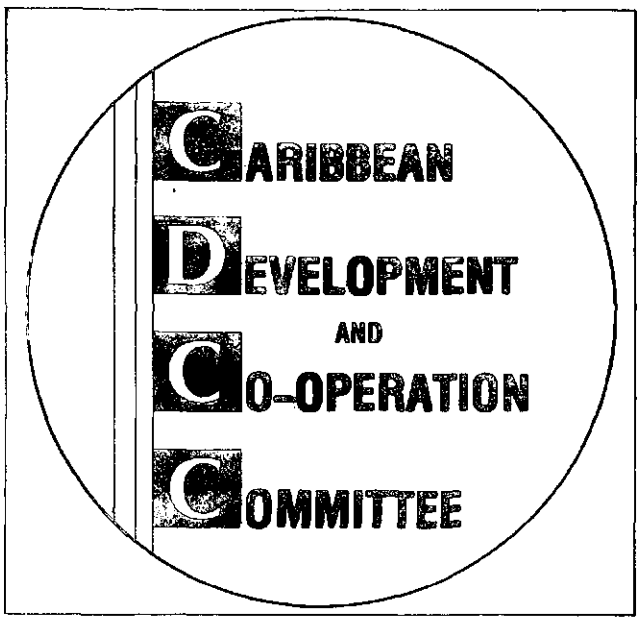

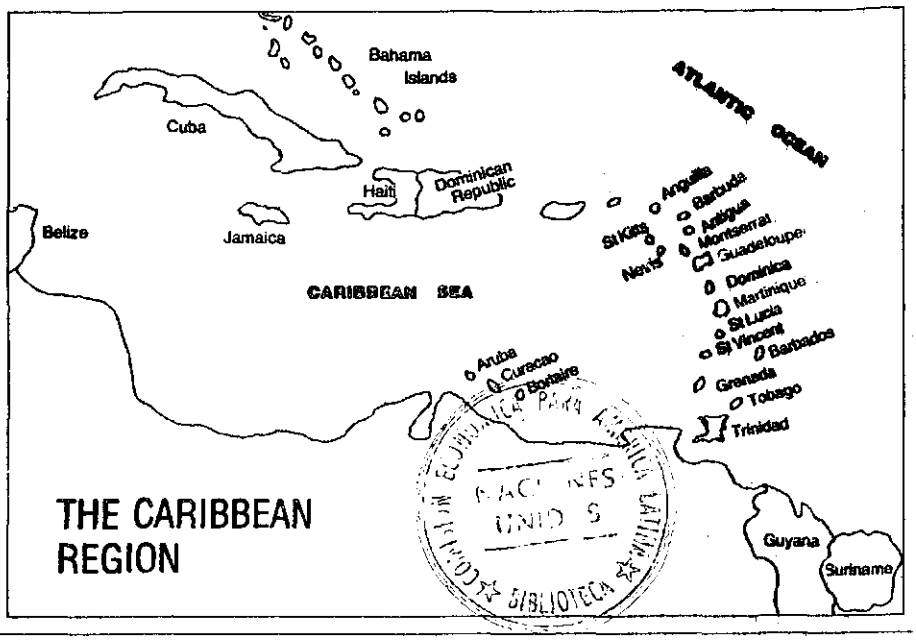

GENERAL

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15 December 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Subregional Office for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

Seventh Session
Port of Spain, Trinidad
19-25 January 1983

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST) (1981 - 1982)

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean

C O N T E N T S

ANNEXES TO REPORT

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST)

(1981 - 1982)

INTRODUCTION

This report describes CCST activities from November 1981 to December 1982 and includes an account of the Second Plenary Meeting of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST), hosted by the Government of Jamaica and convened at the New Kingston Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica from 3-5 November 1982, and the subsequent activities in implementing CCST decisions.

BACKGROUND

During the period under review the Government of Haiti has submitted its Instruments of Ratification to the ECLA/CDCC Office and membership of CCST is now:

Cuba	Jamaica
Dominica	St. Lucia
Grenada	St. Vincent + the Grenadines
Guyana	Suriname
Haiti	Trinidad + Tobago

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS OF CCST

1. Work Programme

(i) Council recommended that work should continue on the six projects identified and approved at the First Plenary Session. These projects in order of priority are:

PROJECT I - Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities

PROJECT II - Establishment of a Science and Technology Journal of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology

PROJECT III - Preparation and Exchange of Audio-visual Material for Education in Science and Technology

PROJECT IV - A Study of the Consequences of the Development of Energy Crops on Food Supplies in the Region

PROJECT V - Conservation and Exchange of Germplasm of Crop Plants

PROJECT VI - Development of Agro-Industries and Employment Opportunities particularly at Rural Level

(ii) Council also identified and approved two further Projects which are:

PROJECT VII - The Potential and Limitations of Newly Emerging Technologies for Newly Developing Countries

PROJECT VIII - A Science and Technology Policy for the Caribbean Region

2. Funding

Council recommended a revised budget for 1983 to meet the cost of the Projects and the Statutory Meetings. The revised budget is presented in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/97/Add.1.

Council also recommended that members should ensure that the annual assessed contributions of their respective Governments are channelled to CCST as early as possible.

3. Secretariat

Because the current lack of funds did not permit the establishment of a full-time Secretariat for CCST, Council has requested the CDCC Secretariat to continue providing Secretariat Services until the next Plenary Session of CCST.

4. Meetings of the Council scheduled for 1983

(i) Third Executive Committee Meeting

Date : 27 - 28 January 1983

Venue: Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

(ii) Fourth Executive Committee Meeting

Date : Late April

Venue: Port-au-Prince, Haiti

(iii) Third Plenary Meeting

Date : Late July - early August

Venue: Not Yet Identified

5. Election of Officers 1982 - 1983

In accordance with Article 9 of the Statutes, the following Officers were elected unanimously:-

Chairman	:	Dr. M. O. Hamilton (Jamaica)
Vice-Chairman	:	Ms. Erica McIntosh (St. Vincent + the Grenadines)
Honorary Treasurer	:	Dr. Iwan Kortram (Suriname)
Member	:	Dr. U. O'D. Trotz (Guyana)

6. Amendment of CCST Statutes

Council has recommended that Article 4 of its Statutes be amended to allow Associate CDCC Members to become Associate Members of CCST.

SUBSEQUENT ACTION

1. Work is continuing on all the Projects approved by CCST.

2. Administrative arrangements for the Third Executive Meeting are being finalised.

3. Documents on (a) information about CCST
   (b) relationship between National Development and Science and Technology

   are being prepared.

APPENDIX

REPORT ON SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF THE CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST)

Kingston, Jamaica, 3-5 November 1982

REPORT ON SECOND PLENARY SESSION
OF THE CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST)

Kingston, Jamaica, 3-5 November 1982

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

1. The Second Regular Plenary Session of the CCST was convened in the William Gordon Conference Room, New Kingston Hotel, Jamaica from 3 to 5 November 1982, in conformity with Article 19 of the Statutes. The Meeting was hosted by the Government of Jamaica in collaboration with the Scientific Research Council (SRC), the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Opening Session

2. The Honourable Dr. Ronald Irvine, the Minister responsible for Science and Technology in the Office of the Prime Minister, delivered the opening address.[1/] Addresses were also made by representatives of UNESCO[2/] and the UN ECLA Office for the Caribbean.

