total damage to the region was estimated to be \$136 billion over the 1990-2008 period. It was estimated that adverse climate change-related impacts could cost up to 14% of GDP by 2025, 39% costs by 2050, 45% by 2075, and 63% by 2100.

29. These vulnerabilities, it was estimated, **were hampering the development of the region’s greatest potential, its youth**. Young people under 30 accounted for 60% of the region’s population. Youth unemployment rate was over 30%. This resulted in one of the highest rates of youth violence globally. There were also other consequences, such as early sex, high incidence of adolescent mothers (20% in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica), high prevalence of HIV/AIDS, and high levels of unattached youth (in Jamaica, 24% to 34% of youth were unattached between 1998 and 2001).

30. A crucial underlying factor was the **poor quality of education**. While both the enrolment rates and levels of completion were high in primary education, pass rates at the end of the

secondary education remained low. The highest rates of dropouts are especially among boys. While girls did significantly better, there was no evidence of this resulting in enhanced opportunities in the labour market. There was high repetition, a lack of competency skills in literacy and numeracy in segments of the adult and youth population, and challenges persisted in developing soft and life skills.

31. This combination of trends was impeding sustainable development across the region and slowing down the implementation of BPoA and MSI, as well as progress towards the MDGs. The limitations in terms of technical, financial and human resources were to be coupled with exogenous factors such as the global financial crisis. Thus far, **existing institutional arrangements had been ineffective** in translating the international agendas into operational programmes and projects for SIDS.

Possible contributions by UNESCO

32. The presentations and discussions pointed strategic domains where UNESCO could be in a position to make a significant contribution. First and foremost, UNESCO should **support the designation of SIDS as a special category within the United Nations system**. Because there was currently no such formal recognition, SIDS did not have access to appropriate preferential treatment, concessionary financing, or sufficient ODA flows. Despite SIDS' documented and acknowledged vulnerabilities, there was a deficit of SIDS dedicated and effective response measures. The international community had not established effective financing and technology transfer mechanisms to respond to the needs of SIDS. Such special recognition was deemed critical for SIDS to evade the ambiguous borderline category of those "vulnerable but capable at the same time".

33. As regards **education**, there was a need to develop accessible and inclusive education systems across the region. This implied notably:

- increasing the capacities for education policy, planning, management, and monitoring and evaluation of the education systems, and monitoring of the attainment of the EFA Goals by 2015;
- increasing the quality of teachers;
- providing intercultural and multilingual education including indigenous languages;
- reorienting curricula to reinforce literacy and numeracy as well as non-cognitive skills and life skills, especially for youth at risk – with particular emphasis on HIV/AIDS prevention through comprehensive gender-sensitive sex and reproductive health education;
- fostering education for sustainable development (ESD), with a particular emphasis on Climate Change education;
- promoting Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), with a stronger focus on skills training, life-long learning, the education-labour market link; and an increase in the use of ICTs in education and by UNEVOC centres;
- establishing partnerships with other multilateral actors present in the region, most notably the Inter-American Development Bank.

34. UNESCO was also called to undertake additional measures in the field of education:

- enhance collaboration among institutions of higher education to rationalize programmes, strengthening quality assurance and accreditation mechanisms and complement rather than duplicate the educational offer;

- promote centres of excellence;
- explore options to adapt tools developed under the Teaching Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa for CARICOM;
- embrace opportunities for interconnectivity between institutions of higher education, as exemplified in the Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network (CKLN), and connect Caribbean institutions through UNESCO global networks, such as UNEVOC and UNITWIN;
- promote ICTs in education, including early childhood and especially teacher training.

35. Violence in the region was a recurrent expression of **gender inequality**. Education was a fundamental tool for combating gender inequality as a whole in society. UNESCO could be a key platform to accompany the region in programmes for preventive action; sex education for the prevention of teenage pregnancy; education for women for the world of work; female empowerment; scholarships; the elimination of stereotypes in textbooks and teaching; training and awareness-raising for teachers; the promotion of career choices traditionally associated with men; and support for research by women scientists. UNESCO could invite and assist communication media and media professionals to participate actively in such programmes.

36. Efforts in education needed to be complemented by a solid youth policy enabling the region to capitalize on its most significant potential, which was also its largest population segment. Offering and promoting constructive activities outside school was essential in preventing the grave problems affecting youth (violence, organized crime) and in making good use of their leisure time. UNESCO should define a regional youth strategy based on the positive realizations of existing youth-related initiatives in the Latin America and the Caribbean region (e.g. Youth Parliaments and the upcoming World Youth Conference in Mexico). The use of ICTs by young people was an important element to be harnessed for capacity-building in scientific and cultural exchange networks. There was a need to strengthen youth organizations as spaces for the construction and practice of civic citizenship, and to link all efforts with those of the education systems with a view to better connecting them to the labour markets.

