



GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA

Ministry of Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and Public Service **Department of External Affairs**

*Communication on this subject
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April 08, 2021

Secretary General
OACPS Secretariat
451 Avenue Georges Henri
1200 Brussels
BELGIUM

Dear Sir/Madam,

Congratulatory Message – First Anniversary Celebration of the OACPS – April 08, 2021

On behalf of the Government and people of Saint Lucia, I would like to express warm congratulations to the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) on the occasion of its 1st Anniversary Celebration.

Forty-six years ago, 46 countries from the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific States signed the Georgetown Agreement, pledging their joint commitment to focus on common goals. Since the inception of this extraordinary body in 1975, the aforesaid Agreement has provided the framework for, and guided the operations of the OACPS. One year ago, with the entry into force of the Revised Georgetown Agreement, the OACPS resolved to enhance its visibility by working together to re-model the organisation, thereby enabling it to forge a better and brighter future for us all, as well as to adapt to new challenges and opportunities in the global environment and improve engagement with the European Union and beyond.

Consequently, the first anniversary of the OACPS represents a mile stone both for the Organisation and its members and comes at a critical juncture as we conclude the new transformative OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement and intensify efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Now with the emergence of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic our Governments continue to grapple with the daunting health and socioeconomic challenges. Therefore, our collective efforts must be focused on building resilience and inclusive and sustainable economies and communities. Moreover, there is still a need to reform the OACPS Secretariat to better meet the needs of Member States in addressing the new global challenges and threats.

Saint Lucia reaffirms its commitment to continued cooperation with the OACPS Secretariat. Once again, my sincere congratulations on this auspicious occasion as we look forward to solidifying our unity and cooperation towards the achievement of the goals of the OACPS.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SF Beaubrun', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Honourable Sarah Flood-Beaubrun
Minister with responsibility for External Affairs

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