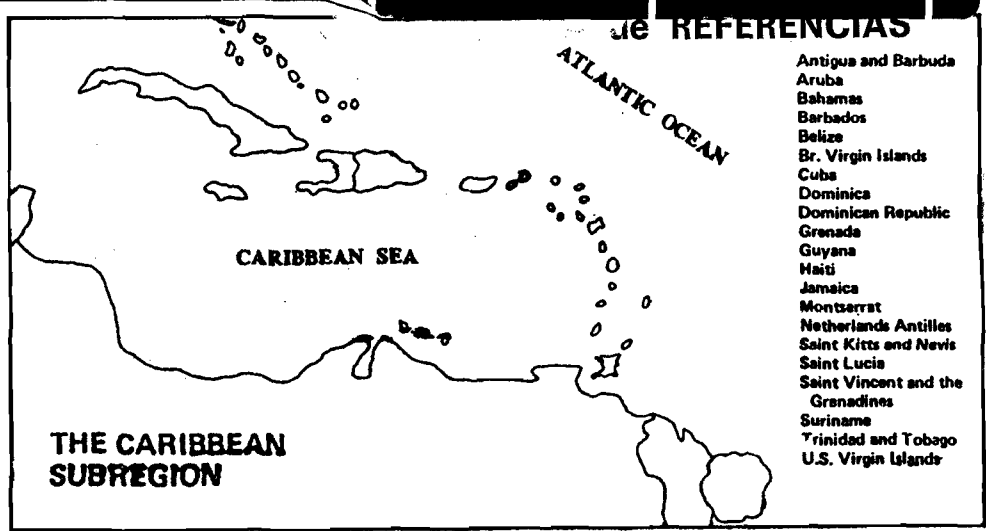
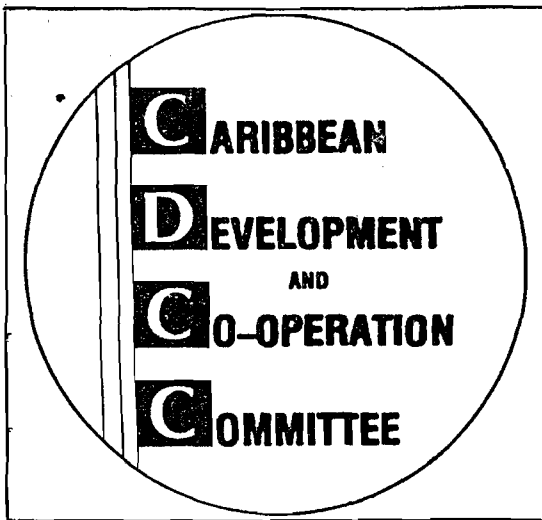


b a)



GENERAL  
 LC/CAR/G.316  
 8 March 1991  
 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
 Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

Thirteenth session  
 Kingston, Jamaica  
 22-25 July 1991



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE  
 CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE  
 1990-1991



**UNITED NATIONS**  
 ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
 Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE  
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE  
1990-1991

INTRODUCTION

The work programme of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) for the 1990-1991 biennium was approved by the Committee at its eleventh session held in St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands in November 1988 (document LC/CAR/G.241).

The work programme for the first period of the 1990-1991 biennium was presented as document LC/CAR/G.283 to the twelfth session of CDCC, Curacao, Netherlands Antilles, in December 1989. This report on the implementation of the work programme is based, for the most part, on the programme as outlined in document LC/CAR/G.283 "Work Programme of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean for the First Period of the 1990-91 Biennium".

The activities implemented by the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat during the intersessional period December 1989 to March 1991 are contained herein. Details of activities by work programme elements carried out since the twelfth session held in December 1989 are presented, together with a brief description of activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued.

In line with its mandate and *raison d'être*, the secretariat seeks to promote the concept and employ the modality of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC), whenever applicable, in the implementation of its work programme.

The secretariat intensified its efforts to develop linkages between it and other agencies and organizations serving its member States, in order to maximize the use of its resources and to foster an integrated and interdisciplinary approach to its developmental efforts.

The secretariat sought to provide more effective backstopping for the successful implementation of its work programme through the recruitment of suitably qualified staff on a short-term or ad hoc basis, where required, and the upgrading of its physical plant and operational facilities.

## ECONOMIC SURVEY OF CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

A document entitled "A Brief Overview of Economic Performance of Caribbean Countries in the Decade of the 1980s" was prepared for use by CDCC member countries, as a basis for review and evaluation of their economic performance in the last decade, nationally and within the subregional framework. This publication will be used as reference material by the Faculty of Economics at the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, Jamaica.

A document entitled "A Brief Overview of Economic Activities of CDCC Countries - 1989" was prepared, the preliminary version of which covered CARICOM countries and was submitted through the CARICOM Secretariat to the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, in July 1990. An expanded version of the document, "Overview of Economic Activities in the Caribbean - 1989" (LC/CAR/G.313), to cover all CDCC member countries is included in the documentation to be submitted to the thirteenth session of CDCC.

A paper entitled, "Evolution of Services in Caribbean Economies: Some Reflections on Past Performance and Prospects for the Future" (LC/CAR/G.319) was prepared on the basis of the secretariat's participation in a number of specialized meetings held jointly with the United Nations Centre for Transnational Corporations (CTC) and the CARICOM Secretariat. These meetings, which investigated various aspects of the services sectors in the region and particularly of tourism, professional, educational and financial services, were intended to provide better information to policy-makers in formulating their positions for the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Based on these initiatives and using time series analysis to trace the evolution of the services sectors in the CDCC countries, the document is intended to complement the primarily external focus which has characterized the study of the topic so far. Information relating to the offshore banking sector and shipping services has also been included.

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING IN THE CARIBBEAN

A document entitled "Development Planning - Reflections and Reconsiderations" (LC/CAR/G.296) was prepared for dissemination to interested planners in CDCC countries and will be published as reference material for the Faculty of Economics, UWI, Mona, Jamaica.

