

## **PRESS STATEMENT ON THE RESIGNATION OF OWEN ARTHUR**

**by**

**Hon. Mia Amor Mottley Q.C., M.P.**

**Political Leader and Chairman, Barbados Labour Party**

Earlier today I learnt of Owen Arthur's resignation from the Barbados Labour Party. Owen Arthur served the Barbados Labour Party and Barbados at a critical time before the end of the last century. He helped to lay the foundation for the Barbados that is and the Barbados that we are struggling to preserve.

At the end of his career, he is entitled to make decisions that he believes to be in his best interest.

As Mr. Arthur rallies to the end of this Parliamentary term and thereafter, we hope that he will continue to make himself available in the service of this country. Even though he will no longer be sitting as a member of this party, we hope that in the spirit of national cooperation he will work with us on issues as he will with others, just as we will work with any member of the Barbadian society towards the restoration of hope.

As I said in my letter yesterday to Prime Minister Stuart, these are extraordinary times; and extraordinary times require of us courage and extraordinary action. Our traditional politics will not help us navigate these turbulent waters.

I would personally like to thank Owen Arthur for the opportunity to have served with him as his Deputy. On behalf of the members and officers of the Barbados Labour Party, we truly thank him for his service to the party and to his country and wish him all of the very best.

**25<sup>th</sup> July 2014**