Attendance[3/]

3. Representatives from the following CCST member countries were present:

Guyana	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Jamaica	Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago	

1/ The Honourable Minister's speech is given at Annex I.

2/ The UNESCO representative's speech is given at Annex II.

3/ The List of Participants is given at Annex III.

The following Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) members and associate members were also present as observers:

Antigua and Barbuda	Netherlands Antilles
Barbados	St Kitts - Nevis
Dominican Republic	Montserrat
Haiti	

The following Agencies and Organizations with interest in regional Science and Technology activities also attended as observers -

Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM)

Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)

Commonwealth Science Council (CSC)

Organisation of American States (OAS)

United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD)

United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)

United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSSTD)

World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)

4. The United Nations ECLA Office for the Caribbean, which serves as the Secretariat to the CDCC, provided Secretariat services for the session.

II. SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS

Approval of the Agenda 4/

5. Members acceded to the request by the Netherlands Antilles that Item 10 be discussed as early as possible and the Agenda was formally approved and adopted.

4/ See Annex IV.

Chairman's Report[5/]

6. The Chairman stated his regret that, because of some logistic difficulties, his Report could not be formally tabled for discussion. He recounted, however, the activities and achievements of the CCST over the past year. He noted with pleasure the extent of the membership and expressed the hope that those countries who had not yet become full members would do so shortly. He expressed concern that some member countries had not paid their annual assessed contributions and emphasized that if the CCST were to undertake its Work Programme it should be provided with the necessary support. He surmised that the difficulty experienced by members in meeting their obligations might have been due to foreign exchange concerns and wondered whether other strategies might not be explored to ensure that member countries met their obligations. He urged the members of the Council to give consideration to the role which the CCST might regularly play, bearing in mind the various regional activities being undertaken by other Agencies. He was convinced that the CCST had an important role and in that regard was very heartened by the recognition accorded by other Agencies during the inter-Agency meeting held on the previous day.

The Chairman thanked members for the honour they had accorded him in having him serve as the first Chairman of the Council; he further paid tribute to the dedicated and conscientious support he had received from Mr. John Spence. He concluded by wishing his successor a happy tenure of Office during the next phase of development in the life of the Council.

During the course of the meeting the Chairman's Report was formally tabled and adopted.

Membership of the Netherlands Antilles

7. Discussion on this item was in closed session with only member countries and the Representatives from the Government of the Netherlands Antilles (by invitation) present.

5/ See Annex V.

The Representatives of the Netherlands Antilles made a statement[6/] after which the Chairman thanked them most sincerely for the expression of commitment to the CCST on behalf of their Government.

The Chairman referred to Article 4 of the Statutes which states that "Membership of the Council shall be open to Member Countries comprising the CDCC" and stated that as long as the Netherlands Antilles was only an Associate Member of the CDCC, the CCST would always be constrained by the legality of that Article which, according to his interpretation, referred to full membership. There was, he pointed out, no provision for Associate Membership in the Statutes of the CCST. During the discussions an observation was made by the distinguished delegate of the Netherlands Antilles, that as the CCST was an autonomous body and not a subsidiary organ of the CDCC, the restrictions on associate membership of the CDCC are not automatically applicable for the status of associate membership within the CCST.

The Chairman proposed that the Council should immediately seek an amendment to its statutes to allow for Associate Membership, expressing the hope that the Government of the Netherlands Antilles would be sympathetic to the mandatory time frame imposed by Article 27, which stated that any modification of the Statutes must be approved at a Plenary Session and that three months' notice must be given to member countries of the proposals for modification.

In the meanwhile, as the CCST was an autonomous body, he was recommending to the Council that the Netherlands Antilles be allowed to participate fully in all CCST activities. He also informed the Meeting that a Legal Opinion on the position has been requested from the Office of Legal Services at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and an official reply was awaited. A communication[7/] which supported the Chairman's position was subsequently received by the ECLA Office in Port of Spain and was relayed to the meeting by telephone. The Council noted that Associate members would be able to attend closed sessions of the Council.

The proposal was accepted as the best mechanism for resolving this issue.

6/ Annex VI.

7/ This communication may be consulted in the Secretariat's file.

Reports of First Plenary and Executive Meetings

8. The reports of the First Plenary Session, the First Executive Committee Meeting and the Second Executive Committee Meeting were formally tabled and adopted.

Annual Report[8/]

9. The Annual Report was introduced by the Secretariat and members were updated on the present status of all the projects identified and approved during the First Plenary Meeting of the Council. Tribute was paid to the UNFSSTD for providing generous financial assistance for Project I on the Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities and also to ECLA for providing the financial and logistic support for the Interim Secretariat.

Balance Sheet[9/]

10. In presenting the Balance Sheet, the Treasurer echoed the Chairman's Statement, and commented on the fact that several member countries were in default of their payments and that in two cases where the contributions were paid, foreign exchange constraints prevented the full transfer of the money to the CCST account. There was sustained discussion on the various mechanisms which could be used to allow the transfer of the contributions. Members were, however, unsure as to how far they could commit their Governments to any particular option.

It was decided that the Interim Secretariat should:

i) write to defaulting Governments reminding them of their obligations to CCST

ii) prepare a background paper with all feasible options for consideration of the Executive Committee.

8/ Document CDCC/CCST/82/9.

9/ Annex VIII.

The meeting was then informed that since the Report was prepared the Government of Trinidad and Tobago had met in full its contribution to the end of 1982.

The Council formally ratified the Chairman's decision granting permission to Guyana and Jamaica to utilise part of their contributions to host the Second Executive and the Second Plenary Meetings respectively.

Review of Work Programme 1981-82

Project I - Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities

11. After general discussion on the importance of the data to future regional and international programmes, it was decided that:

i) efforts should be made to ensure that the project was completed within a given time frame provisionally identified as March 1983;

ii) CCST should not wait for every member country to complete its individual project but should start preliminary analysis and consider publication of the data already at its disposal; and

iii) wherever possible the Interim Secretariat should assist those member countries that required help in implementing and/or completing the Project.

Project II - Establishment of a Journal/Magazine for the CCST

12. The discussion revealed some genuine concerns among member countries on the format, regularity of publication, target groups and commercial viability. There was general consensus that in the initial stages, the publication should be used primarily to project, as widely as possible, the image and activities of the CCST and should therefore contain sections dealing with editorials, Science and Technology news, policy issues, research and schools. It was therefore decided that:

i) the publication should be issued free of charge for the first two years;

ii) two issues should be published annually;

iii) the Interim Secretariat should co-ordinate the different phases leading to eventual publication;

iv) the Editorial Board should comprise one member nominated from each of the following countries:

Dominican Republic	Suriname
Jamaica	St. Vincent + the Grenadines; and

v) the appropriate UN Agencies should be approached to provide technical and financial assistance as necessary to assist in publication.

