

**Statement by**

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**Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations Office**

**and Other International Organisations at Geneva**

**at the Review of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia**

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Thank you Mr. President.

The delegation of Barbados welcomes the delegation of Ethiopia.

We commend the Government of Ethiopia for the efforts made to foster the enjoyment of human rights by its citizens and those within its borders. The attention paid by the Government to the impact of the physical environment on the quality of human rights is well noted.

We acknowledge the steps taken to integrate disaster risk reduction into development programmes, and the pursuit of soil and water conservation practices and other policies to mobilise maximum available resources for sustainable, human rights-based development.

We note with interest, that the Government has undertaken activities to strengthen intercultural and interreligious dialogue, to foster mutual understanding of heritage and the sharing of common values with a view of contributing towards social progress and social cohesion.

We offer the following recommendations to Ethiopia:

1. continue to develop systems to achieve food security through, the development and implementation of sustainable agricultural practices, increasing food production, and improving the food distribution system; and
2. redouble efforts to improve access to health care for all citizens and other persons in Ethiopia; and
3. seek to promote inter-cultural dialogue, lifestyles and other values of all ethnic groups in Ethiopia, and to strengthen their ties.

We wish the delegation of Ethiopia a successful review.

**END**