

Statement

by

The Honourable Joachim Henry,

Minister for Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment of Saint Lucia

at

the High-level Round Table 1

on

“Strengthening the three pillars of social development: poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social inclusion”

November 4, 2025

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At the outset, my delegation thanks the State of Qatar for hosting this important Summit and we are delighted to be able to contribute to the discussions in this round table.

To strengthen social development, Saint Lucia aims to achieve a more resilient and inclusive society where all our people have access to opportunities for participation, productivity, and dignity by strengthening these three pillars through economic diversification, community empowerment, and effective social policies.

As a Small Island Developing State that faces compounding vulnerabilities, owing to, among other things, climate change, we recognize that building a resilient and inclusive society requires an all-of-society approach.

There is a need for an integrated, policy-driven, and active participatory approach that aligns with the 2023 Agenda for sustainable development

Considering the above, we shall endeavor to attain the following:

1. Enhance and improve social protection systems through the expansion of current social protective initiatives and expose persons to the benefits of and avenues for generational wealth and its sustainable positive impacts.
2. Seek to increase capacity and workforce readiness through the alignment of education aimed at changing the mindset of individuals. The training system, in collaboration with existing institutions and ministries, should consider market needs.
3. Continue the acknowledgment of social inclusion with a goal to build a society that is equitable, while protecting and understanding the rights of all citizens-especially those deemed most vulnerable.

In closing, Saint Lucia remains committed to building a resilient society for the well-being of our people, and we look forward to opportunities to engage and collaborate with other Member States as we collectively seek to leave no one behind.