

CDCC/CCST/83/20

September 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE
CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Third Plenary Session
Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles
27-29 July, 1983



MINUTES OF THIRD PLENARY SESSION
OF THE
CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean



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MINUTES OF THIRD PLENARY SESSION
OF THE
CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
CURACAO, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
27-29 July 1983

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

1. The Third Plenary Session of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) was convened in Willemstad, Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, from 27-29 July 1983 in conformity with Article 19 of the Statutes. The meeting was hosted by the Government of the Netherlands Antilles in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Opening Session

2. The meeting was declared open by His Excellency, Don Martina, Prime Minister of the Netherlands Antilles.^{1/} The meeting was also addressed by the Director of the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean.^{2/} and the UNESCO Consultant to the Caribbean in Science and Technology.

Attendance^{3/}

3. Representatives from the following CCST member countries were present: Cuba, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname.
4. The following Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) members and associate members were also present as observers: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados and the Netherlands Antilles.

^{1/} The Honourable Minister's speech is given at Annex I.

^{2/} The Director's speech is given at Annex II.

^{3/} The list of participants is given at Annex III.

5. The following agencies and organizations with interest in regional Science and Technology activities also attended as observers:

Board on Science and Technology for International Development (BOSTID)
Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM)
Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA)
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
Organization of American States (OAS)
Organizacion Latinoamericana de Energia (OLADE)
Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO)
United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
United Nations University (UNU)
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
University of the West Indies (UWI)
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

6. The United Nations ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, which serves as the Secretariat to the CDCC, provided Secretariat services for the Session.

II. SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS

Approval of the Agenda^{4/}

(Agenda Item 1)

7. The Agenda proposed in document No. CDCC/CCST/83/6 was formally adopted subject to the correction that the title of Item 8 be changed to "Report on the First Meeting of CARICOM Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology". The Meeting was also informed that the representative

^{4/} See Annex IV.

of Trinidad and Tobago had requested that discussion on this agenda item be postponed pending their arrival later during the Plenary Session.

Report of the Second Plenary Session
(See document E/CEPAL/CDCC/97)

(Agenda Item 2)

8. The Report of the Second Plenary Session, having previously been circulated to all member countries, was formally adopted.

Matters Arising

(Agenda Item 3)

9. At the request of one representative, the Secretariat briefly described highlights of all activities taken subsequent to the Second Plenary Session with the promise that more elaboration would occur during the presentation of the Chairman's Report and the Second Annual Report.

Report of the
Third Executive Committee Meeting
(Document No. CDCC/CCST/83/4)

(Agenda Item 4)

10. The Report of the Third Executive Committee Meeting, which was held from 27-28 January 1983 in Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, was formally tabled.

Amendment to Article 4
of the CCST Statutes

(Agenda Item 5)

11. The Chairman introduced the discussion by relating all activities which had taken place since November 1982, culminating with the advice on the subject which had been received by the Secretariat from the Office of Legal Counsel of the United Nations in New York. The Amendment which had been proposed as an additional paragraph to Article 4 reads as follows:

"The Council may admit as an Associate Member of CCST, any Associate Member of the Economic Commission for Latin America within the Caribbean region. Representatives of Associate Members shall be entitled to participate fully without the right to vote in the meetings and work of the Council and of those of its subsidiary bodies on which all members of CCST are represented".

12. The delegation of the Netherlands Antilles made a presentation^{5/} during which clarification was sought as to possible interpretations of certain phrases in the proposed amendment. The Council decided unanimously that in order to take into account the concerns expressed by the Netherlands Antilles and to facilitate the formal adoption of the proposed amendment by the Member States, the following points should be specified in this Report:

- (i) The Council accepted the wording of the amendment as proposed in paragraph II and invited its Members to ratify it;
- (ii) The first part of the amendment shall be interpreted as applying to any Associate Member of ECLA within the Caribbean region being also a member of CDCC;
- (iii) Participation in the work of subsidiary bodies will be interpreted as being possible for Associate Members as long as all CCST members are eligible to be represented; and
- (iv) In accordance with the tradition and precedence set by other regional organizations Associate Members of CCST will be allowed to hold office, in the Council and its subsidiary bodies.

The Council also agreed that in the meantime the Netherlands Antilles would be invited to participate in the work of the Council, as appropriate.

^{5/} See Annex V.

13. The Secretariat was then asked to seek advice from the Office of Legal Counsel of the United Nations in New York on the above interpretations and to continue efforts to establish the necessary mechanism by which the Netherlands Antilles could achieve full Membership in CCST.

Chairman's Report for 1982-1983
(Document No. CDCC/CCST/83/9)

(Agenda Item 6)

14. The Chairman formally introduced his Report^{6/} and commented on the highlights which had occurred during his term of office. He advised that serious restrictions were being placed on the valuable role outlined for the CCST in its statutes by many member countries not having yet paid their annually assessed contributions. He encouraged members to do their utmost to convince their decision-makers that a very modest investment in Science and Technology at this stage could bring about incalculable returns. He commented briefly on phases of those projects which had been completed and which were already beginning to show tangible results. He mentioned especially the two films which had been already completed under Project III and which were evoking favourable responses. The Secretariat had begun analysing the data collected in Project I and he urged those countries who had not submitted the information to do so as quickly as possible.

15. He wished his successor a fruitful and rewarding year of office and concluded by paying tribute, firstly to ECLA for continuing to provide the Interim Secretariat, secondly to his colleagues on the Executive Committee for their advice, encouragement and unstinting support, and finally to the Conference Secretariat for ensuring that the business of the CCST was conducted efficiently.

^{6/} See Annex VI.

Annual Report and Balance Sheet
for
1982-1983
(Document No. CDCC/CCST/83/13)

(Agenda Item 7)

16. In introducing the Report, the Secretariat apologized for not being able to present the Balance Sheet as an attachment to the Report, because of the changes which had been recommended by the Executive Committee at the Fourth Meeting. Members were however assured that the Balance Sheet would be presented during discussion on the Budget.

17. The Secretariat advised members on the increase in membership, as both Belize and Haiti had become members during the year and repeated some of the Chairman's comments on the need for members to ensure that the annually assessed contributions were paid promptly.

18. The criteria for identifying projects to be undertaken by CCST were again emphasized and the progress made in each of the projects and the Specialist Committees/Working Groups was elaborated.

Report on the First Meeting of CARICOM Ministers
responsible for Science and Technology

(Agenda Item 8)

19. The First CARICOM Meeting of Ministers with responsibility for Science and Technology took place in Kingston, Jamaica from 6-7 April 1983. The CCST was invited as an Observer and a report on the main decisions taken at the meeting which would impact on the work programme of CCST (Document No. CDCC/CCST/83/7) was formally presented by the Secretariat.

