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**REPORT OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE  
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC)**

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## PART ONE

### LIST OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Agenda item 5 - Review of the work of the organization

(b)Action taken on decisions and recommendations of the thirteenth session of the CDCC (LC/CAR/G.371)

1. The meeting agreed that the first sentence of Rule 14 of the Constituent Declaration of CDCC be amended so as to read: "A majority of the members and associate members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting". It was agreed that the remainder of Rule 14 would remain unchanged.

2. The meeting endorsed the work which had been carried out so far by the secretariat and the Netherlands Antilles and recommended that the subject of removal of language barriers be included in reports by the secretariat on the implementation of the ECLAC/CDCC work programme and requested the secretariat to report to the fifteenth session of CDCC on the progress of the project.

(c)Review of the revised work programmes of ECLAC/CDCC for the 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 bienniums

3. It was agreed that in keeping with resolution 20(IX) on future action of the CDCC, which urged the Subregional Headquarters to undertake consultations with member countries with a view to identifying specific cooperation projects, the secretariat should:

(a) Promote, with the cooperation of the developed countries, bilateral and multilateral projects in areas of common interest to the activities of the subregion;

(b) Promote more effective utilization of funds allocated to the programme and to specialized agencies of the United Nations system, with regard to special projects which may complement activities of member countries;

(c) Promote TCDC activities among member countries taking into account the resources of the countries and possibilities of cooperation; and

(d) Increase contact with CARICOM, SELA and OLADE with the aim of avoiding duplication of actions and formulating small projects for execution based upon the priorities of member countries.

4. It was further agreed that in order to achieve the above-mentioned, it was necessary that the CDCC secretariat increase its contact with member countries; prepare regional projects in consultation with the countries based on the objectives and priorities defined by them; and carry

out internal work designed to develop activities within the framework of the CDCC, and not only as an office of ECLAC for the anglophone countries of the Caribbean.

5. In regard to the population and development programme, the meeting agreed:

(a) That the CDCC assign high priority to the subject of population and development and include it as an integral part of the regular programme of work of the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat, beginning with the 1994-1995 biennium.

(b) Further, that in view of existing limited regular budget resources, the subject of population and development be included in the ECLAC regular work programme through an equivalent reduction of activities and resources in the social development sector.

(c) That in addition to the above, a bridging mechanism be adopted in 1993 that would involve:

(i) The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat making use of temporary vacancies that may arise as a result of special missions and assignments of its personnel to temporarily engage the expert on population and development;

(ii) Advantage being taken of ECLAC's proposal to earmark six months of short-term expert contract to supplement the above-mentioned use of temporary vacancies; and

(iii) On the basis of UNFPA's recent indications, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat approaching the Fund to elicit funding for short-term consultancies on specific population and development issues.

(d) That, in addition to and simultaneously with the above recommendations, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat formulate a time-limited technical cooperation project proposal for the provision of support to the CDCC member countries on specific population and development issues, and request ECLAC to make the necessary representations to multilateral and bilateral donors with a view to eliciting the required funding.

6. Resolution 39(XIV) on this matter, which was adopted by the meeting, is included at Part 3 of this report.

7. It was agreed that the structure of the CDCC should continue to provide for meetings of the Monitoring Committee, and meetings at the officials and ministerial levels. The Monitoring Committee should continue to keep track of the functioning of the secretariat. In addition to discussing matters dealing with work programming and funding, it should seek to promote wider cooperation among CDCC member countries, and between the CDCC and Latin America. A meeting between organizations and governments should be convened one day prior to the meeting of the CDCC.

### **Agenda item 6 - Consideration of reports**

(d)The Caribbean in the United Nations system with special emphasis on the CDCC: Workshop of national focal points of the CDCC, Port-of-Spain, July 1992

8. It was agreed that the workshop for national focal points of the CDCC should be held on a biennial basis.

9. The Committee agreed that ways should be explored to address and incorporate issues and recommendations emanating from the workshop into the work programme of the CDCC.

(e)Meeting of Working Group of Non-Independent Caribbean Countries (NICCs), St. George's, December 1992

10. The Meeting recommended that the Chairman of the CDCC, in consultation with the Chairman of the Working Group of NICCs, initiate contacts with the Chairman of the Special Committee of 24 with the aim of seeking formal collaboration between the two bodies in furtherance of the ongoing work by the Working Group on the access of NICCs to the United Nations system, and to report to the fifteenth session of CDCC.