Project III - Development of Agro-Industries and Employment Opportunities particularly at Rural Level

13. In the absence of the Report which was to have been prepared by a Consultant, the action on the project was taken for notification. The representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, however, expressed concern about the particular difficulties in commercializing the Research and Development (R and D) efforts of their respective Product Chemist's Laboratories.

The representative from the CDB suggested mechanisms for attracting funds from her organisation subject to the provision that the request should reflect the combined views of member Governments. The representative from the CSC also indicated that his Council would be willing to participate in a study on the problems of commercialization of R and D efforts, and that a request from the CCST to his Council supported by the Co-ordinator of the Regional Programme for Natural Products (Dr. Trotz) might evoke a favourable response.

It was therefore decided that:

i) a consultant should be identified and contracted as early as possible to undertake the project; and

ii) the Report be used to elaborate the implementation of a Pilot Project on the Commercialization of R and D results within the Caribbean.

Project IV - Preparation and Exchange of Audio-Visual Material for Education in Science and Technology

14. The project was seen as one which encompasses several aspects of the CCST mandate and therefore much of the discussion focused on the logistic support which was necessary to avoid unnecessary delays.

Members considered that it was essential for conscious decisions to be taken on the number of copies of the film to be made, the compatibility of all available equipment within the region, suitability of the film as a science and teaching aid, reproduction, etc. Most of these aspects were clarified and the representatives from Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica offered to place some film material from their countries at the disposal of the Project Leader.

Project V - Conservation and Exchange of Germplasm of Crop Plants

15. The Council regretted the delay in implementing such an important project due to the failure to attract even the minimal funds that were required. It therefore accepted the offer of CSC to try and secure at least travel funds subject to a combined and co-ordinated request from the CCST and the Regional Co-ordinator of the Natural Products Programme.

The CCST was also encouraged to approach the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau and the Board for Plant Genetic Resources (FAO) to explore the possibility of attracting funds.

Project VI - Study on the Consequences of the Development of Energy Crops on Food Supplies in the Region

16. The Council was informed that Dr. Lloyd Rankine had been engaged to prepare a report and that work had already commenced in collaboration with Dr. Carlton Bruce. It was anticipated that the report would be submitted by the end of November and would provide a model for making assessments at national level of the competition between food and energy crops. It was also suggested that this Project would provide extremely suitable audio-visual material for Project IV.

Specialist Committees and Working Groups

17. The Chairman reminded members of the need to encourage their respective Governments to nominate individuals to serve on the various Advisory Committees since this would ensure that CCST activities were relevant and were effectively co-ordinated. Several members complained that the requests had not been forwarded to them by their Ministries and it was suggested that the Secretariat should send reminders to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs with copies to members.

The Representative from the Dominican Republic also recommended that the name of the Health Committee be changed to Health, Nutrition and Technical Preparation of Pharmaceuticals; this recommendation was adopted.

The meeting was also alerted about the immediate initiatives in Newly Emerging Technologies being taken at national level by the CCST in collaboration with UNIDO and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago; it is hoped that this experience will form the basis of the regional activities planned for later in 1983.

The Director of the ECLA Office for the Caribbean informed the Council that for at least six months of the past year the Work Programme had been implemented almost single-handedly by Ms. Christine David, Research Assistant of the ECLA Office for the Caribbean; the Council expressed its sincere appreciation to Ms. David for her dedicated and conscientious service.

Report of Agency Meeting[10/]

18. The Draft Report of the Meeting of Agencies held on 2 November was circulated for comments by members. It was recommended that the Agencies should be asked to supply information on the Science and Technology Projects which they were implementing within the region, the categories and the amounts of

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10/ Annex VII.

money being spent on each category. Once this data was analysed on a regional basis, any imbalances would immediately become apparent and the direction of aid would become more meaningful.

It was also recommended that the official report of the Meeting should be augmented by relevant comments made at the Meeting by representatives of the various agencies.

An Instrument for the Sensitization of Policy Makers about the Value of Science and Technology

19. The paper was introduced by Dr. Munroe, one of its co-authors, who outlined the immediate need for such a document in the embryonic years of the Council's existence. He also commented that if the document were to prove effective the views of all Council members would be welcome and wherever possible, would be incorporated in the final release. It was therefore decided that members should submit their comments to the Secretariat before the end of November, to ensure that the final document would be ready for distribution early in 1983.

Future Role of CCST

20. Members were very conscious of the fact that with the Council still in the embryonic stage of its Development, it was essential that some precise guidelines be established to ensure sustained and relevant growth, whilst maintaining the necessary flexibility which would enable the CCST to respond quickly to the changing regional circumstances and diverse national perspectives in the areas of science and technology.

Members were of the opinion that the CCST's present role should comprise three main facets in descending order of priority -

1) Co-ordinating
2) Advisory
3) Implementation

1) Co-ordinating Role

From the ensuing discussion, this seemed to be the most important facet since it is specifically enshrined in Articles 3, 17 and 18 of the Statutes. The CCST would then be seen as a regional umbrella for co-ordinating Science and Technology activities and for ensuring harmony and consistency with national aspirations and development programmes. As the co-ordinating function of CCST became more developed, the Council itself would become more visible and much more influential in convincing regional governments of the need to provide necessary infra-structural support to Science and Technology which would inevitably result in a more rational selection of Science and Technology projects. In addition, many national institutions were handicapped by constraints of "inhouse" capabilities, financial resources and relevant programme direction, so that in fulfilling its co-ordinating role, CCST would make an invaluable contribution to strengthening national Science and Technology capabilities and increasing the self-reliance of all member countries.

2) Advisory Role

Members were of the opinion that the advisory role of CCST would only be marginally less important than its co-ordinating function, since there were several areas in Science and Technology, which, although crucial to development, were neglected simply because no government or agency had fully appreciated the positive impact which these areas could make on their development strategies. Among the areas mentioned were -

i) Human Resource Development
ii) Transfer of Technology
iii) Formulation of a Regional Policy for Science and Technology.

It is therefore incumbent on the CCST to focus the attention of member countries on all such neglected areas and to advise on the kind and format of activity for remedying the situation.

3) The Implementation Role

Members were anxious that the CCST should not depart too far from its original mandate but should remain as a co-ordinating 'nucleus' for Science and Technology with the day-to-day activities effected through related national institutions. It was however conceded that at this particular stage, the CCST should -

i) establish credibility;

ii) attract funds;

iii) convince member countries about its usefulness; and

iv) reduce and eventually reverse the Science and Technology "brain-drain".

The Council would therefore have to embrace a limited implementation function by acting as a catalyst in implementing projects in those vital areas identified in 2), and should transfer development of the project to a relevant agency/institution as soon as it was conveniently possible.

The Secretariat was therefore requested to submit a document for the consideration of the Executive Committee on how the various facets of the Council's role could be highlighted within the ambit of present limitations and in the absence of a Permanent Secretariat.

