

The Government of
Barbados

State of the Environment Report 2000

GEO Barbados



Barbados State of the Environment Report 2000 GEO Barbados

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FOREWORD

By the Minister of Physical Development and Environment, Government of Barbados

As Minister with responsibility for Physical Development and Environment, I have the honour to present Barbados' First State of the Environment Report. The report is the first major synthesis document of its kind, since the 1992 Barbados National Report to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The purpose of the present report is to provide an assessment of selected key environmental resources, indicators and themes, identified by a wide range of stakeholders to be of vital importance to Barbados, if the goal of sustainable development is to be achieved.

The principal themes examined are land resources, energy and mineral assets, freshwater, coastal and marine resources, biodiversity, atmosphere and climate, and waste management. All of these are intrinsically linked to our economic and social development, and ultimately are important determinants of the quality of life we enjoy.

It is the Government's wish that the report should serve as an accurate source of information to all citizens, as well as international interests. It is also designed to provide a platform on which future analyses can be built and a yardstick against which Barbados' stewardship in the area of environmental resource management can be objectively assessed.

I am grateful to the staff of the Ministry of Physical Development and Environment and the numerous other individuals and institutions both in the private and public sectors, whose untiring efforts have made this report possible. I look forward to your continued collaboration in future efforts.



The Hon. H. Elizabeth Thompson, M.P.

Minister of Physical Development and Environment

December 2001



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"Promoting and facilitating the sustainable use of our resources, encouraging the involvement of all citizens and the integration of environmental considerations into all aspects of national development"

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