Statement by Dr the Hon Timothy Harris  
Prime Minister, St. Kitts and Nevis  
On the occasion of the 259th Anniversary of the birth of Alexander Hamilton  
New York City  
January 11, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On this day we celebrate the 259th Anniversary of the birth of Alexander Hamilton—on January 11, 1757—and I am delighted to join you in honouring the life and achievements of this distinguished son of Nevis. On behalf of the Government and people of St. Kitts and Nevis, I extend warm greetings.

In June 2015, in a joint celebration with the people of St. Croix, the US Virgin Islands; the US Coast Guard, Sector San Juan; and the Alexander Hamilton Awareness Society; the people of St. Kitts and Nevis marked the 250th Anniversary of Hamilton’s arrival on St. Croix, along with his brother and mother, from their native home of Nevis. Furthermore, the past year marked the 225th Anniversary of Hamilton’s creation of the US Coast Guard.

I fondly cherish the hope that you have the opportunity to visit Nevis and the site where Hamilton was born and spent part of his childhood. Today, where Hamilton’s first home once stood, near the seashore in Charlestown, the Alexander Hamilton Museum welcomes visitors from around the world. Hamilton’s formative years in the Caribbean, with his early education, observations, and experiences, first on Nevis and then on St. Croix, helped mold the character of a young man who became a leading Founding Father of the United States of America.

Alexander Hamilton’s contributions to the cause of liberty in war and peace have earned him the gratitude of generations of people not only in the United States, but also in the Caribbean and around the world.

The people of St. Kitts and Nevis join the people of the United States of America in honoring the legacy of Alexander Hamilton. In this year of greater awareness of Hamilton’s achievements, we hope to welcome many of you to our beloved islands, to further these connections, and to celebrate together Hamilton’s life and achievements!

Timothy Harris (Hon. Dr.)  
Prime Minister