



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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His Excellency Mr. Bruno Eduardo Rodriguez Parilla
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba
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Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, Havana, Cuba

April 5th, 2024

Excellency:

On behalf of the Government and people of Antigua and Barbuda, I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to you, and to the Government and people of the Republic of Cuba on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Cuba.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1994, our two countries have enjoyed fraternal relations based on vibrant cooperation, people-to-people ties, and a multitude of commonalities, such as a history of colonialism and struggle, and a shared Caribbean identity and culture.

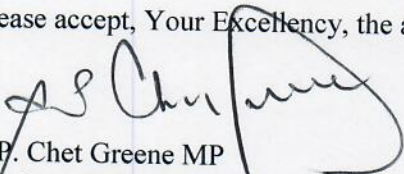
Cuba has played an invaluable role in augmenting resilience in Antigua and Barbuda. Our bilateral cooperation is development-oriented and people-centered, and extends to various sectors, such as health, education, human resource development, capacity-building, construction, energy, disaster risk reduction, sports and culture.

Cuba's ongoing medical support has bolstered our health system, with Cuban doctors and nurse providing critical healthcare services and saving lives. In addition, Cuban universities have trained and graduated hundreds of Antiguan and Barbudan students, who have contributed to the country's development upon completion of their studies. In addition, Cuba has always been a 'first responder' to crises and catastrophes, such as Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017 and the COVID-19 pandemic, through the provision of swift emergency assistance, despite the imposition of decades-long embargo.

As Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and as members of various international fora, such as the United Nations (UN), the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), we will continue to work together to tackle shared global challenges, such as climate change, and jointly strive to overcome developmental hurdles. Our relations serve as an exemplary model of South-South Cooperation, and we are stronger, more resilient and more secure when we stand together.

United by mutual understanding and our shared Caribbean heritage, there is an inextricable connection between our peoples. As we commemorate this joyous occasion, I wish to affirm that Antigua and Barbuda stands in solidarity with Cuba, and look forward to continuing working with you to further consolidate our partnership.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


E.P. Chet Greene MP
Minister of Foreign Affairs