20. The main discussion was focused on what CCST, with its wider Caribbean constituency, could do in harmonising its mandate with effective responses to the Ministerial directives. It was recommended that in view of the forthcoming Meeting of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee (Barbados, 30 August to 1 September) there were possibly three substantial areas in which CCST could complement the regional activities in Science and Technology:

- (i) It would be possible for CCST to extend its audio-visual project and produce audio-visual material which would promote agro-industrial development and information exchange;
- (ii) CCST could play an anticipatory role and in the Seminar/Workshop on "New Technologies and their Implications for Caribbean Development" which is being scheduled for March/April 1984, Council could assist in identifying the range of policy issues associated with what is presently occurring and the likely developments over the next ten years, in biotechnology, micro-electronics and new technologies, all of which are certain to affect development within the Caribbean in the near future; and
- (iii) The CCST could also endeavour to elaborate proposals and strategies for enhancing Science and Technology collaboration within the Region. These proposals could be circulated to all Members for their comments which would be incorporated into a recommendation for further action. This recommendation could become part of a submission of the CCST to the workshop which will be convened by CARICOM to discuss the working document previously submitted by the UNESCO consultant to the CARICOM ministers responsible for Science and Technology.

Report of the Second Meeting of Agencies which
Sponsor Regional Activities in Science and Technology

(Agenda Item 9)

21. The Chairman gave a brief background to developments which had encouraged the Council to continue convening this meeting immediately prior to its annual Plenary Sessions. He noted that sixteen agencies were represented at the Second Meeting which had been held the previous day and that all of them had remained as observers to the Plenary Session.

22. He informed the Meeting that the UNESCO representative had completed the analysis of the information which had been submitted by the agencies, and although not all those agencies which are active in the region had responded, the pattern that was emerging had encouraged CCST to continue updating and analysing the information. (See Document No. CDCC/CCST/83/17). It was recommended that:-

- (i) a copy of the document be circulated to all Member Governments and their representatives for their reaction and comments.
- (ii) That the new Executive Committee review the document in the light of responses from the various Governments and representatives in order to proceed with Phase II of the programme.

23. Following the discussions at the Second Meeting of Agencies, Mr. Irvine and Mr. Spence had been asked to present a background paper. Several valuable comments and suggestions were made by members and observers which were incorporated into the final document^{7/} - "Mechanisms for enhancing collaboration between CCST, and Agencies which support regional activities in Science and Technology".

Special Arrangements for Groups of Small States
to enhance their Marine Science Capabilities

(Agenda Item 10)

24. The Plenary Session of the Council discussed in detail the implications of the New Law of the Sea Convention to which many of its Member Countries are signatories. It noted that, as a consequence of this, many small island states in the region are now able to exercise jurisdiction over vast areas of the Sea. A situation has been created in which urgent action is needed by the Member Countries, to enhance their indigenous capability and self reliance in Marine Science and Technology, so that they may grasp better the new opportunities to explore and manage their resources in the Sea in harmony with their socio-economic development.

^{7/} See Annex VII.

The Council warmly welcomed the initiative taken by UNESCO/IOC in offering to send a Mission to the countries of the region, as part of its Comprehensive Plan for a Major Assistance to Enhance Marine Science Capabilities of Developing Countries, with a view to identifying their needs and to advising them on ways and means to assist in the development of required marine scientific and technological competence. It also noted that the region possesses some scientific and technical competence in the various fields of marine sciences, and that preliminary studies had already taken place in some countries. The meeting was informed that through an initiative taken by the Government of Jamaica, a mission of experts was scheduled to visit that country under the auspices of the IOC. The Council therefore recommended that:

- (i) The Mission should include experts from the region;
- (ii) CCST's Technical Committee on Marine Affairs should convene, without prejudice to Jamaica's position, when the Mission would assemble in the region;
- (iii) CCST should seek funds from National and International sources such as UNDP, United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSSTD) and others to support convening the meeting of the Technical Committee and the expert Mission to the region, recommending that each member country's representative be able to outline the country's policy based on the terms of reference of the Mission; and
- (iv) CCST should have consultations with the IOC with a view to reaching agreement on the terms of reference for the Mission. CCST further noted the emergence of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), and would consult with member countries as well as the OECS in deciding the choice of countries to be visited by the Mission of experts.

CCST - The Next Phase

(Agenda Item 11)

25. The Chairman introduced the document No. CDCC/CCST/83/14 by giving a brief history of the activities of the CCST during its establishment phase (1981-1983) and again requested members to do

their utmost to ensure that their Governments paid their annually assessed contributions promptly.

26. He informed the Meeting that he had been assured that ECLA/CDCC would continue providing the Secretariat services to CCST for the 1984-1985 biennium and in view of the Statutory periods for budgeting in the timetable of the United Nations System, representatives requested that ECLA initiate steps to ensure that this would continue for the 1986-1987 biennium.

27. The representative from the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) also introduced a paper on subregional and regional co-operation in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action (VPA) with particular reference to the Caribbean region.

28. He noted that the CCST was a unique institution which had been created for Science and Technology collaboration at the regional level, and outlined joint activities which had been identified under the eight programme areas of the VPA. He recommended that the CCST should take some conscious decisions as to those projects with which they wished to be associated and could also present, through ECLA any new projects. Members emphasized the need that care should be taken to ensure that whatever regional projects were formulated should be directly designed and oriented towards building and/or developing endogenous capabilities, so that in this respect, the guidelines suggested by UNCSTD would be useful.

The Secretariat was directed to explore the possibility of CCST becoming the regional mechanism in the Caribbean for the implementation of the VPA.

The CCST Work Programme for 1983-1984

(Agenda Item 12)

29. The CCST work programme for 1983-1984 was introduced by the Secretariat through document No. CDCC/CCST/83/12. The collaborative role which CCST could play in various regional initiatives was emphasized and an undertaking was given that additional activity would only be undertaken if CCST could procure additional funds for that purpose.

30. The work programme^{8/} was accepted and many agencies indicated mechanisms by which some of the projects could obtain assistance.

The CCST Budget for 1983-1984

(Agenda Item 13)

31. The Budget was presented by the Honorary Treasurer through document No. CDCC/CCST/83/11. It was decided that in view of the decisions taken at the Fourth Executive Committee Meeting, the figures should be presented to the treasurer and in the format suggested by him and that they be incorporated in the official Report of the Meeting.

32. It was also decided that the Secretariat should implement action in establishing a Special Fund in accordance with Article 28(b) of the CCST Statutes.

Election of Officers

(Agenda Item 14)

33. Following the principle of equitable geographic distribution, the following Officers were elected for 1983-1984:

Chairman:	Dr. James de Vere Pitt	(Grenada)
Vice-Chairman:	Dr. Jacques Lorthe	(Haiti)
Member:	Dr. M.O. "Pat" Hamilton	(Jamaica)

Mr. I.M. Kortram is to continue as Honorary Treasurer, having been elected at the last Plenary Session for a period of three years.

