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CARIBBEAN-US-Heritage Foundation attacks OECD taxation policy:
BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Aug 18, CANA - A leading conservative U.S. think tank, the Heritage Foundation has joined the opposition to the controversial "harmful taxation" campaign of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The Washington-based rightwing institution, with links to the Republican Party, regards the OECD's opposition to the competitive taxation regimes in the offshore financial sector as "dangerous to global commerce".

Caribbean governments currently waging their own coordinated responses to the OECD's so-called "harmful taxation" scheme involving some 66 anti-competitive corporate tax provisions, will want to "closely monitor" this new development involving the Heritage Foundation, according to one Caribbean Community diplomat.

The Antigua and Barbuda High Commissioner to Britain, Ronald Sanders told CANA Friday that though there may be some ideological differences in the region with the Heritage Foundation, governments of the Caribbean would, nevertheless, recognise the value in having such an influential opposition voice within the USA in the fight against the OECD's "harmful tax" competition campaign.

Senior Fellow of at the Foundation, Daniel Mitchell has been focusing media attention in the U.S. including the respected Wall Street Journal, on the implications for the USA as well of the OECD's opposition to competitive tax regimes.

He is now proposing that the Foundation work as a partner with the Caribbean and other jurisdictions in the battle with the OECD.

Sanders said that he could not speak for the region but figured that Antigua and Barbuda would want to consider Mitchell's suggestion within the context of the need for the widest possible alliance against the OECD's anti-competitive tax policy that remains a source of deep worry for a number of Caribbean jurisdictions.

The OECD's "harmful tax competition will be discussed at next month's three-day Commonwealth Finance Ministers meeting in Malta starting on September 19.

The Commonwealth Secretary General, Don McKinnon, has invited the OECD Secretariat to be represented at a meeting of senior officials of the Commonwealth that will precede the meeting of Finance Ministers.

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