11. The meeting agreed to adopt resolution 37(XIV) on this matter. This resolution is included at Part 3 of the report.

(g)Chairman of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST)

12. The meeting agreed to adopt a resolution which requested the CDCC secretariat to prepare in collaboration with the CCST a proposal setting out the administrative support arrangements required for the CCST, in keeping with the recommendations and decisions of CCST and the CDCC.

13. Resolution 38(XIV) on this matter is included at Part 3 of this report.

### **Agenda item 7 - Hemispheric relations**

(a)The Caribbean and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

14. The meeting agreed that the secretariat should continue to monitor global and hemispheric

economic developments from the perspective of the member countries of the CDCC and produce reviews on this subject for the consideration of member governments.

(b) Widening the Caribbean Community: Issues and considerations

15. It was agreed that document WP/92/6 would be modified to take account of comments and changes suggested by the representatives, including those of Cuba, Dominican Republic, Netherlands Antilles and Suriname, with reference to their relations with CARICOM.

**Agenda item 8 - Island developing countries in the  
United Nations system**

16. The meeting agreed that the secretariat should assume a more active role in regard to the issue of island developing countries from an operational and subregional perspective and for this purpose should maintain a closer collaborative relationship with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and other United Nations bodies working on this and related issues.

**Agenda item 9 - Any other business**

Restructuring of the United Nations

17. The meeting agreed to adopt a resolution calling for strengthening of the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat, in the context of the restructuring of the United Nations which was currently taking place.

18. Resolution 40(XIV) on this matter is included at Part 3 of this report.

## **PART TWO**

### **ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION**

19. The fourteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) was held in St. George's, Grenada, from 8-11 December 1992.

#### Attendance

20. Representatives of the following member countries of the Committee attended the session: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. Participating associate members were the British Virgin Islands, Netherlands Antilles and the United States Virgin Islands.

21. The United Nations Secretariat was represented by an official of the Department of Political Affairs.

22. Representatives of the following organizations of the United Nations system attended the session: the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

23. The following United Nations specialized agencies were represented: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO).

24. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

25. Ambassador Renagi Lohia, Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations and Dr. Martin Adouki, Permanent Representative of Congo to the United Nations, Chairman and member, respectively, of the Special Committee of 24 attended as special invitees.

#### **Agenda item 1 - Opening of the meeting**



26. In the opening session presentations were made by Mr. Gert Rosenthal, Executive Secretary of ECLAC; the outgoing Chairman of the CDCC, Mrs. Cordell Wilson, Director, Caribbean and Americas Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica; and by the incoming Chairman, The Honourable Francis Alexis, Minister of Legal Affairs and Attorney-General of Grenada.

27. In his opening statement, Mr. Gert Rosenthal, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, noted that ECLAC had recently been reminded of the important place that the Caribbean was assuming in the community of nations, through three important developments. The first was the award of the Nobel Prize for literature to the eminent West Indian poet, Mr. Derek Walcott. The second was the recent visit to ECLAC Headquarters by the Jamaican Prime Minister, the Rt. Honourable Mr. P.J. Patterson, during which the importance of Caribbean/Latin American cooperation was recognized and endorsed. The third was the Report of the West Indian Commission, entitled, "Time for Action", the mandate of which had been conceived in that very same place, Grand Anse, Grenada.

28. That report contained the basis for a regional development strategy through the promotion of regional integration. It recommended widening circles of partnership, commencing with the CARICOM, widening to the non-English-speaking Caribbean, the second outer circle, with the third circle including countries of the Caribbean Basin, including South and Central American countries. He noted that the CDCC could, and should, play a useful role in support of each one of those three "circles of cooperation". CDCC constituted a political forum within which all Caribbean countries and many non-independent countries of the region met to discuss and agree on joint solutions to common problems.

29. He stated that the issue of island developing countries had been given particular emphasis by the CDCC, recognizing that the social and economic problems faced by those countries were due to their small size, making them deserving of special consideration by the international community. In another vein, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat had assisted the work of the OECS in promoting closer political union.

30. With regard to the second circle of integration, Mr. Rosenthal said that the CDCC had a comparative advantage vis-a-vis CARICOM, in that it had been able to focus on changes in the United Nations system and on the role and functioning of ECLAC and CDCC regarding technical cooperation activities with the wider Caribbean, through a focal points workshop that had been held earlier that year.