Executive Committee Meetings of
the CCST - Dates, Venues, Agenda

(Agenda Item 15)

34. Two countries were suggested as hosts for the next two Executive Committee Meetings and the Secretariat was asked to implement the necessary action.

^{8/} See Annex VIII.

The Fourth Plenary Session of
the CCST - Date, Venue, Agenda

(Agenda Item 16)

35. Since no country was identified members undertook to explore possibilities with their Governments on their return home.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Logo and Stationery for CCST

(Agenda Item 17)

36. The Meeting, while appreciating the need for a continuing and evolving programme, did not adopt the recommendation that the CCST should create the nucleus of the Secretariat. It however recommended that the Secretariat should initiate activity on getting letterheads with an appropriate CCST logo.

Preparations for CASTALAC II

37. The representative from UNESCO, recounted that the Science and Technology Policies Division of UNESCO had participated actively in the establishment of CCST and urged for continued collaboration between the Council and other UNESCO departments. He quoted Article 28(b) of the Statutes and he recommended that the CCST take steps to establish a Special Fund for Scientific and Technological Development in the Caribbean. He stated that UNESCO could provide some assistance in this respect and indicated the possibility of the Treasurer visiting UNESCO Headquarters for discussions on the subject, following a formal request by the CCST Chairman for such assistance.

38. He also recommended that the CCST apply to UNESCO requesting establishment of a formal relationship with UNESCO as this would facilitate CCST participation in UNESCO activities and particularly in preparation for CASTALAC II. The Meeting agreed with this recommendation and the Chairman CCST was asked to write to the Director General, UNESCO formally indicating that CCST wished to establish an official relationship with UNESCO.

39. The representative stated that CASTALAC II would be convened in Brazil during April 1985 and he hoped that as many Caribbean countries as possible would attend. He therefore urged the CCST Members to advise their governments on this, for at the very least, a two-man delegation per country should attend, with one person being either the Minister with responsibility for Science and Technology or a highranking official.

UNESCO would be communicating with governments within the next six months requesting their establishment of a national liaison organization which should logically be represented on the CCST. He promised that a copy of this letter would be sent to the CCST.

40. He stated that each country was being asked to prepare national reports and suggested that the CCST could make use of these reports in preparing a regional report. This report would thus reflect national and regional dimensions of possible co-operation between countries. As a number of countries had already sent in their reports, he strongly urged countries in the region to do so as soon as possible. These reports would also serve as the main discussion documents during preparatory meetings for CASTALAC II and therefore Council, in co-operation with UNESCO could convene a preparatory meeting on CASTALAC II in early 1984. A provisional sum of \$10,000 (1980 prices) had already been allocated for this purpose and UNESCO would write to persons designated by the CCST, inviting them to the preparatory meeting of experts for CASTALAC II.

41. The representative from the CDB asked about the role of subregional organizations at the preparatory meetings and at CASTALAC II. The UNESCO representative replied that his Executive Board would meet and approve all intergovernmental organizations to be invited, so that the CDB could be accorded observer status following a formal application for admission to an official relationship with UNESCO.

Production of films for Education in
Science and Technology

42. The Meeting recorded its gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for providing the services of the Project Leader and two film technicians during the production of the two films on Science and Technology. The reactions to both films had been stimulating and the Government of the Netherlands Antilles had already requested the use of the films (which would have a sound-track in Papiamento) for showing on their television network. Several requests for loan of the films were received from other participants and the Secretariat was directed to take the necessary action in order to comply with the requests.

Consideration of Draft Report and Recommendations

(Agenda Item 18)

43. A Draft Report containing a summary of the Proceedings of the Meeting was tabled for discussion. All relevant comments and suggestions were noted by the Secretariat.

Delegates were informed that any further amendments could be submitted in writing to the Secretariat before 31 August 1983.

Vote of Thanks

(Agenda Item 19)

44. The Delegate from Cuba, speaking on behalf of all participants, expressed sincere gratitude to the Government of the Netherlands Antilles and its Officials for their warm and generous hospitality and for the efficient programming of the Meeting. He also thanked the Chairman for presiding over the Meeting with such good humour and for effectively guiding discussions so that all the business on the Agenda was successfully concluded.

Close of Meeting

(Agenda Item 20)

There being no further business the Meeting was declared officially closed.

ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF GENERAL AFFAIRS OF THE
NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, MR. D.F. MARTINA,
AT THE OPENING OF THE THIRD PLENARY SESSION OF THE
CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Chairman,

Let me express at the beginning my appreciation for your invitation to open the Third Plenary Session of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology. On behalf of the Government and people of the Netherlands Antilles I would also like to extend our Bon Bini, that is to say hearty welcome to each and everyone of you, representing a regional wealth, the collective knowledge and experience you all as scientists and technologists of this region possess.

We are very pleased to host and to be able to host this session of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology, because we consider it to be another highlight in our efforts to structure our Caribbean contacts and relations. Hosting this Conference, Mr. Chairman, is a natural response to the interest shown and attention paid by this organization to the Netherlands Antilles to promote its activities and convince our Government to participate. This synchronizes with our own efforts to be accepted and be considered part of this our Caribbean region.

In the past years we have been reaching out to the region to let the region know that we are there and also to accept the Netherlands Antilles to be an integral part of this region.

Why? It is needless to say that we consider ourselves a part of the region, but we believe that by doing so we will establish a dynamic interaction with the people and countries of the region for the benefit of our region and also to share our common experiences for the benefit and development of our own countries and vice versa.

We also have experienced that contacts and relations among ourselves are of vital importance for our own development. We are convinced that regional co-operation will contribute to the creation of a new order of relations among the Caribbean countries, which is especially imperative in the current troublesome world economic situation, which is affecting all of us. The utilization and strengthening of regional institutions for co-operation is basic for attaining the objectives in relation to which our countries define their convergence. Needless to say, Mr. Chairman, that Science and Technology is one of the areas. Why, because we do believe and are profoundly convinced that real development, being economic growth with structural changes in the social fabric, will be achieved by a number and combination of a number of forces, of which political and technological are two of them.

It is true to say that Governments can outline their political objectives, but in determining the technological path many difficulties will be encountered. This is because of the fact that technological process and progress result from the efforts in the field of research and development. It is a part of our reality that the major part of research and development takes place in the so-called developed countries or advanced countries, because of the vast amount of financial resources that is required to engage in those efforts in the field of research and development.

It is also known that we as developing countries with limited financial resources are also limited in the investment in the field of research and development. This explains also why most of the technology used in our countries are derived or are transferred from the so-called developed countries.

