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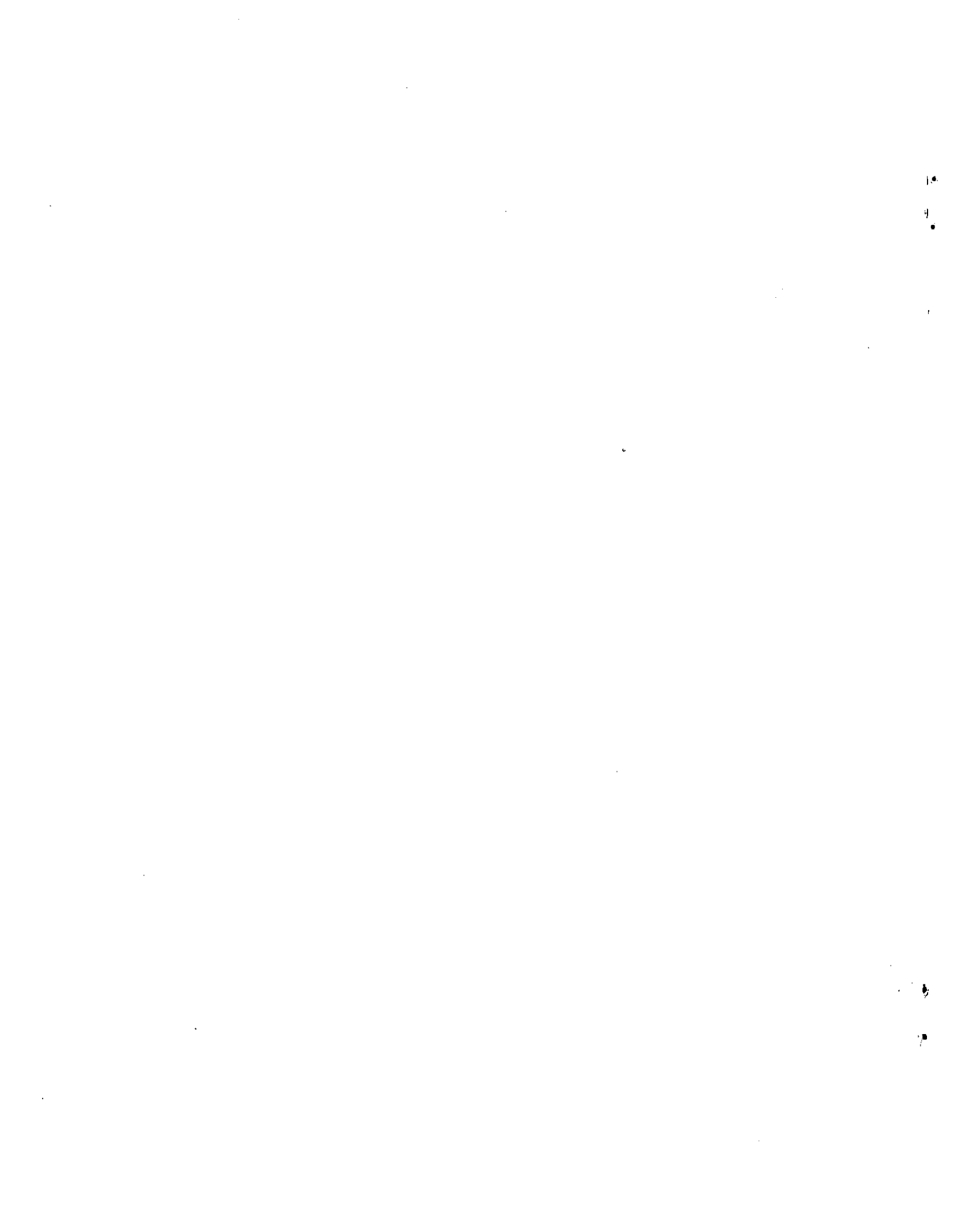


UN INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON CO-ORDINATION FOR  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE  
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE  
SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES: PROPOSALS BY AGENCIES



