



**RESOLUTIONS PASSED ON DAY 1 OF THE  
ASSEMBLY OF CARIBBEAN PEOPLE**

**AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**

**INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEBT CRISIS**

We, the delegates of the **Fifth Assembly of Caribbean People**, meeting in Barbados at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of West Indies affirm that our Caribbean nations are caught in a trap of unsustainable foreign debt, much of which is a result of an inherently unjust and exploitative capitalist dominated international economic order, and concede that the current international financial and economic crisis, which has its origin in the deeply flawed and exploitative system of North America and European capitalism, is threatening to devastate our already hard pressed Caribbean economies and to subvert the social welfare condition of our people.

**We therefore resolve:**

1. to issue a **CALL** and agitate for the governments of the Caribbean to come together collectively and implement a process of cancellation of the admittedly largely unpayable and unjust foreign debt of the Caribbean, and to link such a campaign of debt cancellation to the historic and sacred demand of the Caribbean people for the payment of Reparations by the relevant national governments, companies and institutions of Europe and North America for the centuries of slavery, slave trade, colonialism, genocide of indigenous peoples and indentureship that were inflicted on the people of the Caribbean:
  
2. to **engage** in a collective Pan-Caribbean Campaign of mass education about the inter-linked issues of debt cancellation and Reparations, and to develop relevant linkages between our campaign and already existing debt cancellation and Reparations efforts

such as the Campaign of the international non-governmental organization known as **Jubilee 2000**:

3. to **advance** the notion that the only way for the Caribbean to stave off the currently unfolding economic crisis is for our Caribbean nations to intensify efforts to produce food, agricultural products and manufactured articles for ourselves; to develop new, collectively owned Pan-Caribbean industries and structures or mechanisms of production; to re-emphasize a Pan-Caribbean 'import substitution' strategy; and to drastically reduce our foreign import bills:
4. to **launch** a Pan-Caribbean programme under which members of the Assembly of Caribbean People will reach out to and seek to develop a special and supportive relationship with the farmers, fisherfolk and manufacturers of the Caribbean and their representative organizations, in order to advance a 'BUY CARIBBEAN' programme and to propel forward all relevant efforts to develop the manufacturing, agricultural and fishing industries of the Caribbean:
5. to issue a **CALL** and agitate for the Governments of the Caribbean to come together and institute, in collaboration with relevant civil society organizations, a collective emergency programme designed to defend and protect the social welfare status of the masses of Caribbean people, as reflected in our health and education systems, employment levels and welfare and public housing programmes, by collaborating with each other, sharing resources and expertise and engaging in collective approaches to nations and entities in the international arena that may be prepared to support such a collective, developmental, people-centred initiative:
6. to issue a **CALL** and agitate for Caribbean Governments and financial and developmental institutions to give much more attention and financial support to the development of the cultural industries of the Caribbean and to young Caribbean entrepreneurs engaged in establishing productive enterprises:

7. to **launch** a Pan-Caribbean programme of mass education, lobbying of Governments and activism designed to bring the Caribbean into a much closer relationship with the **Bolivarian Alternative for Latin America and the Caribbean (ALBA)**.
  
8. to **create** a computer and internet based research and development programme. This programme will document the work of our region's social movements and provide analysis of the context within which they function. It will also be responsible for sharing research and documentation throughout the region.

***PRESS RELEASE***

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED ON DAY 2 OF THE  
ASSEMBLY OF CARIBBEAN PEOPLE**

**AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**

**COLONIALISM, MILITARISATION AND BLOCKADE OF CUBA**

**We acknowledge** that much of our Caribbean region is still under colonial domination, and that even while Caribbean anti-colonial movements are struggling heroically to achieve the total decolonisation of our region, the United States of America has intensified its illicit and immoral long standing effort to militarise the Caribbean and to strangle the Cuban Revolution through its criminal near 50 year long blockade of Cuba.