Work Programme for 1983

21. On the basis of the debate on the Annual Report and the review of the 1981-82 Work Programme, it was decided that Projects I - VI should continue. These were -

Project I	-	Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities
Project II	-	Establishment of a Journal/Magazine for the CCST
Project III	-	Development of Agro-Industries and Employment Opportunities particularly at Rural Level
Project IV	-	Preparation and Exchange of Audio-Visual Material for Education in Science and Technology
Project V	-	Conservation and Exchange of Germplasm of Crop Plants
Project VI	-	Study on the Consequences of the Development of Energy Crops on Food Supplies in the Region.

For the proposed Project VII, dealing with the new technologies, the Chairman elaborated plans for the preparation of a Working Paper under the auspices of UNESCO and UNIDO. He was confident that the document would be available for discussion by a Preparatory Meeting around April 1983, and could therefore be used as the basis to plan a Regional Seminar/Workshop later in the year.

There was general consensus that Project VIII encompassed much of the previous discussions on the role of the CCST. The meeting was also informed that UNESCO might be prepared to support some regional co-operation on this issue by capitalizing on the experience of the Andean Pact countries. Some members were of the opinion that an agency such as IDRC, which had already taken some initiative at regional level on policy studies, might also be willing to assist and it was suggested that the CCST should closely examine all the recent findings of studies on policy issues to see how the programmes could be carried forward especially in the area of training.

The Council approved Project VII and Project VIII.

CCST Budget 1983

22. Given the unlikelihood of obtaining the necessary funds to operate an independent Secretariat, the Council was asked to formally request ECLA to continue providing the services of an interim Secretariat. The sum of $228,000 could, therefore, be subtracted from the estimates.

The meeting was also informed that the sub-head for one Plenary Meeting and two Executive Committee Meetings had been inadvertently omitted and an additional sum of $25,000 should be added to the budget estimates presented.

As there would be no need for capital equipment and as the UN Office of Financial Services might consider favourably a request to waive the overhead charges, a further sum of $101,000 might also be subtracted.

The attention of the Council was then focused on realizing the sum of $146,000 for projects and meetings. The Chairman expressed the view that if all member Governments faithfully met their assessed contributions to the end of 1983, a total of $88,000 would be available and the additional income required would be in the region of $58,000. He was also optimistic that with Barbados, the Dominican Republic and Haiti shortly to become members, their contributions for 1983 would also be available.

The Interim Secretariat was encouraged to seek additional funds and to present future budgets with certain explanatory notes.

In the light of the above observations, the Secretariat was instructed to prepare a revised budget for discussion at the Third Executive Committee Meeting.

Election of Officers to Council for 1982-83

23. The Council accepted with regret the resignation of Ms. Merline Smith as Treasurer. The following nominations were accepted by acclamation:

Chairman	:	Dr. M. O. Hamilton (Jamaica)
Vice-Chairman	:	Ms. Erica Mc Intosh (St Vincent and the Grenadines)
Honorary Treasurer	:	Mr. Iwan Kortram (Suriname)
Council Member	:	Dr. Ulric Trotz (Guyana)

Members expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms. Smith for her services as Treasurer to the CCST over the past year.

Executive Committee Meetings 1983

24. The following dates and venues were provisionally identified taking into consideration the Work Programme of Council and the other regional activities in Science and Technology -

First Executive Committee Meeting - late January 1983 in St Vincent and the Grenadines

Second Executive Committee Meeting - late March 1983 in Haiti.

Third Plenary Meeting

25. Late June/early July was suggested as a possible time for the Meeting at a venue to be identified. The definitive date and place would be announced at the Third Executive Committee Meeting.

Any Other Business

26. i) The Chairman thanked the Honorable Dr. Ronald Irvine, Minister responsible for Science and Technology in the Office of the Prime Minister, for his continuing interest in the deliberations of the Council and for his presence at the Closing Session. He briefly informed the Minister of the progress made during the Meeting and asked him to convey sincere gratitude and appreciation from the CCST to the Government of Jamaica for the several courtesies extended to participants during the Meeting. The Minister spoke in reply.

ii) The Chairman then drew the attention of members to document SC-81/CONF. 202/COL 12, the Final Report of the Sixth Session of the Standing Conference of National Science and Technology Policy-Making Bodies in Latin America and the Caribbean which was held in La Paz, Bolivia 19-27 October 1981. He pointed out that the following sections of the Report were of particular relevance -

Para 32 - page 7, which recognised the establishment of the CCST; and

Para 79 - page 34, which gave advance information on Castalac II scheduled to be held in Brazil during 1984. He asked Members to become actively involved in preparations for the Conference and to make every effort to attend.

iii) The Document CDCC/CCST/82/11 providing brief background information on the CCST was formally tabled and Members were asked to submit their comments as early as possible so that the Editorial Board could initiate relevant action.

iv) Dr Hamilton in his capacity as Chairman of the CCST thanked members for their confidence in entrusting to him the guidance of the CCST for the ensuing year. He admitted it would not be an easy task to maintain the momentum set by the out-going Chairman, but he was optimistic that with the help of the Secretariat and the new Executive Committee, the targets outlined in the 1983 Work Programme would be met.

27. There being no other business the meeting was declared closed.

ANNEX I

STATEMENT BY DR. RONALD IRVINE,
MINISTER IN CHARGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, JAMAICA

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Executive of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology, distinguished guests:

It is a particular pleasure for me to welcome you on behalf of my Government to the shores of Jamaica for this the Second Plenary Session of the Council. Your first meeting was held in Barbados in June 1981; Barbados is a delightful little island inhabited by a cultured and hospitable people, but it is my hope that after your brief sojourn in Jamaica you will leave here not only with the satisfaction of knowing that your meeting was productive, but also enthused not only at Jamaica's beauty, but satisfied that you have been warmly received with the special welcome we reserve for our Caribbean brothers.

Your meeting comes at a most fortunate time, when there is a growing awareness amongst us all in these territories that it is through the proper application of Science and Technology that we can make this region not only the geographical paradise that it is, but also a region of stable and continuing economic progress which will lift our peoples to higher standards of living and achievement.

As a Council you have had a different and challenging task, but when I examined some of your work programmes for the year 1981-83, I am confident that you are engaging that task with the right strategies, and I am equally confident that within a short time the results of these strategies will begin to have an impact which will produce a self-generating momentum of more and more rapid progress.

In the brief period that I will address you this morning, I would just like to comment on a few of these:

Public Information:

I notice from your programme that you have two projects which come under this heading. One is for the Preparation and Exchange of Audio-Visual Material for general public consumption, the other is for the Preparation and Publication of a Science and Technology Journal.

The first project is of vital importance and should be pursued with some vigour, for until the general public, public administrators, private entrepreneurs become alive to the importance of Science and Technology, the task of convincing them to invest hard cash into Science and Technology, will be resisted strongly and we will continue to depend on transfers of obsolete technologies from the North for our development.

The second project, that of the Science and Technology Journal is also commendable, but it should not be the prime method of communication to that specialized group which it is intended to service. My own view is that this should be complemented with a computerized data bank wherein is stored and coded all relevant information on technologies in various fields. Hence, if a researcher in Grenada would like information on the growing of nutmegs he could have at short notice the references which he can then pick and choose from.

