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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
Office for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

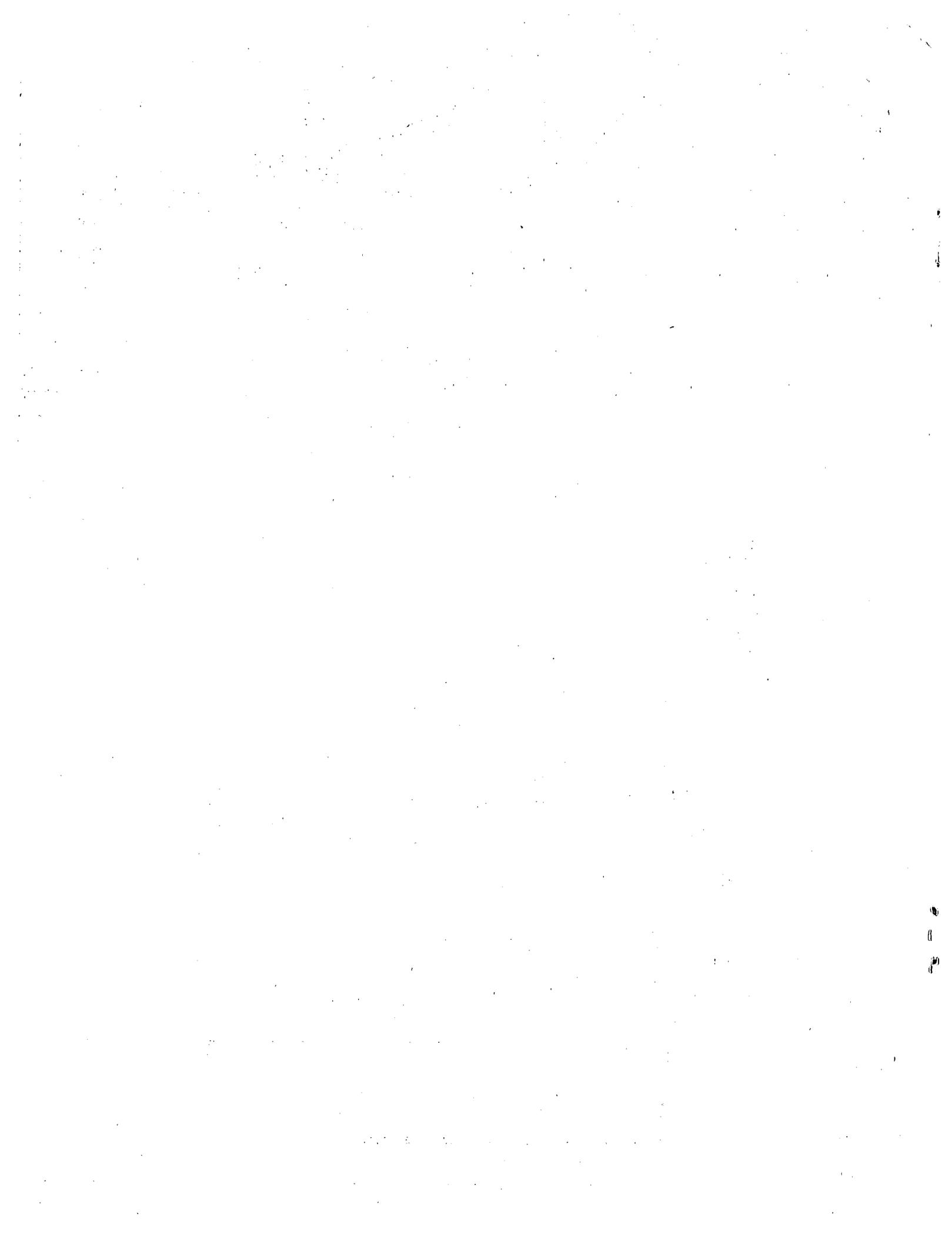
Fourth Session  
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IMPLICATIONS FOR CDCC OF  
PERTINENT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER UN BODIES