Two other technical publications were prepared: "Caribbean Integration in the Changing Global Context", was presented to the annual meeting of the Association of Economists of Puerto Rico (AEPR). The presentation, which was made at the request of the AEPR, was part of a series intended to acquaint Puerto Rican economists with developments in the CDCC countries. "Diplomacy and Development" was presented to the Diplomatic Training Seminar for Caribbean Countries, organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Caribbean Community and the Institute of International Relations. This presentation, which was made to middle-level diplomatic officers in CARICOM countries, attempted to establish links between external sector activities and national development. The objective was to outline some possible contributions which they could make to the development process.

Technical assistance was provided to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to re-draft the final version of its Macroeconomic Planning Framework. Technical assistance was also provided to the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to critically review its draft five-year development plan, to suggest areas for improvement and to assist in re-drafting.

A document entitled "Background Paper for a Regional Employment and Training Workshop" was prepared for the information of participants in a joint International Labour Organisation/United Nations Population Fund (ILO/UNFPA) Workshop, planned by the ECLAC secretariat and UNFPA. This workshop involved the training of development, population and manpower planners of the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean for incorporating population variables in macro-economic planning.

ECLAC/CDCC collaborated with the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) in the following activities:

Within the framework of project JAM/89/019, financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), regarding the strengthening of the Planning Institute of Jamaica, several technical co-operation missions were made to that country. These missions had the following objectives:

(a) Overview and macro-economic compatibility of the Five Year National Development Plan;

(b) Preparation of a macro-economic model and a data base for the main economic variables of the economy;

(c) Formulation of a computerized project data bank as a main instrument of public sector investment programming, including the technical co-operation projects;

(d) Project activities which also included in-service training on the project data bank and macro-economic models for four officials who visited ILPES for two weeks.

In view of the favourable results achieved by the project, steps have been taken to ensure the possible financing of a second phase by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

The twelfth meeting of the Presiding Office of the Regional Planning Council was held in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles, on the 2 and 3 April 1990. On that occasion, the seventh intergovernmental meeting on exchange of recent planning experiences took place, during which attention was focused on the present situation and perspectives of planning and national/public policies in several countries of the region.

Students from Haiti and the Dominican Republic attended the thirty-first International Course on Development Planning and National Policies (Santiago, Chile, 25 June-7 December 1990), organized by ILPES.

Jointly with the University of the Netherlands Antilles and the Central Bank and with the support of project UNDP/ILPES RLA/86/029, assistance was provided to Curacao in the formulation of a short-term macro-economic model.

The Fifth Course on Economic Analysis and Formulation of Public Policies was held in Wildey, Barbados from 25 June to 6 July 1990).

The Fourth High-Level Technical Meeting between the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Heads of the Planning Offices from 5 to 8 November 1990 to analyse the effects of Europe-1992 on the English-speaking Caribbean countries.

#### Programme activities 1991

(a) Continuation of the advisory services to the Government of Jamaica in the areas of project cycle management, public sector investment programming, short-term indicators and macro-economic model;

(b) Preliminary activities for the implementation of a macro-economic model for the Netherlands Antilles;

(c) Exchange of information and experiences with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and UNDP/Barbados in the field of information systems for the preparation and execution of the public sector investment programme;

(d) Promotion of horizontal co-operation and study tours in the preparation and use of project data banks;

(e) Dissemination among the CDCC member countries of documents and guidelines concerning the project cycle management.

### Social development in the Caribbean

A paper entitled "Comments from a Caribbean Perspective on ECLAC Document: Changing Production Patterns with Social Equity" (LC/L.548) was prepared and submitted to ECLAC, Santiago, for their perusal. The paper examined the proposition of the need for greater social equity and changing production patterns against the backdrop of Caribbean structural adjustment programmes and falling regional per capita incomes.

A document entitled "Adjustment, Transition, Transformation and the Social Sector: A Framework for Continuing Analysis and Policy Reformulation" (WP/90/1) was prepared as a contribution to an examination of the impact on the social sector of structural adjustment in the Caribbean region.

It examines in detail health, education, employment and the informal sectors in the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago and postulates that haphazard efforts that address the symptoms of social distress, rather than a continuous policy of population quality enhancement, will not achieve human resource development or new production patterns with social equity.

### CDCC/CARICOM co-operation

The secretariat participated in a number of meetings of the Co-ordinating and Planning Committee of the Regional Economic Conference preparatory to the Tripartite Conference on Regional Economic Development, which was held in Port-of-Spain from 27 February to 1 March 1991.

A paper was prepared by the secretariat on human resource development and science and technology, based on the recommendations of a meeting of regional bodies hosted by the CARICOM secretariat in preparation for the Regional Economic Conference.

In addition ECLAC/CDCC, at the request of the CARICOM Secretariat, participated in another regional consultation, "Public Policy Implication of Sustainable Development in the Caribbean". This Conference examined the environmental impact of fast-paced development on regional eco-systems, and was a preparatory meeting for the Regional Economic Conference.

The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat, as an additional input to the Regional Economic Conference, also conducted missions and assisted the CARICOM secretariat in expediting the process of national consultations in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. These reports have been incorporated into the main background document for the Conference.

## Other

### Co-operation between the Caribbean and Latin America

A document entitled "Caribbean/Latin American Relations: A Framework for Collaboration and Co-operation" (WP/90/2) was prepared at the request of the ECLAC Office, Mexico, as a brief for the Mexican President's visit to Jamaica In July 1990. The paper examined various areas of common interest between both subregions and suggested modalities for strengthening the institutional and co-operative links between them.

### Technical assistance

The secretariat engaged in project formulation at the request of the Italian and Mexican Governments. These governments required assistance with project identification for their technical assistance projects to the Government of Jamaica. This is an on-going activity focusing initially on Jamaica's housing and tourism sub-sectors.

### Promotion of training policies in the Caribbean subregion

A clear recognition of the critical role that human resources development will be expected to play, as member countries of the CDCC move into the twenty-first century provided the underlying rationale for this project, which was implemented with funding from the Government of the Netherlands.

The development objective of the project was to increase the technical knowledge and capabilities of staff of the public administration and research or other academic centres of the Caribbean subregion, helping them to address more effectively the political, economic and social challenges they are encountering.

Specific objectives of the project were:

(a) To formulate proposals for the improvement and/or structuring of national training policies;

(b) To elaborate a practical approach towards mobilization of internally and externally available resources for training;



(c) To promote joint national and subregional efforts in analyzing and addressing training needs; and

(d) To improve the role of CDCC in the diagnosis, initiation, co-ordination, mobilization and channelling of resources for training activities.

