

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

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**AMBASSADOR SANDIFORD PRESENTS CREDENTIALS  
TO CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OF CHINA**

Former Prime Minister of Barbados and currently Barbados' first resident Ambassador in China, His Excellency Rt. Hon. Sir Lloyd Erskine Sandiford, and his wife, Lady Sandiford arrived in China on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, Sir Lloyd presented his credentials to the Chief of Protocol of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This act, the first of a two-stage process, allows Ambassador Sandiford to begin his duties as resident ambassador. The second stage will see him present credentials to His Excellency Mr. Hu Jintao, President of the People's Republic of China. The meeting with President Hu Jintao will take place in the coming weeks.

Ambassador Sandiford meets with his CARICOM colleagues today Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. Further meetings with other key members of the diplomatic corps in Beijing will follow shortly. In addition, the Ambassador will hold discussions with senior officials of the Chinese government to consider ways and means of deepening the relationship between Barbados and the People's Republic of China.

Meanwhile, the Ambassador's wife, Lady Sandiford, has been elected as Vice President of the Commonwealth Society in Beijing. (END)