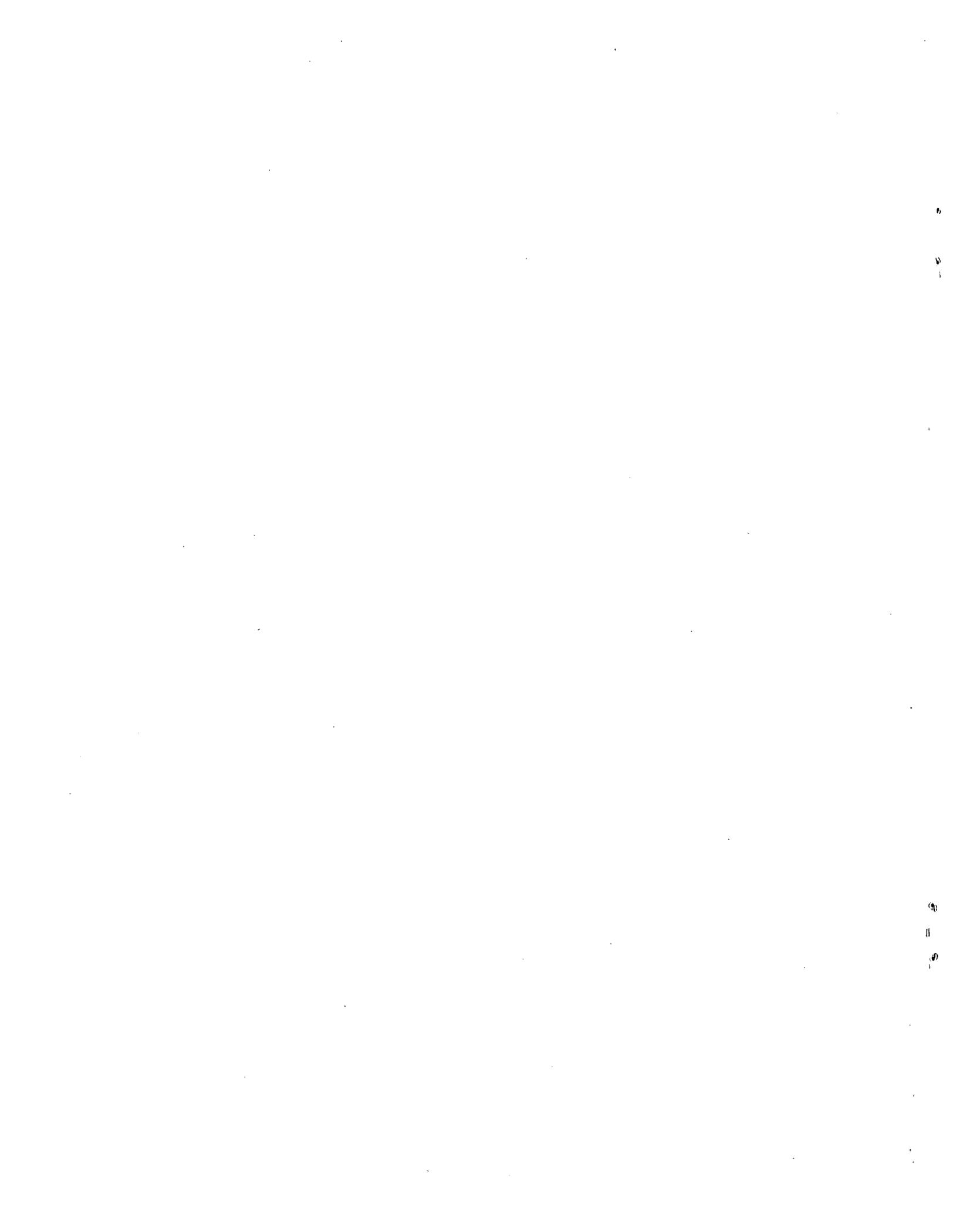
UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean



CONTENTS

	<u>Pages</u>
(a) Conference on Economic Development in the Caribbean and Creation of the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development (CGCED)	1 - 6
(b) Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries	7 - 9



(a)

CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
IN THE CARIBBEAN AND CREATION OF THE  
CARIBBEAN GROUP FOR CO-OPERATION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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The Resolution 3 (III) adopted by the CDCC at its third session, was:

"MINDFUL of the need to avoid duplication of efforts and the inefficient use of resources in the identification, planning and implementation of regional projects and programmes.

