“We Caribbean countries face the challenge of surviving and advancing in the midst of the most profound economic, social and political crisis ever sustained by our hemisphere and the world, as neoliberal globalization threatens to destroy not only our right to development, but also our cultural diversity and national identities. It is only through integration and cooperation, not only among states but also among the various regional organizations and entities, that our peoples can find a way out of this predicament”.

References to the original: Speech marking the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations with Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, December 8, 2002

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