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NEW

**GRENADA**  
**Intervention of Minister Emmalin PIERRE**  
**205<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board**  
**9 October 2018**

Mr. Chairperson of the Executive Board,  
Madam President of the General Conference,  
Madam Director-General,  
Dear colleagues,

Madam Director General, as Grenada's new Representative, I want to first congratulate you on your new position and extend my best wishes to you.

I would like also to start by associating Grenada to the sentiments shared by the GRULAC.

Grenada welcomes all efforts to go further in UNESCO reform's implementation and to improve its management in a strategic way and in compliance with its Constitution. We reiterate the importance of undertaking this process with the Member States and according to the General Conference resolutions.

Grenada considers that the added value of our Organisation rests in its unique multidisciplinary mandate in Education, Culture, Sciences, Communication and Information, which allows it to respond to its Member States' needs in a holistic manner.

Thus we look forward to an improved human resource strategy for the Organisation according to its Rules and Regulations, in order to advance Programme delivery and geographical representation.

We underline the importance to ensure the effective delivery of the Programmes in the framework of the integrated budget of the 39 C/5 as adopted by the General Conference and their sustainability in the preparation of the 40 C/5.

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda challenges us. We need to put forward our best efforts in trying to achieve the targets set out by the SDG's.

Grenada understands the transformative power of education and is fully committed to the implementation of the E2030 not only at the national level but we believe that a regional approach is important in order to maximize out limited resources by sharing best practices and knowledge.

Grenada was part of the technical Committee which took on the responsibility to develop the draft E2030 roadmap for the Latin America and Caribbean region, which seeks to capture a shared regional strategic vision about how to advance jointly in the Education 2030 Agenda regionalization process, through the creation of policy recommendations to be implemented.

The Ministry of Education, have completed standards for early childhood development, a revised school drugs policy and we are reviewing our education management data system with the expectation of rolling out a full system in 2019 as well as a National TVET policy which we hope to develop by early 2019.

We believe that it is necessary to reiterate our unique vulnerabilities as Small Island Developing States since we are not on a level playing field and cannot be treated as if we are. We are small islands with small economies, with climate impacts that affect us yearly.

Given Grenada's vulnerability and limited capacity to adapt to climate change, the Government of Grenada has made it a priority to implement an integrated policy and plan to protect the country from the adverse effects of climate change as well as to eradicate poverty, and create an enabling environment for increased employment. The plan is to integrate

climate change challenges and opportunities in the national development plan and programmes including all sectors for economic and social development.

We call for the continued support from UNESCO for the implementation of Early Warning Systems for Tsunamis which are of great importance to Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Science, technology and innovation are critical for sustainable development, poverty eradication, protection of the environment and enhancement of global peace and we seek UNESCO's support for developing adequate policies in our region.

We support UNESCO's thrust in preserving the diversity of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and look for increased support to build capacity of Member States and preserve heritage in the framework of all the Organisation's cultural conventions, taking into consideration their particular specificities.

Grenada believes that Information and Communication Technology is a major tool in driving development and to face the challenges of the digital era contributing to building inclusive and sustainable knowledge societies.

Madam Director General,

In your presentation yesterday, no reference was made to SIDS, a Priority Group in UNESCO.

Grenada strongly underlines the importance of the SIDS Action Plan and it is our hope that UNESCO will recognize the importance of the implementation of this plan for the benefit of Member States. We continue to urge UNESCO to dedicate more resources for its implementation.

Thank you.