



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **CHINA PLEDGES CONTINUED SUPPORT TO AOSIS AND GRENADA**

**ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA; FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5th, 2010** – The Government of China is prepared to support the position put forward by the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) on climate change.

The commitment was given to AOSIS Chairman, Prime Minister Tillman Thomas when he held bilateral discussions with China's Minister of National Development and Reform Commission, Hon. Xie Zhenhua during a recent AOSIS' Ministerial Meeting in Grenada.



*(l to r) The Hon. Xie Zhenhua, Minister of National Development and Reform Commission of China and the Hon. Tillman J. Thomas, Prime Minister of Grenada*

“We understand your problems and we have a clear picture of what China can do to assist Grenada and other SIDS”, the Chinese Minister told Prime Minister Thomas.

The two delegations held candid discussions on ways of deepening ties between China and Grenada, as well as China's commitment to support the concerns of the member states of AOSIS.

Prime Minister Tillman Thomas used the opportunity to thank the Government of China for their continued support of the Grenadian people; to affirm the value of building solid friendly relations; and to outline the concerns of developing small island states like Grenada.

“China has done a lot in the area of renewable energy, and I hope that we can find ways to benefit from the transfer of that technology, since Grenada is now seriously exploring ways to develop its capacity in that area”, said Prime Minister Thomas.

Minister Zhenhua affirmed China's shared concern about the negative impact of climate change, despite his country's status as a developed nation.

He also pointed out that his country's Ministry of Commerce has demonstrated its concern about the plight of small island nations, like Grenada, by sending a high-level delegation to St. George's to assess and identify opportunities for further assistance to the island.

The Chinese delegation included Ambassador Xu Jianguo, Director of the Climate Change Division, Mr. Li Bin, Deputy Director General of Climate Change Division, Mr. Li Gao, Director of Foreign Affairs Dept., Mr. Gao Jian, and Interpreter Ms. Dong Keshi.

Along with Prime Minister Thomas, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Lana McPhail, Permanent Secretary in Prime Minister's Ministry, Mrs. Ann Isaac, and Climate Change Consultant, Mr. Leon Charles, attended the meeting.

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