

APPLICATION FOR OBSERVER STATUS- LATIN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (CAF)

ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)

**25th INTERSESSIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE 28TH ORDINARY
MEETING OF THE ACS MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

ACS Secretariat, Port of Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

(Virtual Meeting)

18th January, 2023

1.2.3 Observer

CAF – Development Bank of Latin America

The Secretariat received an application from **CAF - Development Bank of Latin America**, to be admitted as an Observer to the ACS in the form of letter dated 15th December 2022. The application was transmitted to member states on 4th January 2023, in keeping with Article 6 of Ministerial Agreement 18/18 on the Adoption of the Terms and Conditions for the Participation of Observers in the Association of Caribbean States.

Article 5 of the Agreement stipulates that consideration for Observer Membership will be given to “any regional or international organization that contributes to the development of the Caribbean and does not apply discriminatory or exclusionary measures against any of the members of the Association”.

It is recalled that the ACS and CAF signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 19th September 2022 and which aims to unite efforts in sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The MOU identifies the following areas of collaborative focus:

- the Green Economy and Blue Economy Development;
- Transport, Logistics and Infrastructure for Integration;
- Climate Change, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction; as well as
- Institutional Strengthening of the ACS.

In his application letter to the ACS the Executive President of CAF, Mr. Sergio Diaz-Granados G. indicates that the intention is to “foster greater collaboration on our shared interests” and allow the two organisations “to advance regional development priorities”.

Article 6 of the Agreement provides that such an application is discussed at the Intersessional Preparatory Meeting in order to **obtain a consensus** decision that is submitted to the Ministerial Meeting for approval.

To date the Secretariat has not received any responses to the application. The application is submitted to this 25th Intersessional Preparatory Meeting for its consideration.

PE-242/2022

Panama City, December 15 - 2022.

Mr. Rodolfo Sabonge
Secretary General
Association of Caribbean States
Port of Spain.-

Dear Secretary General:

Dear Rodolfo.

On behalf of CAF -Development Bank of Latin America-, I have the distinct honor to write to you regarding the strategic relationship between CAF and the Association of Caribbean States (ACS).

We were very pleased with the successful outcome of the "ACS-CELAC-CAF Work Meeting" that took place during the 77th United Nations General Assembly as part of the program for our first CAF Week. Additionally, we thank you for participating in our RED 2021 seminar and the commemoration of the opening of the CAF Regional Office in the Caribbean in Port of Spain on November 15, 2022, as CAF continues to strengthen its presence in the Caribbean. We look forward to playing a key role in reinforcing ties between Latin American and Caribbean Countries.

As you are aware, CAF and the ACS signed a Memorandum of Understanding in September 2022. The main purpose of this partnership is to unite our efforts in the sustainable development of Latin America and the Caribbean, especially within the key areas of green and blue economic development; transport, logistics, and infrastructure for integration; climate change, environment, and disaster risk reduction; and institutional strengthening of the ACS.

Moreover, in keeping with our commitment to strengthen the alliance between both institutions, I wish to express the interest of CAF in being granted **Observer status by the ACS**. I am certain that this designation will foster greater collaboration on our shared interests and will allow us to advance regional development priorities.

Thank you for your kind consideration and I very much look forward to continuing to strengthen our partnership.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Chen 20,

Sergio Díaz-Granados

Sergio Díaz-Granados G.
Executive President