#### Implementation of work programme

A research internship scheme was inaugurated in July 1990. One student each from the Consortium Graduate School of UWI, Jamaica and the Department of Agricultural Extension, UWI, Trinidad and Tobago participated. Literature searches were conducted on conceptual approaches and information needs for the design of food security policies in development planning. A research intern from the University of Vermont, attached to the project, prepared literature reviews on human resources, food security and project management, which were utilized for a household and community survey by students from UWI and the University of Vermont in collaboration with the Ministry of Food Production, Trinidad and Tobago, early in 1991. Results from the survey were to be incorporated into the preparation of a project proposal for a regional working group on food security policies. In addition to the development of training materials in food policy studies, follow-up activities for training of Caribbean students at institutions overseas, including Vermont, were proposed.

A Consultative Forum on Higher-level Human Resource Development Strategies was held at the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), Barbados. Seventeen participants attended from universities and other tertiary-level institutions in Aruba, Suriname, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia and Barbados; from public sector organisations including Ministries of Education, Planning and Personnel Administration; from the Tech-Voc Division, Training Unit and Productive Sector Section of the CDB and from the regional UNESCO/CARNEID project. A representative from Cuba's Ministry of Higher Education was unfortunately unable to attend but submitted a paper which was circulated among participants.

Collaboration and co-sponsorship were provided for two regional training courses by the UNCTAD-TRAINMAR Programme which dealt with "Microcomputer Applications in Shipping Management" and "Improved Port Performance." In conjunction with the Maritime Unit of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the Shipping Association, assistance was provided to identify training needs and appropriate modalities for an ongoing upgrading of skills in the maritime sector. Assistance was also provided in convening a seminar, in collaboration with the Statistical Unit of the secretariat on the Maintenance of Diesel and Gas-based Generation of Energy. The seminar was conducted by OLADE and the World Bank.

### Survey of public sector personnel

An assessment of the effectiveness of training courses undertaken by public sector personnel over the past five years will be conducted by means of a tracer survey. Preliminary requests for background information on personnel, including gender of trainees, place of study, level and duration of courses, subject areas and current employment status has been received from Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Dominica. A Roundtable Meeting has been proposed for November 1991 to be held in collaboration with the Instituto Superior de Relaciones Internacionales in Cuba to discuss the results of the survey.

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE CARIBBEAN

The secretariat continued to service the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST).

It convened the Eleventh Executive Committee Meeting in Jamaica on 11-12 April 1990 and the Ninth Plenary Session in Jamaica on 8-10 September 1990. The report on the work of CCST for 1989-90 and the proposed work programme for 1990-91 was presented to member States.

At both meetings, there was a discussion on the role and functioning of CCST, leading to the adoption of a mission statement for the Council.

A decision was taken by the Council to undertake a project on the "History of Scientific and Technological Development in the Caribbean". This project would provide a general view of regional development trends in science and technology, popularize science and technology in the Caribbean and promote the CCST.

The Council also approved a project "A Science and Technology Extension Service: an Effective Community Tool" which, as an immediate objective, aimed to establish industrial extension services within the OECS countries in collaboration with relevant institutions in these countries. The long-term objective was to facilitate small business development programmes in the OECS in keeping with the objectives of the OECS governments' Country Action Plans. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) expressed an interest in the project and agreed to provide a consultant to assist in its further development.

The Council was of the view that the cost of establishing a permanent secretariat seemed presently prohibitive, but that member States which wished to host the secretariat should indicate this by formal communication to the CDCC secretariat.

The Council agreed that it should develop a strategy for ensuring that it had a functioning, adequately staffed secretariat in place to carry out its mandate.

The secretariat continued to publish the CCST Newsletter. The secretariat also published a Report on CCST Achievements (LC/CAR/G.294-CCST/90/4) which was presented to the Second Meeting of the Standing Committee of CARICOM Ministers responsible for Science and Technology; an updated version of the CCST Statutes; a Report to the Eleventh Executive Committee Meeting (LC/CAR/G.295-CCST/90/2); a Consultant's Report: Proposal for Improving Secretariat Service Level of the CCST (CONS/90/1); Report of the Eleventh Executive Committee Meeting (LC/CAR/G.302-CCST/90/3) and The Eighth Annual Report of the CCST.

In keeping with its decision to assist member States in examining the role of science and technology in their development efforts, the secretariat held discussions with the Governments of Belize and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

The secretariat continued to collaborate with other agencies and organizations in furthering science and technology awareness in the region and strengthening ties among agencies in science and technology, primarily through participation in :

- (a) The Expert Group Meeting on Science and Technology Organization and Management, Antigua and Barbuda, 3-9 March 1990;
- (b) A Workshop on Agricultural Extension Training, in Saint Lucia, 18-23 March 1990;
- (c) A Workshop on Post-harvest Handling of Agricultural Commodities for Export, in Trinidad, 25-27 June 1990;
- (d) A meeting of Ministries and Institutions in Charge of Science and Technology, Venezuela, 22-23 June 1990;
- (e) The Second CARICOM Ministerial Conference on the Environment, in Jamaica, 5-8 September 1990; and
- (f) The Second Meeting of the Standing Committee of CARICOM Ministers responsible for Science and Technology, in Jamaica, 12-13 September 1990.

The Council published a compendium of institutions and agencies working in science and technology and offering technical and financial assistance to the region.

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN****Removal of language barriers**

The activities of the secretariat in the Removal of Language Barriers Programme decreased during the intersessional period because of financial constraints.

In October 1990, a number of commitments were made by the joint co-ordinator of the programme's activities, the Netherlands Antilles, to accelerate the process of securing funds for the project and to improve co-ordination. However, since that time some constraints have surfaced to impede further progress.

UNESCO's support for the activities of the programme continued in the form of financial support which was received by the Netherlands Antilles for 1990.

The CDCC secretariat continued to provide in-kind support.

The main activities accomplished were:

(a) The official inauguration of the Guyana National Chapter of the Caribbean Language Institute in May 1990. As a chapter, the group has made great strides in a public outreach programme and is expected to begin a programme of research into language needs in Guyana.