This data bank would also be the catalogue of the available expertise of the area in terms of manpower, institutions and research projects which are on-going in the area.

The presence of such a bank would have some immediate spin-off which we need sorely in this area. In our stage of development we still have to depend on technology transfers and very often we invite at great cost foreign consultants to help us to evaluate and decide on what is appropriate for us, when I am sure that we would get more value for money were we to use consultants from among ourselves.

I see too that on your programme you have a project which is aimed at the Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities. This assessment must be done speedily and must be followed by strong lobbying to impress upon national governments and the region as a whole the absolute necessity to develop a strong, indigenous Science and Technology base. Given the constraints of size and limited financial resources, it is true I think that regional cooperation has such an important part to play.

It will be extremely difficult for a small island to put in the infrastructure in terms of institutions needed for a meaningful Science and Technology base. There is a critical stage which if not reached cannot be productive, and there is no good and valid reason why the Science and Technology institutions and manpower cannot be shared.

The sharing of facilities can have certain benefits:

(i) The institution can be better equipped;

(ii) Being standard institutions, the remuneration paid to scientific staff need not be tied to Civil Service Scales;

(iii) This will help to attract many qualified West Indian and Caribbean nationals back to work in their own environment.

Before closing Mr. Chairman I would like to congratulate the Council on the choice of subjects which it has chosen to assign to committees and working groups. Each of these could be the subject of full-scale examination and debate and some I have already touched on such as information, technology transfer and patents, institutions such as universities, etc.

Agricultural Research

For most of the countries of the region, this is of prime importance. But the research must not be limited to just the better growing of existing crops to produce better yields, but must be directed to adding some value to these especially those for the export market. In fact we must look to the day when we no longer import raw materials but develop these into products that have a special niche in the market place.

On the question of Energy and New Technologies such as micro-processors and bio technologies, here again we must begin to think "big" and though these technologies are thought by some to be too advanced for us, we must begin to work in these fields now, so that when they reach the stage of commercial use we are in a position to use them and not wait until they become obsolete in the developed world before they are passed on to us.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of the Council, invited guests, though I would love to go on both you and I have other work to catch up on, and there will be other times when our dialogue can continue. Let me leave you with one final plea.

Most of you here have some influence with your respective Governments, and I urge you to use that influence to ask for a greater commitment out of the public and private purse for the development of Science and Technology of these regions.

This will be an investment for the future, an investment which may not pay short term dividends, but which will bring rich rewards for our future generations.

ANNEX II

ADDRESS OF THE UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CARIBBEAN

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Minister, distinguished members of the Council, observers, colleagues from the international agencies, ladies and gentlemen.

It is an honour for me, on behalf of the Director General of UNESCO, to share with you a few observations on the occasion of the Second Plenary Session of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology, and from this optique to give you some idea of our ongoing work in this all-important field in the Caribbean.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, UNESCO has been involved, and still is involved in a very fundamental way in the efforts of the past several years to establish the Council.

We have helped, as far as we could, the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee and the Port-of-Spain Office of the Economic Commission for Latin America, in their efforts to carry out the mandates of the Governments in the establishment of the Council. Let me assure you, Sir, that our involvement in activities of this nature are, of necessity, on a continuing basis. We intend - to the extent of our limited resources - to continue to provide whatever help and assistance we can, provided that is the wish of the Member States of the region.

In this manner, in the field of Science and Technology, we hope that we will be able to act as a kind of catalyst to ensure that the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology becomes the vital and necessary institution which all well-wishers desire it to be.

Mr. Chairman, judging from your statutes, the job of work which your Council has set itself is difficult in the extreme, but it is a job which must be done, and a job of work which is basic to the growth and development of the entire region. Judging from the atmosphere which attended the deliberations yesterday of the international agencies here present, you may rest assured Mr. Chairman - if I may be so bold to speak on behalf of my colleagues without their specific mandate - you may rest assured

that we are all equally committed to helping in this task of development of the region's scientific and technological potential.

Mr. Chairman, from my limited perspective as a bureaucrat and an international paper pusher, and also from my constant contact and discussion with officials of the Governments of the twenty countries which our Kingston office must serve, the tasks confronting the Member States themselves in this sector are indeed formidable.

The sustained work needed at the national level in order to understand the complex issues of a sector growing more and more complex with each passing moment requires a new kind of commitment and a different kind of dedication on the part of all of us who are involved in this task.

The tasks involve the formulation of national Science and Technology policies; establishing the necessary institutional framework; identifying priorities for scientific and technological development; budgetary analysis and programming of expenditures in Science and Technology; establishing national Science and Technology information and documentation services; preparing an inventory of national Science and Technology potential; drawing up a national plan for the development of national networks of Science and Technology services and advanced training of technical staff for policy institutions.

On the other hand, there is the urgent and critical need for developing the human resources in this sector. Gaps have to be identified in training at the tertiary level, while at the same time questions have to be addressed which include improvements to the school curriculum, particularly at the primary level. Basic to all this is the development and execution of strategies to raise the public consciousness and appreciation of Science and Technology.

At the regional level, these tasks are not made any easier by the fact that for the most part, each Caribbean country has attained different levels of sophistication in so far as exploiting national scientific and technological potential is concerned. It therefore

appears to us that before one begins to address the question of what help can be provided at the regional level, any regional or sub-regional strategy will have to take account of the capacity of the stronger helping the weaker. This concept is fundamental to the philosophy which guides the CCST.

In this area of international assistance, Mr Chairman, one of our continuing concerns is the need for developing a truly effective system for the exchange of information and knowledge among the international agencies, and between the bi-lateral aid donors in this sector. It is of critical importance that we all know what each other is doing. Since the ultimate beneficiary in this process of development assistance is the citizen of the member state, then lack of information and duplication of effort can only lead to the situation in which the Governments of the member states do not develop and direct policy, but are subject to adopting positions which are a reflection of the views expressed by the last visitor in the Minister's office. And since we are also visitors we can speak with some authority on this question.

This then Mr Chairman, is the backdrop against which we see our work in the region.

As you know, Sir, we live in an era of diminishing resources, both nationally and internationally, as well as an era in which costs are constantly rising. At the same time, we are all required to deliver programmes which are more relevant and certainly more cost-effective. We therefore have to be continually concerned with the development of approaches and strategies which permit us to do better jobs with less. It is a formidable task also, but it is one which we are certain we can achieve with the continued help of the member states.

In this regard, we have been most fortunate over the past several years to have the assistance of Dr. Dennis Irvine who is undoubtedly one of the region's leading scientists and academicians. Dr. Irvine, in addition to his international responsibilities has

been the leading figure in the establishment of the CCST, as he has been in so many other ventures. He completed for us in 1980 a status report of scientific and technological development of the countries of the Caribbean. He is currently up-dating this report which will shortly be presented to the member states of the area as the main background document for the first meeting of Ministers responsible for Science and Technology which it is hoped will be held during the first quarter of 1983.

