

SC/DG-232 10 July 2023

Her Excellency
Dr. Carla Barnett
Secretary-General
Office of the Secretary-General
Caribbean Community
(CARICOM) Secretariat
Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown
Guyana

Dear Dr. Barnett,

On behalf of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all member states on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Chaguaramas that established the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), as you celebrate under the theme "50 Years Strong: A Solid Foundation to Build On".

We recognize that since its establishment in 1973, CARICOM has contributed toward the benefit of its member states, where it has played a vital role in promoting the wellbeing of their population and has supported collaborative efforts aimed at enhancing, social cohesion and economic and political development for the Caribbean region. We also acknowledge the significant achievements made in advancing regional integration in the region through the establishment of a thriving and inclusive Caribbean; especially during these challenging moments we are presently facing. It is admirable how multiple cultures with a shared history have intertwined to create an organization that is crucial for the growth and development of its twenty member states.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable celebration of this important milestone, as well as every success in the years ahead.

Allow me to convey the assurances of my highest consideration.

