

**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**For Immediate Release**

**Office of the Special Representative of the Heads of  
Government of the Caribbean Community on Haiti Opens  
in Jamaica**

Former Jamaica Prime Minister, The Most Honourable Percival James Patterson has commenced duties as CARICOM's Special Representative to Haiti and today delivers an address in St Lucia on The Way Forward in the Reconstruction of Haiti. The office of the Special Representative may be contacted as follows:

The Most Hon. P.J. Patterson, ON, OCC, PC, QC  
Special Representative of the Caribbean Community on Haiti

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Mr Patterson, whose appointment has been ratified by President Preval of Haiti, has wide-ranging responsibilities including:

- Engaging with the international community as a key CARICOM advocate on behalf of Haiti. In this regard, participating with international partners, bilateral and multilateral agencies and organisations, in all efforts aimed at developing and adopting strategic policy and programming frameworks, for more efficient and effective coordination of assistance based on the priorities of the Government of Haiti;

- Facilitating the preparation of proposals for the Community's medium and long-term assistance for Haiti's recovery, reconstruction and development for the consideration of Heads of Government; and
- Ensuring the continued interface between the Community and the Government of Haiti, with regard to Haiti's recovery , reconstruction and development assistance.

Mr Patterson has already represented CARICOM's interest at the recent Ministerial Conference on Haiti in Montreal Canada and will do so at future such conferences, including the upcoming Donor Conference in New York at the end of March.

Mr Patterson will also be attending the Twenty-First Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community in Dominica on March 11-12. There he will update the Heads on the developments in relation to the critical situation in Haiti.

CARICOM will be managing its response through three main sources, a Special Unit at the CARICOM Secretariat in Guyana, the office of the Special Representative in Jamaica, and the CARICOM office in Haiti. Mr Patterson will work with all these offices to ensure a coordinated response.

The Government of Haiti having ratified Mr Patterson's appointment has also given the Special Representative the power to speak on their behalf in appropriate fora.