**In light of the foregoing, we:**

1. **demand** that the government of the United States of America bring an immediate end to its illegal blockade of the Republic of Cuba and adhere to all relevant international legal principles pertaining to respect for the sovereignty and independence of Cuba and the Cuban nation's right to self-determination;
2. **commit** ourselves to engaging in a Pan-Caribbean effort to inform and educate the Caribbean people about the long struggle of the Cuban people against U.S. imperialism, the many successes of the Cuban Revolution, and the tremendous role that Revolutionary Cuba has played in advancing a humanitarian and developmental agenda all over the world;
3. **undertake** to lobby all of the governments of the Caribbean to intensify their denunciation of and opposition to the U.S. blockade of Cuba in the United Nations and all other relevant international or regional organisation.
4. **reaffirm** our support for the five Cuban heroes (known as the 'Cuban Five') who have been unjustly prosecuted and imprisoned in the United States, and commit ourselves to struggle on their behalf until the day that their freedom is secured;
5. **affirm** that all of the people and nations of the Caribbean possess the inherent human right to freedom and self determination in all of their forms and aspects, and we therefore denounce the United States, Britain, France and Holland for continuing to inflict colonial

domination on a multiplicity of Caribbean territories and peoples, and call upon these imperialist nations to move expeditiously to put de-colonialisation processes in place, on terms that will satisfy and do justice and make adequate recompense to the currently colonized populations;

6. **undertake** to initiate a process aimed at bringing together all of the Caribbean's anti-colonial and independence movements, parties and organizations in a grand Pan-Caribbean convocation designed to unify and strengthen the overall regional de-colonialisation movement; and
7. **resolve** to engage in a determined Pan-Caribbean campaign of agitation, lobbying of governments and popular education dedicated to transforming the Caribbean into a zone of peace by, among other things, securing the removal of foreign military bases and presences from such Caribbean territories as Puerto Rico, Haiti, Cuba, French Guyana and Curacao.

## **INTEGRATION, POLITICAL UNION AND GOVERNANCE**

**We deplore** the prevailing balkanization of our Caribbean region, and assert that we are not prepared to sit idly by and allow the negative legacies of our long history of colonialism to continue to keep us divided and weak or to enmesh us in systems of national governance in which the masses of our people are denied the full enjoyment of their inherent rights to participate in and indeed to own and control the mechanisms of governance and national decision-making.

**We, the delegates of the Fifth Assembly of Caribbean People therefore resolve:**

1. to **advocate** for a 'bottom-up' approach to Caribbean integration in which the masses of Caribbean people are intimately involved, thereby avoiding the malady that plagued the ill-fated West Indies Federation of 1958 to 1962, and that has also plagued the efforts centred on the Caribbean Community (CARICOM);
2. to **advocate** for a model of Caribbean integration that places at its very centre, the development of the economy and productive structures of the Caribbean, and the

delivery of a concrete and measurable improvement in the standard of living and life opportunities of the masses of Caribbean people;

3. to **undertake** a programme of agitation and mass popular education to disseminate knowledge and information about the history, uniqueness and valuableness of our shared Caribbean Civilization and to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements and success of outstanding sons and daughters of the Caribbean;
4. to **CALL** and agitate for the creation of a centralized regional co-ordinating body to integrate the region's airlines in order to facilitate cheaper and more accessible travel arrangements across the Caribbean;
5. to **CALL** and agitate for the development of a much deeper and wider trading and economic relationship between the Caribbean and Africa;
6. to **launch** an initiative to bring about the establishment of a Pan-Caribbean Radio Station dedicated to investigating and disseminating information about all aspects of our Caribbean civilization;
7. to **CALL** and agitate for a programme of political reform across the Caribbean dedicated to establishing much greater people control of the mechanisms of government, inclusive of provisions for the recall and/or impeachment of members of Parliament and of the Executive who have manifestly betrayed the trust and lost the confidence and support of the people.