31. As a subsidiary organ of ECLAC, CDCC could function as a "sounding board" to determine Caribbean concerns in the third circle of partnership, encompassing Latin American countries. Blending subregional outlooks and benefiting from its regional perspective, ECLAC had contributed to the debate on how best to integrate Latin American and Caribbean economies while ensuring environmental sustainability and social equity.

32. The outgoing Chairman, Mrs. Cordell Wilson, referred to the CDCC's unique mandate and noted that several member countries had called for the strengthening of the CDCC through the

selection of national focal points to support the work of the secretariat. Member countries had been heartened by the convening of a workshop for CDCC focal points, designed to foster greater awareness of their roles and responsibilities.

33. Mrs. Wilson observed that economic policies currently being pursued by Caribbean governments, while being necessary development prescriptions, had imposed considerable hardships upon Caribbean populations. It was of paramount importance that social policies, therefore, be put in place for the benefit of vulnerable groups, with the assistance of regional organizations.

34. She observed that regional economic integration was an essential step for Caribbean development. The process of mutual exchange and the undertaking of special measures and programmes to overcome language barriers and eliminate the differences and difficulties in communication, were of pivotal importance.

35. Access to technology and the expansion of the Caribbean's research capability were key elements, she noted, in the survival of subregional economies as the world grew increasingly more competitive. In that context, the work of the CCST to develop and implement a plan of action for science and technology for the Caribbean was very important.

36. The outgoing Chairman stated that Jamaica continued to place great importance on the work of ECLAC/CDCC in the area of population and development. She noted with concern that activities in that area faced the risk of termination and hoped that measures would be adopted to minimize that risk.

37. She recalled that the Heads of Government of CARICOM had adopted a number of recommendations emanating from the report of the West Indian Commission. One such recommendation pertained to the establishment of an Association of Caribbean States (ACS), the modalities for the functioning of which were in the process of being formulated. Accordingly, she said that the CDCC, comprising non-independent and independent territories drawn from the English, Dutch and Spanish-speaking countries, made the Committee an ideal forum for collaboration with CARICOM on the establishment of the ACS.

38. She asserted that it was also necessary for the Caribbean region to examine the impact of the NAFTA on regional economies since it would create the world's largest free trade area and was intended to serve as the first step towards a hemispheric free trade area under the Enterprise of the Americas Initiative (EAI). The substantive document prepared by the secretariat on that subject deserved commendation.

39. It was necessary to realize the potential for South-South cooperation and to bridge the gap between Latin America and the Caribbean. The CDCC was ideally placed to make a valuable contribution in that regard. In passing the chairmanship to Grenada, she pledged Jamaica's full support to the CDCC and to the other members of the Bureau.

40. In his opening statement the incoming chairman, Dr. Francis Alexis of Grenada, noted that the CDCC, by virtue of its composition was a unique body within the United Nations system in that it allowed membership by both independent and non-independent countries of the Caribbean. The NICCs had been particularly active in the work of the CDCC and their efforts and commitment should be applauded.

41. Over the past 17 years, he observed, the CDCC had played an instrumental role in facilitating dialogue, cooperation and positive interaction among its members. The objectives of the CDCC, as enunciated in 1975, were as relevant at the present time as they had been at its inception. He said that the work programme for future years reflected the results of recent deliberations on the role and function of the CDCC and would give direction to the key areas of resource allocation and cooperation. He noted that the meeting was taking place at a crucial moment, coming not long after the special meeting of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community and the twenty-first meeting of the Authority of the OECS.

42. The development of trading blocs in North America, the European Community and Asia, he commented, made it essential that the Caribbean pursue the development of its own integrated market. ECLAC had a pivotal role to play in assisting member countries to respond effectively to those new trading arrangements.

43. The process of adjustment and the need to develop new and competitive market niches were not easy tasks. Nonetheless Caribbean countries needed to demonstrate solidarity, particularly when the international market pitted one against the other, with respect to the trade in bananas, sugar, rum or manufactured products. Regarding bananas, he stated that there was no logic to an unproductive banana war, when an equitable option of peaceful market sharing was available.

44. At the present time, he noted, the United Nations system was undergoing fundamental restructuring. It was necessary that it be enabled to fulfil both its developmental and peace-keeping mandates, simultaneously. It was neither rational nor prudent to concentrate resources on the latter while neglecting the former. The revitalization process should lead to a strengthening of the regional commissions in order to assist the fulfilment of economic and social needs of the developing countries. At the end of the restructuring process, he commented, it was essential that the Caribbean subregion be a net beneficiary of the changes wrought in the system. To achieve that, Caribbean governments should utilize the CDCC more effectively and improve the Caribbean profile within ECLAC itself.

