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Subregional Office for the Caribbean
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE
CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Fourth Executive Committee Meeting
Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles
25 July, 1983



MINUTES OF THE FOURTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF THE CARIBBEAN FOR
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean



MINUTES OF THE FOURTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE
CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CURACAO, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, 25th July, 1983

Present were:

Dr. M.O. "Pat" Hamilton	- Chairman	(Jamaica)
Ms. Erica McIntosh	- Vice-chairman	(St. Vincent and the Grenadines)
Dr. Iwan Kortram	- Honorary Treasurer	(Suriname)
Dr. U.O'D Trotz	- Member	(Guyana)
Dr. John Spence	- Director,	ECLA
Dr. P.A. Munroe	- Interim Secretariat	CCST
Ms. Christine David	- Interim Secretariat	CCST
Dr. Sultan Saaß	Netherlands Antilles	(By invitation)
Dr. Cedric Eisdén	Netherlands Antilles	"
Ms. Niovis Winklar	Netherlands Antilles	"

1. The Chairman in welcoming and introducing the members stressed the need for CCST to create a separate and distinct identity and to start playing a more aggressively coordinating role.

2. Approval of the Agenda ^{1/}
(Agenda Item 1)

It was suggested that the title of item 5 on the agenda should be changed to "Report on the First Meeting of Caribbean Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology and its implications for the Future Role of CCST.", also that item 9 on the "Amendment to Article 4 of CCST Statutes" be taken at item 6 with the necessary numerical changes in the other agenda items. These suggestions were adopted and the Agenda was approved.

3. Minutes of the Third Executive Committee Meeting (CDCC/CCST/83/4)
(Agenda Item 2)

The minutes of the Third Executive Committee Meeting were formally adopted after correcting the spelling of CASTALAC II in para. 5 p.2

4. Matters Arising
(Agenda Item 3)

i. Legal Status to CCST

The Committee was informed that copies of the Dominica's Act had been sent to all Member Countries together with letters asking them to initiate the necessary legal action to give "de jure" recognition to CCST at national level. However, no response had been received as yet.

ii. Strengthening of the National Science Council of St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The Meeting was informed that no formal report had been written subsequent to Dr. Spence's visit to the island, but that copies of the Legislation for National Science Councils from various countries had been submitted to the authorities in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

iii. Ministers Responsible for UNESCO Affairs

The Meeting was reminded that the Ministers Responsible for UNESCO Affairs had met in Grenada during April 1983 and the Secretariat was asked to find out and report what decisions (if any) were taken at that Meeting with respect to CASTALAC II.

5. Chairman's Report for 1982-1983, (Doc. No. CDCC/CCST/83/9)
(Agenda Item 4)

The chairman formally presented his report ^{2/} and highlighted some of the CCST's achievements during his period of office. Most notable were the tangible progress made in most of the projects and the greatest credibility and visibility being achieved by this.

He bemoaned the fact that several Member Countries were still badly in arrears with their annually assessed contributions to Council and asked Members to encourage their Governments to show this basic commitment to CCST.

He expressed sincere thanks to the Members of the Executive and to the Secretariat for their generous support during his term of office.

6. Report on the First Meeting of CARICOM Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology and its implications for the future role of CCST (Doc. No. CDCC/CCST/83/7)
(Agenda Item 5)

The Report which contained the principal decisions taken at the Meeting was formally presented. 3/

There was a wide ranging discussion on trying to establish an acceptable mechanism by which CCST, in terms of the wider Caribbean, could interact meaningfully with the directives of the CARICOM Ministers. It was emphasised that the CCST had been created through instruments of Ratification signed by the various Governments and was composed of scientists as well as technologists on the one hand and policy-makers on the other. It was anticipated that this interaction of technicians and officials would create the desired harmony between the CCST Work Programme and Government policy in Science and Technology.

The establishment of the Interim Coordination Committee (ICC) by the CARICOM Ministers would therefore, be regarded as a good opportunity for CCST to continue its role of integrating policies with programmes.

It was therefore, recommended that:

- (i) CCST should prepare a background document for the coming Meeting of the ICC in which Council would stress both its objectives and its programmes in the wider Caribbean and;
- (ii) CCST should invoke Article 28(b) of its statutes and initiate steps to establish a Special Fund for Scientific and Technical Development in the Caribbean;
- (iii) dialogue should continue at highest possible official level so that the reason for the creation of CCST together with its statutory functions may become more explicit.

7. Amendment to Article 4 of the CCST Statutes

(Agenda Item 6)

The Chairman gave a brief review of the developments which had taken place since the Second Plenary and read the amendment suggested by the office of Legal Counsel of the United Nations, New York which was 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."

The delegation of the Netherlands Antilles made a submission ^{4/} and requested clarification on possible interpretations of the wording of the proposed amendment. After a prolonged discussion the Executive Committee agreed to recommend to the Full Plenary Session that :-

- (i) Council should accept the wording of the amendment as proposed and invite its Member States to ratify it;
- (ii) The first part of the amendment should be interpreted to refer to any Associate Member of ECLA that was also a Member of CDCC;
- (iii) The interpretation of the word "all" for subsidiary bodies should be interpreted to mean eligibility for representation;
- (iv) In accordance with tradition and precedents set by other regional organisations Associate Members of CCST should be allowed to hold office in the Council and its subsidiary bodies;
- (v) In the meanwhile, the Secretariat should seek the advice of Legal Counsel of the United Nations on the above recommendations (i-iv) and should continue dialogue with the office of Legal Counsel and the Government of the Netherlands Antilles on the issue of attaining full membership.

8. Annual Report and Balance Sheet for 1982-1983

Doc. No. CDCC/CCST/83/13

(Agenda Item 7)

The Secretariat introduced the report by indicating the highlights which had occurred since the Second Plenary Session. These were:

- (i) admission of Belize and Haiti as Members;
- (ii) substantial progress made towards completing various projects and in convening Meetings of the Specialized Committees/ Working Groups; and
- (iii) the evolving role of the Council in interfacing between the wider Caribbean and CARICOM.

The Executive was reminded that basic project activity was catalysed from CCST funds and Members were asked to ensure that their Governments paid their annually assessed contribution as early as possible.

In presenting the Balance Sheet the Treasurer reminded the meeting that according to Article 30 of its Statutes, the financial year for Council was 1 January to 31 December, because of this he was experiencing great difficulty in obtaining a full picture of the Financial position and he requested that this reporting period should be observed.

He commented that he had been unable to agree with some of the items which had been charged to the CCST account by some countries. He therefore recommended that:

- (i) a formal mechanism for approving expenditure of Council's funds should be elaborated;
- (ii) the treasurer should always be involved when major items of expenditures were incurred;
- (iii) a list of items which should be charged to CCST should be drawn up and agreed upon;
- (iv) the balance sheet should be presented in the format:

Expenditure	Income
1. Administration	1. Balance Brought forward
2. Projects	2. Members' contributions
3. Meetings	3. Donations from extra-Budgetary sources
4. Miscellaneous	

Because of the financial climate prevailing in some countries the payment of contributions in foreign currency was difficult so that (where applicable) each item should have information on the amount of local currency involved and the US equivalent.

(v) although it was possible that ECLA would continue providing the interim Secretariat and support services to CCST, the cost involved should be indicated.

The Committee therefore decided to adopt the Treasurer's recommendations.

9. The CCST Work Programme for 1983-1984 (Doc No. CDCC/CCST/83/12)
(Agenda Item 8)

The CCST Work Programme was presented by the Secretariat through Document No. CDCC/CCST/83/12. It was explained that all projects reflected activities already identified and implemented during the establishment Phase (1981-1983) of the CCST. It was also proposed that no new activities would be undertaken unless Council was able to procure additional funds. The Meeting was informed that for some activities a firm commitment of financial support had already been obtained from funding agencies.

