

**STATEMENT BY H.E. THE SECRETARY GENERAL MOUSSA
SALEH BATRAKI ON THE 51ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC
STATES JUNE 6TH, 2026**

Today, we mark the 51st anniversary of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

One year after celebrating our Golden Jubilee, this occasion invites us not only to look back with pride but also to reflect on the steps we have taken since then. It is a moment to recognise how the OACPS continues to evolve, to renew itself, and to respond to the priorities of its Member States in a changing international environment.

This year has been an important one for our Organisation. The 11th Summit of OACPS Heads of State and Government, held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, gave renewed political direction to our common project. Through the Malabo Declaration, our leaders reaffirmed their commitment to a transformed, revitalised and more effective OACPS, one that is better equipped to deliver concrete results for its peoples.

For more than five decades, the OACPS has remained a family of nations united by solidarity, cooperation and a shared belief in the strength of collective action. Across Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, our Member States have continued to stand together in support of sustainable development, peace, resilience, equity and a fairer place in the global economy.

This spirit of unity has always been at the heart of our Organisation. It has allowed us to speak with one voice on issues that matter deeply to our peoples, from climate action and development financing to trade, social justice, digital transformation, and the needs of small island developing states, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries.

Today, that unity is needed more than ever. The world around us is changing rapidly. Multilateralism is under pressure, inequalities persist, climate-related disasters are increasingly affecting our countries, and the global development landscape is becoming more complex and uncertain.

In this context, the OACPS must continue to adapt. Renewal is no longer only an aspiration. It is a responsibility. It requires stronger institutions, clearer priorities, better coordination and a greater focus on implementation. It also requires sustained commitment from our Member States, particularly as we work to strengthen the financial sustainability and long-term viability of our Organisation.

The Malabo Declaration has given us a clear framework for this next phase. It calls on us to modernise our ways of working, deepen our Member States' ownership, mobilise resources more effectively, and ensure that our decisions translate into concrete action. It also reminds us that the OACPS has a vital role as a platform for dialogue, cooperation, and strategic engagement across the Global South.



Our partnership with the European Union, now guided by the Samoa Agreement, remains an important pillar of our external engagement. At the same time, the OACPS is called to expand its partnerships, strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation, and build new avenues of collaboration that reflect the priorities and ambitions of our Member States.

As we mark this 51st anniversary, I wish to pay tribute to all those who continue to contribute to the life and progress of our Organisation: our Heads of State and Government, our Ministers, our Ambassadors, our parliamentary representatives, our partners, and the staff of the Secretariat. Their work, commitment and sense of service continue to carry the OACPS forward.

The next chapter of the OACPS must be one of action, responsibility and results. It must be a chapter in which our unity is matched by stronger implementation, our ambition by sustained commitment, and our shared values by tangible progress for our peoples.

Fifty-one years after its creation, the OACPS remains a voice of solidarity, a platform for cooperation and a force for collective action.

Let us continue to build an Organisation that is more united, more resilient, more financially sustainable and more present on the global stage.

Let us carry this renewed spirit forward, together.

Thank you.



H.E. SECRETARY GENERAL,
MOUSSA S. BATRAKI

