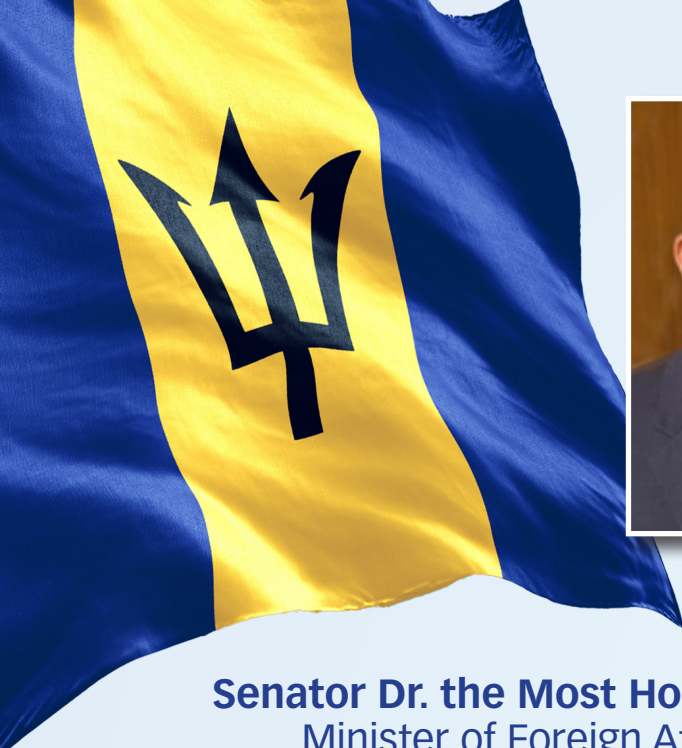




Faith Marshall-Harris
BARBADOS

FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE
**United Nations Committee
on the Rights of the Child**
2023 - 2027



Message

Senator Dr. the Most Hon. Jerome X. Walcott, FB, MBBS, FRCS, JP Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Barbados

Barbados has the honour to present the candidature of Faith Marshall-Harris, Attorney-at-Law and Legal Consultant, for re-election to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) for the term 2023 – 2027.

Faith Marshall-Harris is widely regarded in Barbados, the Caribbean region, and in Latin America as a dedicated human rights advocate working to improve the lives of children and families. As a legal professional and consultant, her commitment to children's rights is evidenced by thirty years of extensive knowledge and expertise in the areas of restorative and rehabilitative justice, family law and child law. Her continued active engagement in these critical areas has contributed significantly to efforts to highlight the need for quality education, health care and improved standards of living to be made accessible for all children.

Faith Marshall-Harris has previously served as presiding Judicial Officer over Barbados' Juvenile and Family Court and has been Deputy Chair and Chair of the National Committee on the Rights of the Child for the past 12 years. She has also worked as a Legal Consultant on projects funded by the World Bank, UNICEF, UN Women, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Government of Barbados, and has authored several works on issues such as child justice, adolescent sexual and reproductive health, the child's right to non-discrimination in relation to HIV/AIDS, and legislative reform relating to children and the family. She also developed the Mandatory Reporting Protocol on Child Abuse and drafted Child Maintenance Guidelines.

The Government of Barbados is confident that Faith Marshall-Harris' experience and professional competence will further serve to advance the work of the UNCRC in promoting and protecting the rights of the child, once successfully re-elected. In her current term on the Committee, she serves as Vice Chair and Rapporteur and is a member of the working groups on working methods, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UNICEF. She now also chairs the working group dealing with the crisis enveloping refugee children from Ukraine.

Barbados considers the mandate of the UNCRC to be especially important for the developing world. The onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic and its devastating socio-economic consequences have in many ways increased the vulnerability of children globally, particularly those in developing countries, and has rendered the UNCRC's protection of children's rights even more crucial today.

