Tel: (473) 440 -5347/2061



GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICE
5 TH FLOOR
MINISTERIAL COMPLEX
BOTANICAL GARDENS
TANTEEN
ST.GEORGE'S
GRENADA, W.I.

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Grenada Lauds the OAS as a vital support base for development grounded in innovation

**Medellin, Colombia, Thursday 27**<sup>th</sup> **June 2019**. Foreign Affairs Minister, Honourable Peter David has lauded the Organisation of American States (OAS) as "a vital support base for development grounded in innovation".

Addressing the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the OAS General Assembly in Colombia, Minister David underscored the positive impact that collective efforts in the multilateral setting can provide in this regard, and voiced the concern that recent trends have shown that development has lagged behind in the approach towards allocation of resources by the organisation.

The Foreign Minister's comments followed the presentation of the Report of the Council for Integral Development (CIDI) by Her Excellency Yolande Smith, Grenada's Ambassador to the United States and Permanent Representative to the OAS. Ambassador Smith has been chairing that council on Grenada's behalf for the past six months.

Grenada will also assume the Chair of the Permanent Council on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Minister David is accompanied by Her Excellency Yolande Smith and Ms. Cyrilla Steele, Foreign Service Officer responsible for the Americas. The assembly which wrapped up in Medellin, Colombia, on Friday, was held under theme "Innovating to Strengthen Multilateralism in the Hemisphere".

Before returning to Grenada Minister David and Ms. Steele will attend the First CARICOM-Colombia Ministerial Summit in Cartegena where general relations will be discussed, and the status of trade and economic relations reviewed with the intention of expansion.

Minister David returns to Grenada on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2019.