And there lies the problem. I would like to symbolize this problem by stating what one scientist once said, and this scientist is Dr. Schoemaker who is known by his book *Small Is Beautiful*. Speaking about technological transfer and development of new technologies and indigenous technology he said that: "A good shoe is not a well-made shoe. A good shoe is a shoe that fits".

And there he symbolized the whole problem of technological development, because it is true to say that most technologies are developed to function within the social and economic environment where it has been created.

It also explains that today-technology, today-knowledge and experiences are not all suited and adapted to our social and economic environment, neither that they will use in an effective and an efficient way our resources.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that this Council has a very important and strategic role to play in fostering the concepts of developing indigenous and new technologies. And not only that, this Council can make a contribution and help Government to bring home to our people that the development of a country and the development of the people is highly dependent on the body of knowledge that the people themselves represent.

If we compare our development with the European development and in this case if we can compare our development in the Antilles with the development in Holland, for example, we will discover that Holland and even Switzerland has not got the vast amount of resources that one can find in Latin America, Asia or Africa.

What one will find and discover is that they have developed to a great extent their body of knowledge. The body of knowledge and experience they represent is very strategic in their own development. This being so, then we have to accept the true fact that the development of our own body of knowledge is very strategic in the development of our people, in the development of our country.

Being small means being limited also in our possibilities. That is why this Council mobilizing the regional wealth of knowledge of the Caribbean is a very welcome organization and this explains also why our Government fully supports your activities and will continue to support your activities, because we believe in the development of our people, in the development of our knowledge, in the development of our experience, so for us to control our own destiny.

It will not be possible for us to be master of our destiny, if we do not control our own body of knowledge or do not develop our appropriate body of knowledge.

In this respect we can make use of the experiences of the developed countries. It is true to say that America and Europe have developed technologies in such a fashion, that today they are worried that technological development is controlling their destiny.

Using this experience, we have a chance to develop those technologies that we can control and maintain our goal to be master of our own destiny and not have technological development control our development.

Because of being advanced, the development in America and Europe have created a number of problems that they have not solved as yet.

Pollution of all sorts is a major problem in the U.S.A. and Europe; We in the Caribbean are in a position to develop new technologies or to adapt the existing technology, so to suit our needs, but also to maintain our objective to be master of the technology and not vice versa. We feel that your council can make a contribution in this to promote these concepts. We in the Netherlands Antilles, being a small country, having limited resources, are fully convinced that together with you we can make the contribution to serve the needs of the people of the Caribbean and by doing so to serve the needs of the people of the Antilles.

We have a university where some degree of research on development is being done on a very limited basis. We do pay a lot of attention to the development of Science and Technology in our secondary schools, because we feel that in the Antilles, as it is the case in the region, that the resources we possess is our human capital. By investing in our human capital we are investing in the true development of our people, of our country.

That is why Governments, both Central Government and Local Government, is investing a very high percentage of their budgets in education, especially in the field of science and technology. In this field indeed we recognize the necessity for co-operation and that is why, Mr. Chairman, we have been very active in accepting this invitation to express our wish that this organization will continue with its activities, will bring home to the people of the Caribbean the importance and significance of development of our intellectuals. We are aware that we have a long way to go. As you said, we have the capacity and we have the potential. It is a question of organization, It is a question of mobilization.

The Government of the Netherlands Antilles will be with you and support you, of course within our limited resources. There where we can give assistance, there where we can support you either as a Government or as members participating in your workshop, you can count upon our support and our assistance. I would like on behalf of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles to declare this session opened and wish all of you success with your activities. We hope to see you back again in Curaçao to continue this work for the benefit of mankind.

Thank you.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

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5. The fifth part of the document concludes by summarizing the key findings and recommendations. It stresses the importance of ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the data management processes remain effective and up-to-date.

ADDRESS OF MR. JOHN SPENCE, DIRECTOR, UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA (ECLA)
TO THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE
THIRD PLENARY SESSION
OF THE CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles
27 July 1983

Your Excellency the Prime Minister, Honourable Ministers, Your Excellencies Members of the diplomatic Corps, distinguished members of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology, distinguished Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

May I pay tribute to the Government of the Netherlands Antilles for the manner in which they are involving themselves in the work of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) and in the various mechanisms for collaboration which have been set up to further the objectives of the CDCC. The Government of the Netherlands Antilles is greatly assisting, not only with the work of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) as is evidenced by the hosting of this Third Plenary Session, but is also playing a major role in a project for the removal of language barriers.

If I may now say a brief word on the CDCC. This Committee was established in 1975 by a resolution in the Economic Commission for Latin America with the objective of fostering collaboration between Caribbean countries in a number of different spheres. Science and Technology was, from the beginning given priority and by 1977, with the aid of UNESCO, efforts were being made to find the most appropriate way to promote collaboration in this field. After a series of studies in which Dr. Dennis Irvine, who is present here today, was fully involved, followed by a series of workshops, the statutes of CCST were approved in 1980 at a meeting held in Kingston, Jamaica. By July 1981 a sufficient number of Governments had ratified the statutes for the

First Plenary Session to be convened and this was held in Barbados. In the two years that it has been operational, the CCST has initiated a number of projects and is now, I believe, gaining acceptance as an important means of collaboration in Science and Technology for the countries of the wider Caribbean.

Eleven of the seventeen countries which are eligible to join have already become members and the others are participating where possible.

The Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), through the Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean in Trinidad provides the Secretariat for the CDCC and is also providing the interim secretariat for the CCST. I must emphasize however, that the CCST is nonetheless an autonomous body, operating by means of a separate intergovernmental agreement and is not a subsidiary body to CDCC or ECLA. ECLA is very willing to continue to provide these services to the CCST for as long as they are needed.

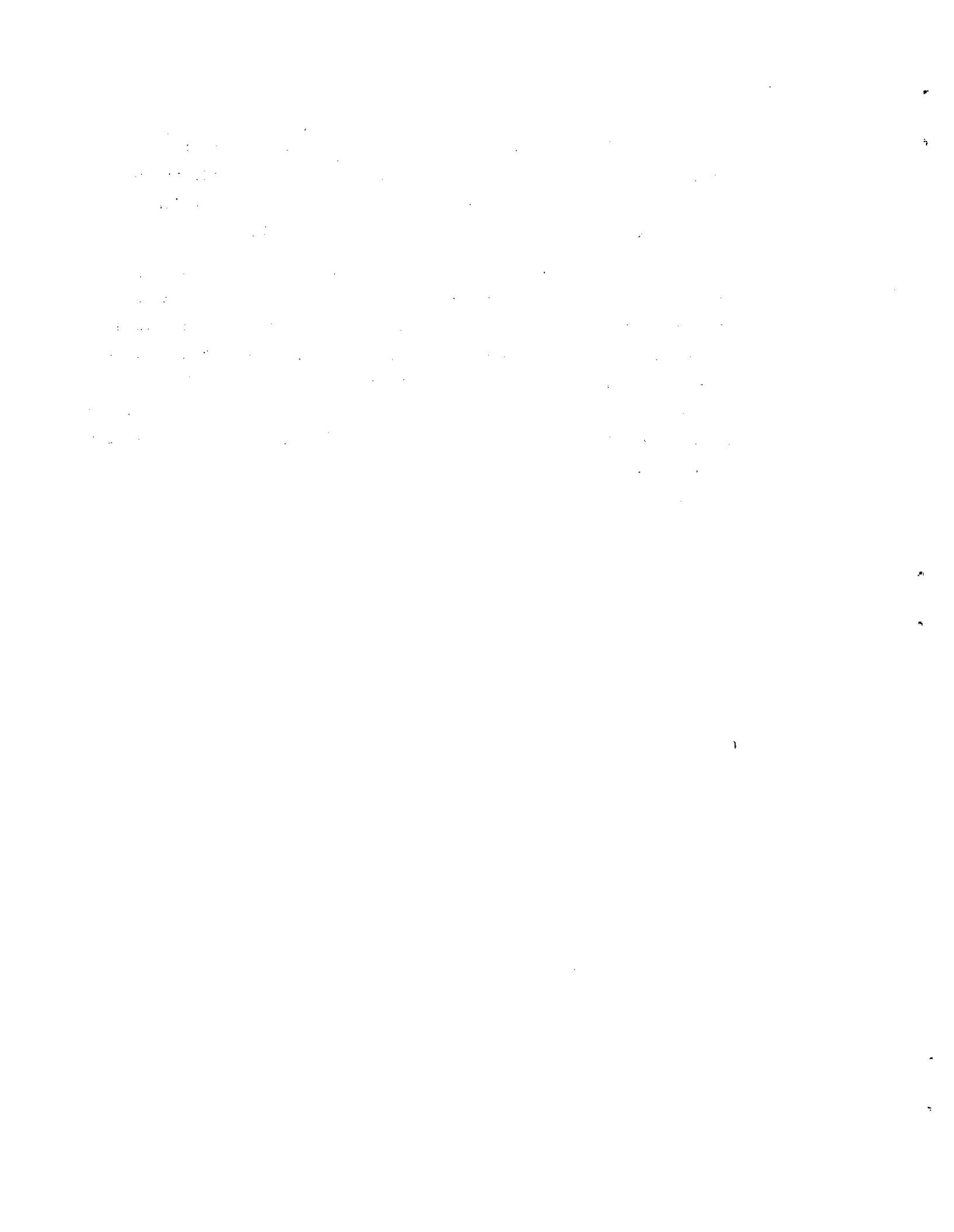
In closing, I would like to call attention to some of the unique features of the CCST. As far as I am aware, it is the only international body of its kind in existence. The statutes allow for the appointment of two members from each country, one being from the planning division of the Government and the second from the scientific or technological community. This devise of membership is intended not only to give the CCST some independence from the short-term political arena but also to seek the involvement and support of the large number of scientists and technologists in the Universities, the business community and the various autonomous Research and Development institutions. The Council thus attempts to maintain a delicate balance between obtaining the official support of the Governments and yet having a certain measure of independence which would encourage support from a wide range of non-governmental institutions within the Caribbean and internationally. It is a difficult task to maintain this balance but one which I believe we have the ingenuity within the Caribbean to achieve.

I have just attended a Symposium in Barbados on Ten Years of the CARICOM Integration Experience and listened to such distinguished West Indians as Mr. Alistair McIntyre and Mr. William Demas discussing that

experience. There is no doubt as to the difficulties faced by the integration movement and these were fully explored at this Symposium. But also apparent from the various contributions was the talent available within the region for addressing the problems.

Also we must never lose sight of the fact that our impelling force for integration relates to geography, history and culture. This was brought to my attention last evening here in Curaçao when in the midst of a most charming local festival, I heard the strains of a popular Trinidad and Tobago calypso. Let the officials and professionals therefore take the lead given by the grass roots folk and ensure that we share our scientific and technological experiences as we share our culture.

Thank you.



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ANNEX III

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Director

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Mr. Bruce Paddington
Audio-visual Specialist

Ms. Christine David
Research Assistant

Ms. Joanne Ferraz
Conference Officer

A G E N D A

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Report of the Second Plenary Session (E/CEPAL/CDCC/97)
3. Matters Arising
4. Report of the Third Executive Committee Meeting (CDCC/CCST/83/4)
5. Amendment to Article 4. of the CCST Statutes
6. Chairman's Report for 1982-1983
7. Annual Report and Balance Sheet for 1982-1983
8. Report of the First Meeting of Caribbean Ministers responsible for Science and Technology (CDCC/CCST/83/7)
9. Report of the Second Meeting of Agencies which sponsor regional activities in Science and Technology
10. Special Arrangement for Groups of Small States to enhance their Marine Science Capabilities
11. CCST - The Next Phase
12. The CCST Work Programme for 1983-1984
13. The CCST Budget for 1983-1984
14. Election of Officers for 1983-1984
15. Executive Committee Meetings of the CCST - Dates, Venues, Agenda
16. The Fourth Plenary Session of the CCST - Date, Venue, Agenda
17. Any other business
18. Consideration of Draft Report and Recommendations
19. Vote of Thanks
20. Close of Meeting

11/11/11

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SUBMISSION OF THE DELEGATION
OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES ON AGENDA ITEM
"AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 4 OF THE CCST STATUTES"

BACKGROUND

As you may recall the Netherlands Antilles has in 1981 officially expressed the wish to become a member of the CCST. Since then we have been in the process of achieving this membership and thus taking the necessary steps required by our constitution. One of these steps will be the signing of the agreement establishing CCST by the Kingdom of the Netherlands on behalf of the Netherlands Antilles. To this end however our legal position within CCST has to be clear. This matter was discussed by the Council at its second Plenary Session and it was then decided that the secretariat should seek the advice of the Office of Legal Council to amend Article 4 of the Statutes so as to permit Associate Membership. The proposed amendment has so far been circulated in accordance with the requirements of the Statutes and is now tabled for discussion.

The proposed amendment

The Government of the Netherlands Antilles has no fundamental objections to the proposed amendment. However we would like to seek further clarification on the following points. This is due to the fact that we foresee possible disputes which could arise in the future, due to the interpretation of the article.

- 1) Article 4 of the CCST Statutes states that "Membership of the Council shall be open to member countries comprising the CDCC". The proposed amendment however, states that "The Council may admit as an associate member of the CCST any associate member of the ECLA within the Caribbean region". We are of the opinion that the wording used in the proposed amendment opens up the possibility that in the future non-members of the CDCC but associate-members of the ECLA, may become associate-members of the CCST. Would this not lead to undesirable situations in the future?

