

The 2014 High Level  
**CARIBBEAN**  
**Forum**



**Unlocking  
Economic Growth**

**October 23–24**  
**Montego Bay, Jamaica**

**Wednesday, October 22: Evening**

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Registration and Opening Reception**

**Thursday, October 23: Morning**

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Welcome Remarks:** *Min Zhu, Deputy Managing Director, IMF*

**Official Opening:** *The Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller, ON, MP, Prime Minister of Jamaica*

**Remarks:** *Dr. the Honourable Peter Phillips, MP Minister of Finance and Planning*

**Remarks:** *Dr. Warren Smith, President, Caribbean Development Bank*

**Remarks:** *Jorge Familiar, Vice President, World Bank*

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

PHOTOS

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

PRESS DEPARTS; COFFEE

**10:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**SESSION I: Energy—Reliability and Costs**

**Session Moderator:** *Dr. Warren Smith, President, CDB*

- **Improving energy efficiency and lowering costs in the Caribbean** *Ramon Espinasa, IDB*
  - **Leveraging Caribbean oil and gas resources for regional benefit** *Michael John, PetroTrin*
  - **Renewable energy in the Caribbean: opportunities and challenges** *Karl Nassief, CEO, Energy Management Systems Limited*
  - **Commentary:** *Hon. Ashni Singh, Minister of Finance, Guyana; Honorable Dr. Vin Lawrence, Chairman of the Electricity Sector Enterprise Team, Jamaica*
- Plenary discussion**

## Thursday, October 23: Afternoon

### *Lunch*

**1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.** Hosted by Min Zhu; **Speaker: Taking Stock and Setting a Course for the Way Ahead:** *Alejandro Werner, Director, Western Hemisphere Department, IMF*

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### **SESSION II: A Tax Regime for Investment**

**Session Moderator:** *Inderjit Ruprah, Regional Economic Adviser, IDB*

- **A tax system for investment: The Case of Mauritius** *Ali Mansoor, former Mauritius Financial Secretary*
- **Do investors need tax incentives?:** Sebastian James, Senior Tax Policy and Tax Administration Specialist, *IFC*
- **Strategies for regional tax incentive reform: cross-country lessons and experiences** *Russell Krelove, IMF*
- **Commentary:** *Joseph Matalon (Jamaica), John Rolle (Bahamas)*

**Plenary discussion**

## Thursday, October 23: Evening

**7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Reception at Rose Hall**

**Hosted by Dr. the Honourable Peter Phillips, Minister of Finance and Planning**

## Friday, October 24: Morning

**Breakfast 8:15 – 9:00**

**Keynote Speaker:** “*The Global Economic Environment: Opportunities and Constraints for Caribbean Growth*”, Nouriel Roubini, Professor of Economics and International Business, NYU.

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

### **SESSION III: Building Financial Sector Resilience**

**Session Moderator:** *Sophie Sirtaine, Caribbean Regional Director, World Bank*

- **Challenges for financial stability: risks and rewards:**  
*Ewart Williams, University of the West Indies*
  - **Financial Interconnectedness in the Caribbean:**  
*Elie Canetti, IMF*
  - **Strong banks: a Canadian perspective:** *Bruce Bowen, Senior VP, Caribbean, Scotiabank*
  - **International Financial Centers in the Global Economy** *Angelo Nikalokakis, Ernst & Young LLP*
  - **Commentary:** *Patrick Hylton, Group Managing Director, National Commercial Bank of Jamaica*
- Plenary discussion**

11:00a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

COFFEE

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### **CLOSING SESSION: Reflections and Looking Ahead**

**Session Moderator:** [*Serge Dupont, Executive Director, IMF*]

- **Panel Discussion on Main Takeaways and Agenda Going Forward**  
*Min Zhu, Deputy managing Director, IMF*  
*Dr the Honourable Peter Phillips, Minister of Finance and Planning, Jamaica*  
*Dr. Warren Smith, President, Caribbean Development Bank*  
*Gerard Johnson, Caribbean Country Director, IDB*

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

**Closing Remarks:** *IMF and Government of Jamaica*

PRESS CONFERENCE