WELCOME MESSAGE

Dr. Althea La Foucade
Director
The University of the West Indies, HEU, Centre for Health Economics

The University of the West Indies, HEU, Centre for Health Economics (UWI-HEU) is extremely pleased to collaborate with The Bermuda Health Council in convening the 17th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives.

These Conferences—which started in 2006—are unique in the Caribbean given their specific focus on health financing and related health policy and institutional strengthening matters. For us at The UWI-HEU, they also serve as a crucial platform for outreach through enhancing knowledge, building capacities and cultivating networking relationships to advance Caribbean development and make a positive difference in the lives of our people (in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, 2015-2030).

This year's Conference theme, '***Resilient Health Financing Systems in the Caribbean: Confronting Change, Transition and Transformation***' is carefully chosen given the uncertainties and, to some extent, turmoil in the global environment as well as the continuous pressures on our small resource-constrained health financing systems to adapt, adjust and sustain essential health care.

In this regard, we are fully committed to bringing together experts, frontline managers, and emerging voices from key health financing institutions, as well as other stakeholders who influence health financing decisions. This platform creates opportunities to share and learn from each other's experiences so that individually and collectively, we can improve the performance and resilience of our health systems.

We look forward to welcoming new and experienced participants to three (3) insightful and productive days at our 17th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives.