

## THE GRAND ANSE DECLARATION

We, a cross section of the scientific, technological, public and private sector communities of the Caribbean and its Diaspora, as Implementing Agents at this High Level meeting of March 26 to 28, 2015, held here in Grand Anse, Grenada,

**Being fully aware** that:

- i) Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), when combined with Entrepreneurship and good management are the driving forces behind a strong global economy, and the instruments of sustainable change and improvement in many nations,
- ii) the role of youth and education is highly relevant and critical to the development and growth of the Caribbean Nation States,
- iii) the time has come for us to move collectively with an expressed, united will and selfless strategic planning as a team of Caribbean Nations, with input from the Diaspora, and
- iv) the Region needs to build economic, environmental, and technological resilience which will transform the Caribbean Nation States into a model of economic success.

call upon the Heads of CARICOM Governments to commit the human and financial resources to set up and fund the recommended infrastructure, and furthermore to heed the recommendations for implementation put forward by the Diaspora and interested International Agencies.

As part of the implementation effort, we solicit our governments, all national and regional institutions, the private sector, civil society, the scientific and technological communities, the Diaspora, International funding agencies and entrepreneurs **to immediately and proactively support the vision of the “2015-2019 CARICOM Strategic Plan” and the Action/Implementation Plans emerging from this Grand Anse Meeting.** We strongly encourage all stakeholders to refocus on a common goal, to improve **networking in STI in the Caribbean**, and to move as cells of a single body to counter the infections of disharmony, weed out inefficient and non-accountable “turfs”, and to give full cooperative support in a common effort to work efficiently as a well synchronized machine to implement the plans and develop STI as the key vehicle to socio-economic development in the Region.

**We therefore strongly recommend and urge:**

The establishment of a regional implementation structure and effective mechanism for Research, Science, Technology, Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Development, under the auspices of the CARICOM Secretariat and the guidance and coordination of the CARICOM Science, Technology and Innovation Committee (CSTIC) to

- i) inform the Region’s response to challenges and opportunities, which response increasingly is predicated on the creation, promotion, access and utilization of new knowledge *via* quality education;

- ii) coordinate, mobilize, promote, oversee, monitor and evaluate competitive development and funding, focused on STI;
- iii) network with the international and diasporic communities and venture entities in areas of STI

in order that we may transform and develop the Caribbean region into a modern model of economic success.

We the undersigned, being representatives of Caribbean Governments and a cross section of the scientific, technological, public and private sector communities of the Caribbean and its Diaspora support and endorse this ***Grand Anse Declaration***, dated this **27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015**.

	<b>NAMES</b>	<b>SIGNATURES</b>
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