

Translation

Her Excellency Dr Carla N. Barnett
Secretary-General of the
Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

Georgetown

Excellency,

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), permit me to offer my sincere congratulations to you, and to the representatives of the Member States and their citizens.

Over the last 50 years, CARICOM has significantly strengthened regional cohesion in the Caribbean in both economic and political terms. It has become a platform that fosters and decisively shapes interaction among the Member States themselves and dialogue between the Caribbean and other regions, such as the EU.

As a result, the Caribbean states have become an important strategic partner for Germany and the EU, particularly with regard to strengthening multilateralism, the rules-based order and an ambitious climate policy. I would therefore like to take the opportunity presented by this 50th anniversary to thank you wholeheartedly for our excellent international cooperation with CARICOM and its Member States. I look forward with pleasure to continuing this cooperation. The appointment this year of Ambassador Christophe Eick as Germany's Special Representative for Climate in the Caribbean Island States will contribute to our joint endeavours.

I wish CARICOM and yourself every success going forward.

Frank-Walter Steinmeier
President of the Federal Republic of Germany