

November 4, 2025

Prof. Mark Wuddivira
President
Caribbean Academy of Sciences (CAS)

Dear Prof. Mark Wuddivira,

As Co-Chairs of the Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences (IANAS), we wish to express our deepest solidarity with the people of the Caribbean, and in particular with the people of Jamaica, in light of the catastrophic impact of Hurricane Melissa.

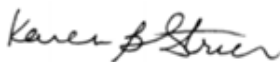
We have received with great concern the statement issued by the Caribbean Academy of Sciences (CAS) regarding the devastating consequences of this unprecedented storm. The record-breaking intensity and destructive force of Hurricane Melissa once again underscore the growing frequency and severity of extreme weather events driven by global climate change. These are not isolated natural phenomena, but manifestations of a rapidly warming planet, demanding urgent, science-based responses and international cooperation.

Our thoughts are with the communities that have lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods. The destruction of essential infrastructure - roads, bridges, hospitals, schools, and laboratories - represents not only a humanitarian tragedy but also a setback to the scientific and technological capacities that underpin the sustainable development of the Caribbean region.

In the face of such devastation, science must stand as a cornerstone of recovery. It offers the evidence, tools, and innovation necessary to rebuild resiliently, ensuring that homes, infrastructure, and communities are reconstructed to better withstand future extreme events. We reaffirm IANAS's commitment to work alongside CAS and other partners in mobilizing scientific expertise and fostering regional collaboration for a safer, more sustainable, and climate-resilient Caribbean.

Please convey our heartfelt sympathy and unwavering support to all members of CAS and to the people of Jamaica during this difficult time.

With sincere regards and solidarity,



Karen B. Strier
IANAS Co-Chair



Alberto Gago
IANAS Co-Chair