



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GRULAC Regional Meeting in Grenada to Address Plastic Pollution with Focus on Developing a Legally Binding Global Agreement-St. George's, Grenada – November 4-7, 2024

Grenada will host the Regional Meeting of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC) from November 4th to 7th, 2024, as Member States prepare for the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5) on plastic pollution. This event marks a significant step towards developing an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, with a specific focus on marine environments.

The GRULAC INC-5 Regional Coordination Meeting, along with additional technical workshops, will bring together government representatives, experts, and key stakeholders from across Latin America and the Caribbean. The primary objective of this meeting is to conduct strategic discussions at the regional level, equipping Member States with the tools and insights necessary to advance negotiations at INC-5, which will take place from November 25 to December 1, 2024, in Busan, Republic of Korea.

Opening Ceremony and Media Invitation

The official opening ceremony will take place on **November 5, 2024, at 9:00 AM** at the **Grenada Room, Radisson Grenada Beach Resort**. Members of the media are invited to attend and cover this significant event, which highlights the region's commitment to addressing plastic pollution through a unified approach.

Meeting Schedule and Key Sessions

The four-day event includes technical workshops, closed coordination sessions, and targeted discussions designed to strengthen regional collaboration and identify essential elements to be included in the new legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. The meeting agenda is as follows:

- **November 4** – GRULAC Technical Workshop: A full-day session focusing on essential elements for addressing chemicals and plastic products in the new instrument on plastic pollution, led by experts from WWF and the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions.

- **November 5-6** – Closed GRULAC Coordination Meeting: All-day discussions among GRULAC Member States to coordinate regional strategies and positions for the upcoming INC-5 session.
- **November 7** (Morning) – Closed Meeting for CARICOM Representatives Session: A half-day session dedicated to regional development perspectives, focusing on financial and technical support mechanisms for addressing plastic pollution.
- **November 7** (Afternoon) – Closed AOSIS-GRULAC Technical Session: A half-day session jointly organized with the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), focusing on advancing aligned strategies for INC 5.

The Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC) is committed to addressing critical environmental issues facing the region, with plastic pollution being a priority. The INC-5, under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), seeks to establish a comprehensive and legally binding framework to mitigate the global impact of plastic pollution.

As Grenada prepares to welcome regional representatives, this meeting is expected to reinforce Latin America and the Caribbean's unified stance on addressing plastic pollution and preserving the health of marine ecosystems.

For further information and media inquiries, please contact: registry@cre.gov.gd

END