This meeting, and the issues which it will examine, some of which I have already touched on, is being jointly sponsored by CARICOM, the United Nations Development Programme, and UNESCO. The contributions of the CCST, the UN Fund for Science and Technology for Development, the CDCC, the Caribbean Development Bank and the rest of the international community will be of crucial importance to its success.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, the Director General of UNESCO intends to appoint our Regional Adviser for Science and Technology at the beginning of January 1983, and he will be responsible for developing and executing our programme of work in response to the specific wishes of the member states of the area. It is clear that a strong CCST will be of inestimable value to this process of strengthening the ability of the region to deal with the growing complexities in this field of endeavour.

As I said before, Mr. Chairman, we stand ready to be of whatever assistance is required of us in the exciting and challenging times which lie ahead.

I thank you.

ANNEX III

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AT SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF CCST

1. CCST Member Countries

GUYANA	Ulric Trotz Director Institute of Applied Science and Technology P.O. Box 791 University Campus, Turkeyen Greater Georgetown	Tel: 65072
JAMAICA	M. O. Hamilton Executive Director Scientific Research Council P.O. Box 350 Kingston 6	Tel: 92-74471-4
	Merline Smith Head Technical Information Service Scientific Research Council P.O. Box 350 Kingston 6	Tel: 92-74471-4
ST. VINCENT + THE GRENADINES	Erica McIntosh Head Agrolab P.O. Box 748 Kingstown	Tel: 61111, Ext.12
SURINAME	A. Amstelveen Geologist Planning Bureau Dr. Sophie Redmonstr 116-118 Paramaribo	Tel: 73146
	Iwan Kortram Head Project Evaluation Division Planning Bureau Dr. Sophe Redmonstr 116-118 Paramaribo	Tel: 73146

TRINIDAD + TOBAGO	Terrence Baden-Semper Acting High Commissioner Imperial Life Building 60 Knutsford Boulevard Kingston 5	Tel: 92-65730/9

2. Observers

ANTIGUA + BARBUDA	Hayden Thomas Government Chief Chemist Chemistry + Food Technology Division Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries Dunbars	Tel: 24502 or 20027
BARBADOS	George Smith Executive Secretary National Council for Science and Technology "Flodden" Colloden Road Bridgetown	Tel: 63866
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Virgilio Malagon Alvarez Oficina Nacional de Planificación Secretariado Técnico de la Presidencia Santo Domingo	Tel: 687-4181
HAITI	Jacques Lorthé Directeur Général Office National de Technologie Rue Lambert No.48 P.O. Box 15536 Petion-Ville	Tel: 71717, 70972
MONTSERRAT	Joseph Daniel Energy + Metrology Officer Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Lands and Housing Groves	Tel: 2075/6
NETHERLANDS ANTILLES	Sultan Saab Department of Economic Affairs Derouvilleweg No.7 Willemstad	Tel: 26400

	Cedric Eisden University of the Netherlands Antilles Jan Noordujnweg No.111 Willemstad	Tel: 84422
ST. KITTS-NEVIS	Arlene C. Edwards Economic Clerk Church Street Basseterre	Tel: 2715

3. Inter-governmental Organizations

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT	Fay Housty Senior Economist (Ag) CARICOM Secretariat P.O. Box 10827 Georgetown	Tel: 69281-9
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK	Carolyn Cozier Project Officer (Communications) Technology and Energy Unit (TEU) P.O. Box 408 Wildey St. Michael	Tel: 61152/80942
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES	Manuel Marí Project Officer Science Policy Organisation of American States 17th Street and Constitution Av. N.W. Washington DC 20006	Tel: (202) 789-3359
COMMONWEALTH SCIENCE COUNCIL	M.N.G.A. Khan Deputy Secretary Commonwealth Science Council Commonwealth Secretariat Marlborough House Pall Mall London SW1 5Hx	Tel: (01) 839 3411

4. United Nations System

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

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UNESCO Representative to the Caribbean
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United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSSTD)

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United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Herman Van Asbroeck
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World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

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CDCC Secretariat (ECLA/CDCC)

John A. Spence
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ANNEX IV

CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

A G E N D A

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Chairman's Report: 1981-82
3. (i) Report of First Plenary Meeting
   (ii) Report of First Executive Committee Meeting
   (iii) Report of Second Executive Committee Meeting
4. Membership of the Netherlands Antilles
5. Annual Report and Balance Sheet
6. Review of Work Programme 1981-82
7. (i) Report of Agency Meeting
   (ii) Sensitizing decision-makers on the value of Science and Technology in economic development
8. Future Role of CCST
9. CCST Programme 1983-85
10. CCST Budget 1983-85
11. Election of Officers to Council for 1982-83
12. (i) Executive Committee Meetings - Dates, Venues, Agenda
    (ii) Third Plenary Meeting - Date, Venue, Agenda
13. Any Other Business
14. Consideration of Draft Report and Recommendations
15. Remarks from Agency Representatives
16. Chairman's Remarks
17. Vote of Thanks

ANNEX V

THE CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 1981-82

As international organizations go, the CCST had a short gestation period. Five years after the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) agreed to its establishment and commissioned UNESCO to undertake the feasibility study, the Council had its inaugural meeting in Barbados, from 29th June - 2nd July, 1981. The Statutes had provided for the holding of the first meeting once six (6) countries had deposited instruments of their ratification. At the time of the inaugural meeting nine (9) countries had deposited instruments: Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Membership of the Netherlands Antilles is on the agenda of this Second Plenary Meeting of the Council, and, in anticipation, legal opinion has been sought as to the powers of the Council in this matter. Belize, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti have signified that steps are in train for their ratification of the Statutes, and we look forward to their being with us on the next occasion as members rather than as observers. We also look forward to having Barbados with us soon. The Government has expressed interest in membership, but as yet there has been no indication of a firm commitment.

It is timely to remind member countries, who have not yet done so, to inform the Secretariat of their nominees on the Council. The Statutes permit nomination of two (2) persons, one of whom must be a scientist. The number two was purposely chosen, in the hope that Governments would use the second nominee to be represented on the Council at senior official level. I urge Governments to take up this option, since the effectiveness of the CCST will be greatly enhanced if there is dialogue between scientists, and planners and decision-makers.

At the first Plenary Meeting of the Council the formula agreed upon for funding of the operational cost of the CCST for 1981 and 1982 was as follows:

1981: US$4,000 for MDC's
US$1,000 for LDC's

1982: US$8,000 for MDC's
US$2,000 for LDC's

Among members, Cuba, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago were categorized as MDC's, and Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines as LDC's. Payments have not been as prompt as one would have liked and this has complicated and slowed down somewhat the work of the Council. I implore members to encourage their Governments to pay their dues promptly. If we are to persuade external aid agencies to give financial support to the Council, the very least we can do is show that we are prepared to meet operational costs.

The decision to agree on funding for two years in the first instance, was influenced by the desirability to leave open for this Second Plenary Meeting the whole issue of CCST's Secretariat in the long-term. Recognizing the crucial importance of having its own Secretariat, Council had agreed to submit for the consideration of CDCC at its Sixth Session a budget for a permanent CCST Secretariat. The budget called for an annual recurrent expenditure of US$237,000, and capital expenditure of US$50,000. It seems very unlikely that Governments will be willing to entertain this level of contribution at this time, and the Council will therefore have to formally request the ECLA Secretariat to continue to service its operations for a further period. This may perhaps be a blessing, for given the various initiatives and activities of other organizations in the region in the areas of science and technology, some thought needs to be given to the distinctive role the CCST should play. The nature and size of the permanent Secretariat will clearly depend on what is decided.