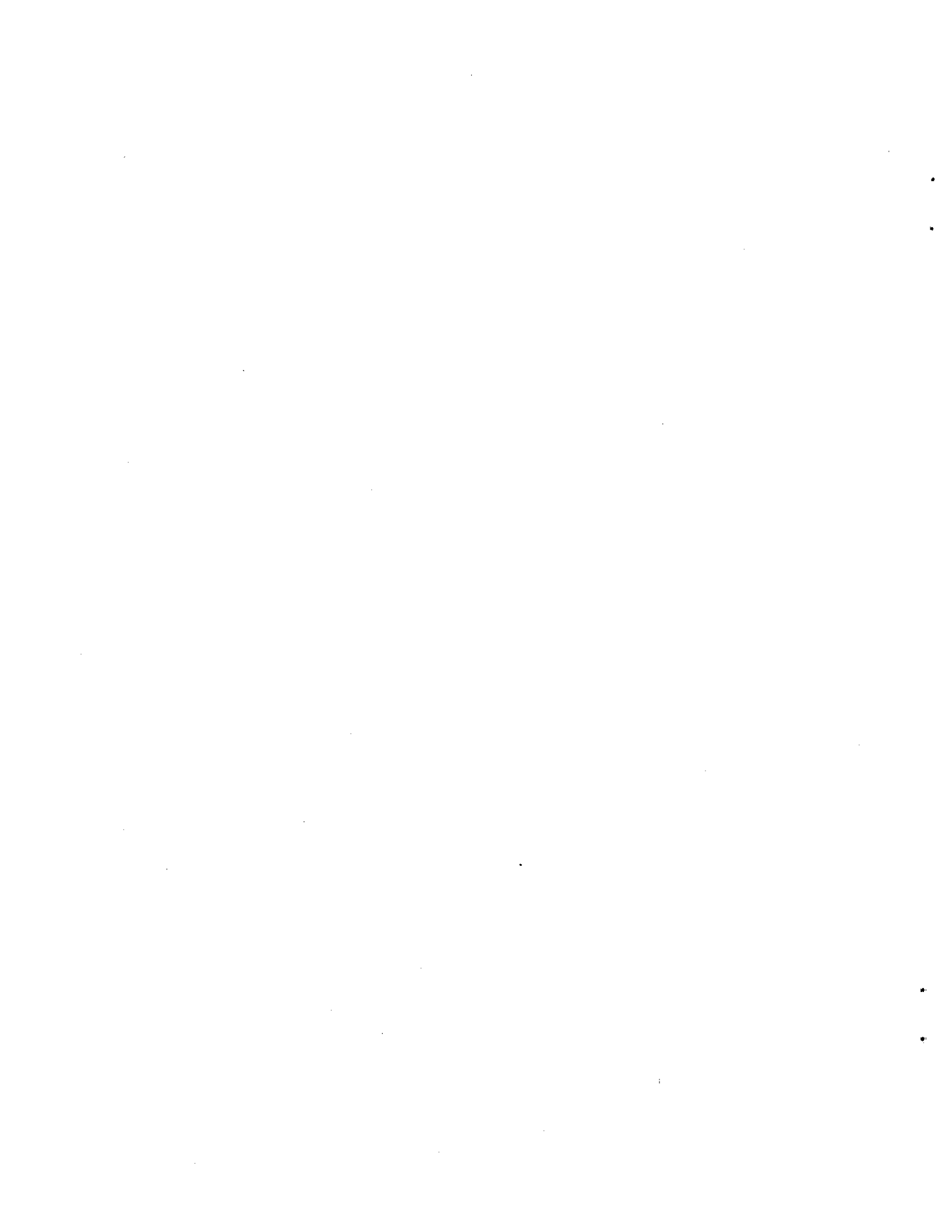
UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA



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## INTRODUCTORY

As follow-up to the items identified for attention at the Inter-Agency Meeting, New York, June 1976, supplementary notes have been provided by UN Agencies to indicate the nature and content of the activities listed in table 2 of the document E/CEPAL/CDCC/11. Those that were available at time of preparation of this paper are presented at Part I. Further elaboration of the activities would be offered by the Agencies if required; in addition presentations may be made by Agencies not included in this paper.

Many of these activities are on-going projects dependent on UNDP financing, which relate to sub-groups within the CDCC, either CARICOM or ECCM exclusively. It would seem that in some cases there is the possibility for the activity to be extended to embrace the CDCC group of countries, while for others this possibility is less feasible. On the other hand there are activities, again in some cases UNDP supported where the coverage extends beyond the CDCC group, and there is the possibility of developing a CDCC component.

UNDP on-going projects as well as future projects could be oriented to fulfill the objectives of the work programme of the CDCC should the Governments and/or regional institutions so request it. Furthermore, since Governments provide counterpart support for all UNDP projects, these resources could also be made available to implement CDCC programmes.

Part II of the paper presents specific activities proposals relating to items referred back for consideration of Governments' Representatives (i.e. the items at table 3B of E/CEPAL/CDCC/11). These activities would serve to articulate the related objectives in the CDCC Constituent Declaration and in the Work Programme.

