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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Office for the Caribbean

MEDIUM TERM PLAN

1984 - 1989

SUB-PROGRAMME: ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND INTEGRATION
IN THE CARIBBEAN

FOREWORD

In response to a request received from the Director General for Development and International Economic Co-operation the attached Medium Term Plan for the period 1984-1989 has been prepared and submitted to CEPAL, Santiago. On previous occasions the programme elements of this Office were incorporated in the appropriate sub-programmes for the Economic Commission for Latin America as a whole. Thus the programme element relevant to this Office for agriculture was included in the overall sub-programme on agriculture for CEPAL.

Since November 1980 it has been agreed with Santiago that all the programme elements of the Port of Spain Office will be incorporated in one sub-programme: Economic Co-operation and Integration in the Caribbean. This formula has been adopted in the programme budget for 1982-1983 and again in this submission. It is anticipated that Santiago will include this sub-programme as such in its submission to U.N. Headquarters.

It will be necessary to submit programme elements i.e. details of the activity at the project level or its equivalent in due course.

B. Subprogramme narratives

(a) Legislative authority

The legislative authority for this sub-programme derives from the Economic Commission for Latin America resolution 358(XVI) establishing the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC). The CDCC itself agreed to a Work Programme at its first session in November 1975, and this has been modified and supplemented at each of its annual sessions.

(b) Objectives

The objectives of this sub-programme are:

(i) Intergovernmental objective

Formulation of policies and promotion of activities aimed at advancing Caribbean economic integration and furthering development through mutual co-operation.

(ii) Time-limited subsidiary intergovernmental objective

Creation of institutional co-operative mechanisms.

(iii) General objective of the Secretariat

Research and analysis of underlying development problems and formulation of co-operative machinery and institutions.

(iv) Time-limited subsidiary objectives of the Secretariat

- a. basic studies in the areas mandated by the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee at its annual meetings.
- b. formulation of appropriate institutional mechanisms and working out their modalities in conjunction with Governments, intergovernmental and international bodies.

- c. implementation and servicing of sub-regional co-ordinating mechanisms.

(c) Problem addressed

The Caribbean countries share special historical, geographical and cultural conditions and similar inherited economic structures and problems. The importance of economic co-operation and integration as one means of achieving economic and social progress in the area has been officially recognized. In some areas of economic social development, wealth of experience and capabilities has been accumulated by countries of the sub-region that should be more widely and systematically exchanged. In other areas the needs exceed the resources of any individual country and can only be met through collective actions and a pooling of resources. Also, a great deal of experience in measures of economic co-operation and integration has been accumulated within the sub-region by the Caribbean Economic Community (CARICOM), which should be utilized for the benefit of the sub-region as a whole. Mutual benefits would also be derived from fostering co-operation between the member countries of CDCC and other integration schemes (the Andean Group, the Central American Common Market and Latin American Free Trade Association) existing in Latin America.

Progress in economic integration requires a continuing and in-depth exploration of complementarities between and common interests of the countries concerned. Experience gained so far in the Caribbean area shows that real advances in this direction can be achieved only if full account is taken of the interests of the countries concerned as perceived by them.

(d) Strategy for the period 1984 - 1989

(i) The Situation at the end of 1983

It is expected that there would be completed

- a. basic studies in several areas: information and documentation, technical co-operation, agriculture, industry, social affairs, education, women in development, maritime, air and inland transport, telecommunications, energy, natural resources, trade; these studies will serve as inputs to Governments, sub-regional bodies, international organizations and CEPAL Secretariat in the formulation of policies.
- b. some institutional mechanisms promoting action on a sub-regional basis, e.g. documentation, statistics, trade, science and technology, production of printed and audio-visual material.

(ii) The period 1984 - 1989

Research will be carried out in the subject areas of the Work Programme mandated by the First Session of the CDCC convened in November 1975, and supplemented by subsequent annual sessions of the CDCC. Detailed studies and analyses will be undertaken first at the national level to be followed by subsequent consideration to promoting sub-regional co-operation and activities. The latter includes drafting of statutes, and regulations for institutional mechanisms and then extensive consultation with Governments, sub-regional and international bodies, Universities.

The following are anticipated to be the main areas of activity:

- (a) operation of Caribbean Information System in social and economic planning, agriculture and Science and Technology; providing technical assistance to countries in organizing the national centres and inputs; providing Secretariat services for a Caribbean Congress of Librarians and Documentalists; preparation of projects on information for extra-budgetary financing, assistance with negotiations for financing, and execution of approved projects; operation of a sub-regional trade information centre and the organization of the national units.
- (b) institution of measures of overcoming language barriers: organization of training courses, assistance with developing suitable projects for financing from extra-budgetary sources, assistance with negotiations for financing, execution of projects; development of planning mechanisms on a sub-regional basis in agriculture, energy, physical and regional planning, transportation, manpower planning and training; operation of a sub-regional computerized statistical data bank for Caribbean countries.
- (c) bi-annual publications of agricultural statistics of Caribbean countries; formation of associations of producers/exporters in rice, legumes, ground provisions, fresh vegetables and citrus fruits; studies into land tenure, land reform, control and zoning of agricultural land, preservation of land resources.

