



SÉGOLÈNE ROYAL, MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT
ENERGY AND SEAS, HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL
CLIMATE RELATIONS

*France hosts the Conference
for the Protection and
Development of the Caribbean
From March 13th to March 17th
in French Guiana
(The Cartagena Convention - Colombia)*



France has the honour of hosting, in French Guiana, the 14th Conference of the Parties at the Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, in conjunction with the United Nations Environment Programme.

This COP forms part of the momentum for international mobilisation on the ocean and protection of marine environments, which France is committed to stimulating. Through my joint action with the Ocean and Climate Platform during COP21, the Paris Agreement, which entered into force on November 4th 2016, underlines the importance we must accord to the safeguarding of the marine environment by including the preservation of the ocean in the preamble. The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals place the ocean and biodiversity at the center of sustainable development issues respectful of living resources.

Mangroves, coral reefs, and rare animal and plant species in the Caribbean basin represent an extraordinary ecosystem that must be protected. It is our collective responsibility to provide the necessary political impetus for its protection.

*Minister of the Environment, Energy and the Sea,
in charge of International Relations on Climate,
COP21 President*

THE CARTAGENA CONVENTION

The **Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region** was signed in Colombia on March 24th, 1983 and now includes 25 coastal states in the Wider Caribbean Area.

This international agreement is binding on its Parties, which are committed to preserving and enhancing the unique biodiversity of an area that extends from Guiana to Florida and from Mexico to Barbados.

THE 14TH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP) TO THE CARTAGENA CONVENTION

The 14th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Cartagena Convention brings together all the countries that have ratified the Convention. Under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

the COP is organised by France, to be held in **Cayenne from March 13th to March 17th, 2017**. Brazil and Suriname, French Guiana's neighbours, are invited, as well as Haiti, Honduras and the European Commission.



THE 3 PROTOCOLS OF THE CARTAGENA CONVENTION

■ **1. Protecting habitats and wildlife**, the SPAW protocol (*Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife*). The SPAW protocol is the main component of the convention, listing species and marine areas that must be fully protected or whose evolution must be monitored.

■ **2. Combating land-based pollution and dumping into the sea**, the LBS Protocol (*Land-Based Sources and Activities*).

The LBS protocol focuses on sustainable development, the alliance between natural resource development and economic growth.

■ **3. Strengthening measures to prevent and respond to marine pollutions with the Oil Spill protocol.**

This agreement concerns the cooperation between Contracting Parties to organise an effective regional response to oil spills.

A scientific committee meets to propose objectives for each protocol upstream of the COP, the STAC (*Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee*).

Goals of the Conference

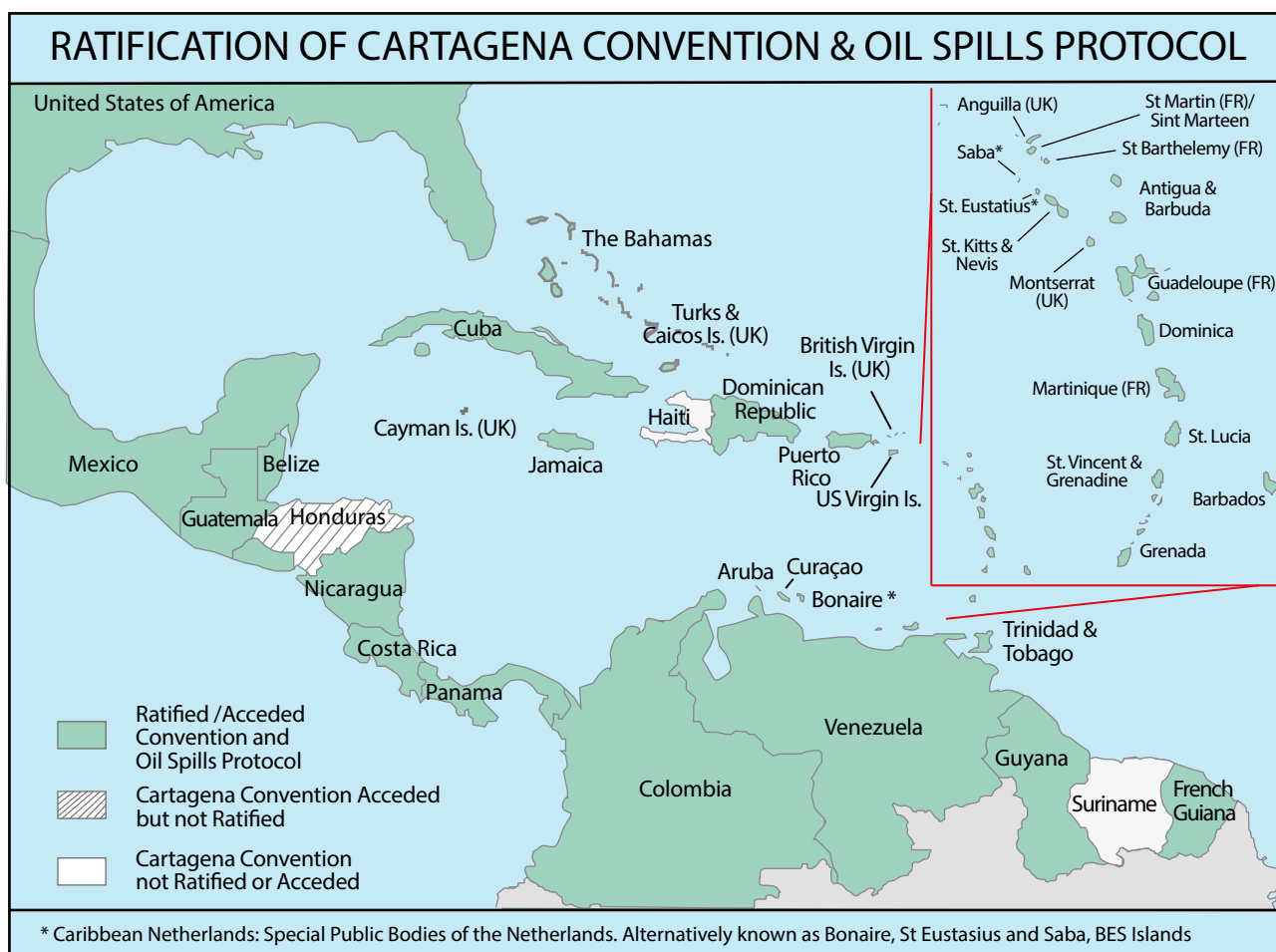
The COP will:

- Review the 2015-2016 Caribbean Environment Programme.
- Define the work plan and budget for the Caribbean Environment Programme for the 2017-2018 biennium.



THE 3 PROTOCOLS OF THE CARTAGENA CONVENTION

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Dominica
- United States of America
- Dominican Republic
- France
- Grenada
- Guatemala
- Guiana
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- the Netherlands
- Great Britain
- St Kitts and Nevis
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- St Lucia
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Venezuela



Based on United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

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