It should be noted that additional programmes worked out as joint activities are presented in E/CEPAL/CDCC/18 Section IV (UNEP), E/CEPAL/CDCC/19 (UNESCO), and Add.1 (ICAO). For these latter, allocations of tasks between the ECLA Office for the Caribbean and the Agency have been made, to the extent that this is presently feasible, thus indicating the degree of co-ordination.



INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO)

1. Maritime Legislation

A team of experts from the IMCO Secretariat, composed of officers of the Legal and Technical Co-operation Divisions visited CARICOM Headquarters and several other member countries of CARICOM and held discussions aimed at initiating the ground-work for the drafting of a CARICOM Maritime Legal Code. This draft is expected to be completed in about eighteen months time.

2. Maritime Training

An IMCO expert visited the CARICOM Secretariat and other countries in the Caribbean to carry out a preliminary survey on the establishment of a Caribbean Maritime Training Institute. The report of this expert is now being considered by the CARICOM Secretariat and it is hoped that it would lead to the development of an integrated maritime training system in the region.

3. Advisory Services

- (a) The IMCO Regional Adviser based in Rio de Janeiro could be made available to render on-the-spot assistance on specific areas dealing with maritime training and ship building and to advise on overall maritime subjects.
- (b) It is expected that an IMCO Regional Marine Pollution Adviser will be based at ECLA Headquarters in Santiago and technical assistance on marine pollution matters could be made available to member countries.
- (c) IMCO Inter-Regional Advisers could also offer advisory services on maritime safety administration and maritime legislation.

4. If resources can be made available from multi-lateral or bi-lateral sources or from requesting countries, IMCO will be prepared to assist in the following areas:

- (a) Identifying shipping problems faced by CDCC countries in international trade.
- (b) Devising schemes for adequately equipping coastal shipping to complement WISCO and large cargo liners and to provide transshipment services.
- (c) Harmonizing shipping legislation.

- (d) Co-ordinating port improvement policies.
- (e) Establishing international schools and other marine institutions for the training of seamen.
- (f) Application of the programme of coastal area development and management.
- (g) Environmental problems.



CENTRE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING (CHBP)

1. The Centre is in the process of preparing a handbook for tourism development planning which will focus particularly on the problems of integrating tourism development with economic, social and physical planning for area development. The first draft of this handbook is scheduled for completion by the end of 1977.
2. A project "Assistance in Physical Planning for the Eastern Caribbean" which covered ten islands has just been completed. Particular attention was directed to planning for tourism, coastal area development and management and environmental problems. The draft reports are now receiving the consideration of the respective Governments. Follow-up projects in coastal area development and management could then be implemented according to Government requests.
3. The Centre could provide assistance in industries for building materials, components, fixtures and fittings -
  - (a) by assisting in carrying out feasibility studies to determine the type and quality of materials needed as well as to identify those raw materials available in the region for their production;
  - (b) by assisting in setting up small scale production units for the manufacture of selected building products;
  - (c) carrying out feasibility studies on the utilization of agricultural, industrial and consumer wastes in the production of building materials.
4. The Centre has an active research programme, which organizes meetings and has initiated an exchange of information among building research organizations in the developing regions of the world. Particular attention is currently given to the physical improvement of slums and squatter settlements based on the active participation of the families that occupy those settlements. The Centre is in the process of establishing a human settlements information system which involves collection, analysis, synthesis and dissemination of all relevant information on human settlements on a national, regional and global basis. The Caribbean Documentation Centre will serve as a sub-centre for this system.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

1. Growth and Occupational Mobility of the Labour Force

(a) Regional Level

A Regional Adviser on Vocational Training will be posted at the ILO Caribbean Office in Port of Spain for the year 1977 and is expected to continue in 1978. This Regional Adviser is available for short-term advisory and consultancy assistance in all aspects of vocational training. For the year 1977 he is likely to be actively involved in the development of apprenticeship and vocational training programmes, particularly non-institutional, in Guyana, Jamaica, Surinam, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. The major area of emphasis in his programme will be that of developing Training Officers and Training Instructors for Vocational Training.

CINTERFOR Project 100 - The work of translating the CINTERFOR Basic Collections (CBCs), which was started in 1976, will phase out as an ILO project about April 1977, by which time about twelve CBCs will have been translated and made available to training institutions in the Caribbean as training material.

However, there are indications that the work of translating CBCs and other CINTERFOR material will continue as a regional effort by the two translation units developed under the ILO project at the National Training Board in Trinidad and Tobago and the Vocational Training Development Institute in Jamaica.