The following decisions were therefore taken:

Project	Title	Work Programme 1983-1984
I	Assessment of National Service and Technology Capabilities (see Doc. CDCC/CCST/82/9)	a. The data obtained by the Secretariat should be analysed and published. b. The Secretariat should provide assistance to those Member Countries who had not implemented or completed the project.
II	Establishment of a Journal/Magazine for CCST (see Doc. CDCC/CCST/82/9)	a. The Chairman for the Editorial Board should be elected from a Member Country. b. A Meeting of the Editorial Board should be convened as soon as possible.
III	Preparation and exchange of Audiovisual material for Education in Science and Technology (see Doc/CDCC/CCST/82/9)	a. The two films already prepared should be distributed and shown throughout the region. b. The films should be dubbed in the other two CCST official languages (Spanish and French). c. A Training Workshop in the preparation of audiovisual material should be organized for Teachers, Film Technicians and Adult Education
IV	Study of the Consequences of the Development of Energy Crops on Food supplies in the region. (see Doc.CDCC/CCST/82/9)	The Consultant's Report CDCC/CCST/83/10 should be circulated to the various Funding Agencies with requests for financial support.

Project	Title	Work Programme 1983-1984
V	Conservation and exchange of germplasm of crop plants (See Doc.CDCC/CCST/82/9)	Funds have already been obtained to implement Phase I of the Project and this will commence as soon as the Consultant becomes available.
VI	Development of Agro-industries and employment opportunities particularly at rural level (see Doc. CDCC/CCST/82/9)	The Project is to be presented to the Interim Co-ordinating Committee, Barbados, 31 August-2 September.
VII	The Potential and Limitations of Newly Emerging Technologies with special reference to developing countries (see Doc.E/CEPAL/CDCC/82/12)	Continue plans for the Workshop scheduled for March/April 1984. i. identify venue ii. write to Funding Agencies iii. write to Resource Personnel iv. co-ordinate logistical support in submission of papers, interpretation and translation facilities.
VIII	A Science and Technology Policy for the Caribbean	Continue plans for Preparatory Workshop for CASTALAC II, Brazil April, 1985 i. identify venues for Workshops ii. writing to Funding Agencies iii. identify Resource Personnel iv. co-ordinating logistic support with UNESCO/OAS

COMMITTEE	TITLE	WORK PROGRAMME 1983-1984
2	Transfer of Technology Patents	Continue plans for Workshops March/April 1984: i. identify venue ii. writing to Funding Agencies iii. identify Resource Personnel iv. coordinating logistic support with WIPO
4	Agriculture Research	Finalising plans for Seminar/Workshop in Trinidad and Tobago 26-30 September 1983.
5	Marine Affairs (including Fisheries)	i. co-ordinating visit to the region Dec/Jan of Mission from Inter-Governmental Oceanographic Commission ii. writing to Governments who have not yet submitted nominations to this committee. iii. Preparatory planning of Seminar/Workshop, continue planning of Workshop on technical preparation of Pharmaceutical scheduled to be held in Havana, Cuba during February 1984:
6	Health Nutrition and Technical preparation of Pharmaceuticals	i. finalising programme and objectives of workshop ii. writing to Funding Agencies iii. identify Resource personnel iv. convening meeting of technical committee to formulate plans for convening meeting late 1984:

COMMITTEE	TITLE	WORK PROGRAMME 1983-1984
7	Universities, Industrial Sector, Private and Public Sector Institutions	i. writing to Governments who have not yet submitted nominations to this Committee ii. identifying venue for Meeting iii. writing to Funding Agencies

10. The CCST Budget for 1983-1984 (Doc.No.CDCC/CCST/83/11)
(Agenda Item 9)

In introducing the Budget contained in Document No.CDCC/CCST/83/11 the Secretariat explained that ECLA/CDCC had made provision in their 1984-1985 Budget for continuation of the post of Senior Economic Affairs Officer (Science and Technology) and it was expected that the Officer's services and other logistic support would be made available to CCST. Therefore, no provision was made in the Budget for the post of Executive Secretary or for capital equipment. It was outlined that the Secretariat had been moderately successful in obtaining funds from extrabudgetary sources to undertake some of the projects identified in the Work Programme.