RECOMMENDS that the C.D.C.C. Secretariat study the most appropriate co-ordination between the C.D.C.C. projects and programmes and any regional activities of the Caribbean Group for Economic Co-operation (the Consultative Group). And

REQUESTS the CEPAL Secretariat to serve as liaison between the C.D.C.C. and the Consultative Group to ensure that such co-ordination is achieved."

Establishment of the CGCED

The Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development (CGCED) held its first meeting at the IBRD in Washington on June 19-24. The CDCC Secretariat was represented by the Director of the CEPAL Office for the Caribbean and the Director and other staff of CEPAL Washington Office. The Group was informed of the CDCC programme and priorities and that the aspects in the papers presented to the Group concerning regional projects related most closely to CDCC on-going activities in maritime and air transportation.

The text of the above resolution was also circulated to the meeting in which most CDCC member countries participated.

There were discussions on, and commitments given for Balance of Payments support, in addition to reviews of technical assistance projects and proposals at national and various multi-country levels.

In accordance with the terms of Resolution 3 (III) the CDCC Secretariat concentrated its attention on the proposals before the meeting for regional projects and programmes.

The main decisions of the CGCED Meeting may be briefly summarized as follows:

- i) the establishment of a Caribbean Development Facility; (CDF) as a mechanism for channelling foreign assistance resources to help finance essential imports and to offer supplementary financing to assist in the execution of development programmes and projects; and
- ii) the creation of a Technical Assistance Steering Committee to assist the Caribbean countries in formulating technical assistance projects and mobilising new financial resources for their implementation. The membership of this Committee is UNDP (Chairman), World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Caribbean Development Bank, CARICOM and CEPAL (CDCC); the ECCM Secretariat will participate in work associated with the CARICOM LDC's.

The Technical Assistance Steering Committee was entrusted with the following functions:

- (a) Preparation and maintenance of an inventory of identified technical assistance projects requiring financing. This will permit a co-ordinated review of the technical assistance needs of the region as a whole;
- (b) Establishment of priorities in consultation with countries and regional organizations, for technical assistance projects consistent with national and regional development programs and plans;
- (c) Assistance to countries in developing a greater capacity to prepare technical assistance project documents. Until such capacity is developed, countries will receive assistance in the preparation of project documents required in order to obtain financing. These documents would describe

the technical assistance activity, its objectives, manpower requirements and costs. In many instances, inability to prepare adequate project documents has prevented financing of technical assistance projects;

- (d) In preparation for country subgroup and full Caribbean Group meetings, the Steering Committee will cause to be prepared technical assistance project profiles or summaries to be presented along with the project profiles on capital projects that are presented to donors and recipients; and
- (e) Assistance to countries and regional organizations in obtaining financing.

The Technical Assistance Steering Committee

The Technical Assistance Steering Committee held its first meeting in Barbados on 31 August - 1 September 1978. This meeting was preceded by technical meetings on Transport and on Industrial Development, as well as by an informal meeting with representatives of bilateral and multi-lateral lending agencies. The Steering Committee agreed on the following regional development assistance proposals.

(1) Shipping Statistics for the Caribbean 1977/1978

The proposed starting date was October 1978 with CEPAL (CDCC) as the executing agency, and UNDP funding the project (\$50,000).

(2) Support for Small Vessels and Schooners

Starting date October 1978 with CARICOM as executing agency, and UNDP funding the project (\$13,000).

(3) Caribbean Container Distribution and Load Center Port Study

Starting date October 1978 with the CDB as executing agency, and the IBRD funding the project (\$9,000).

(4) Study of Port Authority Legislation, Functions and Management Structures

The proposed starting date January 1979 with the CDB as executing agency, and the IDB funding the project (\$13,000).

(5) Caribbean Airport Maintenance and Operations Study

Proposed starting date January 1979 with ICAO as executing agency. The total cost was estimated at \$227,000 with the CDB/IDB to provide 50%, Haiti and the Dominican Republic 30% and the UNDP the remainder covering the Netherlands Antilles and Suriname.

(6) Analysis of LIAT Fleet Requirements and Routing Structure

Proposed starting date January 1979 with ICAO as executing agency, and the CDB funding the project (\$102,000).