(b) National Level

SUR/74/002 - National Vocational Training Scheme: This UNDP-funded project will be operational from early 1977 with the objective of establishing non-institutional forms of vocational training. The project will continue in 1978.

Guyana: Plans are under discussion with the Government for an ILO Funds-in-Trust project for non-institutional vocational training in the country.

2. Short-Term Advisory Assistance

If CDCC member countries submit specific proposals for assistance by way of short-term advisers, the ILO will make efforts to provide such services either from the Caribbean Office or the Regional Office or from Headquarters.

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)

1. Advisory services are available to all participating countries in the following regional and inter-regional projects:

(a) Advisory services in trade expansion and economic integration -

This is an on-going project through 1977 consisting of two regional advisers in trade expansion and economic integration based in Geneva and one regional adviser in trade policy based in Caracas. A fourth regional adviser is provided for and is presently under recruitment to be based in Caracas and Mexico.

(b) Inter-regional Advisory Services in Trade Expansion and Economic Integration -

This project is continued in 1977 and consists of three inter-regional advisers based in Geneva

(c) Advisory Services for Multi-lateral Trade Negotiations -

This is an on-going project due to continue until the end of 1977 and possibly into 1978. This project includes a sub-contract component directly managed by ECLA Santiago and one senior adviser and trade analyst based in Geneva.

(d) Training and Advisory Services on General System of Preferences -

This project is approved through April 1977; its possible extension is presently under consideration at UNDP Headquarters.

(e) Inter-regional Advisory Services on Trade Documentation -

Missions will be undertaken by staff members of the UNCTAD Secretariat.

(f) Inter-regional Advisory Services on Shipping and Ports -

This project consisting of an adviser for eight man-months is expected to commence in May 1977.

2. Joint Export of Agricultural Products

This project aims at developing exports of fresh and processed agricultural products from the East Caribbean Common Market member countries to the more developed members of CARICOM and other international markets. This project is approved through 1977 and 1978 and provides for two marketing advisers, consultants as well as a small training component.

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU)

The project "Organization and Development of Postal Services (Caribbean)" aims at organizing and developing the postal services in the sub-region. It was started in January 1976 and is expected to continue through 1977 and 1978. The project concentrates on two focal points

- a country-oriented assistance; and
- a sub-regional component inquiring into the possibilities of a closer co-operation by means of co-ordination and or integration of certain services.

The project has identified the problems faced at the present time:

a) Staff aspects

- organization
- work standards and norms
- job descriptions

b) Other aspects

- equipment, transport facilities and space
- laws and regulations
- lack of statistical data
- financial problems

Training courses for middle management have been started.

For CARICOM countries, there appears to be two possibilities:

- (a) To set up some joint services whose existence would be ensured by agreements; or
- (b) To institute a Restricted Union to bring about closer postal links between CARICOM member countries.

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)

1. Exchange of Caribbean experiences in the fields of basic services for Children (through CARICOM)

- (a) The main activity which falls under this category was carried out under the Allied Health Personnel Training Programme, with CARICOM participation through a Seminar on Alternatives on the Delivery of Health Care held in St. Lucia from 8 to 12 November 1976. Colombia, Cuba, Venezuela and Surinam were asked to participate to share the experiences in this particular field. The report is being finalised and will be distributed through all the Caribbean countries.
- (b) Governments may wish to make specific suggestions to facilitate further exchange of experiences.

2. Participation of Women in Development in relation to the CARICOM Food Plan

It is proposed to post a Programme Officer in CARICOM for the development of women activities within the CARICOM Food and Nutrition Plan.

3. A UNICEF Office to serve the English-speaking Caribbean countries has been opened in Kingston.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO)

Seminar for Maritime and Port Administrators

The Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization considers that a seminar for maritime and port administrators concerning the adoption and implementation of the conventions for which it is depository would be extremely useful and that such a seminar should be organized as early as possible.

IMCO proposes that such a seminar should:

- a) include lectures and panel discussions on conventions having particular relevance for developing countries and their implementation, and small discussion groups on selected problems of maritime or technical port administration related to these conventions;
- b) be open to all developing countries in the Latin American region but be particularly directed to the developing countries in the Caribbean Area;
- c) be held in one of the developing countries of the Caribbean Area having particular interest in IMCO, its activities, and its conventions;
- d) be so designed as to encourage follow-up seminars on more specialized subjects; and
- e) be co-ordinated, where possible, with the Work Programme of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

Purposes

The purposes for which this seminar is to be offered are:

- a) to provide a forum at which government officials of developing countries charged with the administration of maritime, port and shipping matters may be informed of the basic elements of the international maritime safety and environmental protection schemes as set forth in IMCO Conventions and Recommendations;
- b) to provide a forum at which officials of those developing countries which have advanced in maritime, shipping, and port administration may discuss the steps which they have taken to

solve specific problems encountered in implementing these maritime safety and marine environmental protection conventions and recommendations;

- c) to provide the means by which the interested developing country may informally exchange views and discuss common or similar problems respecting the administration of maritime safety and marine environmental protection laws; and
- d) to provide the means by which these officials may meet and establish contact with their counterparts in other countries so as to further their mutual assistance and consultative ability.

