



ECLAC

9 September 2024
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
2400993[E]

Eighth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable

Port of Spain, 9 and 10 September 2024

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Day 1: Monday, 9 September

- 8–8.55 a.m. **Registration**
- 8.55–9 a.m. **Security briefing**
- 9–9.30 a.m. **Opening of the meeting**
- Statement by Penelope Beckles-Robinson, Minister of Planning and Development of Trinidad and Tobago
 - Statement by José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- 9.30–10 a.m. **Addressing the challenges to resilient growth and sustainable development in the Caribbean**
- Keynote statement by Terrance Drew, Prime Minister of Saint Kitts and Nevis (pre-recorded video)
- 10–10.30 a.m. **Group photo and coffee break**
- 10.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m. **Confronting climate change through risk reduction and resilience-building in the Caribbean**
- Panel discussion**
- Moderator: Gloria Joseph, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Public Service Reform, Social Partnership, Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development of Dominica
- Panellists:
- Frederick Stephenson, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Consumer Affairs of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
 - Mark Bynoe, Assistant Executive Director of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

- Elizabeth Emanuel, Head of Corporate Communications Technical Assistance Management Teams of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (virtual)
- Saskia Carusi, Deputy Chief of the Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) (pre-recorded video)
- Dwight Williams, Senior Manager of the Spatial Planning Division at the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) of Jamaica

12.30–2 p.m.

Lunch

2–3.30 p.m.

Operationalizing the multidimensional vulnerability index and addressing data needs

Panel discussion

Moderator: Shelton Nicholls, former Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and former Senior Financial Sector Expert, International Monetary Fund

Panellists:

- Anya Thomas, Sustainable Development Officer, Small Island Developing States Unit, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (by video link)
- Walton Webson, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations
- Jason Cotton, Lead Economist, Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
- Richard Harris, Deputy Director of Statistics, Central Statistical Office of Saint Lucia
- Abdullahi Abdulkadri, Coordinator, Statistics and Social Development Unit, ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean

3.30–3.45 p.m.

Coffee break

3.45–5.30 p.m.

Improving access to innovative climate finance mechanisms: towards investment in adaptation and structural change

Moderator: Patrick McCaskie, Permanent Secretary a.i., Economic Affairs Division, Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment of Barbados

Panellists:

- Hyginus Leon, Programme Lead, Development Bank for Resilient Prosperity (DBRP)
- Rodinald Soomer, Executive Director, CARICOM Development Fund
- Manuel Rodríguez, Managing Director, Head of the Latin America Investment Banking Group at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.
- Sheldon McLean, Coordinator Economic Development Unit, ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean

Day 2: Tuesday, 10 September

9–11 a.m.

Scaling up and improving productive development policy for a more inclusive and sustainable futureModerator: Albert Ramdin, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation of Suriname

Presentation:

- José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary of ECLAC
- Marco Llínas, Chief of the Production, Productivity and Management Division of ECLAC

Discussants:

- Vanus James, Economist
- Shelton Nicholls, former Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and former Senior Financial Sector Expert, International Monetary Fund

11–11.15 a.m.

Coffee break

11.15 a.m.–1.15 p.m.

Revisiting economic diversification as the key driver of growth and development in the CaribbeanModerator: Penelope Beckles-Robinson, Minister of Planning and Development of Trinidad and Tobago

Panellists:

- Martin Franklin, Operations Research Professional/Consultant, Media Optimization Services
- Paula Gopee Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry of Trinidad and Tobago
- Alva Baptiste, Minister for External Affairs, International Trade, Civil Aviation and Diaspora Affairs of Saint Lucia
- Manuel Rodríguez, Managing Director, Head of the Latin America Investment Banking Group at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.

1.15–1.30 p.m.

Close of the meeting

- Statement by José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary of ECLAC
- Statement by Penelope Beckles-Robinson, Minister of Planning and Development of Trinidad and Tobago