(b) In November 1990, Cuba convened an international seminar on Caribbean Languages and Culture and launched its National Chapter of the Caribbean Language Institute. Caribbean participation included lecturers from the three campuses of the University of the West Indies.

(c) The secretariat participated in discussions to develop a regional project to train interpreters to service trade centres in the Caribbean region. Those discussions were initiated by the Chamber of Commerce/World Trade Centre, Martinique and the World Trade Centre/Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago. Other institutions participating in the preliminary discussions were the National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST), the Ministry of Education, Curacao, Netherlands Antilles and the Department of French and Spanish of UWI, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados.

(d) Arrangements were made for the Empresa de Servicio de Traducción e Interpretación (ESTI) of Cuba to initiate in-service training for trainees from the Anglophone Caribbean. ESTI has been the main resource institution providing technical assistance for the training programme for interpreters which was successfully launched as an integral part of the Removal of Language Barriers

Programme in 1988 in Trinidad and Tobago and continued in 1989 in Barbados, Curaçao and Trinidad and Tobago. This phase of the programme will be launched next year when one trainee will be attached to ESTI in April 1991.

(e) Some progress was made on the preparation of the first issue of a quarterly publication for the programme in order to ensure wide dissemination of information on activities throughout the subregion and progress in the development of the Caribbean Language Institute.

#### Women in development (WID)

At the request of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles advisory assistance was provided:

(a) In establishing functional/operational support systems and adjusting the organizational structure of its Bureau of Women and Humanitarian Affairs with a view to improved task-performance of the Bureau. A report on deliberations and recommendations for action has been prepared.

(b) In the elaboration of substantive aspects of a conference on young women. Assistance was provided in mobilizing experts from the CDCC region.

(c) In the preparation of a paper on "Caribbean Young Women and Perspectives for the Future" which was presented as keynote address at the conference "The Young Woman in Development (15-25 years): Her Identity and Her Participation in the Community".

At the request of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, advisory services on the subject of women and development were provided to the Division of Organization and Management in the Prime Minister's Office. A seminar "The Organizational Woman" was serviced in terms of the provision of a resource person.

Upon request of the Integrated Set of Information Systems (ISIS) International, Chile, and in collaboration with ECLAC Headquarters in Santiago inputs from a Caribbean perspective were made to a Cross Cultural Exchange Programme "Documentation and Communication: Strategies for Networking and Change". A paper "Women in the Caribbean: Networking for Change" was presented.

Consultations were held with government departments and NGO development agencies on follow-up action based on recommendations from ECLAC/CDCC project activities. The project activities had focused on women agricultural traders in the inter-island trade and were carried out in the extrabudgetary project "Establishment of a Data Base on Selected Areas of Women's Participation in Economic

and Social Development". Agencies were assisted in formulating specific activities which have the potential to effectively build on work initiated by ECLAC/CDCC. Work was finalized on this project and the document "Women Workers in the Caribbean: A selection of ECLAC Research" is being printed for distribution.

Three inter-country projects on the integration of women in development were concluded and published (see items (a), (b) and (c) below).

Work was started on a document on selected basic indicators in constructing data bases on women in the Caribbean.

The computerized bibliographical data base "WINDEV" has been completed. Diskette copies are available for CDS/ISIS users.

#### Technical publications

- (a) The Hucksters of Dominica (CONS/90/2)
- (b) The Agricultural Traders of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Dominica and Saint Lucia (CONS/90/3)
- (c) The Suitcase Traders in the Free Zone of Curacao (CONS/90/5)
- (d) Self-Help and Survival: Women Traders in the Caribbean (CONS/90/6)
- (e) The Use of Computer Software in the Research on Women in Trade (CONS/90/28)
- (f) Participation of Women in Caribbean Development: Inter-Island Trading and Export Processing Zones (CONS/90/29)
- (g) Export Processing Zones and Women in the Caribbean (CONS/90/4)
- (h) Women in Development Bibliography (LC/CAR/G.301).

The above-listed documents were distributed and are available on request.

### Other activities

ECLAC/CDCC continued to serve as Executing Agency for the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) project in Grenada - Illicit Drug Demand Reduction Project (AD/GRN/89/607). This project is being implemented by the Ministry of Education and the National Drug Avoidance Committee.

ECLAC/CDCC continued to collaborate with the Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development (CNIRD) in the advancement of its subregional programme. Involvement was limited to participation in the Trinidad and Tobago National Committee of CNIRD - The Trinidad and Tobago Network for Rural Development Network (TTRDN) which provided technical and financial assistance to two rural projects in the country. The local committee incorporated the relevant ministries, local government bodies and statutory bodies involved in rural development as well as non-governmental organizations (farmers and women's groups).

### **POPULATION**

The secretariat's work programme continued, with emphasis on the implementation of activities aimed at developing and strengthening national and regional capabilities for integration of population considerations in development planning and for population policy formulation and implementation. This was accomplished through the adoption of a multi-pronged approach in the following areas: research; data generation and evaluation; training; population policy formulation and implementation; and information, education and communication (IEC) activities.

Most of the activities under this programme were implemented with financial assistance from the UNFPA, under the regional project "Integration of Population in Development Planning for the Caribbean". Some assistance was also provided by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Some of the programmes were implemented in collaboration with the following regional and international agencies: CARICOM, ILO, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation (CFPA).

### Data generation and evaluation

The secretariat assisted in a review of systems for collection of data on vital statistics and migration. It contributed to the building of the central store of data, at the regional and national levels, through the following projects:

- (a) Socio-demographic data bank;
- (b) Intercensal and post-censal population estimates; and
- (c) A regional Digest of Demographic and Social Statistics in Caribbean countries.

### Research

With the main objective of identifying the relevance of population-development interrelations to development planning, the following activities were pursued:

- (a) A population-development interrelations regional research project;
- (b) A regional research study on mortality patterns in the Caribbean;
- (c) Population projections for the period 1980-2015 for eight English-speaking Caribbean countries (British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago);
- (d) Production of Booklet on Adolescent Pregnancy: The secretariat is collaborating with CFP, UNFPA and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in the production of a booklet on adolescent pregnancy.

### Training

The main aim of the training undertaken has been to develop skills in understanding population-development interrelationships; projecting population changes and evaluating their consequences and feedback in relation to various social and economic sectors; formulating social and economic programmes which have demographic considerations incorporated into them and communicating the results to planners and policy-makers. Training conducted included:

- (a) A regional training course on "Population, Human Resources and Development Planning" was conducted in Jamaica, 23-28 July 1990, in co-operation with the Government of Jamaica;



(b) At the request of the Government of Suriname, the secretariat collaborated in the development of a project proposal for the conduct of a training workshop on theory and methods of demography;

(c) Development of a system for the registration, collection, processing and analysis of vital statistics in collaboration with CARICOM and PAHO.

#### Integration of population considerations in development planning

A number of governments were assisted in population policy formulation and implementation through activities under six UNFPA-funded projects: the three-year regional project - Integration of Population in Development Planning for the Caribbean; the four-year National project for Haiti - Support for National Population Council (CONAPO) approved in March 1989 for the Government of Haiti; and four two-year National Projects - support for National Population Co-ordinators for Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

#### Population policy formulation

Under this subprogramme, the secretariat is providing assistance in the execution of the UNFPA-funded Haiti National Project and has been responding to ad hoc requests from other governments for assistance in their population policy formulation exercises as follows:

##### Support to the National Population Council (CONAPO) - Haiti national project

(a) Implementation of programmes within the Haiti four-year project entitled: "Support for the National Population Council (CONAPO)", funded by UNFPA, commenced in March 1989;

(b) Action was initiated in four components of the work plan related to training, research, awareness-creation and institutionalization. Two research/training activities were postponed and some adjustments had to be made to the workplan due to government administrative changes. Activities related to the establishment of CONAPO were completed; all necessary personnel and equipment were also put in place;

(c) With regard to training activities, a seminar was conducted in January 1990, to highlight economic, social, demographic interrelations and discuss issues relative to the formulation of population policy;

(d) With regard to the development of the Population Policy Document, an Intersectoral Committee was established to strengthen co-ordination and ensure full participation of all sectors in the

elaboration of the document. In addition, assistance was provided to CONAPO and the Intersectoral Committee in the preparation of the first draft of the Population Policy through the conduct of three missions by an international consultant. The first draft was used as a basis for discussion in the January 1990 Seminar; and

(e) Three research projects were identified as needed to fill the information and data gaps in the population policy document: "Nutrition, Health Care and Family Planning", "Status of Women"; "Migration and Spatial Distribution."

#### Assistance in population policy formulation - government requests

Requests were received from the Governments of the Bahamas, British Virgin Islands and Turks and Caicos, through the UNFPA Caribbean Office, for assistance in the formulation of national population policies as well as the conduct of the 1990-91 Census Programme. Needs-assessment missions were conducted to two countries: British Virgin Islands and Turks and Caicos. Reports containing recommendations were prepared.

Turks and Caicos Islands policy formulation: Three missions were conducted to the Turks and Caicos Islands to identify needs and assist in preparatory activities for population policy formulation. Assistance was also provided in the conduct of a National Consultative Meeting on Population Policy Formulation, the provision of guidelines for follow-up strategies and the preparation of a work plan for the development of the population policy document. Two research papers were prepared by ECLAC/CELADE for presentation at the National Consultative Meeting: (i) "Population and Development Interrelations Framework for Planning" and (ii) "Population Policy Formulation". Activities related to the preparation of the first draft of the population policy are currently being implemented by the government.

#### Population policy implementation

The secretariat provided assistance to governments under the UNFPA regional project for developing and strengthening institutional mechanisms for population policy implementation. This was accomplished through the establishment of Population Units in the Planning Ministries and National Population Councils. Countries receiving special assistance in this regard were Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

#### National Population Councils

Assistance was provided for the establishment of National Population Councils responsible for the overall direction and monitoring of population-development integration activities.

National Population Councils were established in Dominica and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Assistance was provided for the revival of the Council in Saint Lucia.

National Population Co-ordinator - Population Planning Unit

The secretariat collaborated with governments in the development of proposals requesting funding from UNFPA for the recruitment of a National Population Policy Co-ordinator to head Population Planning Units. Documents were prepared and submitted by the Governments of Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Approval was granted by UNFPA for these four projects and National Population Co-ordinators were recruited in Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

(a) Saint Lucia - Three technical backstopping missions were conducted to Saint Lucia resulting in the preparation of a two-year work plan, a one-year information/education/communication strategy and the initiation of action on the following major areas of the secretariat's work programme: research, population policy reformulation, IEC programmes, institution building and data generation. The first drafts of three research papers providing background information for incorporation in the five-year plan as well as population policy issues were prepared, reviewed and recommendations for revisions provided. Assistance was provided in follow-up activities related to revisions and finalization of these papers. The first drafts of information/education/communication materials on population-development issues were developed and reviewed in collaboration with the Population Unit.

(b) Grenada - Two missions were conducted to Grenada to assist in:

- i) Orientation/training of National Population Co-ordinator;
- ii) Development of two-year work plan;
- iii) Implementation of data collection/evaluation component of work plan.

In collaboration with the National Population Co-ordinator, an inventory of data availability, quality and accessibility was produced. Also a report identifying problems, gaps and programme needs for improvement of situation was produced.

Information, Education, Communication (IEC) Programmes

A population information/education/communication sub-programme is being developed at the secretariat. The activities related to the preparation of information materials on population-development issues for dissemination via print, radio and television; development of a population-development video; establishment of a Population Reference Library; development of a population bibliographic data base. The following activities were carried out:

(a) Preparation of IEC materials - Preliminary research was initiated towards the preparation of background materials on population-development issues for dissemination via print, radio and television, as well as for the provision of inputs into the script writing exercise for video production.

(b) World Population Day, 11 July 1990 - In commemoration, three newspaper articles were produced and background material on population policy and population-development issues were developed and circulated to the governments for use in newspaper articles, radio and television presentations. In addition, in collaboration with the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), a population-related video was presented on national television.

(c) Population-development video production - Activities related to the production of a 20-minute population-development video began. The thrust was to illustrate to planners/policy-makers the linkages between population and current socio-economic problems/issues and to emphasize the need for integrating population into social and economic programmes. Preliminary research activities for the preparation of background materials and the development of a shooting script commenced.

(d) Population Reference Library - A Population Information Reference Library was set up as part of the Caribbean Documentation Center (CDC).

(e) Population-Bibliographic Data Base - POPLINE - The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat was selected as a site for the use and evaluation of the POPLINE database. POPLINE provides up-to-date, informative abstracts on over 160,000 published and unpublished population-related materials which are fully indexed so that virtually any information can be retrieved from the system. The resources of this system will be made accessible to member governments and other local and regional organizations.

### Provisions of computers to CDCC member countries

ECLAC/CDCC, in association with UNFPA, presented Caribbean countries, which participated in the microcomputer training course held in Trinidad and Tobago in October-November 1988, with a microcomputer, printer and statistical analysis software. This was to assist in improving the capabilities of planners and statisticians in the conduct of socio-economic and demographic research relative to population policy implementation and the integration of population into development planning through the use of microcomputers.

To date, the following ECLAC/CDCC member countries received microcomputers: Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, the Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Belize, Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda and Montserrat.

### Integration of population in development planning: British Virgin Islands

A report was written based on a mission to the British Virgin Islands, noting the state of the preparedness of various agencies for integration of population considerations in development and Manpower planning. Specific recommendations for improving data bases in specific agencies were made for the consideration of the British Virgin Islands Government who are desirous of preparing a manpower plan for the territory.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND TOURISM IN THE CARIBBEAN**

In collaboration with other institutions, ECLAC/CDCC developed and co-ordinated the project Regional Sewage Disposal and Coastal Conservation Studies within the framework of the Caribbean Co-operation in Health Programme. The sewerage component evolved in a number of specific national project proposals some of which, like the feasibility study for south and south-west Tobago, are now being implemented and funded by IDB and in the CARICOM /PAHO Regional Sewage Disposal Project, which is being implemented by the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI) and funded by UNDP. The coastal conservation component evolved in regional proposals for beach monitoring, environmental education, assessment of utilizing off-shore sand deposits for beach renourishment and institutional strengthening.

Lack of resources prevented the secretariat from following up on the recommendations of the Conference on the Organization and Financing of Sewerage Sector Development. Likewise a request from CEHI to co-operate with the development of a methodology for the setting of sewerage rates in CARICOM member States could not be accommodated.

In co-operation with the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) and the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat carried out the project "Socio-cultural and Environmental Management Issues in Caribbean Tourism", which aimed to develop a plan of action through which tourism can nurture support for the development of natural and cultural attractions. The project includes the carrying out of 12 surveys on the perception of tourism by residents, hoteliers and employees in the hotel sectors of Barbados, Curacao, Saint Lucia and Tobago. Preliminary results were made available to the respective governments.

Preliminary results of the Tobago Resident Survey were presented at the World Tourism Organization/ Caribbean Tourism Organization (WTO/CTO) Conference "Tourism and Cultural Change in the Caribbean", held in Trinidad and Tobago, 25-29 June 1990. An overview of the project implementation process and of problems encountered was presented at the CTO Tourism Research and Statistics Committee Meeting, Barbados, 26-28 September 1990.

Under a programme of collaboration with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), the secretariat commenced preparation of a report on damage caused by the importation of hazardous goods into the region. This report will be expanded to include aspects on the national generation and management of hazardous wastes. A questionnaire was mailed to all governments. Completion of the report is delayed due to the non-response.

Within the same co-operative framework, the secretariat assisted UNEP and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago with the convening of the Seventh Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 15-23 October 1990.

A major emphasis of ECLAC/CDCC's activities is the collection, processing and dissemination of information relevant to socio-economic development in the region and increasingly on-line access to these data was being provided. Six bibliographic databases of environmental relevance are operational. Statistical databases on demography, economic indicators and women in development are either operational or being developed, but are as yet not available on line access.

In 1990, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat began implementation of the establishment of a statistical environmental database which would eventually provide on-line access to CDCC member States of environment-related data relevant to the development process. This activity formed part of a larger project proposal which was submitted to ECLAC Headquarters in the first half of 1990 and included methodological training in resource accounting. Within this framework the secretariat co-operated with PAHO, the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI) and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in a workshop on the establishment of a national environment information system for Trinidad and Tobago. Publication of a digest "Environment Statistics for the Caribbean" was planned for 1991.

In 1991 ECLAC/CDCC will begin a number of studies which would emphasize the relationships between economic development and environment. The two main areas of study will be firstly, the development of appropriate techniques for the valuation of environmental resources like beaches, forests and wetlands. The objective would be to derive appropriate methodologies to estimate the economic value of the services provided by these resource systems and to train planners of the region in applying such methodologies to project analysis and evaluation. The second area would be a programme which would be focused on the identification of economic/financial policies that would meet both macro-economic/financial and environmental objectives and would also include training of officials in ministries of economics, finance or planning in the application of methodologies and techniques to incorporate environmental considerations when developing economic and financial policy instruments. A project proposal pertaining to the second was prepared in consultation with ECLAC Headquarters.

Within this framework, the secretariat participated in a technical meeting "Towards an Environmentally Sustainable Development", Santiago, Chile, 12-14 September 1990. In the course of this meeting the secretariat's representative was instrumental in co-ordinating preparation of a Caribbean position.

Within the mandate set by the United Nations General Assembly, the secretariat was actively involved in the preparations for the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992. These activities included co-operation with ECLAC Headquarters in the preparation of the ECLAC-convened regional preparatory meeting, Mexico, 1-7 March .

At the CDCC level, the activities of the secretariat pertain to its active participation in the Regional Taskforce established by the CARICOM secretariat to spearhead the process of preparation of the Caribbean subregion for more effective participation in UNCED; to accessing the UNCED database on a regular basis and making relevant information available to CDCC member States and to

a study which identified the approximate costs for making the required adjustments to the anticipated effects of climate change on Caribbean countries.

At the request of the CARICOM Secretariat and the Canadian Institute for Research and Public Policy, the publication "Some Thoughts on Sustainable Development in the Caribbean" was prepared for the Conference on Public Policy Implications of Sustainable Development in the Caribbean Region, Kingston, Jamaica, 28-30 May 1990. After revision, the document was presented at the Second CARICOM Ministerial Meeting on the Environment, Kingston, Jamaica, 3-11 September 1990 under the title "Sustainable Development in the Caribbean" (document LC/CAR/G.307). At this meeting, the secretariat performed a facilitatory and advisory role in achieving a common Caribbean position.