37. As for **climate change**, UNESCO also had a role to play in building and maintaining the **knowledge base** needed to address climate change, as well as in the promotion of public education and participation including involvement of civil society and academia. In this perspective, UNESCO could promote interdisciplinary research for addressing climate and environmental challenges, and promote climate change adaptation and mitigation and environmental management benefits as **regional public goods**. UNESCO was also in a unique position to enrich the climate change global debate by integrating its ethical considerations, however controversial this may be. UNESCO had also the capacity to address the social dimensions of Climate Change, notably the migration-related issues.

38. UNESCO should work towards a better **acknowledgement of the unique threat posed by climate change for SIDS**, which puts their sustainable development, and in some cases their very existence, at risk. International support for mitigation and adaptation strategies had not adequately matched their obvious ecological fragility. UNESCO could assist SIDS in their quest for support by the international community for an agreement on topping the emissions of greenhouse effect generating gases to those producing a 1.5° Celsius increase or less, so as to send a strong signal to all stakeholders on the need for clean energy. UNESCO could encourage the process towards a legally binding agreement with commitments to green economies, as well as the creation of functioning facilities for those islands already affected by climate change through the provision of financing and technology for sustainable development and the establishment of a comprehensive insurance and risk management facility.

39. Other specific domains of action were mentioned where UNESCO had the ability to support SIDS's adaptation and mitigation efforts:

- Supporting the **promotion of renewable energies** through projects like the SIDS Dock initiative, an institutional mechanism created by SIDS to support clean and renewable energy development, notably through indigenous sources, and designed as a “docking station,” connecting with the EU and US carbon markets. International development agencies could, for instance, help support the operationalization of the SDL Business Plan in over 10 pilot SIDS countries.
- Supporting **Coastal Zone Management**: while SIDS were uniquely dependent on the health of global oceans and marine resources, they were faced with the degradation of coastal and marine resources including coral bleaching; inadequate conservation; over-fishing; as well as barriers to increased participation in fisheries-related activities. Thus, SIDS needed adequate support for building the resilience of their coastal zone, especially for preservation and rehabilitation of coral reefs;
- Supporting a multisectoral communication strategy and action plan on climate change prevention and mitigation.

40. **Culture** was considered as an important factor to support human capacity for building resilience in SIDS: the global demand for the Caribbean's creative industries was growing and provided good return on investment. However, inadequate policy frameworks and incentive structures limited the potential of such creative economies. Consequently, support was needed for the Regional Task Force on Cultural Industries, which had been mandated to prepare a Regional Development Strategy and Action Plan.

ANNEX
PROGRAMME
UNESCO FUTURE FORUM

**Small Island Developing States (SIDS), with special emphasis on the Caribbean –
The Challenges for International Development Cooperation in the 2010's**
8 July 2010 – Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

9.30 a.m.-11 a.m.: Opening

Moderator:

- **Susan Shurland** – Secretary-General of the Trinidad and Tobago National Commission for UNESCO
- **Hans d’Orville** – Assistant Director-General for Strategic Planning, UNESCO
- **Marcia de Castro** – United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC) in Trinidad and Tobago; UNDP Resident Representative
- **Davidson Hepburn** – President of the UNESCO General Conference, Ambassador of Bahamas to UNESCO

Keynote Addresses:

- **Joseph Howard**, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Planning, Economic and Social Restructuring and Gender Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago
- **Dr Ralph E. Gonsalves** – Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

11 a.m.-1 p.m.: Entering the 2010's: rethinking multilateral cooperation for SIDS to attain the internationally agreed development goals in education, the sciences, culture and communication and information and implementing the Mauritius strategy through action in UNESCO's domains
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Moderator:

- **Hans d’Orville** – Assistant Director-General for Strategic Planning, UNESCO

Speakers:

- **Dessima Williams** – Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Grenada to the United Nations; Chairman of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)
- **Len Ishmael** – Director-General, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
- **Hirohito Toda** – Country Representative, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
- **Rogel Nuguid** – Chief of Staff, Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- **Ryan Burgess** – Country Representative and Education Specialist, Trinidad and Tobago, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

2.30 p.m.-3 p.m.: Presentation of the Caribbean development report on citizen security

Anthony Harriot – Consultant to UNDP

3 p.m.-5 p.m.: Addressing environmental and climate change challenges faced by SIDS, especially in the Caribbean

Moderator:

- **Kwame Boafo** - Director, UNESCO Office in Kingston

Speakers:

- **Cletus Springer** – Director of Sustainable Development at the Organization of American States (OAS)
- **Hiro Morita-Lou** – Chief, SIDS Unit of the Division for Sustainable Development at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- **Gordon Bispham** – SIDS expert, Caribbean Policy Development Centre
- **Marlene Attzs** – Deputy Coordinator, The Sustainable Economic Development Unit, The University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago
- **Sarah McIntosh** – Former Executive Director, Caribbean Resources Institute (CANARI)

5 P.M.: Closure of UNESCO Future Forum