#### Interest Focus

The officials to whom the seminar is to be directed are harbour masters, port administrators, shipping administrators, marine law enforcement officials, officials of agencies providing marine services, legal advisers to maritime administrations, and ship surveyors, including classification societies. The seminar will be directed to technical matters associated with the adoption and implementation of conventions concerning maritime safety and marine environmental protection and problems of port and maritime administrations associated with this implementation. Accordingly, most benefit to the governments of the interested countries will be derived from the seminar when they are represented by officials having particular competency and responsibility over these matters.

The subject matter of the seminar will be designed to deal with the implementation of the conventions and the practical problems of port and maritime administration associated with this subject. Theoretical or generalized presentations will be avoided.

#### Area Focus

While all developing countries of Latin America would be invited, the seminar will be primarily directed to the countries of the Caribbean area and to the maritime administrative problems which are peculiar to those countries.

#### Subject Matter

The subject matter of the presentations will be selected from the following subjects:

- a) vessel documentation problems, including among other things vessel registry and licensing and recordation of encumbrances;

- b) vessel survey, inspection, and certification problems, including, among other things,
  - i) post-construction and periodic surveys, inspections, and certifications;
  - ii) life-saving and fire-fighting apparatus inspections and certifications;
  - iii) radio and navigational equipment inspections and certifications;
  - iv) cargo handling gear inspections and certifications;
  - v) vessel admeasurement;
  - vi) casualty and accident investigations; and
  - vii) enforcement of domestic and international safety standards;
- c) maritime personnel training, examinations and certification problems, including among other things syllabi, training methods and aids, examinations, and standards;
- d) problems associated with the loading, stowage and handling of cargoes, particularly those concerning hazardous and dangerous cargoes and the implementation of the Load Line Convention;
- e) problems related to the regulation of navigation, vessel operational control, and other related matters such as siting control for fixed and floating structures and their marking and lighting, and the removal of wrecks;
- f) problems related to the provision of maritime services, such as aids to navigation, search and rescue, dredging, hydrographic surveying and charting;
- g) problems related to the safety regulation of "on-board" activities on marine fixed and floating structures;
- h) problems related to the facilitation and expeditious handling of vessels in ports; and
- i) problems related to marine environmental protection, including among other things enforcement of pollution prevention regulations, provision of pollution control equipment, procedures and methods, and the training of pollution control personnel.



The seminar will not address all of these matters. A determination will be made for the seminar of the four or five subjects which may be of special interest to a broad range of the interested officials. In addition, the broad range of IMCO's interests will be brought to the attention of the participants during the seminar, noting that it may be possible to conduct smaller and more specialized "in-depth" seminars in the future for developing countries having particular interests.

#### Format

The seminar will consist of lectures or panel presentations on the subjects chosen. Depending upon the selected subject and the inclination of the panel members, this form of presentation may involve a series of short talks or a single lecture of moderate length followed by comment by the other panel members. The lectures or panel discussions will be followed by smaller, more specialized discussion groups on problems and issues raised. Certain of these follow-up discussions will be so planned as to cover problems of the more developed maritime administrations. Others will deal with the more basic problems of maritime administrations which are in the preliminary stages of organization.

If possible, a short field trip or visit may be included in the programme. If the site chosen for the seminar is in a country having a more developed maritime administrative organization, such a visit might be arranged to an office or facility of that organization.

#### Sources of Lecturers, Panel Members, and Discussion Leaders

Lecturers will be drawn, depending upon the subject matter chosen, from the IMCO Secretariat, Classification Societies, bilateral aid agencies, faculty of maritime training institutions, and, perhaps, from the more developed port or maritime administrations of the countries in the region. Panel members will be drawn from the same groups. However, since the panel form of presentation is usually less formal than a single lecture, the individuals chosen for this type of presentation will be selected more for their practical experience and knowledge than for their experience in delivering detailed expositions. Leaders for discussions will be selected for their ability to encourage the exchange of views between the participants. They need not be as experienced as either the lecturers or the panel members (although the fact that they are would not make them unsuitable), but they should have a basic grasp of the principles being discussed.

