

## **Global Supply Chain Forum**

### **Trade in services for economic diversification:**

#### **Opportunities and challenges for the Caribbean Community region**

22 May 2024, 15h - 16h. Bougainvillea room, Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre, Bridgetown, Barbados

### **1. Description**

Services-led diversification is critical to structural transformation and economic resilience in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) region. Services trade has been growing in the region, and many countries rely strongly on service exports. The session will provide a forum to identify opportunities and challenges in harnessing the potential of trade in services, particularly the more knowledge-intensive services, to transform other sectors, including other services sectors. It will consider how to strengthen the evidence base and effectiveness of policy action to support the economic resilience of CARICOM countries. The session will provide an opportunity for countries to share practices and identify areas for greater efforts jointly with trading partner countries and the international community.

The session is organized jointly by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

### **2. Moderator and speakers**

#### Opening

- Opening Remarks: Ms. Rebecca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UNCTAD (tbc)
- Keynote address: Mr. Chad Blackman, Minister, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Investment, Barbados (tbc)

#### Roundtable

Moderator: Ms. Jan Yves Remy, Director, Shridath Ramphal Centre, University of the West Indies, Barbados

Speakers:

- Ms. Chantal Ononaiwu, Director, External Trade, CARICOM Secretariat
- Mr. Ricardo James, Head, Trade Policy Unit, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission
- Mr. Sheldon McLean, Coordinator, Economic Development Unit, Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, ECLAC