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26th September, 2014

Mrs. Lara Blanco Rothe
Deputy Resident Representative
Barbados and the OECS
UN House, Marine Gardens
Hastings, Christ Church
Barbados

Dear Mrs. Blanco Rothe,

Re: Grenada Constitution Reform Project

I thank you for our meeting of 26th instant respecting the captioned subject. I am delighted to have been afforded the opportunity to update you on the progress of the Grenada Constitution Reform Project. In that regard, please allow me to reiterate some of the key issues.

Please note that this is the fourth phase of Constitution Reform in Grenada:-

1. First phase, Constitution Review Commission chaired by Sir Fred Phillip in 1985
2. Second phase, Constitution Review Commission chaired firstly by Dr. Nicholas Liverpool and then by Mr. Justice Lyle St Paul 2002-2006
3. Second phase, consultations on a new draft constitution authored by Professor Randy McIntosh 2010-2013
4. Establishment of a Constitution Reform Advisory Committee January 2014

The Constitution Reform Advisory Committee is a broad based committee comprising representatives from the major sectors in Grenada. The purpose of the advisory committee is to provide oversight so as to ensure that the process is transparent and credible. It is important to note that it is the committee that would lead and be the face of the public education campaign going to the referendum.

CRAC Members

NAME	ORGANISATION REPRESENTED
Sen. The Hon. Simon Stiehl	New National Party nominee
Mr. Tillman J. Thomas	National Democratic Congress nominee
Dr. Lawrence Joseph	Grenada Bar Association
Mr. Ruggles Ferguson	OECS Bar Association
Ms. Neisha John	Conference of Churches
Ms. Sandra Ferguson	Inter Agency Grouping of Development Organizations (IAGDO)
Mr. Bert Paterson	Trade Union Council
Pastor Alfred Horsford	Association of Evangelical Churches
Mr. Norman Gilbert	Youth Representative
Mr. Robert Branch	Ministry of Legal Affairs Focal Point
Ms. Sherry-Ann Noel	Media Workers Association
Ms. Margaret Wilkinson	Grenada Chamber of Industry and Commerce
Dr. Francis Alexis	Chairman of the Constitution Reform Advisory Committee
Ms. Kindra Mathurine	Carriacou & Petite Martinique

After several months of consultations the committee submitted its report containing twelve recommendations to the Cabinet. Cabinet has since endorsed the twelve recommendations including the recommendation that the referendum on constitution reform be held on the 10th of February 2010.

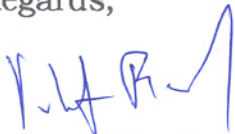
In the current economic climate the work of the committee has been constrained by the lack of resources. As a result a donor conference is being contemplated to seek financial and other resources for the project. Based on

the schedule of the committee the week ending the 14th of November 2014 is being suggested as an appropriate time for the holding of the donor conference. In these circumstances on behalf of the Government of Grenada I respectfully request support for the Grenada Constitution Reform Project in the following areas:

1. Technical support to draft an appropriate project document for the project. A project document already exists but it has been criticized as being written from the perspective of an insider and as such we have experienced challenges in receiving support.
2. Technical and institutional support to organize a donor conference in Bridgetown Barbados to seek financial and other support for the project. Bridgetown is being suggested since most of the international donor agencies and governments most likely to support the process are all based in Barbados. There is in fact growing support for this donor conference including support from the OAS.
3. Financial and technical support from UNDP regarding public education on the proposed changes to the constitution. This is paramount in the process since two thirds of the persons voting in the referendum must vote in favor of it for successful passage.
4. Support for the establishment of a structured long term mechanism to deal with relevant post election issues including: implementation of a revised constitution, continuing amendments and other referenda.

In closing once again I thank you for our meeting of 26th instant and your support for the Grenada Constitution Reform Project.

Regards,



Robert Branch
Senior Legal Counsel
Attorney General's Chambers