Funding

It is proposed that the funding for the Seminar should be undertaken jointly by:

- (1) the host country;
- (2) the participating countries in meeting the expenses of their participants;
- (3) the IMCO, by way of technical inputs and providing the services of a few technical staff members and
- (4) ECLA.

It will also be necessary to make financial provision for the purposes of documentation.

CENTRE ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (CTC)

Training Workshop on the  
Negotiation with and Regulation of  
Transnational Corporations  
in the Caribbean Region

Organized by the United Nations Centre on Transnational  
Corporations (CTC) with the collaboration of the  
Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)  
and the Government of Guyana (host government)

An agreement in principle has been reached on the organization of a training workshop on the negotiation and regulation of transnational corporations to be held in mid-July 1977 in Georgetown, Guyana, with participation of officials nominated by member governments of CARICOM.

Purpose of the Workshop

Governments of developing countries desire to strengthen their capability in negotiations with transnational corporations regarding their participation as investors, suppliers of technology and of other services. There is ample evidence that many countries receiving foreign investments or entering into related contractual arrangements could improve the terms on which they are accepted. Other important elements affecting this relationship are the capability of the officials responsible for conducting such negotiations and the information at their disposal as well as the formulation of policies and regulations governing the activities of transnational corporations in the host country.

Furthermore, the benefits to host countries from the participation of transnational corporations depends on the formulation and administration of relevant legislation, fair and equitable agreements, and the effective administration of contractual agreements once concluded.

Thus, the basic aim of the workshop is to help prepare government officials to formulate policy and regulations and to conduct negotiations with transnational corporation. It will examine systematically a number of the main issues confronting host governments in the formulation and administration of national policies relating to transnational corporations. Alternative approaches will be examined, drawing on actual experience with the use of case material.

The approach is intended to satisfy the practical needs of officials responsible for these matters, with due regard to the goals and the techniques of negotiation. This calls for a curriculum which covers a range of topics, including the following:

1. The general framework of regulation of transnational corporations in host countries and the objectives of negotiation;
2. Analysis of the costs and benefits of various types of policies and regulations; and of projects (project appraisal);
3. Analysis of the costs and benefits of alternative forms of participation by transnational corporations;
4. Specific issues for negotiation;
5. The conduct of negotiations by host countries (including obtaining and utilizing information);
6. Organization and operation of transnational corporations;
7. Specific legal aspects of negotiation (drafting of contracts, settlement of disputes, re-negotiation);
8. Taxation of foreign investment income (including the interaction of host-country and home country tax regimes).

In the context of the regional interests of the Caribbean, particular attention will be given to the relationship between regional economic integration and transnational corporations. Also, consideration will be given to the question of harmonization of national policies concerning transnational corporations and other forms of transnational corporation activities.

A detailed syllabus reflecting the above topics will be prepared by CTC in consultation with CARICOM, together with a schedule. The duration of the workshop will be three weeks (fifteen working days), with the tentative dates of 18 July to 5 August 1977.

The required documentary materials will be supplied by the CTC supplemented, as feasible, by the Secretariat of CARICOM.

#### Participants

An announcement and invitation to governments to nominate participants will be transmitted by CARICOM on behalf of itself and the CTC, as co-sponsors of the workshop. The CTC will rely on CARICOM to make the necessary informal approaches to governments to obtain suitable nominations. In the case of Guyana, as the host country, this procedure will not be necessary.

Participants should be officials having decision-making responsibilities concerning the entry and operation of transnational corporations, in the form of direct investments by transnational corporations, licensing of technology, management contracts, service contracts and similar contractual arrangements. They may be attached to ministries, state enterprises or specific regulatory agencies.

Invitations will be sent to the countries listed below and to certain regional agencies, as indicated:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Number of Places</u>
Antigua	1
Barbados	1
Dominica	1
Grenada	1
Guyana (host country)	9
Jamaica	3
Montserrat	1
St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla	1
St. Lucia	1
St. Vincent	1
Trinidad and Tobago	3
CARICOM Secretariat	3
Caribbean Development Bank	<u>1</u>
Total	27

If governments do not nominate the number of places allotted, they may be reallocated at the discretion of CARICOM.

Participating governments will be informed that the cost of transportation and subsistence of their participants (from outside Guyana) will be met by the workshop. They will be requested to release participants from their normal responsibilities for the duration of the workshop, without loss of emoluments and privileges.

Invitations will be transmitted not later than three months prior to the beginning of the workshop, that is, by 15 April 1977. A draft text of the announcement and invitation will be prepared by the CTC and transmitted to CARICOM for review.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

A.

Public Telecommunication Services within CDCC

Overall Development

The main public telecommunication services are telephone, telex and telegraph (all common carrier services) and the provision of leased circuits for voice, teletype or data. The telephone service is far more important than all the others put together. Since also the same basic transmission facilities are often used for all services, the situation of the telephone service is likely to indicate that of the public telecommunication services as a whole. For the common carrier services an excellent summary is provided by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Yearbook of Common Carrier Telecommunication Statistics and Telecommunication Statistics. The information contained in this is such as to enable comparative studies to be made of level of telecommunication development, costs, and investment, related to population, households, GDP, and GFCF (gross fixed capital formation). However, of the CDCC members none contribute complete information and many do not appear at all. Hence full comparisons are not possible.

Nevertheless by using several sources it has been possible to make the following estimates of telephones per 100 population. The data on which they are based is on average about two years out of date for telephones and six years out of date for population.

Bahamas	32.4
Barbados	16.4
Belize	4.2
Cuba	3.1
Dominican Republic	2.4
Guyana	2.6
Haiti	0.2
Jamaica	5.0
Netherlands Antilles	15.2
Surinam	3.4
Trinidad and Tobago	6.6
WISA/ECCM Group	<u>5.0</u>
Average	<u>3.1</u>

As an indicator of the extent to which telephone service may be meeting development needs, these figures should be treated with caution. An agricultural economy needs fewer telephones than an industrial one while, in turn, an industrial economy needs fewer telephones than does one based on tourism and other services. Also, the proportion of residential telephones is likely to differ markedly from one country to another as, indeed, is current level of development.

#### Adequacy and Quality

Before collective efforts can be made to improve the telephone service it seems necessary that the current deficiencies should be identified. With minor exceptions international calls use, for their earlier and later stages, the same equipment as is used by inland calls. Hence the international service can hardly be better than the inland service and inadequacies in the inland service affect not only domestic subscribers but also those in distant countries who receive or initiate calls. To assist in identifying deficiencies a simple questionnaire will be circulated to member governments for completion.

This questionnaire is not designed for the use of operating agencies but is intended merely to obtain a first user impression of the position. So far as international service is concerned a series of CCITT Recommendations have been formulated to meet the needs of operating agencies. The operating agencies of CDCC members may wish to consider whether they are able to implement these Recommendations, in whole or in part.

#### Interconnection

The International Routing Plan envisages that international traffic relations may be served by any of the following routing arrangements:

- a. direct circuits;
- b. transit operation involving one or more transit centres for all connections;
- c. direct high-usage circuits which overflow via one or more transit centres.

The actual choice is normally a matter of economics, depending primarily upon traffic quantities, and preferably taking into account quality considerations also. To provide both a summary of the current position and background information upon which decisions may be based, the CCITT

prepares a World Plan and four Regional Plans. CDCC comes within the scope of the General Plan for the Development of the Regional Latin American Network (Brasilia 1973). The two volumes of the Plan contain a substantial amount of information. That dealing with arteries between CDCC members has been simplified, rearranged and set out in Annex 3. It is incomplete, no doubt because of limited participation in the plan activities on the part of CDCC members, and it is also to some extent out of date. Reference may also be made to the following CCITT publications.

List of cables forming the world submarine network

List of international telephone routes

List of international telex relations and traffic

The main facilities for interconnection between CDCC members are believed to consist of:

- Earth stations in Barbados, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago;
- Radio-relay systems linking the entire Eastern Caribbean;
- Links between Belize and Jamaica: Cuba and Jamaica: Dominican Republic and Haiti.

It is stated in the Fifteenth Report by the International Telecommunication Union on Telecommunication and the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that Barbados has satellite circuits to Jamaica. No other earth station linkages within CDCC are listed but this may be because several countries did not provide information.

The existence of earth stations enables countries within the same region to establish direct circuits between one another at quite short notice, provided that the earth stations concerned are accessing the same satellite. It should be a continuing function of the operating agencies to ensure that direct circuits are established as soon as they become economically justified. Wherever service difficulties exist, consideration might be given to provision of direct circuits even if the cost is somewhat more than that of using a transit routing.



Tariffs

An important aspect of regional telecommunications is agreement on a tariff plan. CCITT is in the process of producing tariff plans for all the regions of the world and CDCC comes within the scope of the Regional Group for Latin America. An indication of the activities of this group is given in Annex 4. Some results have been achieved and a further programme of work has been set for the next study period. So far, however, the degree of participation by CDCC members has been slight.

B.