The tardy payment of dues to a large extent hindered implementation of the Work Programme which was decided on at the First Plenary. Of the six projects identified progress was viable in only two: Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities and Establishment of a Science and Technology Journal of the CCST. With the assistance of a grant of US$15,000 from UNIFESTD, a Workshop on Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities was held in Suriname from 12-16 October, 1981. The workshop agreed on the format to be used in conducting the assessment and some countries have begun compiling data. However, the LDC's have been experiencing difficulties in carrying out the survey and will clearly need both financial and technical assistance if they are to participate in the project. It is worth emphasising the importance of the project, for the data which the assessment is intended to provide is crucial to regional cooperation in science and technology on a systematic basis.

The establishment of a Science and Technology Journal is being actively pursued. Articles have been commissioned for the first volume, and a publishing firm in Trinidad and Tobago has shown interest in publishing the Journal on a regular basis. Council should give some thought to the future of such a Journal, particularly in respect of its editorial policy.

As part of its strategy for co-ordinating S+T activities and identifying priorities for action, the CCST had decided to establish Working Groups in the following fields: Energy; Transfer of Technology and Patents; Information Systems; Agricultural Research; Marine Affairs (including Fisheries); Health; Universities; the Industrial Sector and other Private and Public Sector Institutions; New Technologies. Apart from the Working Group in Agricultural Research, membership of the Groups is still to be finalised. This is due to the slow response by member Governments for nominees, and I would ask the assistance of members of Council in this regard. Through the Working Groups CCST can make a valuable contribution to the development of science and technology in the region, by evaluating what is currently being done and suggesting future directions and lines of actions in various sectors.

One Government (Dominica) has so far given legal status to the CCST by an Act of Parliament. A copy of the Act has been transmitted to other Governments requesting that they initiate similar action to have CCST legally recognized in their countries. Responses are still awaited.

With just over one year of existence, CCST can be said to have made a promising, though hardly spectacular, beginning. One year is a short time in the life of an organization, and perhaps too early to try to attempt any kind of reappraisal. Yet certain issues facing CCST are already becoming apparent, and some consideration of these issues even now may well be advantageous for its future. Some of the issues I should like to draw to the Council's attention are:

1. The relationships of CCST with CARICOM, particularly with the impending establishment of a Standing Committee of Ministers in CARICOM countries responsible for Science and Technology;

2. The role of CCST, in the light of the various initiatives and activities, of other agencies in science and technology in the region;

3. Funding for CCST, both for operational costs and projects. As regards the latter, it is clearly evident that CCST will be in competition with other agencies for funds from much the same external sources.

I believe that a resolution of these issues, if only in part, should be a matter of serious consideration by members of Council at this Second Plenary Meeting. Your decisions would be of invaluable help and guidance to the Executive Committee and the Secretariat, who will have the responsibility of furthering the work of the CCST in the period between now and the Third Plenary Meeting.

I conclude this report on a personal note, by saying how honoured I have been to have served as the first Chairman of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology. I am grateful for the co-operation I have received from members of the Executive who shared with me the burden of leadership, and also from Mr. John Spence, who in his capacity of Director of Science and Technology in the ECLA Secretariat, brought to the service of the CCST the attributes of wisdom, imagination and dedication. I offer best wishes to my successor, and pray that over the next year CCST will progress from the uncertain and faltering steps of infancy to the bold and confident strides of the healthy child.

Finally, on behalf of the Council, I should like to express gratitude to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development (UNIFESTD) and UNESCO for their helpful financial contributions. We hope that we can continue to count on their support as we embark on another year of activities, and trust that other funding agencies will emulate their example, thus adding to the help we need to make reality of our efforts to serve the region in the vital task of applying science and technology to the cause of development.

D. H. Irvine
20 October 1982

ANNEX VI

SUBMISSION OF THE DELEGATION OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES OF THE AGENDA ITEM "MEMBERSHIP OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES IN THE CCST"

Mr. Chairman, distinguished Delegates,

Speaking on behalf of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles I would like to express our deep satisfaction and sincere gratitude to the Secretariat of the CCST for giving special consideration to the Agenda item "Membership of the Netherlands Antilles in the CCST", in view of the fact that our country is now an associate member of the CDCC.

Since the establishment of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology at the Kingston Meeting in April 1980, the Netherlands Antilles have shown considerable interest for full participation within this Council. Proof of this is the fact that our government last year has informed the Secretariat that it took a positive decision with regard to its membership of the CCST.

Meanwhile the long desired associate membership of ECLA was accomplished, May last year. This result was indeed a positive step in the formalisation of our relations with the CCST. However during the process of becoming a full member of the CCST we have been confronted with the necessity of an interpretation of article 4 and 31 of the Charter concerning the membership of the CCST.

Mr. Chairman,

The ad-referendum signature of the Netherlands Antilles has up to now not been ratified by our government, due to our particular constitutional status within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

As you all know the Kingdom of the Netherlands consists of two equal parts: the Netherlands in Europe and the Netherlands Antilles in the Caribbean. The constitutional relations between the two parts are set out in the Charter of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. As is determined by the Charter, foreign relations i.e. the conclusion of international agreements are kingdom matters which are taken care of by the Kingdom as a whole. Consequently only the Kingdom as a whole has treaty-making powers.

However, according to articles 26 and 28 of the Charter, the Kingdom shall conclude international agreements, respectively become member of the International Organisations strictly on behalf of the Netherlands Antilles, if the Government of the Netherlands Antilles so expresses the wish.

In this regard the signing by the Kingdom on behalf of the Netherlands Antilles of the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Aviation Training Institute in 1973 can be mentioned.

In view of the above the Agreement establishing the CCST has in the case of the Netherlands Antilles to be signed by the Kingdom of the Netherlands and will be applicable to the Netherlands Antilles only. Furthermore the Agreement can only be ratified after approval by the Parliament has been received.

The positive interpretation given by this Council will certainly accelerate the process of ratification.

Mr. Chairman, in the light of the above, it should be clear that although the international relations of the Netherlands Antilles are taken care of by the Kingdom of the Netherlands, a system has been developed according to which prior to its full independence the Netherlands Antilles have a substantial degree of autonomy with regards to specific international relations especially when they concern relations within the Latin American and the Caribbean region.