As a citizen of a developing nation and Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Faith Marshall-Harris brings a unique and very necessary perspective to the Committee. I am firmly of the view that her deep understanding of the challenges faced in the Caribbean, Latin America and the wider developing world in the area of children's rights will greatly assist in ensuring continued balance in the work and diversity of approach of the UNCRC.

I sincerely hope that we can count on your country's vote in support of her candidacy.



Message

Hon. Kirk Humphrey, MP **Minister of People Empowerment & Elder Affairs of Barbados**

It is my distinct pleasure on behalf of the Government of Barbados and specifically as Minister in the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs, to endorse the candidature of Faith Marshall-Harris, for re-election to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Faith Marshall-Harris is a stalwart advocate and defender of child rights and over the past several years has worked with my Ministry to advance matters pertaining to Child Protection in Barbados.

An accomplished legal professional and consultant, Faith Marshall-Harris has dedicated herself for over thirty years to promoting and protecting the rights of children, both locally and internationally. Her ongoing commitment to preserving children's access to adequate standards of living, quality healthcare and education as well as justice is exemplary and has made Faith Marshall-Harris a highly regarded expert in the field of Child Rights protection.

Indeed, there is no greater indication of her devotion to this issue than her development of programmes aimed at delivering accessible child friendly justice, as well as her dedicated involvement as a member of the Technical Committee of the Child Protection Legislative Reform Project, which has been working diligently on the reformation of child protection laws. Special mention must also be made of her efforts to provide social services and assistance to children and families in need.

Faith Marshall-Harris is prominently known in Barbados for her fierce defence and advocacy of children and families and has successfully represented their interests pro bono and amicus curiae. She has been a member of the National Committee on the Rights of the Child (NCR) for over 12 years and has led a team of passionate members as Chair of that Committee, for the last 8 years. A current member of the UNCRC, Faith Marshall-Harris has ably demonstrated her ability to contribute to its works during her first term, holding the leadership positions of Vice Chair and Rapporteur of the Committee. She is also a member of its Working Group on Working Methods, commissioned to reform the work of the Committee.

With the disruptions which occurred as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the downturn of the economies in many countries, the psychological and physical well-being of many families, and by extension children, have been negatively impacted. The progress which had been made in ensuring children's access to healthcare, nutrition and education has all but stagnated and in some cases, even regressed. This is particularly true for many Small Island Developing States (SIDS) such as Barbados.

As the Minister of the Ministry with responsibility for the provision of social protection, it is incumbent upon us to ensure that the basic human rights of children are maintained. Thus, the endorsement of Faith Marshall-Harris reflects our country's commitment to the mandates and role of the UNCRC in the fight to protect the rights of children.

Faith Marshall-Harris has a clear vision of what she and by extension Barbados believes is the way forward in this battle. Her collective knowledge and understanding of the challenges faced by the Caribbean and Latin American countries affords her the distinct advantage and ability to provide context to the myriad of issues surrounding child protection. The Government of Barbados is assured that, with her re-election, she will continue to strive for progress and bring new perspectives and advance the mandates of the UNCRC.

I thank you and I look forward to your support of Faith Marshall-Harris for re-election to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.



Faith Marshall-Harris

BARBADOS

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Candidate's Vision

**If re-elected, I will continue working in
pursuit of:**

- An end to violence, abuse and exploitation of children in all forms
- Protection of children globally from extreme poverty and armed conflict
- Protection of children globally from disease, particularly HIV/AIDS
- Safeguarding of a healthy, habitable earth to be inherited by generations of children to come
- Enjoyment by all children everywhere of a standard of living adequate for their physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development, regardless of colour, race, gender, ethnic origin, ability, creed or class
- Delivery of child-centred, child- friendly justice across States Parties that embraces the right of children to be heard in their own cause
- Synergies between children's rights and the global sustainable development agenda
- Recovery from severe setbacks to education occasioned by the COVID- 19 pandemic
- Closer collaboration across UN human rights treaty bodies to effect improvement in the lives of children

Faith Marshall-Harris
BARBADOS
CLICK TO PLAY