Specific Subjects

The following specific subjects are put forward for consideration:

- Improved radio regulation and frequency management,
- Development of maritime radio communications,
- Establishment of a regional training centre in telecommunications.

These are discussed separately below.

Improved radio regulation and frequency management

The proper allocation of frequencies and regulation of their use is vital for broadcasting, point-to-point, land mobile, aeronautical, and maritime services. Since the advent of the earth satellite the public telecommunication services have tended to become increasingly dependent on utilisation of the radio frequency spectrum; the others have always been entirely so dependent.

A regional project in this field (RLA/74/028) terminated at the end of 1976. UNDP/ITU contributed two experts to coordinate a campaign of measurements of soil conductivity and radioelectric noise undertaken by 25 participating countries, which included from the CDCC area Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago. ITU also organized in 1975 a technical regional meeting to coordinate the campaign and ensure the adoption of common norms and methods of measurement. The main objective of the project was to obtain data required for the future planning of the broadcasting service, which will be undertaken by a regional conference to be held before 1980. Further work will undoubtedly be needed in advance of this conference.

Particular mention should be made of maritime radio communications since the country reports issued under Project INT/74/035 (Preliminary studies concerning the development of maritime radio communication) indicate in some cases that the backing in radio regulation and frequency management necessary to support the maritime services does not exist.

No doubt studies of other particular studies would have revealed a similar picture.

There would appear to be two advantages in a regional approach to radio regulation. First, it is inherent in the nature of the subject that coordination and cooperation between neighbouring governments is essential. The geographical area within which common measures are necessary varies between one service and another. Secondly, in highly specialised studies of the type that will be required, substantial economies may be gained if they are carried out in parallel for all the countries of a region or subregion.

#### Development of maritime radio communications

As already mentioned, a report in this field has been produced through Project INT/74/035 (Preliminary studies concerning the development of maritime radio communication). It was found that in general coast stations do not meet the requirements of modern shipping. Several shipping disasters would probably have been avoided or partly avoided if meteorological observations had been distributed in a normal way and if ships in difficulties had been able to contact the coast station of the nearest country. For the Caribbean it was found that there were countries where no maritime radio stations existed. From overall economic considerations it can be shown that the provision of facilities would quickly provide worthwhile returns. Safety itself is economically beneficial. Beyond this, good radio communications, both in and out of port, are vital for the efficient operation of ships and shore facilities. It was pointed out that in an area such as the Caribbean a close coordination of radio frequencies is essential. A central coordinating office is needed for this purpose and such an office would depend on national officials. In some countries trained officials have not yet been provided.

It is necessary to make a complete survey of existing facilities, then plan for the purchase and erection of shore stations, to be connected as appropriate to local networks, as well as for maintenance of the equipment and the training, where necessary, of people to do this work and operate the stations. Plans have also to be made to provide equipment for ships with consideration being given to the possibility of consolidated ordering or even to the local manufacture under license of what is essentially simple equipment. It was estimated that at least four expert man-years would be needed to meet the engineering requirements of the Caribbean and that a separate market survey would also be necessary.

For Latin America and the Caribbean a seminar has been planned as Project RAL/75/012. This is to be held in Buenos Aires at the end of October 1977. Its main objective will be to analyse the situation in the countries concerned, inform them as to present possibilities and planning principles, and coordinate future actions.

Establishment of a regional training centre in telecommunications

At present within the CDCC area there are or will be five training centres receiving ITU assistance. These are in Guyana, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles, Surinam, and Trinidad and Tobago. Except in the case of Surinam, financing will be wholly or (for Netherlands Antilles) partly by UNDP. These centres provide for training of technicians. However, some countries, particularly smaller ones, still do not have their own facilities for training of this type. Also, there is some general need to expand training facilities for craft workers, technicians, and other staff at similar levels. In addition it seems likely that for the region as a whole there is a need to define and introduce specialised training for engineers, managers, and other professional staff.

One type of solution would be for existing centres to train staff from those countries which do not have their own centres. Some provision is already made for this. Another would be for centres to specialise to some extent, so that some more specialised types of training were concentrated in a particular country. This should enable the range of technicians and equivalent courses to be expanded and might also make it possible to meet some of the needs at professional level. Yet another type of solution would be to open a regional training centre. This might provide not only professional training but also some more specialised courses at technician and equivalent level. A regional centre might in addition provide basic technician training for those countries which do not have their own centre.

It seems likely that to meet the requirements of the CDCC area some combination of all the measures discussed would prove to be the most appropriate method. It now seems necessary for Governments to specify their needs and to consider how they might best be met.

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