

TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA – FIRST SESSION (2012 – 2013)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NOTICE PAPER NO. 122

Member Asking: **Mr. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Foreign Affairs**

QUESTIONS

CARIFORUM NEGOTIATORS

During the course of her closing comments in the debate concerning the ratification of the CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) on 10th May, 2012, Minister Rodrigues-Birkett claimed that “we have learned many things from that process, Caricom in particular. We have learned that we must pay our own negotiators. We must not let people who are negotiating with pay our negotiators. We are now negotiating with Canada and we have taken that decision because there were times when one could not differentiate from (SIC) who is paying and who was negotiating. I must say that I say some of that here today...”

Would the Minister be good enough to say:-

- (i) In which particular EPA negotiations she participated, what evidence she has to support this claim of malfeasance on the part of CARIFORUM negotiators and other CARIFORUM state has made such a complaint?
- (ii) Attached is the list of Members of the CARIFORUM’s College of Negotiators for the EPA, would the Minister please indicate:
 - (a) Which of these persons was paid for their services?
 - (b) Which were paid by the EU, who requested that they be paid and the mechanism by which they were paid?

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- (iii) What proportion of the cost of the EPA negotiations was borne by CARIFORUM member states?
- (iv) How does the funding arrangements for the Canada/CARICOM negotiations differ from that of the EPA in relation to the payment of negotiators and the funding of the workshops and negotiating sessions?

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