



## **WELCOME REMARKS**

**BY**

**SENATOR THE HONOURABLE ALLYSON MAYNARD-GIBSON,  
ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MINISTER OF LEGAL AFFAIRS,  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS**

**AND**

**CHAIR, CARIBBEAN FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE  
(CFATF) 2013 -2014**

**MADE AT CFATF FIRST REGIONAL AML/CFT CONFERENCE  
BRITISH COLONIAL HILTON HOTEL**

**3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2014**

Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Perry Gladstone Christie

Chief Justice Sir Michael Barnett

Deputy Prime Minister the Hon. Philip Davis

FATF President - Mr. Vladimir Nechaev

Distinguished Attorneys General

Distinguished Ministers

Honoured Delegates and Guests

We in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas are deeply honoured to host this HISTORIC First Annual Regional Anti-money laundering / Combating the Financing of Terrorism Conference/ combatting proliferation financing. Last November in Freeport on the margins of the CFATF Plenary, FATF President Mr. Vladimir Nechaev, asked whether CFATF would consider holding annually a regional AML/CFT Conference. The Acting Prime Minister, Philip Davis, who is also here this morning, readily agreed. President Nechaev, the Region welcomes you to our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual AML/CFT conference.

Also in November 2013 CFATF announced its 11 Point Action Plan for the year 2013-2014.

Four of the action points are being focused upon this week as The Bahamas hosts the Third Caribbean Conference on the International Financial Services organized by the Caribbean Export Development Agency together with this first Annual regional AML/CFT conference.

I welcome and thank [ ] persons at Ministerial level including Attorneys General for taking time from their very busy schedules to join in making and implementing plans for all CFATF members all to emerge at least 75% compliant from the 4<sup>th</sup> round of mutual evaluations. Thank you also to the Commonwealth Secretariat for its continuing support.

Distinguished guests and delegates, the region is counting on us to choose the right path at this juncture in its history.

I pray that our deliberations, as well as strengthening our economies, may inure to the benefit of future generations. Ladies and Gentlemen, I welcome you to the First Annual CFATF Regional AML/CFT/Proliferation Financing Conference.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our mandate.