

**ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

**between the CARIFORUM States, of the one part, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland, of the other part**

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA,  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS,  
BARBADOS,  
BELIZE,  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA,  
THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC,  
GRENADA,  
THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA,  
THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI,  
JAMAICA,  
SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS,  
SAINT LUCIA,  
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES,  
THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME,  
THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO,  
hereinafter referred to as the ‘CARIFORUM States’,

of the one part, and

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, hereinafter referred to as ‘the United Kingdom’ or ‘the UK’,

of the other part,

hereinafter jointly referred to as ‘the Parties’;

HAVING REGARD to the Economic Partnership Agreement between the CARIFORUM States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part signed on 15 October 2008, hereinafter referred to as ‘the CARIFORUM-EU EPA’;

RECOGNISING that the CARIFORUM-EU EPA will cease to apply to the United Kingdom when it ceases to be a Member State of the European Union or at the end of any transitional period or implementation period during which the rights and obligations under the CARIFORUM-EU EPA continue to apply to the United Kingdom;

DESIROUS of ensuring continuity of the effects of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA and maintaining certainty and stability in their trade and investment relationship;

HAVING REGARD to the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas establishing the Caribbean Community including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, the Revised Treaty of Basseterre establishing the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Economic Union and the Agreement establishing a Free Trade Area between the Caribbean Community and the Dominican Republic;

RECOGNISING that this Agreement builds on the experience of the Partnership Agreement between the Members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (‘ACP’) Group of States of the one part, and the European Community (‘EC’) and its Member States of the other part, signed on 23 June 2000 and revised on 25 June 2005 and further revised on 22 June 2010 (‘Cotonou Agreement’) and on the experience of the previous ACP-EC Partnership Agreements in the area of regional cooperation and integration as well as economic and trade cooperation;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the respect for human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law, which constitute the essential elements of this Agreement and to good governance, which constitutes the fundamental element of this Agreement;

CONSIDERING the need to promote and expedite the economic, cultural, and social development of the

CARIFORUM States, with a view to contributing to peace and security and to promoting a stable and democratic political environment;

CONSIDERING the importance that they attach to the internationally agreed development objectives and to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals;

CONSIDERING the need to promote economic and social progress for their people in a manner consistent with sustainable development by respecting basic labour rights in line with the commitments they have undertaken within the International Labour Organisation and by protecting the environment in line with the 2002 Johannesburg Declaration;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to work together towards the achievement of the objectives of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the gradual integration of the ACP States into the world economy;

DESIROUS of facilitating the implementation of the CARICOM Development Vision;

CONSIDERING their commitment to the principles and rules which govern international trade, in particular those contained in the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation ('WTO');

CONSIDERING the difference in levels of economic and social development existing between the CARIFORUM States and the United Kingdom;

CONSIDERING the importance of the existing traditional links, and notably the close historical, political and economic ties between them;

CONSIDERING that they wish to strengthen those links and to establish lasting relations based on partnership and mutual rights and obligations, supported by a regular dialogue with a view of improving mutual knowledge and understanding;

DESIROUS of strengthening the framework for economic and trade relations between them through the establishment of an Economic Partnership Agreement which can serve as an instrument for the development of the CARIFORUM States;

DESIROUS of enhancing their economic relationship and, in particular, trade and investment flows, building on and improving the current level of preferential market access into the United Kingdom for the CARIFORUM States;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to support the regional integration process among CARIFORUM States, and in particular to foster regional economic integration as a key instrument to facilitate their integration into the world economy and help them to face the challenges of globalisation and achieve the economic growth and social progress compatible with sustainable development to which they aim;

AWARE that building capacities and addressing supply constraints in CARIFORUM States are required to take full advantage of increased trading opportunities and maximise the benefits of trade reforms and REAFFIRMING the essential role that development assistance, including trade-related assistance, can play in supporting CARIFORUM States to implement and take advantage of this Agreement;

RECALLING that the United Kingdom is committed to development aid, including aid for trade and to ensuring that a substantial share of the UK's development aid is devoted to ACP countries;

DETERMINED to ensure that the UK's development cooperation for regional economic cooperation and integration is carried out so as to maximise the expected benefits of this Agreement;

COMMITTED to cooperate, in accordance with the Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, in order to facilitate the UK's contribution and other donors' participation in support of the efforts of the CARIFORUM States to achieve the objectives of this Agreement;

RECOGNISING that UK development cooperation in support of this Agreement shall continue to be guided by the internationally agreed aid effectiveness agenda and assessment of a government's commitment to the UK Partnership Principles, reducing poverty and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

CONVINCED that this Agreement will create a new and more favourable climate for their relations in the areas of trade and investments and create new dynamic opportunities for growth and development,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS: