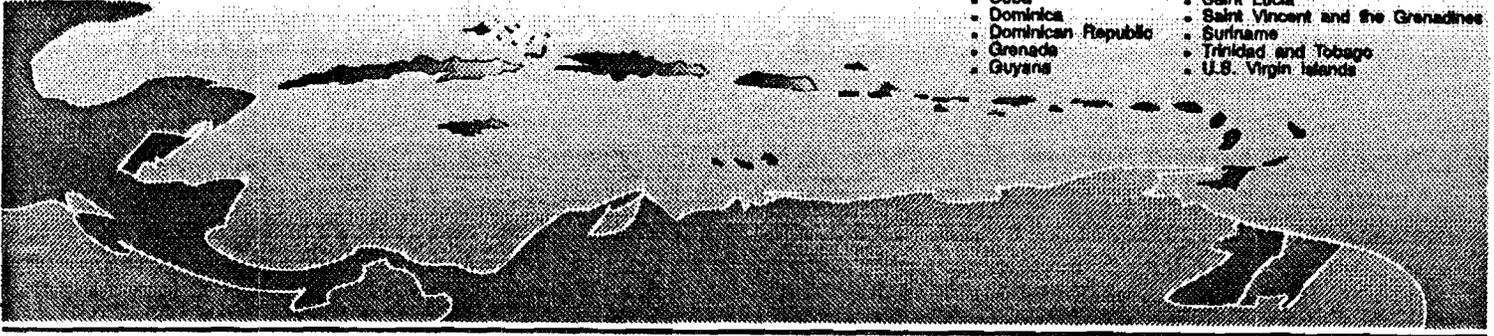




- Antigua and Barbuda
- Aruba
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Br. Virgin Islands
- Cuba
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- Montserrat
- Netherlands Antilles
- Puerto Rico
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- U.S. Virgin Islands



Sixteenth session of the CDCC
 St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda
 5-8 February 1996

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 LC/CAR/G.468
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**ACTIVITIES AT THE CARIBBEAN SUBREGIONAL LEVEL IN RELATION
 TO THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
 ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (ICPD)
 Cairo, 4 - 15 September 1994**



UNITED NATIONS
 ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
 Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
 CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. This is essential for ensuring the integrity of the financial statements and for providing a clear audit trail. The records should be kept up-to-date and should be easily accessible to all relevant parties.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze data. These methods include interviews, surveys, and focus groups. Each method has its own strengths and weaknesses, and it is important to choose the most appropriate method for the specific research objectives.

3. The third part of the document describes the process of data analysis. This involves identifying patterns and trends in the data, and then interpreting these findings in the context of the research objectives. It is important to be objective and unbiased in this process, and to avoid drawing conclusions that are not supported by the data.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the importance of communicating the results of the research. This involves writing a clear and concise report that summarizes the findings and provides recommendations for future action. It is important to use plain language and to avoid technical jargon, so that the results can be understood by a wide range of stakeholders.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of ethical considerations in research. This involves ensuring that the research is conducted in a way that respects the rights and privacy of the participants. It is important to obtain informed consent from all participants, and to ensure that the data is stored and handled in a secure and confidential manner.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the importance of ongoing evaluation and improvement of the research process. This involves regularly reviewing the progress of the research and making adjustments as needed. It is important to be open to feedback and to be willing to learn from mistakes.

7. The seventh part of the document discusses the importance of collaboration and teamwork in research. This involves working closely with colleagues and other stakeholders to share ideas and resources, and to ensure that the research is conducted in a coordinated and efficient manner.

8. The eighth part of the document discusses the importance of staying up-to-date on the latest research in the field. This involves regularly reading academic journals and attending conferences and seminars. It is important to be aware of new developments and to incorporate this knowledge into the research process.

9. The ninth part of the document discusses the importance of transparency and accountability in research. This involves making the research process and findings as open and accessible as possible. It is important to provide a clear and detailed description of the methods used, and to make the data and results available to other researchers.

10. The tenth part of the document discusses the importance of using research to inform practice. This involves taking the findings of the research and applying them to real-world situations. It is important to be aware of the limitations of the research and to use the findings in a responsible and ethical manner.

**ACTIVITIES AT THE CARIBBEAN SUBREGIONAL LEVEL IN RELATION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (ICPD)**

Cairo, 4 - 15 September 1994



The United Nations International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) was convened in Cairo, 4-15 September 1994. Delegations from 179 States attended the meeting. The purpose was to review and adopt a World Programme of Action on Population and Sustainable Development for the next 20 years.

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean/Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (ECLAC/CDCC) performed a leading role as the main subregional body responsible for coordination and giving direction to the ICPD preparatory process over a three-year period. In addition, ECLAC/CDCC was responsible for coordinating the participation of Caribbean delegations at the conference, the formation of strategies for intervention of Caribbean positions and coordination of follow-up activities.

PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES

Over a period of three years (1991-1994), the CDCC secretariat provided both technical and financial assistance to the governments of CDCC member countries in preparation for the ICPD. Assistance was provided in the conduct of national, subregional and regional level preparatory activities for purposes of:

- (a) Awareness creation of:
 - (i) linkages between population and development issues in the Caribbean;
 - (ii) key population-development concerns requiring intervention strategies and programmes; and
 - (iii) implications of the post-Cairo agenda for future funding and population-related programmes in the Caribbean subregion.
- (b) Development of a Caribbean agenda of consensus on population and development and coordination of a Caribbean position for participation at the PREPCOMS and the Cairo conference.
- (c) Preparation of National Population Reports, conduct of national population and development symposiums/seminars and establishment of required institutional mechanisms, such as National Population Committees to:
 - (i) facilitate national participation in the process leading up to the Cairo conference; and

- (ii) **strengthen capacities for implementation of post-Cairo recommendations and World Population Plan of Action for the next decade.**

In general, assistance was provided by the CDCC secretariat in the following: design and conduct of meetings/symposiums; preparation of background materials and presentation of conference papers; coordination of Caribbean participation and positions at regional meetings; establishment and operation of requisite national and subregional institutional mechanisms; and the preparation of National Population Reports, the subregional Port-of-Spain Declaration on Population and Development, the Caribbean Plan of Action as well as the regional Latin American and Caribbean Plan of Action.

The following is a report on the preparatory activities coordinated and implemented by the CDCC secretariat in collaboration with member countries in preparation for the ICPD. Most of these activities were co-sponsored by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

National Population Reports/Symposiums/Seminars - The National Population Report represents the main national level preparatory activity and contribution to the ICPD. It contains a wealth of information on the demographic, social and economic situation of the country, their linkages and implications for development planning, the current population-related intervention development programmes, and recommendations for a national action plan on population and development. In most countries, a National Population Committee was established for this purpose. In addition, National Population Symposiums/Seminars were conducted for the development, launching or presentation of the Report. The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat provided assistance to CDCC member governments in the provision of guidelines for organization of report, preparation of data and analyses, writing of report and conduct of related symposiums/seminars. In addition, special missions were conducted to Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Netherlands Antilles.

Caribbean Symposium on Population and Development, July 1992, Antigua and Barbuda - The aim was to provide a forum for policy makers to review and evaluate population experiences, prioritise issues and make specific recommendations to guide future planning and policy formulation. The meeting was conducted in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the UNFPA. The output consisted of a report identifying national and regional population priority issues and strategies as well as recommendations for adoption at the follow-up meeting in Saint Lucia. The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat provided assistance in the design and conduct of the meeting, presentation of background paper and preparation of final report.

ECLAC/UNFPA Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting of Government Experts on Population and Development, 6-9 October 1992, Saint Lucia - Assistance was provided in the organization of the meeting, coordination of Caribbean participation and preparation and presentation of background paper. The output comprised a report containing recommendations which were used as the basis for preparation of the Latin American and Caribbean consensus, submitted to the ministerial level regional meeting, in Mexico, for consideration and adoption.

ECLAC Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development, April-May 1993, Mexico City - At both the technical and ministerial levels, government representatives considered and adopted the "Latin American and Caribbean Consensus on Population and Development" which served as the basis for the preparation of a Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development. At this session, Caribbean delegates convened a special meeting aimed at ensuring that Caribbean inputs would be adequately incorporated into the regional Plan of Action. The formation of a Caribbean Working Group for this purpose was also recommended and adopted.

Caribbean Working Group Meeting on Population and Development, 30-31 July 1993, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago - Following the recommendation of Caribbean delegates at the Mexico meeting, a small working group of CDCC member countries was established and a meeting convened by the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat with the following objectives: (a) to put in place a Caribbean subregional strategy to ensure incorporation of Caribbean interests and needs into the Latin American and Caribbean regional Plan of Action; and (b) develop a Caribbean network for liaising with Latin America in the implementation of the regional Plan of Action. The Caribbean Working Group comprised representatives of the following CDCC member countries - Guyana, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. The output of the meeting was a framework for a Caribbean Plan of Action on Population and Development which served as the basis for the elaboration of the Regional Plan of Action.

ECLAC/CDCC Caribbean Subregional Meeting of Government Experts for a Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development, 2-3 December 1993, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago - The purposes of this meeting were to: (a) review the draft Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action prepared by the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE), Santiago, with a view to ensuring that it adequately incorporated Caribbean issues and concerns; and (b) set up regional institutional mechanisms and strategies for the conduct of follow-up activities relative to the post-Cairo agenda. The meeting produced a set of recommendations for revision of the Regional Plan of Action. A second output of the meeting was the formulation of the first draft of the Port-of-Spain Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development.

Port-of-Spain Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development - The first draft of the Declaration was formulated by representatives of 19 CDCC member countries during the ECLAC/CDCC Caribbean Meeting of Experts for a Regional Plan of Action, Port-of-Spain, December 1993. The second draft was developed by a Drafting Committee appointed at the meeting in collaboration with the CDCC secretariat. The final draft, incorporating the comments and suggestions of member countries, was submitted to the fourteenth session of CDCC in July 1994 for ministerial approval and adoption. Following approval and adoption by the CDCC, the Port-of-Spain Declaration was submitted to the ICPD, Cairo, in September.

The Port-of-Spain Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development was developed to serve the following three purposes: (a) as a briefing document for governments of the Caribbean subregion in preparation for the ICPD Prepcom III Meeting in New York; (b) as a Caribbean position

on population and sustainable development for coordinated participation at the ICPD, Cairo, in September; and (c) to provide the basic resource material for use in the revision of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action (which identifies national, subregional and regional follow-up activities to the 1994 ICPD).

This Declaration was submitted to the Secretary-General of the ICPD, Dr. Nafis Sadik, by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, acting in the capacity of chairman at the Caribbean Meeting of Experts for a Regional Plan of Action, Port-of-Spain, December 1993. The Declaration was summarised by the ICPD and included in the General Assembly PREPCOM III conference document A/CONF.171/PC/7/Add.1, dated 4 March 1994.

Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development - This was produced in response to the recommendation contained in the Regional Consensus on Population and Development adopted at the Mexico meeting, May 1993. The purpose was to develop national, subregional and regional level programmes and strategies, establish appropriate institutional mechanisms and secure funding for the implementation of the recommendations emerging from the Cairo Conference. This Plan of Action aimed at harnessing regional and subregional cooperation for its direction and implementation.

The first draft, prepared by CELADE, Santiago, November 1993, was subject to four stages of revisions: (a) the first revision was based on recommendations from the four subregional meetings, including the Caribbean meeting of experts, Port-of-Spain, December 1993; (b) the second revision took place at the meeting of the Bureau of the Mexico Meeting, Buenos Aires, February 1994; (c) final revisions were made to the document at the Committee of High-Level Governmental Experts (CEGAN) meeting, Santiago, March 1994; (d) this revised Plan of Action and its budget was then submitted to the twenty-fifth session of ECLAC, Cartagena de las Indias, April 1994 for ministerial level approval. The next stage was the presentation of this Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action to the ICPD.

ECLAC/UNFPA Caribbean Subregional Preparatory Meeting of Country Delegates to the ICPD, Jamaica, 4-5 August 1994 - The purpose of the meeting was: (a) to review the Caribbean population and development issues requiring special attention at ICPD; (b) review the ICPD Programme of Action; (c) develop a Caribbean position on Population and Sustainable development; and (d) devise strategies for coordinated action of Caribbean delegations at the ICPD. ECLAC was responsible for the organization and coordination of the meeting as well as preparation of the report.

OUTCOMES OF ICPD

At the ICPD, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat in collaboration with representatives of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and UNFPA, held regular daily meetings and worked with government delegates to formulate positions and ensure that the interests and concerns of the region were given full consideration. Reports on the outstanding performance of the Caribbean subregion

were well documented in the Cairo newspapers and the region's national and Caribbean News Agency (CANAs) reports. Government delegates also reported having achieved about 75 per cent of their objectives which were of primary concern to the subregion.

The outputs of the Conference included: (a) strategies developed and positions formed for Caribbean interventions; (b) the ICPD Programme of Action adopted for the next twenty years; and (c) a draft post-Cairo Plan of Action for implementation of ICPD recommendations by the Caribbean at the national, subregional and regional levels was also developed in Cairo by the Caribbean delegations in collaboration with ECLAC and UNFPA.

Some of the issues supported by the Caribbean delegates and contained in the final ICPD Programme of Action document included: (a) the new definition of reproductive health which included sexual health; (b) with regard to gender equity and empowerment of women, the elimination of violence against women and the principle that they must have control over their fertility had also been incorporated; (c) the Caribbean delegates also managed to get acceptance for the term "different family forms" in the document, which was a reflection of the culture in the region; (d) the need for parental care, guidance, counselling and education on issues related to reproductive health for adolescents was also included; and (e) the impact of emigration of skills on a country's development process as well as the effect of immigration (especially illegal) on the resources of small islands were also recognized in the document.

Follow-up activities - Post-Cairo agenda

General

ICPD follow-up action is now in progress, and ECLAC/CDCC continues to play a role as the leading coordination mechanism for follow-up activities to implement the recommendations. To this effect, two subregional meetings have already been convened (November, New York 1994; and Bahamas, May 1995) for governments to review the ICPD Programme of Action, identify priority programmes for the Caribbean, set out clear goals and provide detailed recommended action. The result has been the development of the document - *Caribbean Subregional Plan of Action for Follow-up to ICPD* - which ECLAC/CDCC assisted in finalising. This will serve as a guideline for action at both the national and subregional levels.

In this regard, ECLAC/CDCC has also recently initiated action on the implementation of three of the specific ICPD recommendations of Caribbean governments pertaining to the subjects of migration, adolescent development and communications.

So far, one subregional Working Group meeting on Migration has been held (Tortola, September 1995) and two research studies initiated (role of remittances in development and impact of immigration on small island development). The production of the first *Caribbean Newsletter on ICPD Follow-up Activities*, requested by governments, is in progress and should be circulated by the

end of January 1996. Also, as recommended in the ICPD Plan, ECLAC/CDCC is assisting governments in the conduct of research and data collection for the promotion of a programme for adolescent development. Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of this plan of action represents further follow-up steps. These activities are elaborated below:

Specific ICPD follow-up activities

Caribbean Subregional Meeting on Population and Development - Follow-up to ICPD, Bahamas, 3 - 5 May 1995 - This meeting was designed and organized by ECLAC/CDCC, for consultations on follow-up activities to the ICPD Programme of Action. Convened in collaboration with UNFPA, and hosted by the Government of the Bahamas, the meeting, with more than 70 participants, served as the first subregional gathering since the ICPD. It brought together a wide cross-section of government officials from 18 CDCC member countries, representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), regional institutions and international agencies.

During the meeting, government delegates and NGOs examined the recommendations from the ICPD Programme of Action, the World Summit for Social Development and the Preparatory document of the Fourth World Conference on Women, prioritized programmes and policies, considered action on the agreements and devised mechanisms for translation into national and subregional programmes. The meeting also gave government experts the opportunity to exchange experiences on the implementation of their post-ICPD activities.

Six areas were identified as priority for the Caribbean subregion: migration; interrelations between population and sustainable development; population policy; adolescent fertility; reproductive health and family planning; advocacy (information, education and communication) programmes.

The final output of the meeting was the development of a the document - Caribbean Subregional Plan of Action on Population and Development: Follow-up to ICPD - for consideration and implementation by governments at both the national and subregional level.

Subregional Meeting of Working Group on Migration - A Working Group on Migration and Development was convened 13-15 September 1995, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, at the request of governments during the Caribbean ICPD follow-up meeting in the Bahamas held in May 1995 and as an extension of the research activity of the project.

The 11-member Working Group consisted of representatives from Belize, British Virgin Islands, Bahamas, Dominica, Netherlands Antilles, Jamaica, Saint Kitts/Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, United States Virgin Islands, ECLAC/CDCC, and the United Nations Population Division, New York.

This meeting represented the first step towards the implementation of the migration section of the ICPD Programme of Action. It also served as the first stage of the process in preparation for the regional and international conferences on migration and development as recommended in the

Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and the ICPD Programme of Action.

Objectives: To develop strategies for implementation of the *Caribbean Plan of Action - Follow-up to ICPD*; outline an approach for fulfilling the research and data needs required by governments for decision-making; and initiate action on the preparation of background materials needed for meaningful participation of Caribbean governments at the forthcoming regional and international conferences on migration and development.

Meeting outputs: Governments brought to the meeting data and information on the current migration situation in their countries, which was used to assess the migration-related problems facing the Caribbean subregion today. New directions for its study were identified, within the context of changing patterns and the new development paradigms and trading policies of the region. Three areas were recognized as requiring more in-depth review in the Caribbean: the impact of immigration on small island countries and coastal States; the role of remittances and its contribution to development; and new trends in return migration and the implications for development.

Follow-up activities: These will include the convening of a follow-up working Group Meeting in the first half of 1996, and the organization of a Caribbean subregional meeting on Migration and Development during the second half of 1996. The outcome of this work is expected to provide inputs into the preparatory exercises for the international conference on migration scheduled for 1997.

Migration research studies

Work has begun on the collection of data and analysis for the conduct of two research studies as follow-up to ICPD recommendations. These are: (a) the impact of immigration on small island countries and coastal States; and (b) the role of remittances and its contribution to development. The studies are expected to be completed by January-February 1996.

National adolescent policy

In response to the ICPD recommendations on the subject of adolescents, assistance is being provided to the Governments of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada and Trinidad and Tobago in the collection and analysis of data and the formulation of a policy for adolescents. In this regard, three Teenage Fertility Surveys are in varying stages of completion in the three countries. The aim was to collect in-depth information required to increase understanding of the causes and consequences, develop intervention programmes, provide recommendations for more efficient resource allocations and strengthen collaboration among implementing agencies.

Work is also underway in the analysis and dissemination of the survey data on teenage fertility as well as the conduct of workshops for programme and policy formulation on the subject of adolescent fertility.

Caribbean newsletter for ICPD implementation

This newsletter is being produced in response to the many requests made by delegates at the recently concluded "Caribbean ICPD Follow-up Meeting", held in the Bahamas, 3-5 May 1995. The need was identified for a mechanism that would promote continuity in follow-up action to ICPD and encourage the exchange and sharing of knowledge and experience among Caribbean countries in the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.

Work began in August on the design and preparation of materials for the production of a Caribbean Newsletter for the exchange of information on country experiences in the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.

Recommendation 5, in the *Caribbean Plan of Action - Follow-up to ICPD* (Advocacy section), advocates the "setting-up of a clearing house in ECLAC/CDCC for preparation and dissemination of information on national and regional population and development activities" and "publication of a Caribbean regional newsletter on population and post-ICPD activities on a quarterly basis".

Governments have been submitting to ECLAC, Port-of-Spain, articles and materials on national ICPD follow-up activities.

This newsletter has therefore been prepared in close collaboration with governments and other regional and international organizations in the Caribbean region, with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Project No. CAR/94/PO2.

Publication is expected by the end of January 1996.

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