



# CARIFORUM-EU EPA

## *A Partnership that Counts*



### *CARIFORUM States Pursue Coordinated Action in Fisheries Management*

Chapter 5 of the EPA, which treats with Agriculture and Fisheries, calls on the Parties to the Agreement to, *inter alia*, take action to conserve and manage fisheries resources. Through its Strategic Plan of Action for Fisheries and Aquaculture, the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) provides a forum within which CARIFORUM can define the issues and articulate the related interventions needed to develop the fisheries sector, which in turn can guide their engagements with the European Union on these matters.

Recently, CARIFORUM States have been engaging with other Members of the OACPS to further the sustainable development and growth of fisheries and aquaculture. These engagements have included sharing national and regional good practices, taking stock of achievements and challenges in implementing the OACPS Strategic Plan of Action for 2012-20, defining specific strategic interventions to address sectoral challenges and deepening cooperation with strategic partners in ocean governance, the blue economy and fisheries and aquaculture development.

The 7th Meeting of OACPS Ministers in Charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture was held in Accra, Ghana, 5-8 April 2022. The Ministerial Declaration (found at: [Organisation of African, \(acp.int\)](https://www.oacps.int/)) which emerged from this Meeting is aligned in important respects with the provisions of chapter 5 of the EPA. The Declaration will guide the implementation of the OACPS Strategic Plan of Action over the next few years and will no doubt guide the development of policy positions of those OACPS Member States that are engaged in discussions in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on the issue of fisheries subsidies.

*EPA Implementation Unit, CARIFORUM Directorate*