**新冠肺炎疫情:加勒比地区的领导力**

来源：英国海外发展研究所

作者：Emily Wilkinson

时间：2020/5/18

正文：

英国海外发展研究所高级研究员Emily Wilkinson在《新冠肺炎疫情:加勒比地区的领导力》一文中表示，新冠肺炎危机暴露了全球领导力的缺乏和国际社会的分裂。在混乱之中，无名英雄——通常是妇女和资源不足的国家——展示了团结和道德领导的力量。

最典型的例子是加勒比地区，巴巴多斯总理莫特利等领导人坚韧不拔的精神，使得加勒比地区应对新冠肺炎疫情的措施高度协调且统一。

在CNN最近对克里斯蒂安·阿曼普(Christiane Amanpour)的采访中，她呼吁“所有国家都站出来”，支持小岛屿发展中国家，这些国家尤其容易受到经济和环境冲击的影响。

**领导力量正在应对境外的新冠肺炎疫情**

所有国家都受到新冠肺炎疫情的影响。缺乏全球领导力和协调一致的应对措施正在世界各地造成损害，对最脆弱的国家来说损害尤甚。这场危机让所有人都意识到，我们的系统是如何相互关联的，一个国家的经济复苏在和其他国家的复苏之间的联系。这一点在加勒比地区体现得最为明显，该地区经济非常开放，高度依赖于旅游收入，极易受到疾病、自然灾害和其他经济压力的影响。

莫特利女士在国际舞台上一直很有发言权。在2019年9月的联合国秘书长气候峰会上，她代表所有小岛屿发展中国家发表讲话，她说:“我们拒绝成为其他国家贪婪的附带损害。”

但是，在应对气候变化的过程中，正如我们现在看到全球对新冠肺炎疫情的反应一样，国际多边体系的表现不尽如人意。道德领袖缺乏，民族主义复活，国家之间竞争，问题多多。

**加勒比地区应对新冠肺炎疫情的协调行动**

今年3月初，随着首批新冠感染病例在加勒比海地区得到确认，各国采取了选择性隔离措施，并单方面决定关闭边境。然而，这些国家很快发现，如果没有协调一致的努力，他们都会陷入困境。

当飓风来袭时，这些国家通常会从强大的北方邻国购买装备，但这次不是这样——特朗普政府禁止分销商向海外销售个人防护装备，从其他地方采购也很困难。就单个岛屿而言，由于人口太少，防护装备所需的数量太少，价格又高。

幸运的是，加勒比共同体(CARICOM)的总人口为1600万，因此，CARICOM提出联合采购的建议，该区域能够获得重要的供应品。此后，成员国制定了物流和运输方面的联合政策，确保区域内人员和货物运输的共同标准，并支持区域运输公司运营。

**通过团结实现经济复苏**

区域团结对于“更好地重建”同样至关重要——从危机中复苏，建设更具韧性的经济和社会。加勒比海国家渴望开放边境，但他们仍保持谨慎。他们一致认为，这需要精心安排：考虑到岛屿之间的所有联系，在一个岛屿上开放机场或者港口，而不在其他岛屿上开放，是没有意义的。

各国政府首脑也采取集体措施，要求国际金融机构提供援助。加勒比国家的债务水平很高，今明两年总共有88亿美元需要偿还，因此借钱来应对新冠肺炎疫情根本不是一个选择。他们呼吁减免债务，修改主权债务合同中的灾难条款以及修改国际援助规则。大多数加勒比岛屿是高收入的主权国家或海外领土，因此没有资格获得官方发展援助。莫特利和其他人则建议使用脆弱性指数来确定需求。

**未来的道德领导**

莫特利呼吁建立新的国际经济秩序，以解决国家内部和国家之间日益加剧的不平等，并应对气候紧急状况。这就是世界需要的道德领导。希望这场新冠肺炎疫情能给这些伟大的领导人带来更多的空间，最重要的是，让他们的声音被听到。

原文链接：

<https://www.odi.org/blogs/16959-covid-19-lesson-leadership-caribbean>

Covid-19: a lesson in leadership from the Caribbean

The coronavirus crisis has exposed a lack of global leadership and a fractured international community. In amongst the mess, unsung heroes – often women and under-resourced nations – have demonstrated the power of solidarity and moral leadership.