- (d) studies in the social, cultural and economic structure of Caribbean countries and development of alternative models suited to Caribbean countries: social structure and pattern of development of individual countries, establishment of network of centres for cultural retrieval and animation, annual publication of Economic Survey of Caribbean countries.
- (e) development of social welfare planning, labour employment and population policy on a sub-regional basis: development of local institutions with respect to community property systems, formulation of specific objectives on employment related to Caribbean needs and industrial relations, studies on labour migration, brain-drain.
- (f) increasing the participation of women in development: studies to eradicate legal and other forms of discrimination, assistance with the development of specific projects, assistance with negotiations for financing from extra-budgetary sources and execution of projects.
- (g) fostering the development of multinational production and trade enterprises: studies into the feasibility of these projects, assistance with the negotiations for financing and subsequent execution of the identified projects.
- (h) directing the work and providing secretariat services of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST); identification of priority scientific and technological activities suitable for regional cooperation, devising

measures and appropriate programmes for the better utilization of internal scientific and technological potential of Caribbean countries, encouragement of design and adaptation of technology to suit local circumstances, fostering the education and training of specialised scientific personnel.

- (i) studies, development and execution of projects on a sub-regional basis on maritime transport, civil aviation, inland transport, postal services and telecommunications.
- (j) development/conservation of energy and natural resources: studies and analyses on present energy sources, demand, pricing, possibilities in new and renewable sources with accent on sub-regional co-operation; studies on the nature and quantum of mineral resources, location, possibilities of further processing, and marketing on a sub-regional basis.
- (k) studies in the development of monetary clearing unions on a sub-regional basis and technical assistance in their organization.
- (l) studies in the development of the resources of the seabed on a sub-regional basis.
- (m) assistance with execution of a Caribbean Environment Project.
- (n) development of institutional links between the Caribbean and Latin America: studies on mechanisms for facilitating closer trade and the identification of areas of complementarity; studies of various integration movements.

(o) technical assistance in the operation of decentralised institutional mechanisms in specific subject areas especially information and documentation, Science and Technology and Energy.

(e) Evaluation

1. Purpose of the evaluation

To assess the effectiveness and impact of the sub-programme by examining the extent to which Governments, sub-regional inter-governmental organizations and United Nations Specialized Agencies:

(i) accept the studies and analyses as usable; (ii) incorporate elements in formulation of policies and programmes; and (iii) provide national inputs in the sub-regional mechanism.

2. Characteristics of the evaluation

The evaluation will include assessment of relevance and validity of the reports and proposals by expert and intergovernmental bodies and their subsequent incorporation by Governments and intergovernmental bodies.

3. Performance and impact indicators

This would include acceptance and incorporation of studies and proposals, requests for additional data and follow-up work, requests for technical assistance to assist implementation, active participation by Governments in the sub-regional institutions, and development of relevant aspects by the private sector.

C. Organizations

1. Intergovernmental Review

The work of the Secretariat in this programme is reviewed by the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (specialized intergovernmental body) which meets every year. The last meeting was June 1980. In addition, the reports of the CDCC meetings are reviewed by the Economic Commission for Latin America meeting which meets every two years; the last meeting was in April 1979. This plan has been reviewed by this body.

2. Secretariat

The Secretariat unit responsible for this programme is the ECLA Office for the Caribbean (Port of Spain) in which there were 20 professional posts authorized as of 1 January 1981. The Office had the following branches/sections/units as of 1 January 1981:

| <u>Unit</u> | <u>Professional posts</u> | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| | <u>Regular budget</u> | <u>Extra- budgetary sources</u> | <u>Total</u> |
| Office of Director | 2 | - | 2 |
| Programme | 12 | 2 | 14 |
| Documentation | - | 2 | 2 |
| Science and Technology | 1 | - | 1 |
| Administration | 1 | - | 1 |

3. Divergencies between current administrative structure and proposed programme structure

The current administrative structure is geared to meet the needs and responsibilities which were approved at the first session of the CDCC in November 1975. Since then several additional responsibilities have been added e.g. Documentation, Science and Technology, Women in Development.

There is need for additional professional and supporting staff to cope with extension of services under existing mandates and to undertake the new areas of responsibility. The requirements for additional professional staff are as follows:

- a) transfer of four (4) extra-budgetary posts to the regular budget (1 P-4; 1 P-3; 2 P-2)^{1/} ^{2/}
- b) six new posts i.e. Monetary Economist (P-4); Legal officer (P3-4); Economic Affairs Officer, Development Planning P3-4); Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development Studies (P3-4); Two (2) Energy Specialist Engineers (P3-4).

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- 1/ 1 P-4 (Economic Affairs Officer, Energy)
1 P-3 (Co-ordinator, Women in Development)
1 P-2 (Manager, Documentation Centre; Training Officer, Information and Documentation).
 - 2/ The post of Economic Affairs Officer, Energy, should be re-classified to P-5.

D. Co-ordination

1. Needed intergovernmental co-ordination

The entire sub-programme is reviewed by the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) which meets at Ministerial level once every year. The work is reviewed, priorities assigned and new mandates given. In addition, intergovernmental meetings and technical expert meetings review specific sectors - Planning, Documentation, Science and Technology, Agriculture, Industry, Social Affairs, Women in Development, Transport, Energy, Environment.

2. Formal co-ordination within the Secretariat

Attendance/participation in meetings, provision of inputs in programmes and projects.

3. Formal co-ordination within the United Nations System

Attendance/participation in meetings, provision of inputs and financing for projects, joint formulation and execution of projects.

4. Units with which significant joint activities are expected during the period 1984-1989

Development and International Economic Co-operation, Centre for Science and Technology, Law of the Sea Secretariat, Statistical Services, Energy, National Resources, Development Planning.