



Government of Bermuda

Ministry of Home Affairs
Ministry Headquarters

TO: The Clerk to the Legislature

FROM: The Hon. Alexa N.H. Lightbourne, JP, MP
Minister of Home Affairs

DATE: March 3rd, 2026

Parliamentary Question for Written Response

- 1. On 23rd February 2024, the Honourable Premier advised this Honourable House that the Governor had received a Letter of Entrustment from the UK's Minister for Overseas Territories authorizing the Government to begin negotiations with CARICOM. Would the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with a copy of the said Letter of Entrustment?**

Response:

A copy of the Letter of Entrustment from the UK's Minister for Overseas Territories authorizing the Government to begin negotiations with CARICOM has been provided to this Honourable House.

- 2. Would the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House the date upon which the Government of Bermuda will publish a Green paper and then a White paper in respect of Bermuda becoming a full member of CARICOM as was indicated by the Honourable Minister in the 2025/2026 Budget Debate?**

Response:

During the 2025/2026 Budget Debate, the Ministry indicated that it would prepare a comprehensive Green Paper for further consideration by the Cabinet and the public. That commitment has been fulfilled. A Green Paper on Bermuda's pursuit of Full Membership in CARICOM, has been completed following Cabinet approval and will be published this month as part of the Ministry's communication and consultation pledge.



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- 3. Would the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House of the number of Expressions of Interest received by the Regulatory Authority for a floating solar photovoltaic plant in Bermuda and the timescale envisaged regarding an announcement of a decision on whether such a floating photovoltaic plant will proceed?”**

Response:

Under the Electricity Act 2016, responsibility for the competitive procurement process for bulk generation rests with the Regulatory Authority, which operates as an independent statutory body. Therefore, the Ministry does not know the number of Expressions of Interest received by the Regulatory Authority for a floating solar photovoltaic plant.

With respect to timelines, any announcement regarding whether such a floating photovoltaic plant will proceed would be determined and communicated by the Regulatory Authority in accordance with its statutory processes, procurement rules, and evaluation framework under the Integrated Resource Plan.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
BERMUDA

H.E. Ms Rena Lalgie
Governor and Commander-in-Chief

DGO 025/001/24

20 February 2024

The Hon E David Burt JP, MP
Premier
Cabinet Office
105 Front Street
Hamilton HM 12

Dear Premier,

I have today received the attached Letter of Entrustment from the Minister with responsibility for the Overseas Territories.

I should be grateful if you could confirm that the Bermuda Government accepts such delegated authority subject to the understandings and conditions set out in the letter. The delegation will come into effect on the date of my letter to the Minister of State confirming that acceptance.

*Yours sincerely,
Rena Lalgie*

Rena Lalgie

Enc



**Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office**

David Rutley MP
Minister for Americas, Caribbean and the
Overseas Territories
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

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H.E. The Governor
Governor's Office
Bermuda

20 February 2024

Dear Governor,

ENGAGEMENT WITH CARICOM

1. Further to our recent exchanges regarding engagement by the Bermuda government with CARICOM, I am writing to confirm that, on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom, I authorise you to negotiate with CARICOM and its member states for Bermuda to become a full member of that organisation.
2. This Letter of Entrustment is given on the condition that you keep the UK updated on the progress of negotiations with CARICOM. The proposed text of any instrument, whether binding or otherwise, for Bermuda's full membership of CARICOM must also be submitted to the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office and a further Letter of Entrustment will be required before Bermuda enters into any agreement for Full Membership.
3. The United Kingdom Government will not approve any agreement for full membership unless it meets the following conditions:
 - a. That the representative of the Government of Bermuda abstains on any issues under discussion in CARICOM that have a direct bearing on external relations, defence or security and disassociate themselves from any statement made by CARICOM on such matters.
 - b. That the costs arising from Full Membership will be borne by the Government of Bermuda. All financial obligations and commitments arising from Bermuda's membership of CARICOM will be the sole responsibility of the Government of Bermuda unless agreed otherwise in writing by the United Kingdom Government.
 - c. The terms of the letter of general entrustment, dated 30 September 2009, as supplemented by the letter of entrustment of 11 March 2016, will

continue to apply to the negotiation and conclusion of any agreements within the ambit of CARICOM.

- d. The United Kingdom Government retains the authority to overrule or amend any proposed agreements, say if there is a prospect of conflict with other international commitments or obligations or policies of the UK.
 - e. No agreement or other instrument will be signed by the Government of Bermuda without the prior approval of the United Kingdom Government.
4. The Secretary of State also consents to your delegating to the Premier of Bermuda in accordance with section 62 (2) of the Constitution of Bermuda, the responsibility for the negotiations described in paragraph 1, subject to all the conditions set out in this letter.
 5. I must make clear that the United Kingdom retains overall responsibility for the external affairs of Bermuda, and that the special responsibility of you, the Governor, for external affairs and defence under section 14, 17-20 and the Constitution of the Bermuda is in no way affected by this letter. If a delegation as described in paragraph 4 is made, the Premier [or other Minister] must keep the Governor fully informed about developments in relation to the delegated matters and will take particular care where any activities may have the potential to impact on any of the Governor's special responsibilities under section 62 of the Constitution. The Premier is to inform you as Governor, of any proposed instrument, whether binding or otherwise, for Bermuda's full membership of CARICOM, so that you can submit it to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office for approval in accordance with paragraph 2.
 6. This letter is without prejudice to the terms of the Letter of Entrustment of 1 September 2009 (the General Entrustment)), as supplemented by the Letter of Entrustment of 11 March 2016, which remain in effect, and may be adjusted in the light of circumstances arising in the future.
 7. I should be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of this letter and confirm that the Government of Bermuda accepts the authority delegated above, subject to the understandings and conditions set out above in relation to such delegation, which will come into effect on the date of your letter as Governor of Bermuda, confirming acceptance thereof.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Rutley', with a horizontal line underneath it.

David Rutley MP
Minister for Americas, Caribbean and the Overseas Territories