A prime example of this is the Caribbean, which has led a well-orchestrated, regional response to Covid-19 thanks to the tenacity of leaders like Barbados Prime Minster Mia Mottley.

In a recent CNN interview with Christiane Amanpour, she called for ‘all countries to step up’ and support Small Island Developing States (SIDS), which are particularly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks.

Leadership is tackling Covid-19 beyond your borders

All nations have been affected by Covid-19. The absence of global leadership and a coordinated response is taking its toll everywhere, but particularly on the most vulnerable nations. This crisis has made us all aware of how interconnected our systems are, and how much economic recovery in one nation depends on recovery elsewhere. Nowhere is that more true than in the Caribbean, where economies are very open, highly vulnerable to disease, natural hazards, and other economic stresses, and highly dependent on tourism revenues (which have been totally wiped out).

Ms Mottley has been very vocal on the global stage. At the UN Secretary General’s Climate Summit back in September 2019, speaking then on behalf of all SIDS (which represent 20% of nations), she stated: ‘we refuse to be collateral damage to the greed of others’.

But in combating climate change, and as we are now seeing with global responses to the Covid-19 crisis, the international multilateral system is faltering. There is a dearth of moral leadership, a resurgence of nationalism, and competition between nations, all struggling to deal with their own problems.

The Caribbean’s coordinated response to Covid-19

As the first coronavirus cases to reach the Caribbean were confirmed in early March, states introduced selective quarantine measures and took decisions unilaterally to close borders. Yet it soon became apparent that without a coordinated effort, they would all be in trouble.

When a hurricane hits, countries usually procure equipment from their powerful neighbour to the north, but not this time – the Trump administration blocked distributors from selling PPE overseas. Sourcing from elsewhere also proved a challenge. Individually, islands have such small populations (Dominica has less than 70,000 people) that quantities needed are too low, and prices too high.

Fortunately, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has a total population of 16 million, so when CARICOM stepped up with a proposal for joint procurement, the region was able to secure vital supplies. Member states have since developed joint policies on logistics and transport, ensuring common standards in intra-regional transportation of people and goods and support to regional carriers. As outgoing Executive Director of the Caribbean Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), Ronald Jackson, was keen to assure me: ‘coming out of the challenges we now have stronger bonds’.

Economic recovery through solidarity

Regional solidarity will be equally critical to ‘building back better’ – to recover from the crisis and build more resilient economies and societies. Caribbean states are keen to open borders; but they remain cautious. There is agreement this needs to be carefully orchestrated: given all the connections between islands, it doesn’t make sense to open airports in one island and not others; or ports but not airports.

Heads of Government have also adopted a collective approach to requesting assistance from International Financial Institutions. Caribbean countries have high levels of debt – collectively owing $8.8bn that needs to be paid back this year and next – so borrowing to deal with the impacts of Covid-19 is simply not an option. They are calling for debt relief, disaster clauses in sovereign debt contracts and changes to the international aid rules. Most Caribbean islands are high-income sovereign states or overseas territories and therefore not eligible for ODA. Instead, Ms Mottley and others propose that a vulnerability index be used to determine need.

Moral leadership for the future

Ms Mottley has called for a new international economic order to address deepening inequality within and between countries, and to tackle the climate emergency. This is the kind of moral leadership the world needs. Ms Mottley is one of several female leaders that have been acknowledged for their superior responses to containing the spread of Covid-19. Hopefully, as a result of this crisis, we will give more space to these great leaders – and most importantly, listen to them.