

Circular Letter No.20-2021

25 June 2021

Excellency,

We write to invite you to participate or to be represented at a High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) virtual side event on 'Vulnerability in Development Financing: Why is there resistance to formal use?' being convened jointly by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Government of Antigua and Barbuda on Friday 9 July 2021 13.00-14.30hrs EST.

As the UN prepares to consider proposals for a multidimensional vulnerability index (MVI) in August, our purpose for this side event is to advance a separate but related discussion on the use by development financing institutions of existing vulnerability indices. Our hope is that outcomes from this meeting would inform the report of the UN Secretary-General on development of an MVI, and deepen understanding of how vulnerability indices are used informally to guide the funding processes of multilateral development agencies. A concept note and draft agenda for the side event are enclosed, and we very much hope it will be possible for arrangements to be made to [add this event to your calendar](#). Details of how to connect for the virtual side event will be conveyed automatically to your office or representatives upon [registration for the event](#).

It would be helpful if any enquiries or requests for further information could kindly be conveyed by your office to Mr Travis Mitchell, Adviser and Head of Economic Policy and Small States, Commonwealth Secretariat via t.mitchell@commonwealth.int, or to Mr Tumasie Blair, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda to the UN via tumasie.blair@aosis.org, or Ms Anya Thomas, Economic Affairs Officer, UNDESA via thomasa@un.org.

With all good wishes,



The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC
Secretary-General of the Commonwealth



H.E. Walton Webson
Permanent Representative of Antigua and
Barbuda to the United Nations

Commonwealth Heads of Government

Encl:

- HLPF 2021 Side Event - Save the Date
- HLPF 2021 Side Event - Concept Note and Agenda