



GENERAL

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Office for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

Sixth Session
St. George's, Grenada
4 to 10 November 1981



ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean



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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

In conformity with the practice established at its First Session in Havana, the Sixth Session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) will be divided into a Technical Level Meeting from 4 to 7 November and a Ministerial Level Meeting from 9 to 10 November 1981.

Item 1 - Opening Addresses

The Ministerial Level phase will be preceded by a formal inaugural ceremony scheduled for the morning of 9 November, the details of which, including the opening addresses will be announced in the corresponding Order of the Day.

Item 2 - Election of Officers

Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure provides that "the Chairman of the Committee shall be the Minister designated as ex-officio member of the Committee by the host country of the session and elected by the Committee".

Rule 7 states that at "each session the Committee shall also elect two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, who may be Ministers, Advisers or Experts".

At the Committee's First Session in Havana, it was agreed that subject to appropriate changes of rank, the officers of the Ministerial Level should come from the same countries as the corresponding officers of the Technical Level Meeting. This practice has been observed at succeeding sessions.

Item 3 - Adoption of the Agenda

The Provisional Agenda proposed by the Secretariat in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/7.6 subject to the changes which may be introduced by delegates, is intended to serve for both levels of meetings. The conclusions and recommendations of the Technical Level Meeting have hitherto constituted the main basis for the discussions at the Ministerial Level.

Item 4 - Implementation of the Work Programme of the CDCC

(a) Document E/CEPAL/CDCC/7.8 deals with progress achieved with the Work Programme of the CDCC, identifying the actions taken since the fifth session on: those items approved and endorsed at previous sessions of the

CDCC as priorities, the other sectors of the authorised work programme, and the rest of the functions of the Office.

As has been the practice, the recommended next steps are also indicated under each sub-head.

It would be recalled that the Committee agreed that without prejudice to actions envisaged in other sectors of the Work Programme the highest priority should be accorded to the following activities: Strategy for the elimination of Language Barriers; Maritime Transport; International Trade; Establishment of multi-national Enterprise for the production and distribution of printed and audio-visual materials; Establishment of Caribbean network for Educational Innovations for Development; Participation of Caribbean Women in Development; Science and Technology. It was also decided that equally high priority should be given to development of the Caribbean Documentation Centre and establishment of the Caribbean Information System, in support of the priority projects and as the basis for their implementation and the work programme as a whole.

(b) Matters that have been referred to Governments for their observations and guidance to the Secretariat include: the proposal for continuing industry survey in the feasibility report prepared by UNIDO Consultant, the document titled "Development Strategy for Caribbean Countries in the Decade of the Eighties" prepared in response to CDCC resolution 5(iv); application of the British Virgin Islands for Observer Status to the CDCC; the proposals for co-operative actions tabled at the Fifth Session which include agricultural products, transport of agricultural equipment, fishing industry, production of books (which constitute Annex 2 of Report of the Fifth Session of the CDCC document (E/CEPAL/CDCC/68/Rev.2).

(c) In respect of actions on the resolutions adopted at the Fifth Session of the CDCC, two Secretariat notes are submitted, (Document E/CEPAL/CDCC/79 and E/CEPAL/CDCC/80. Concerning the latter a paper titled "Report on the Sub-regional Offices for Central America and Panama and for the Caribbean of the Economic Commission for Latin America (CEPAL)" prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit (Document JIU/REP/80/13) was transmitted at the request of Executive Secretary (JIU) and also tabled at ECLA's Nineteenth Session in Montevideo together with the Secretary General's Comments.

Item 5 - Co-ordination and Co-operation policy

The document submitted by the Secretariat in respect of this Agenda item, E/ECPAL/CDCC/81, brings into perspective the relationships being developed by the co-operation networking systems that have been implemented, and focuses attention on the attendant needs for improved co-ordination with other parallel activities. Directly relevant are the programmes being pursued within the frameworks of inter-governmental bodies (CARICOM, CDB, OECS, CTC, etc.) on the one hand, and the programmes of aid donors and international agencies on the other. Primary focus is placed on obstacles to the co-operation process and suggestions are put forward as to how they may be overcome.

The document is set against the background of the objectives of the CDCC, the mandates into which those objectives were translated, and the practical actions that have been adopted. Aspects of this broad question were examined at the fourth and fifth sessions of the CDCC. In the document E/CEPAL/CDCC/51 "Assessment of Some Aspects of Realising the CDCC Programme" submitted to the Fourth Session, the Secretariat outlined the feasible approach to establishing co-operation mechanisms among the CDCC countries taking into account the numerous diversities (size, levels of development, economic and political organizations, traditional linkages) that characterize the Caribbean countries. On the basis of acceptance by the Committee to that assessment of the possibilities and mechanism to develop horizontal co-operation, the approach was further developed in the paper "The Role and Functioning of the CDCC", Document E/CEPAL/CDCC/59 which presented a critical examination of the key bodies and their operations, and dealt with the problem of resources inputs to facilitate the execution of the activities mandated.

Three of the mechanisms articulated in the first paper are now in place - the Caribbean Information System, the Data Bank and the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology; and action has also been initiated on the Strengthening of the CDCC Secretariat.

It is in the light of these experiences that attention is now invited to the aspects of improving co-operation between the CARICOM and non-CARICOM countries that together comprise the CDCC group, and also the co-ordination of projects, in the United Nations System.

Item 6 - ECLA resolutions with implications for the CDCC

The resolution "Activities of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee" adopted at the Fourteenth Session of the CEPAL Committee of the Whole, New York, 20 November 1980. In addition to welcoming the report on CDCC's fifth session and endorsing the resolutions that were adopted, the Committee of the Whole expressed its satisfaction with the steps taken by ECLA's Executive Secretary to enhance the status and resources of the Caribbean Office, and requested him to continue to seek the co-operation of the Specialized Agencies in implementing CDCC activities.

At the 19th Session of ECLA (Montevideo) the resolution "Co-operation between the Caribbean and rest of Latin America" was adopted. It requires the development of a programme which would identify the obstacles to co-operation and measures for overcoming them, the spelling out of the possibilities for wider horizontal co-operation, and the promotion of co-operation between the integration Secretariats in Latin America.

Item 7 - Other matters

Members may wish to suggest other items for consideration.

Item 8 - Site and Timing of Seventh Session

Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure provides that "regular sessions of the Committee shall be held once a year". The Committee will consider the invitations received from member governments for the next session and will decide on a place and time.

Item 9 - Consideration and Approval of Report including Possible Financial Implications

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