Mr. Chairman, the possibility for full participation within the CCST, as expressed here today, supports the policy of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles in view of its systematical approach to look for its own international identity and to play a fuller role in our region. My Government therefore is sincere in its intention to intensify our ties with the region and to continue exploring opportunities for co-operative action. In strengthening our participation within the mechanisms for regional co-operation my government attaches special importance to the CCST as an essential instrument for the development and application of appropriate technology in order to achieve the social, economic and cultural goals of its policy.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I want to express our satisfaction at the recognition of our involvement in the CCST. I would like to seize this opportunity to stress our intention to become a member of this Council and to express our continued support and commitment to the activities of the CCST in our region.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

ANNEX VII

REPORT OF MEETING WITH AGENCIES WHICH SPONSOR REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

2 November 1982 - Kingston, Jamaica

In his opening remarks the Chairman outlined the background to the Meeting and emphasised the need for a regionally coordinated programme in Science and Technology especially in view of the impending Meeting of Regional Ministers responsible for Science and Technology. He explained that a fully coordinated S+T programme would:

(i) eliminate the gaps within the individual projects;

(ii) place a greater emphasis on mobilising and developing indigenous human resources;

(iii) harness more quickly and efficiently the financial resources available to S+T activities within the region;

(iv) assist the smaller territories both in discriminating amongst the various offers of assistance as well as in better management of the assistance which they received;

(v) develop a regional and more rational approach to technology transfer.

He was also confident that one of the major agenda items for the Meeting of Ministers would be the consideration of how S+T projects impacted on national development and it would therefore be useful if the various Agencies could arrive at a general consensus on how their various forms of assistance in S+T to the region could be rationalised.

The representatives from the various agencies were then invited to make individual presentations after which there was a wide-ranging debate on the modalities for coordination and rationalisation of S+T activities within the Caribbean region. From the ensuing discussions it became evident that there was urgent need for regional collaboration in S+T activities so as to enhance their impact within the Caribbean.

Several examples were quoted to illustrate that most Governments and/or institutions were trying to cope individually with the issues of rationalisation, internal coordination and mobilisation of finances for S+T and therefore some mechanism would have to be created for pooling resources so as to ensure coherence of projects and moreover to demarcate certain areas of responsibility. For this to be accomplished, projects must be seen

as comprising a common framework of activity which harmonised with an overall strategy for regional development.

The representative from the United Nations Funding System for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSSTD) observed that many agencies, because of their financial influence, mistakenly assumed the role of policy-makers and in several instances the actual selection of projects was not based on sufficiently factual information. He therefore suggested that the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST), as a regional intergovernmental agency, should be regarded as the main policy-making organisation and should be involved in the preliminary selection of projects.

The UNESCO representative in agreeing with the observation, cited a current example of three agencies providing separate support for basically one regional project but from individual perceptions of needs and requirements. The acceptance of a rational framework of S+T activities would therefore allow the political decision-makers to be more selective in their choice of projects, by directing agencies to pool their several efforts for the eventual benefit of the region.

The representative from the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) observed that a serious problem endemic to developing countries was that the number of staff in most national planning ministries was limited and (apart from some notable exceptions) had only recently acquired skills in coordinating and assessing the impact of S+T on development. He therefore regarded CCST as providing a perfect interface between the politician and the technician and proposed that the Council should undertake an analysis of the assistance in S+T provided to each territory in the region (as had been done for education by UNESCO). The information obtained would be used to elaborate a mechanism for incorporating S+T within development strategies.

The Commonwealth Science Council (CSC) representative observed that despite the tremendous amount of interest in S+T, the considerable financial inputs and the enormous needs of the region, there were still several areas of neglect within the projects. For example, no one project focused specifically on such important issues as human resource development;

transfer of technology or the formulation of a regional policy for Science and Technology, all of which would cumulatively enhance the impact of the various individual projects and enable countries to be more selective both in the project implementation and in the assistance that would be required.

The representative from the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) informed the meeting that the Centre was presently undertaking a survey to determine the extent to which the Vienna Action Programme was being implemented in various countries. It was agreed that the results of the survey for the Caribbean region would be useful parallel information and the UNCSTD representative was asked to make the data available to CCST when the exercise was completed.

The comments of the various representatives followed a similar vein and there were specific offers of assistance to formulate a regional collaborative programme from CDB, CSC and OAS.

The meeting therefore recommended that:

(i) CCST should coordinate a regional collaborative programme in three phases:

Phase One

A document should be prepared itemizing all the activities in S+T of the various agencies within the region together with their specific interests.

Phase Two

The above document will be discussed by a small sub-committee of CCST which will attempt to demarcate areas of responsibility amongst the various agencies and along the lines of their specific concerns. This document could then be discussed by CCST at a plenary meeting to ensure consensus.

Phase Three

As an official CCST document it could then be forwarded to the various member governments for their modification and/or approval. Once general approval was obtained the document could also be used to elaborate a regional policy in Science and Technology.

(ii) An annual inter-agency meeting should be held immediately prior to the plenary meeting of CCST;

(iii) The generous offer from OAS to sponsor a consultant to undertake Phase One of (i) and at least one inter-agency meeting should be accepted; and

(iv) CCST should pursue the offers from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Commonwealth Science Council (CSC) to sponsor a regional seminar/workshop on the Management of Research.

ANNEX VIII

CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST) STATEMENT OF RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD 29 JUNE 1981 - 31 JULY 1982

INTRODUCTION

Article 29 of the CCST Statutes requires the preparation of an Annual Balance Sheet.

At the First Plenary Session of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology it was recommended that CCST Member States contribute in cash to the CCST Budget, in accordance with the following schedule, to 31 December 1982:

	U.S. Dollars	
	Second Half of 1981	1982
LDC's 1/	1,000	2,000
MDC's 2/	4,000	8,000

It was also agreed that the members of the Executive Committee would be authorised to identify and seek additional sources of funding.

It should be noted that for the year in question CDCC has provided secretariat support to CCST, consequently there is no expenditure in this area.

1/ Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

2/ Cuba, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, Haiti, Trinidad + Tobago.

Expected Income from Contributions (1981 and 1982)

MDC's	US$	LDC's	US$
Cuba	12,000	Dominica	3,000
Guyana	12,000	Grenada	3,000
Jamaica	12,000	St. Lucia	3,000
Suriname	12,000	St. Vincent + the Grenadines	3,000
Trinidad + Tobago	12,000		$12,000
	$60,000		

TOTAL: US$72,000

Realized Income from Contributions

	US$
Trinidad + Tobago	4,035.00
Suriname	3,995.42
Guyana	12,000.00
Jamaica	12,000.00
	$32,030.42

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

RECEIPTS	US$	EXPENDITURE	US$
UNESCO	11,000.00	First Plenary/Executive Committee Meetings	9,000.00
Interim Fund (S+T Workshop)	15,000.00	Disbursement to UNESCO	2,000.00
Contributions	32,030.42	S+T Capabilities Workshop	15,000.00
TOTAL	$58,030.42	Temporary Employee	700.00
		Second Executive Committee Meeting (Guyana)	1,241.00
		TOTAL	27,941.00
		BALANCE	30,089.42
			$58,030.42

It should be noted that although Guyana and Jamaica have gotten permission from their respective Governments to pay the subscriptions, foreign exchange constraints do not permit the transfer to the Secretariat. However, for Guyana, some of the money was used for hosting the Second Executive Committee Meeting; Jamaica is using the same strategy for this meeting. The remaining amounts are being held in special accounts in these countries for the CCST.