

His Majesty The King has sent the following message to the Governor-General during TRH The Earl and Countess of Wessex and Forfar's visit to The Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

I recall with great fondness my visit to The Bahamas in 1973 to attend the National Independence celebrations. Since that time, I have followed with particular interest and affection as The Bahamas have grown in strength and responded to a multitude of challenges with resilience and fortitude. Bahamians have impressively advocated on the global stage for much-needed change, including most admirably at COP26, inspiring others to be courageous in addressing the devastating impacts of global warming and climate change.

As we look toward the fiftieth anniversary of Independence later this year, I would like to reiterate the sentiment I conveyed on behalf of The late Queen Elizabeth, in 1973, that The Bahamas are much-loved and valued members of the Commonwealth Family. I look forward to strengthening our close and special relationship in the years ahead.

END