

**Intervention by Mr. Mohammed Iqbal Degia, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of  
Barbados to the United Nations  
on behalf of CARICOM on the theme of  
Stockpile Management  
BMS3,  
July 15, 2008**

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to take the floor on behalf of the Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). In light of your request for an interactive discussion, our intervention will be short and focussed.

- CARICOM countries do not maintain large armies and armaments so the notion of stockpile management and surplus destruction is somewhat different in the region and refers more to confiscated illegal weapons.
- International co-operation and capacity building in the area of security and destruction of stockpiles is critical for countries such as those in the region where there is a lack of technical, financial and human resources in this area.
- We also call on those states that maintain stockpiles of weapons and ammunition to enhance security and to destroy surplus weapons and ammunition to prevent diversion into the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons.