



Ministerial Declaration

Arising out of the 8th High Level Session Ministerial Forum

Convened by the
Global Water Partnership-Caribbean (GWP-C)
&
Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA)

Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island
The Bahamas
October 5th, 2012

8TH HIGH LEVEL SESSION (HLS) MINISTERIAL FORUM

The Water and Energy Nexus in Caribbean Development

Atlantis Paradise Island, The Bahamas

October 4 - 5, 2012

**Recommendations of the 8th High Level Segment (HLS) of
the Ministers with Responsibility for Water**

Recognising the importance of ensuring long term water security as a driver for economic and social development and building **adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change impacts on water resources** in the Caribbean region;

Recognising the urgency of addressing the crisis of water scarcity, compounded by the effects of climate change in the Caribbean region,

Aware of the importance of energy security for Caribbean economic development and escalating energy costs for water utilities

Noting the significant achievements made by High Level Sessions (HLS) in raising awareness on the important role of integrated water resources management to socio- economic development

Recognising that high level political leadership is key for meeting water security and climate change challenges faced by the Caribbean countries

Mindful also of the need to mobilise resources to develop strategic plans and programmes to implement the recommendations reached at the HLS and the need to strengthen our regional and international partnerships;

We, the Ministers with responsibility for Water in our respective countries together with our regional partners recognise the summary of the proceedings and hereby:

1. **Agree** that the following are the national and regional concerns towards achieving a water secure Caribbean:

- Water is a national development issue
- Integrated Water Resources Management
- Climate Change and Water
- Wastewater
- Regional Cooperation
- Capacity Building
- Public Awareness

2. **Commit** ourselves to make all necessary efforts to exhibit leadership in addressing water security and climate change in the Caribbean in the context of our national socio-economic development interests;

3. **Recommend** that the HLS be convened by the GWP-C and the CWWA and their partners as a High Level Ministerial Forum that will provide support to Caribbean States through the strengthening of institutional and technical capacities, knowledge-sharing, exchange of information, advocacy, discussion of ideas, building partnerships with the objective of heightening the awareness of water at regional and international levels taking into consideration lessons from other entities such as the African Ministers Council for Water (AMCOW).

4. **Request** Caribbean governments in collaboration with regional partners to conclude national assessments on the status of Integrated Water Resource Management implementation in Caribbean states and to keep the implementation of IWRM under continuous review.

5. **Recommend** that GWP-C and its partners further develop the Water Climate Development Programme (WACDEP) and other relevant programmes for the Caribbean region to support the implementation of the water related adaptation actions within the CARICOM regional framework for achieving climate resilience development and other adaptation priorities at the national level.

6. **Request** that GWP-C and the CWWA and its partners report on the progress of the above recommendations at the HLS in 2013.

Agreed upon October 5th, 2012, Nassau, Bahamas

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

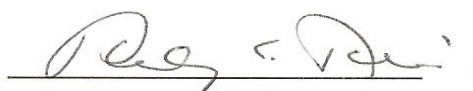
Hon. Philip Brave Davis

Date 5.10.12

Deputy Prime Minister and

Minister of Works and Urban Development

The Bahamas

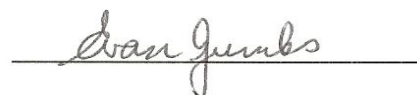


Hon. Evan Gumbs

Date 5-10-12

Minister for Infrastructure,
Communications, Utilities and
Housing

Anguilla

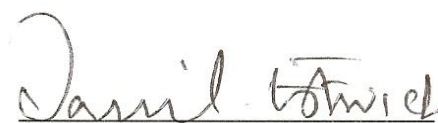


Hon. David Estwick

Date 05/10/2012

Minister of Agriculture,
Food, Fisheries and
Water Resource Management


Barbados



Hon. Margarito Gaspar Vega
Date Oct-5/12
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Natural Resources
and Agriculture
Belize



Hon. Reginald Austrie
Date 05/10/12
Minister of Lands, Housing,
Settlements and
Water Resource Management
Dominica



Hon. Robert Pickersgill
Date 5th 10. 2012
Minister of Water, Land,
Environment and
Climate Change
Jamaica



Hon. Carlisle Powell
Date 5th October 2012
Minister of Communications,
Works, Public Utilities, Post,
Physical Planning,
Natural Resources and
Environment
Nevis



Hon. Earl Asim Martin
Date 5th October 2012
Minister of Housing,
Public Works, Energy and
Public Utilities
St. Kitts



Hon. Clayton Burgin
Date 05/10/12
Minister of Health, Wellness
and the Environment
St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Clayton Burgin