Within this broad framework, the secretariat participated in the CARICOM/UNDP Subregional Workshop on Environment and Development, Kingston, Jamaica, 28-29 January 1991 and in the Barbados National Preparatory Workshop for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Barbados, 20-21 February 1991 and a presentation on the same subject was made at the Sixth Plenary Conference, Commonwealth Association of Planners and America's Regional Workshop, 11-16 March 1991.

The secretariat participated in several regional taskforces or advisory bodies. In this regard, the secretariat participated in several meetings of the CARICOM Forum on the Environment, the CTO Tourism Research and Statistics Committee and the CARICOM/UNCED Taskforce.

## INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

### Information

The secretariat focused its activities on training and on improving the effectiveness of its information services to respond to a growing demand for technical information from users in the public and private sectors, academic and research institutions, and regional and international organizations. The secretariat successfully negotiated funding for a project which will facilitate and expand the use of computer-based communication techniques by a variety of user groups and promote greater access to databases in the region. The project came on stream in January 1991.



As part of its ongoing programme of training in the use of Micro Computerized Documentation Services/Integrated Set of Information Systems (CDS/ISIS) for the storage and retrieval of information, the secretariat provided direct assistance to two member States - Aruba and Trinidad and Tobago. Sixteen persons were trained in each workshop and, in the case of the Trinidad workshop, ECLAC provided two facilitators to assist the national organizers. Workshops were held in Curacao and Belize in March 1991.

The secretariat conducted two workshops for the Caribbean Technical Information Service (CARTIS) and the Caribbean Network of Educational Innovation for Development (CARNEID) Information Networks in an effort to encourage networking and the use of standardized software for the development of regional information systems. Twenty-one participants were drawn from 10 member States: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago attended the CARNEID workshop.

Direct assistance and advisory services were also provided, at the request of some countries, to resolve hardware and software problems.

Five persons from Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the OECS were attached to the Caribbean Documentation Centre (CDC) for periods ranging from one to four weeks.

There was an increase in the number of documents acquired, processed and stored in the Caribbean Information System for Economic and Social Planning (CARISPLAN) database and in the number of searches provided to users. The areas which were most heavily utilized relate to the environment, regional integration, barriers to trade, women in the Caribbean, Caribbean-Latin American relations, maritime and air transport and demography. The demand for statistical data also increased. A high percentage of the requests received emanated from information provided by the Current Awareness Bulletin.

#### Patent Information and Documentation Unit (PIDU)

During the period under review, the secretariat issued the first Caribbean Patent Index - an index of patents granted by Caribbean countries. Two hundred copies were distributed. Four issues of the quarterly journal PATNEWS were published and widely distributed throughout the region. The journal has helped to sensitize entrepreneurs, industrialists, researchers and government personnel of the importance of patent information in development.

PATNEWS also informs readers about technology information packages which can be obtained from the PIDU. Considerable use was made of PIDU's advisory services during 1990.

An evaluation of the services provided by the PIDU was undertaken by an International Development Research Centre (IDRC) consultant since the project comes to an end in April 1991. The secretariat has held several consultations with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) with a view to developing the patent information infrastructure at the national level and strengthening the secretariat's capacity to continue its work in patent information.

The Second Meeting of the Caribbean Consultative Committee for Regional Information Systems was held in Barbados, November 1990. The Committee considered the guidelines for the establishment and evaluation of information systems and formed two sub-committees - one to examine the costing of regional databases and another to prepare a paper on the information service sector.

The secretariat visited WIPO in Geneva in order to discuss WIPO/ECLAC/CDCC collaboration in intellectual property programmes at the regional and national levels within the Caribbean. It was agreed that WIPO would continue to provide assistance through its regular staff and the assignment of consultants to continue the ongoing programme and initiate new activities at the secretariat. Additional technical co-operation would be sought from relevant Latin American countries, especially Brazil and Venezuela, under TCDC projects. A proposal was submitted to WIPO for additional support to the secretariat.

The secretariat collaborated with the Latin American Economic System (SELA) in the implementation of a project on the status of regional co-operation and attended a meeting of focal points which was held at SELA's Headquarters during the sixteenth session of the Latin American Council of SELA. The meeting was designed to determine structural relationships between the focal points and the regional co-ordinating body and to identify methods for making the database available to member States.

The secretariat collaborated with PAHO, Port-of-Spain, in the establishment of its documentation centre and in the preparation of a national Workshop on the Environmental Information System in Trinidad and Tobago.

The secretariat presented a paper on diplomacy and information to the Commonwealth Training Seminar for Diplomats of the Caribbean; provided demonstrations on access to external databases and held discussions with the staff of the CDB on the use of alternative software for managing their information systems.

The thrust in 1991 will be the implementation of the pilot project on computer-based communication techniques in which 40 participants in various member States will test the use of electronic messaging services and database access in the region.

The project is expected to provide a multiplier effect on the creation of basic skills and self-reliance in the use of a technology which is rapidly becoming a basic communication medium. It is also expected to increase the quality and expand the service of existing information networks.

### Statistical services

In pursuit of the objective to create widely accessible statistical databases, the secretariat produced a softcopy version of the document entitled "Selected Statistical Indicators" using a compilation process on LOTUS 1-2-3 generated files. With this piece of software, the user can browse the contents of the database and quickly retrieve any table of choice.

In collaboration with Saint Lucia, the secretariat prepared a paper on the Caribbean Application of Retrieval of Data for Small Areas by Microcomputer (REDATAM), a package developed by CELADE for the analysis of population census data. This paper was presented at the Eleventh Conference of Commonwealth Statisticians in Canberra, Australia, in April 1990. The paper, in addition, made the case for the greater use of databases in statistical offices, for the satisfaction of user demand.

Further activity in the area of the establishment of statistical databases was realised in Quito, Ecuador, where the secretariat was represented and participated at a Regional Seminar entitled "Sistemas Microcomputacionales para el Procesamiento de Datos Estadísticos". At this seminar, the secretariat had the opportunity of demonstrating its statistical database. This database was also demonstrated at the Diplomatic Training Seminar that was conducted in Port of Spain.