In the ensuing discussions, it was recommended that:

1. a sum of \$5,000 should be added to the cost of Project II to allow for contingences;
 - ii. the idea of starting the nucleus of the Secretariat should be temporarily shelved; and
 - iii. a sum of \$3,000 should be provided for temporary Secretariat services as and when the occasion arose.

Any other Business

(Agenda Item 10)

There being no other business the Chairman thanked Members for their attendance and asked the delegation from the Netherlands Antilles to convey the sincere appreciation of the Committee to their Government.

FOURTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Minutes of the Third Executive Committee Meeting of the CCST
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's Report 1982-1983
5. Report on the First Meeting of Caribbean Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology, and its Implications for the future role of the CCST
6. Amendment to Article 4 of CCST Statutes
7. Annual Report and Balance Sheet
8. CCST Programme, 1983-1984
9. CCST Budget, 1983-1984
10. Any other business



FOURTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 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 S and T 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 communiqué 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 S and T 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

REPORT ON THE FIRST MEETING OF CARIBBEAN MINISTERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The First Meeting of Caribbean Ministers responsible for Science and Technology was held in Kingston, Jamaica, 6-8 April 1983, under the auspices of CARICOM and UNESCO.

The Meeting was attended by:

Antigua and Barbuda	Jamaica
Bahamas	Montserrat
Barbados	Netherlands Antilles
Belize	St. Kitts-Nevis
British Virgin Islands	St. Lucia
Dominica	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Grenada	Suriname
Guyana	Trinidad and Tobago

The following Agencies and Organizations with interest in regional Science and Technology activities also attended as observers:

- Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC)
- Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
- Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee/
Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CDCC/CCST)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- University of the West Indies/Institute of Social and
Economic Research (UWI/ISER)
- World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization
(WHO/PAHO)

The main discussions of the Meeting were focused on:

- (i) The need to increase, at higher decision-making level, the integration of S+T within the overall strategies for national and regional development, and
- (ii) Developing a regional collaborative framework for utilising S+T in development.

Wide ranging discussions highlighted the deficiencies which were hindering the implementation of science and technology programmes at the national as well as regional levels.

The following principal decisions were made:

1. That, in the first instance, regional collaboration should be focused on two areas which are considered critical to economic development viz:
 - Agro-industry, and
 - Information Systems with reference to transfer of technology and issuing of patents.
2. That an institutional mechanism should be established which would translate the policy-decisions of the Meetings into action programmes. This was envisaged as an Interim Coordinating Committee (ICC), comprising representatives from Caribbean and other International Agencies, which include the CCST and which would report to a five-member interministerial sub-committee.
3. That a special workshop should be convened as soon as possible to determine and map out in depth the range of issues covered in the Working Document prepared by the UNESCO consultant.
4. That a report of the Interim Committee should be submitted to the Inter-Ministerial Group no later than August 1983.
5. That a Second Ministerial Meeting be convened within eighteen months in Roseau, Dominica. This meeting will review progress made, decide on a more permanent co-ordinating mechanism and give whatever further policy directions may be necessary.

The terms of reference of the ICC are to:

1. Identify priority areas to be addressed in the short, medium and long term;
2. Elaborate projects for implementation including costing as well as mechanism and strategy for implementation;
3. Identify possible sources of funding;
4. Monitor and evaluate the mechanisms identified for projects to be implemented.

FOURTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

SUBMISSION OF THE DELEGATION OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES OF 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 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?

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:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| <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 |

<u>Project V</u>	Conservation and Exchange of Germplasm of Crop Plants
<u>Project VI</u>	Development of Agro-Industries and Employment Opportunities particularly at Rural Level
<u>Project VII</u>	The Potential and Limitations of Newly Emerging Technologies for Developing Countries
<u>Project VIII</u>	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.