- 2) Clarification is also required of the following sentence in the proposed amendment: "Representatives of associate members shall be entitled to participate.....subsidiary bodies on which all members of CCST are represented". Does this imply that associate members can only participate in the meetings and work of the Council and those of its subsidiary bodies when all Council members are represented.
- 3) Moreover, the proposed amendment does not mention what competency the associate members are entitled to when it comes to holding office or when it concerns the right to vote in the subsidiary bodies (analogous to the ECLA-system). Have these issues been considered?

THIRD PLENARY SESSION OF THE
CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST)
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 1982-1983

During the relatively brief period following its establishment in July 1981, Council has filled the gap which member countries had identified as providing a regional umbrella for co-ordinating Science and Technology activities and for ensuring harmony as well as consistency with national aspirations and development programmes. The need for CCST to play this role and the opinion in the region that the vacuum exists is further supported by:

1. The number of countries which have deposited their instruments of ratification or acceptance and which, at the time of writing, totals eleven;
2. The official communique issued by the CARICOM Heads of Government after their meeting in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, 16-18 November 1982, contained several recommendations which coincided with the programme already adumbrated by CCST, and
3. The Caribbean Ministers of Science and Technology at their meeting in Kingston, Jamaica, 6-7 April 1983, identified Agro-industry and Information as priority areas for Science and Technology activity, areas in which the Council had already established Working Groups/ Technical Committees and had already identified specific programmes of action.

The other roles identified in descending order for Council were those of Advisory and Implementation, which, I am sure Members will agree, will be predicated by Council's performance and effectiveness in its co-ordinating role.

These results are not based on chance but on the careful preparation and enunciation of our Statutes, and the successes, which are yet to be reported, have not been accomplished without their fair share of problems, not least being the lack of operating funds, since some Member Countries have not paid their annually assessed contributions of US\$8,000 for MDC's and US\$2,000 for LDC's.

I wish to take this opportunity to clarify a point of confusion that might yet exist within some member countries with regards to the contributions. Countries were asked to pay half (US\$4,000 and US\$1,000 for MDC's and LDC's respectively) of their contributions for 1981 since the Council became formally operative only in July of that year. So that there has not been an increase in the level of subscriptions for 1982, but subscriptions were based on a full year.

Despite the deficiency in collecting all the funds due, coupled with the fact that the period between the Second and Third Plenary Sessions was only nine months, many activities were completed.

The Executive Committee and the Secretariat are therefore to be commended for their unfailing efforts to make this year the success it has been. It is, however, most important that Member Countries, who have not yet done so, make the necessary arrangements to pay at least a part of their contributions in hard currency and, at the same time, identify their nominees to the various Specialist Committees/ Working Groups so that the work of Council can proceed at a studied and co-ordinated pace.

The role of CCST having been clearly established, there remains one important issue which must be addressed if Council is to continue to exist and to carry out its mandate effectively. This relates to the need for Council to have its own Secretariat. I therefore propose the initiation, in a very modest way, of a Secretariat which, in the real sense, will provide for the co-ordination of regional S and T activities. I strongly feel that our activities have been hampered or have been unnecessarily delayed by the lack of a Secretariat and urge that both the Executive Committee and the Plenary Session give the matter some very serious consideration and demonstrate their commitment by voting into the Budget some provision for the nucleus of a Secretariat.

The proposed Budget (see Document No. CDCC/CCST/83/11) is considered as minimal and realistic in relation to the US\$237,000 (Recurrent) and the US\$50,000 (Capital) which was optimistically presented to the First Plenary Session in 1981. It also puts into perspective the real support being requested from various funding

agencies and ECLA by way of providing seed money as well as the services of resource personnel.

The timely payment of their annual contributions by Member Countries will greatly enhance and expand the role of Council since this tangible manifestation of support by members will create the necessary environment for funding agencies to consider favourably requests for catalytic funds to undertake projects.

It is appropriate at this juncture, to pay a special tribute to the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) for having provided Council with interim Secretariat services in the embryonic stages of its development. This generous gesture, besides helping Council through a difficult period, has also provided the opportunity for CCST to undertake several activities and thereby establish its credibility. I hope that the Commission takes this intimation on our part in the manner intended and will continue to support our activities especially in supplying the services of those resource personnel who, at this time, cannot be included in our modest budget.

In my humble opinion, there are not many international organizations facing the problems that we experienced during the first two years of our existence, who can boast such comparable accomplishments. During the First Plenary Session six projects (I-VI) were identified and two more (VII and VIII) were added during the Second Plenary Session.

These are as follows:

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|--------------------|--|
| <u>Project I</u> | Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities |
| <u>Project II</u> | Establishment of a Regional Science and Technology Journal |
| <u>Project III</u> | Preparation and Exchange of Audio-Visual Material for Education in Science and Technology |
| <u>Project IV</u> | A Study of the Consequence of the Development of Energy Crops on Food Supplies in the Region |

- Project V Conservation and Exchange of Germplasm of Crop Plants
- Project VI Development of Agro-Industries and Employment Opportunities particularly at Rural Level
- Project VII The Potential and Limitations of Newly Emerging Technologies for Developing Countries
- Project VIII A Science and Technology Policy for the Caribbean Region.

I am pleased to report that the initial phases of two of these are now completed and that work on all the others is progressing reasonably well.

Our track record is gradually being established and is more fully elaborated in the Second Annual Report (Doc. No. CDCC/CCST/83/13); however, I would like to highlight the progress made in some of our activities during the last nine months:

- (i) The initial Phases have been completed for two of our projects viz:
 - Assessment of National S and T Capabilities (Project I), and
 - Preparation and Exchange of Audio-visual Material for Education in Science and Technology (Project III).
- (ii) During January, at a Meeting of the Caribbean Science and Technology Co-operation Committee (CSTCC) sponsored by the OAS, I was instrumental in having included in the OAS Work Programme for 1984-1985 a commitment that the individual countries, which receive funding from the OAS for the development of their National Science and Technology Policies, would devote a portion of those national funds to a regional activity for formulating a Regional Policy for Science and Technology (Project VIII). A Regional Workshop on Science and Technology Policy is being programmed for early 1984 to enable the pooled

information and experiences to be placed at the disposal of respective national institutions when they are formulating or reviewing their individual policies in Science and Technology.

- (iii) Constraints of time and finance did not allow for a formal Meeting of the Editorial Board which was established to advise on the style, format, etc. of the Caribbean Journal for Science and Technology, (Project II). However, an informal meeting was held in late May in Jamaica and it was decided to publish, for restricted circulation, a draft edition which will be presented at this Plenary in order to obtain the reaction of Members and to guide the decisions of the Editorial Board. I am fully confident that the document can be completed and circulated before the end of 1983.

Concomitant with the establishment of our track record is the increasing realization that Council can act as a valuable interface in several regional activities. As examples, Council is now a Member of the following Committees/Groups:

- (i) The Interim Co-ordinating Committee established by the Caribbean Ministers with responsibility for Science and Technology;
- (ii) The Steering Committee for the Caribbean Alternative Energy Programme of the Commonwealth Science Council;
- (iii) The Technical Group of Officials which service the Meetings of CARICOM Ministers of Energy.

In addition, Council is co-sponsoring Workshops on:

- (a) Agricultural Research Policy and Management (Trinidad and Tobago, 26-30 September 1983), and

(b) New Technologies and their implications for the Caribbean scheduled for the first quarter of 1984.

You will note that Agenda Item 10 is concerned with a programme which will allow many of our constituent States to exploit their marine resources. Council is indeed happy to assist in mobilising the necessary regional and international support so that all our Member States can benefit from the increased marine resources now available to them due to the expansion of areas under their national jurisdiction.

I must also mention that the arrangements for the Second Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CASTALAC II) are now underway and pledge the full support of CCST during the stages of preparation for such an important meeting.

I am sure that my brief report has demonstrated that CCST, within its two-year Establishment Phase (and despite many constraints), has performed its co-ordinating function creditably enough to persuade Members, and eventually their decision-makers, that Council has earned the right to request that their commitment to it be expressed in practical and tangible form by prompt payment of their annually assessed contributions. I sincerely hope that my proposal for the very modest nucleus of the Secretariat will find favour with this Session so that the achievements of the Council will gain momentum and provide the medium of direct interaction for all funding agencies.

The previous Chairman in his report for 1981-1982, raised some issues for consideration by Council one of which was the role which would devolve on CCST as a result of the new initiatives in Science and Technology being taken by other regional institutions. As I have had the honour to represent CCST at several Meetings over the last year, I have continually enunciated that the Co-ordinating/Advisory Role identified during the Second Plenary Session, is one which the CCST, by its structure and composition, is ideally suited to fulfil.

As my tenure of office draws to a close I can only express my gratitude to Council for giving me the opportunity and distinction

of guiding its destiny during the past year. The experience has been a marvellous one made even more so by the professional links and friendships which I have been able to establish across the Region.

I close by placing on record my sincere appreciation firstly to the dedicated Members of the Executive Committee who have given me every encouragement and support, and secondly to Dr. Pat Munroe who acted as Secretary and who performed his duties with great competence and patience.

MECHANISMS FOR ENHANCING COLLABORATION
BETWEEN CCST, AND AGENCIES WHICH SUPPORT
REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- A BACKGROUND PAPER

by

Mr. J. Spence, Director UN ECLA

Mr. D. Irvine, UNESCO Consultant

The CCST was formed by an intergovernmental agreement to further collaboration of member governments of the CDCC in the area of Science and Technology. The CCST encompasses the wider Caribbean and the important role it has to play by encouraging, facilitating and promoting co-ordination among and between agencies, was endorsed by the Agencies.

Since it is formed by a separate intergovernmental agreement it is independent of the CDCC and its reports go direct to member governments through the Ministries of External Affairs. A report also goes for information to the CDCC since the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean which provides the Secretariat of CDCC also provides the interim Secretariat of CCST.

Since the CCST was created by member governments as a mechanism for collaboration, it therefore has a major responsibility to devise various mechanisms for discharging this mandate.

As a preliminary step, one such means is by acting as a catalyst for the numerous agencies to come together, discuss and decide on the most advantageous way in which their activities in Science and Technology can be co-ordinated. There is little doubt that the benefits of such co-ordination even at basic level will add up to much more than the sum total of their individual activities.

As information upon which to base co-operation and co-ordination as well as for background to the discussions by Agencies, the CCST commissioned a report which gave a preliminary analysis of agency supported Science and Technology Projects Programmes in the Caribbean.

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- ii) individual Agencies receive their mandates from their Governing Bodies; and
- iii) the perceptions of their responsibilities at national level will vary.

Nevertheless within this context there is much that can be achieved by Agencies in co-ordinating their activities and this process can be facilitated by the CCST. Wherever appropriate, the CCST can undertake particular activities to enhance the collaboration. One such area for example is in Science and Technology Policy formulation in order that projects are directed towards overall national development goals.

As a basis for such policy formulation CCST may commission "state of the art" studies in the various sectors. The concept and dimension of TCDC could also be utilized to foster closer co-operation among member countries of CCST. Such co-operation should include Science and Technology Policy formulation including co-operation between members in Science and Technology Policy.

In addition it is advantageous for CCST when operating at regional level to co-ordinate with such agencies as CDB, CARICOM and OAS which have mechanisms for regional activities.

With respect to the Standing Committee of CARICOM Ministers responsible for Science and Technology it is incumbent upon CCST to make a substantial input into the forthcoming meeting of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee with suggestions on its role in co-ordinating Science and Technology at a regional level and in providing the bridge between CARICOM and the wider Caribbean.

Since the CCST Membership comprises Government Officials as well as members of scientific and technological communities, it can also play an important role by involving NGO's such as Science Foundations etc. on the aid granting side and the Regional Universities and Professional Associations.

The report (Document No. CDCC/CCST/83/17) prepared by Mr. Irvine has grouped the projects in the following categories and sub-divisions according to disciplines.

Category I - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND PLANNING

- a) General
- b) Energy
- c) Agriculture/Agro-Industry

Category II - RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R and D)

- a) Energy
- b) Agriculture/Agro-Industry
- c) Mineral Resources/Mineral Processing
- d) Fishery/Aquaculture
- e) Natural Resources (other than mineral resources)

Category III - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (INFORMATION)

- a) General
- b) Technical

Category IV - No sub-division needed

Category V - INSTITUTION BUILDING AND TRAINING

- a) Energy
- b) Agriculture/Agro-Industry
- c) Other
- d) Other Science and Technology Programmes/Projects

and will be expanded, updated and analyzed as further information on projects becomes available.

In attempting to co-ordinate activity in Science and Technology, three important interrelated factors must be recognized:

- i) the plethora of Agencies which support activities in Science and Technology;

1983-1984 WORK PROGRAMME

Project I

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY CAPABILITIES
(See document CDCC/CCST/82/9)

Several countries have submitted their completed questionnaires to the Secretariat and these are being analyzed. However, some countries have still to submit the information whilst others have asked for assistance from the Secretariat to undertake the survey. It is therefore, proposed for 1983-1984 that:

- i) the data obtained by the Secretariat should be analyzed and published; and
- ii) the Secretariat should assist those Member Countries who require help in implementing the Project.