45. The mantle of chairmanship of the CDCC, he noted, had now passed to Grenada. He expressed gratitude to the outgoing Chairman, Jamaica, and pledged Grenada's efforts to advance the objectives of the CDCC in the fulfilment of Caribbean needs.

## **Agenda Item 2 - Election of officers**

46. The following officers were elected by consensus at the meeting of heads of delegation prior to the opening of the meeting at the technical level:

Chairman: Grenada (William Joseph)

First Vice-Chairman: Jamaica (Cordell Wilson)

Second Vice-Chairman: British Virgin Islands (Otto O'Neal)

Third Vice-Chairman: Cuba (Ramiro Leon Torras)

Rapporteur: Dominica (Judith Pestaina)

47. In accordance with established practice, officers chosen for the ministerial session were representatives of the same countries chosen at the technical level, as follows:

Chairman: Grenada (Francis Alexis)

First Vice-Chairman: Jamaica (Cordell Wilson)

Second Vice-Chairman: British Virgin Islands (Otto O'Neal)

Third Vice-Chairman: Cuba (Noemi Benitez y de Mendoza)

Rapporteur: Dominica (B. C. K. Alleyne)

### **Agenda item 3 - Addresses**

48. Addresses were made by the representatives of Dominica, Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Antigua and Barbuda and the Chairman of the Special Committee of 24.

49. The representative of Dominica indicated that his country had not participated in CDCC meetings in recent years, due mainly to a perception that ECLAC/CDCC had attempted to deal with too many subject areas and, therefore, lacked focus. It was the view of his delegation that the ECLAC/CDCC work programme should focus on a small number of specific, carefully identified issues. There were a number of regional agencies in the area of development assistance and it was suggested that CDCC seek to identify areas for collaboration and cooperation with CARICOM and the OECS. Such a move would prevent overlap of work programmes, waste of resources and institutional conflict.

50. Of particular importance to Dominica was the issue of the European Single Market, and the consequential uncertain status of traditional preferential markets for bananas, sugar and rum. That uncertainty had led to tension in Caribbean/Latin American relations, since a number of Caribbean products might face Latin American competition in European and other markets. Caribbean countries were, therefore, faced with issues pertaining to Latin American relations, and needed to consider a situation filled with both opportunities and rivalry in dealing with its neighbours. Caribbean countries were well aware that the relative strengths of both subregions were grossly unequal. It was necessary for Caribbean and Latin American countries to identify mutual interests and objectives and to make common cause in confronting hemispheric and global issues.

51. CARICOM and Venezuela had made a hopeful start in the recent signing of a one-way free trade agreement, with reciprocity the eventual objective. This agreement had hopefully set an important precedent for future Caribbean/Latin American relationships. The CDCC should seek to facilitate new regional economic relationships arising out of NAFTA. Regional security in the final analysis depended on economic strength, social equity and full respect for human rights rather than on military strength.

52. Dominica viewed environmental issues as being of crucial importance in the development process. CDCC should concentrate on developing sustainable development programmes based upon recommendations arising from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). Other sectoral issues of crucial importance for the Caribbean, were the social areas of drug control and trafficking and Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). Those subjects might be possible areas for CDCC to explore.

53. The representative of Cuba observed that his country shared common interests with other Caribbean countries with regard to the similarity of forces which persistently impeded development.

54. The meeting was informed that the 30-year old economic blockade imposed against Cuba had retarded its development, and negated the right of that country to engage in free trade. Nonetheless, Cuba wished to record with appreciation the solidarity of sister nations of the Caribbean, in supporting its development efforts.

55. Cuban priorities at the present time included the development of a self-reliant food programme; research and development in biotechnology and medical and health technology; development of its tourism sector; and energy conservation. The promotion of private sector activity was earmarked for special attention, through the establishment of joint arrangements in marketing, tourism, export development, and joint industrial, agricultural and services ventures. A brochure elaborating on business possibilities in Cuba had been produced for wide dissemination.