(7) Establishment of a Caribbean Air Transport Board or Council

Proposed starting date September/October 1978 with the IBRD as executing agency, with IBRD funding(\$14,000).

(8) Study of Incentives and Protection in the Caribbean

Proposed starting date December 1978 with the IBRD as executing agency, and IBRD funding (\$25,000).

(9) CARICOM and MDC/LDC Management Training Programme

Proposed starting date November 1978 with CARICOM as executing agency, and IDB/CDB funding the project (\$20,000).

(10) Preparation of a Priority List of Sub-Sectors to be Programmed under the Proposed CARICOM Industrial Programming Scheme

Proposed starting date January 1978 with the CDB as executing agency, and IDB/CDB funding the project (\$75,000).

A proposal entitled identification of priorities and elaboration of detailed programme of action needed for tourism in the Caribbean was tabled by the CEPAL (CDCC) and the Steering Committee agreed that the IDB should convene a meeting in Washington during the first week of October 1978 inviting the IBRD, CTTC, World Tourism Organization and CEPAL (CDCC) in order to consider this proposal together with all other proposals relating to tourism in the Caribbean. At this Washington Meeting a proposal on tourism was agreed on for submission to the second meeting of the Steering Committee.

A technical meeting on Agriculture was convened under the Steering Committee in Barbados on 12-13 December 1978. Proposals were agreed on Agricultural Research, Agricultural Marketing, Huckster Trade, ECCM Sub-Regional Marketing Information System and on Manpower Training and Rural Development. These proposals would be submitted at the second meeting of the Steering Committee.

The second meeting of the Technical Assistance Steering Committee was scheduled for 15-16 March 1979 in Antigua.

#### CDCC/CGCED Co-ordination

The CDCC Secretariat has participated in the meetings of the Group and the Steering Committee including the technical meetings on transport, industrial development, tourism and agriculture. The CDCC Secretariat is the executing agency for the project on shipping statistics for the Caribbean.

So far there is effective co-ordination in on-going activities of the two groups in maritime and air transportation, the field of regional projects on which the IBRD ideas were most clearly enunciated, and almost entirely coincided with the content of the programme approved for transport at the last CDCC session. The proposals before the CGCED for regional projects and programmes in agriculture and industry were very tentative, the emphasis being on national production projects.

Given the financial orientation and donor/recipient relationship of the CGCED, it seems the prime area for co-ordination will revolve around having full cognizance taken of CDCC programme priorities. It needs to be borne in mind that many CDCC activities are outside the purely economic projects, and concern mutual technical co-operation with the bias in favour of socio-economic activities. It is also evident that the results of further investigation within the CGCED of the possibilities for regional projects will not differ much from what is identified and specified by the governments in the CDCC Work Programme. There is, however, the difference in strategies inherent in the donor/recipient relationship and the CDCC emphasis on higher self-reliance.

Ensuring that the CDCC priorities are harmonised with CGCED operations in fact will mean assisting the Caribbean countries to bring their priorities, as the countries perceive them, to bear on the choice of projects for regional technical assistance. This means less emphasis on those projects that can facilitate the structural social and economic changes which the countries seek to improve intra-Caribbean co-operation.

The role of the CDCC Secretariat in the framework of the CGCED could therefore be considered as -

- endeavouring to ensure that appropriate priority be given to regional projects consistent with the priorities within the CDCC;
- linking up, where feasible, of national projects to the sub-region as a whole;
- promoting the correlation of financing to the CDCC Work Programme;
- harmonising the activities of the CDCC and the World Bank Group

(b)

CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION  
AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

TCDC Orientation and Scope

The main decision of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among developing countries urged all Governments, the entire United Nations development system and the international community as a whole, to take effective action for implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, through the application of its recommendations. The concepts and objectives accord very closely to the orientation and programme of the CDCC, and provides for the first time a full frame at the global level that corresponds with these collective aspirations of the Caribbean countries.

In defining the TCDC actions that can assist the CDCC, the multi-dimensional aspect has to be borne in mind, in that such activities can be bilateral or multilateral in scope. Also the TCDC frame accords with the CDCC objective that actions organized by and between Governments permit for the participation of public organizations, private organizations and individuals as appropriate.

