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PRESS RELEASE

**SAINT LUCIA DEEPENS TIES WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
AT THE CARIBBEAN AMERICAN LEADERS FORUM**

Boston, Massachusetts, June 4, 2026. Saint Lucia participated in the Caribbean American Leaders Forum at the Massachusetts State House in Boston, organized by the Authentic Caribbean Foundation. Leaders exchanged ideas on practical ways to strengthen cooperation between the Caribbean and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Saint Lucia's delegation was led by H.E. Elizabeth Darius-Clarke, Ambassador of Saint Lucia to the United States.

Ambassador Darius-Clarke participated in a panel discussion on education policy, during which she spoke to the Government of Saint Lucia's sustained investment in education and the development of human capital. She highlighted the Government's focus on making education a path to social mobility, economic advancement and real opportunity for all Saint Lucians. Among the measures highlighted were the One University Graduate Per Household Programme, the First-generation Scholarship Programme, expanded support for CXC examinations, increased education support for vulnerable families and continued investment in early childhood education and the strengthening of technical and vocational education and training.

A key element of the Forum was the signing of a Partnership Understanding on Healthcare, Education, and Tourism between the Government of Saint Lucia and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, signed by Ambassador Elizabeth Darisu-Clarke and Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor, Kimberly Driscoll. The Partnership Understanding sets out a framework to strengthen cooperation and supports development of specific projects and partnerships among key stakeholders of both Parties.

Ambassador emphasised the value Saint Lucia places on this partnership with the state of Massachusetts and noted the importance of exploring tangible projects to be implemented under this Understanding.

The Government of Saint Lucia welcomes this milestone and views the Partnership Understanding as a strategic platform to expand educational opportunities, deepen healthcare cooperation, support tourism development, attract investment and encourage knowledge sharing between Saint Lucia and Massachusetts.

The Embassy of Saint Lucia in Washington D.C. remains committed to building partnerships that support Saint Lucia's social and economic development and expand opportunities for the people of Saint Lucia.

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