The secretariat delivered technical assistance to the Government of Saint Lucia through its Statistical Office, by way of a one-week mission in which a member of the staff of that office worked alongside secretariat staff in designing a statistical database for easy general dissemination and access.

Following on the Colloquium on Statistics and the New Technologies, held in Port of Spain in October 1989, the CDCC secretariat was asked by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to conduct a review of the operations of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) and make recommendations for re-structuring if this appeared necessary. That exercise began in July and concluded in

November with the presentation of a report. Recommendations for phased implementation based on the report have been forwarded by the CSO to the Ministry of the Economy for implementation.

At the request of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles, the secretariat conducted a similar review in that country. The mission met with the Council of Ministers and presented a case for greater official support to statistics in the interest of national development. A report outlining further action to be taken was submitted to the office requesting the mission.

In September 1990, the secretariat participated in a review mission of a UNDP/OECS project aimed at creating and operationalizing a Development Co-operation Information System (DCIS). A report was prepared and submitted to UNDP.

The secretariat collaborated with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) and the World Bank in organizing a seminar on the "Efficient Operation and Maintenance of Diesel and Gas-Based Generation for the Caribbean Region". The seminar was conducted under the auspices of OLADE, the Trinidad and Tobago Government, the World Bank and ECLAC/CDCC and attracted the participation of some 30 discussants from member countries.

The secretariat participated in a resource capacity and represented ECLAC at a Workshop on the "Development and Application of Sampling Frames and Sample Design for Integrated Household Survey Programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean". The workshop was conducted under the auspices of ECLAC, with technical backstopping from the United Nations National Household Survey Capability Programme (UNNHSCP), and was the first of a number of such workshops to be organized throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. The workshop took stock of the "state of the art" in the Caribbean in the area of household surveys, and discussed a number of topics which included:

- (a) User requirements analysis;
- (b) Frame sources and characteristics;
- (c) Computer applications

The secretariat participated in a Workshop on Statistical Needs for Agricultural Diversification Policies and Programmes in the Caribbean which was held under the auspices of the EEC, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) and the CARICOM Secretariat and presented a paper on data processing. The paper highlighted the difficulties involved and pointed to possibilities of overcoming them.

Selected Statistical Indicators Report: The report was completed despite difficulty in securing information from the countries. The secretariat benefitted from helpful and encouraging comments from a number of users and is improving the design of the next version.

Agricultural Statistics Report: The publication, "Agricultural Statistics" had to be postponed, mainly due to slow response from the countries. It is hoped that this document would be completed in the first semester of 1991.

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

### Resource flows

A paper entitled "Resource Flows to the Caribbean in the 1980s" (LC/CAR/G.308) was prepared at the request of CDCC member countries during their twelfth session in Curacao, and was circulated to member countries.

### Trade Procedures Guide

The Trade Procedures Guides (ECLA/CARIB/G.84) prepared for member States in 1984 were revised and updated to reflect changes in the regulations governing trade in each member State.

The Trade Procedures Guides (document LC/CAR/G.309) were also revised to reflect the new trading arrangements in force since the publication of the last Guide, namely the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) and CARIBCAN.

## SUPPORT TO OECS COUNTRIES

This OECS support arrangement continues to be executed through the services of a consultant. Specific activities were undertaken in response to directives and decisions of the OECS Heads of Government and the OECS Director-General.

Since the last session of the CDCC, these activities include:

(a) Preparation of "Draft Terms of References - OECS Task Forces on Unification";

(b) Additional research and analysis of financial and operational data for evaluating the implications of acquisition of Radio Antilles;

(c) Review of financial estimates deriving from alternative negotiating options for re-establishing Caribbean broadcast programmes;

(d) Assisting with preparation of submission to IDRC for Phase II of the Information Network (INFONET) Project;

(e) Review of PAHO reports on common services (medical specialists) and examination of the proposal for establishment of OECS health desk;

(f) Preparation of note "Four Issues in Public Sector Financing" for first session of the ECS Constituent Assembly examining matters pertaining to unification.

#### Terms of Reference - OECS Task Forces

The terms of reference followed guidelines given by the OECS Director-General to accord with the broad thinking on allocation of functions between the central government level and the State level. The areas covered were: constitution drafting, finance and taxation, external relations, relations/defense/security and administrative organization.

#### Radio Antilles

Radio Antilles, run for many years by a form of joint venture between the Government of Montserrat and Radio Deutsche Welles of Germany, had become a major facility for providing news and information in the Eastern Caribbean. Withdrawal of Deutsche Welles meant termination of the service. The task was examination of possible terms of acquisition and privatization of Deutsche Welles' interest. Destruction of the facility by hurricane Hugo before conclusion of the negotiation meant new assessments on how to proceed. The Government of Montserrat with the assistance of the secretariat of the OECS continued to explore alternative options for re-establishing the Caribbean programmes.

#### INFONET Phase II

The INFONET project, funded by IDRC of Canada was designed to: create a subregional database for the OECS countries and secretariats; strengthen the national documentation centres; and provide a range of user services. With the first phase of the project coming to an end, a Draft Work Plan covering the period July 1990 to June 1993 was prepared in conjunction with the Network

Manager. The work plan which contained the core of the submission was supplemented by budget estimates for onward transmission to IDRC.

#### Common (specialist medical) services

A proposal to establish a health desk in the OECS secretariat for handling specialists medical services was tabled for the Seventeenth Meeting of the OECS Authority. The working basis for subsequent examination of this proposal was two papers on Common Services in Health that had previously been prepared by PAHO/WHO experts. A review of those reports was provided together with a matrix showing the extent to which various specialist medical services are available in each of the OECS countries.

#### Unification - Public sector financing

The overall requirement was to develop in-depth studies and recommendations on the economic and financial aspects of ECS Unification. A Constituent Assembly was established to examine the whole range of issues, and the paper "Four Issues in Public Sector Financing" was one of the inputs into that discussion. The issues raised were: comparative costs of alternative constitutional forms (treated qualitatively), the question of harmonization of fiscal regimes, apparent economies of scale in administration and consolidation of public debt. Full analysis of all these aspects will be necessary, including some attempt to quantify the various elements.