The TCDC recommendations for action at national level include the adoption of policies and regulations favouring technical co-operation, and the organization of flexible mechanisms incorporated into national development programmes that facilitate bilateral and multilateral co-operative actions. These include the strengthening and co-ordination of information systems, the promotion of national research and training centres with multi-national scope, oriented to the sharing of policy experiences in science and technology, the strengthening of cultural and education programmes, and generally promoting greater national and collective self-reliance.

The recommendations for actions at the sub-regional level include the strengthening of existing institutions so that they can better serve the mutual interests of the Governments in high-priority substantive

areas; the identification and innovations of co-operation measures; the promotion of joint projects in economic productive sectors exploiting the potentials for complementarities the products of which would have preferential access to the markets of the parties concerned in the sub-region; and the strengthening of linkages among national organizations working to resolve developmental problems.

CDCC activities that could benefit from TCDC support

The work that CDCC has pursued place the Caribbean countries in a very good position to take advantage of the TCDC possibilities for support from the UN system. The Caribbean Council for Science and Technology, for example, can immediately when it is inaugurated, identify the support that is needed to enable the national institutions and the sub-regional co-operation mechanism to function efficiently.

Similarly it becomes possible to define TCDC support for advancing the work on elimination of language barriers. The putting together of sub-regional language researchers and trainers into a team for meeting some of the needs in the countries is one aspect that falls clearly within the TCDC definition, and as such could be supported by the UN bodies.

There are possibilities too, for mutual assistance between the countries where specialist expertise from one country can be temporarily assigned to assist another in instituting methodologies or techniques. In such cases the incidental expenses would constitute a valid request for TCDC support.

One area to which CDCC could give attention, is in the TCDC support that is possible for support of measures in favour of newly independent countries. Already the CDCC meeting of Librarians and Documentalists identified the need of a special programme for the LDC's to establish an information documentation base to assist their planning efforts, and to enable them to draw on the wider Caribbean information system.

Transport and communications which are particularly vital to the Caribbean countries was one area singled out at the global conference for TCDC treatment. The recommendation requires that on the basis of studies carried out by the countries themselves, and by the organizations of the

UN system when so required, specific and sustained efforts be made to strengthen, improve and maintain all means of transport and communications between the countries.

To ensure effective co-operation, it is necessary to identify and assemble information on technical assistance requirements, the capacities within the countries themselves, the various potential mechanisms and institutional networks, and the strategies that are suitable to the Caribbean circumstances.

For these purposes the CDCC Secretariat should be authorized as the channel for these activities, within the framework of the co-ordination activity it is mandated to perform within the UN system.

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ANNEX

A very preliminary listing of some items within the range of CDCC activities that could be appropriate for assistance within the framework of TCDC would include:

REMOVAL OF LANGUAGE BARRIERS

Caribbean Workshop on Modern Approaches to the teaching of Foreign Languages.

National workshops on the same subject matter.

Training course for translators and interpreters.

CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY and COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Implementation of work programmes.

CARIBBEAN MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISE FOR THE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED AND AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

/Implementation of the joint actions that would emerge from the UNESCO/CEPAL feasibility study./

CENTRES FOR CULTURAL RETRIEVAL AND ANIMATION

/Implementation of the joint actions that would emerge from the UNESCO Consultant study./

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF STATISTICS

/The possibility of assistance to Haiti in the area of trade statistics. Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago have already signified a willingness to assist./

/The possibility for one country with experience in the preparation of a certain type of statistics to assist a newly independent country in establishing similar services./

TRANSPORT

/Upgrading of traditional boat-building with a view to improving the indigenous merchant fleet among the islands./



AGRICULTURE

/Joint evaluation by research institutions of work in progress and effectiveness into production activities for devising a common agricultural research programme implementation of which would be shared./

/Joint training activities in agricultural technology, livestock science and management, marine biology and fish technology, food processing technology./

/Development of the proposals on rice, legumes, vegetables and ground provisions, citrus, timber that emerged from the UNCTAD Consultant study relating to co-operation between Producers/Exporters Associations in the field of agriculture./