Project II

ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOURNAL/MAGAZINE FOR CCST
(See document CDCC/CCST/82/9)

It is proposed to hold a meeting of the Editorial Board as early as possible so that the First Volume can be published before end of 1983. Thereafter, it may be necessary to commission articles on a contractual basis in order to ensure regularity of publication, and a retired journalist with an international reputation as a leader-writer and editor has already indicated his willingness to undertake short term assignments in this field.

Project III

PREPARATION AND EXCHANGE OF AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIAL FOR
EDUCATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(See document CDCC/CCST/82/9)

1. The films already prepared will be dubbed in the other two working languages (French and Spanish).

IIIV XNWA

2. Three (3) other films, highlighting the Science and Technology Activities (Science Education, Agriculture, Health, New Technologies, Energy) in other CCST Member Countries will be prepared.

3. The audio-visual material already acquired will be used to train Teachers, Film Technicians and Adult Educators in the various methods of producing, displaying and projecting science and technology information so that it can be readily understood and appreciated by non-scientists. This will be in the form of a Regional Workshop to be held late 1983/early 1984.

Project IV

STUDY OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY CROPS ON FOOD SUPPLIES IN THE REGION
(see document CDCC/CCST/82/9)

The Report on the Project is being circulated to Funding Agencies with requests for financial support.

Project V

CONSERVATION AND EXCHANGE OF GERmplasm OF CROP PLANTS
(See document CDCC/CCST/82/9)

Catalytic funds have been obtained from the Commonwealth Foundation and the Project will be implemented in the following phases:

PHASE I A Consultant with experience in tissue culture and with extensive knowledge of agriculture institutions in the Caribbean will visit relevant institutions in Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Puerto Rico and Saint Lucia.

PHASE II A Report will be prepared with emphasis on the following:

- i) Assessment of the facilities and the potential for regional research on methods of Conservation of Germplasm;
- ii) Identification of possible centres of Conservation within the Caribbean/Latin American Region;
- iii) Specific recommendations for enhanced collaboration amongst regional institutions.

PHASE III The Report will be circulated to Member Governments for consideration and appropriate action.

Project VI

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRO-INDUSTRIES AND EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES PARTICULARLY AT RURAL LEVEL
(See document CDCC/CCST/82/9)

The Report on the Project is being circulated to Funding Agencies with requests for financial support.

Project VII

THE POTENTIAL AND LIMITATIONS OF NEWLY EMERGING
TECHNOLOGIES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES
(See document E/CEPAL/CDCC/82/12)

With the assistance of UNESCO and UNCSTD a Regional Seminar/ Workshop on "New Technologies and their Implications for Caribbean Development" is being programmed for March/April 1984.

The Workshop will be spread over five working days and is envisaged as an interactive meeting of fifty (50) participants comprising scientists, decision-makers and resources personnel. Lead Papers will be commissioned and presented on the following themes:

- Theme I - GLOBAL TRENDS IN NEW TECHNOLOGIES
- Theme II - CARIBBEAN TRENDS IN NEW TECHNOLOGIES
- Theme III - DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL CAPABILITIES
FOR MAKING TECHNOLOGICAL CHOICES
- Theme IV - NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN THE ASSESSMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Lead Papers will be followed by analytical discussions from which recommendations for specific courses of action will emerge.

Project VIII

A SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY FOR THE CARIBBEAN
(See document CDCC/CCST/82/9)

A consensual Report on National Policies in Science and Technology will be prepared.

Council will also co-ordinate Subregional Preparatory Meetings for the Second Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CASTALAC II).

Meetings of Representatives from National Science and Technology Policy-making Institutions will be convened so that a collective regional position on Science and Technology can be articulated.

From these initiatives a consistent and comprehensive regional policy in Science and Technology will gradually emerge.

SPECIALIZED COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Committee 1 - Energy

Several regional initiatives are already in progress and ECLA/CCST has been requested to serve on various Steering Committees and Working Groups. The CCST will therefore, continue to collaborate with the already established programmes and will not embark upon any new work.

Committee 2 - Transfer of Technology and Patents

With the assistance of the World Intellectual Property Organization a Regional Seminar/Workshop is being programmed for March/April 1984. The Workshop will bring together thirty (30) participants, from R and D institutions and Industrial Property Officers who are working or expect to work in the field of:-

- i) Technical Information
- ii) Acquisition of Technology
- iii) Training (legal and institutional) in patent documentation and information services.

Resource persons will be identified from international, industrial and commercial enterprises as well as from the legal profession.

Committee 3 - Information Systems

Because of regional initiatives already taken in this area CCST does not at present propose to elaborate a programme.

Committee 4 - Agricultural Research

A Seminar/Workshop has been programmed for 26-30 September 1983 on the theme "Agricultural Research Policy and Management". The Workshop has been made possible by generous financial assistance from:-

Inter-American Institute for Co-operation
on Agriculture (IICA)

International Service for National Agricultural
Research (ISNAR)

Swedish Agency for Research Co-operation
with Developing Countries (SAREC).

Recommendations from the Workshop will indicate future programme of the Committee.

Committee 5 - Marine Affairs (including Fisheries)

With the assistance of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) a meeting of this Committee will be convened as early as possible to (i) co-ordinate the visit to the Region of the Mission of Experts; and ii) discuss the action programme for enhancing the Marine Science Capabilities of Caribbean Island States.

Committee 6 - "Health, Nutrition and the Technical
Preparation of Pharmaceuticals"

1. A Seminar/Workshop spread over four working days is being programmed for February 1984, in Cuba. Lead Papers will be presented on the following themes:-

- i) Global Overview of the state-of-the-art in
Technical Preparation of Pharmaceuticals;
- ii) Regional experiences in technical preparation
of Pharmaceuticals;
- iii) Role and contribution of national and trans-
national organizations in the field of
Pharmaceuticals;

- iv) Potential and scope for collaboration between national, regional and international Agencies;
 - v) Industrial utilization of medicinal and aromatic plants; and
 - vi) New trends in the Pharmaceutical Industry.
2. The Workshop will bring together fifty (50) participants comprising:-
- i) High level scientists and decision-makers of Member States together with resource persons of international standing;
 - ii) Representatives from the following organizations: World Health Organization, Pan American Health Organization, CARICOM, University of the West Indies, University of Guyana, Commonwealth Secretariat; and
 - iii) Representatives of various Pharmaceutical Corporations with interests in the Caribbean.

Immediately following the Workshop, the First Meeting of the Committee on Technical Preparation of Pharmaceuticals will be convened.

Committee 7 - Universities, Industrial Sector and other Private and Public Sector Institutions

Arrangements will be made to convene this Committee during the third quarter of 1984.

Committee 8 - Newly Emerging Technologies

Arrangements will be made to convene this Committee immediately after the Seminar/Workshop proposed under Project VII.

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