56. In evaluating the work of the CDCC, it was noted that over 16 years had elapsed since the inception of the Committee. There was a need to renew the drive to acquire multilateral resources to comply with resolution 29(XII), regarding ECLAC's future work programme. The Director of ECLAC/CDCC was urged to work with member governments in the facilitation of bilateral

arrangements among member countries, to promote Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) with funds provided by the United Nations system, to increase contact with CARICOM, OLADE and SELA, in order to increase inter-agency collaboration and to prevent overlap of activities.

57. With respect to the CCST, it was noted that adequate funds were not available for it to function as an effective secretariat. Therefore, CDCC should continue to function as the secretariat of the CCST.

58. The proposed Association of Caribbean States was an important development, requiring urgent action on the part of the entire Caribbean subregion.

59. The representative of Haiti recorded deep appreciation for the efforts of CARICOM countries with respect to the reinstatement of the legitimate Head of the State of Haiti, Jean-Bertrand Aristide. He noted that the trade embargo imposed through the OAS, if effectively applied, would eventually lead to the collapse of the illegal regime presently in force.

60. Regarding the work of ECLAC/CDCC, he stated that its current work programme would assist in the promotion of lasting regional development. The challenge of the present time was the surmounting of obstacles to political freedom which, in its turn, would lead to social and economic liberation.

61. The development of trade and investment possibilities allied to common Caribbean identity would inevitably lead to Caribbean integration, ensuring that the trap of poverty would eventually be broken in the subregion.

62. The representative of the Dominican Republic informed the meeting that NAFTA could be of benefit to Caribbean economies, once those areas of the agreement, prejudicial to specific Caribbean sectors were ascertained and care taken to buttress them. One such area was the terms of the Agreement governing intellectual property, which needed to be carefully examined and analyzed. The CDCC secretariat should follow up with a specific document on the subject.

63. On the matter of Caribbean convergence, the initiative of the Association of Caribbean States was welcomed, and the meeting was apprised that the Dominican Republic would study the proposal carefully and positively.

64. In closing, the representative of the Dominican Republic indicated that two special areas of importance in the ECLAC/CDCC work programme were science and technology and the removal of language barriers.

65. The representative of Antigua and Barbuda viewed the CDCC as the most structured mechanism available for Caribbean convergence, since no other regional grouping included the countries of the Dutch, Spanish and English-speaking Caribbean. Nevertheless, there were

structural constraints that needed to be overcome if it was to function effectively as the agency for promoting Caribbean convergence.

66. The elimination of language barriers was the single most important task of the CDCC in promoting Caribbean convergence, and Antigua and Barbuda stood ready to assist the CDCC in the promotion of regional unity.

67. In his presentation, the Chairman of the Special Committee of 24 noted that in its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, the General Assembly had proclaimed the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism by the year 2000, and had subsequently adopted resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991 which included a plan of action for the decade. While the Special Committee of 24 consolidated its efforts on the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs) in the Caribbean and the Pacific, it continued to deliberate on the colonial situations of Western Sahara, East Timor, Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and to monitor the process on the complete eradication of apartheid in South Africa. He informed the meeting that in a resolution adopted by the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, and introduced by the Permanent Representative of Grenada on behalf of Caribbean and Pacific countries, the assistance of specialized agencies and institutions in filling the specific needs of small island territories was requested. Small island territories, he observed, suffered handicaps arising from such factors as their size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters and lack of natural resources. The special relationship existing between the Special Committee and the CDCC was noted and the meeting was apprised that the consultative relationship between the two Committees would continue, taking into account the interests and aspirations of the NSGTs.

#### **Agenda item 4 - Adoption of agenda and organization of work**

68. The following agenda for the fourteenth session of the CDCC was adopted:

1. Opening of meeting
2. Election of officers
3. Addresses
4. Adoption of agenda and organization of work
5. Review of the work of the organization:

- (a)Recent resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and ECLAC which may be of special interest to member countries of CDCC
  - (b)Action taken on decisions and recommendations of the thirteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)
  - (c)Review of the revised work programmes of ECLAC/CDCC for the 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 bienniums
  - (d)Implementation of the work programme of ECLAC/CDCC for the 1992-1993 biennium; (and for the period July - December 1991)
6. Consideration of reports of:
- (a)Fifth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC
  - (b)Caucus of delegations of member countries of the CDCC, Santiago, April 1992
  - (c)Special meeting of the Monitoring Committee, Port-of-Spain, July 1992
  - (d)The Caribbean in the United Nations system, with special emphasis on the CDCC: Workshop for national focal points of the CDCC, Port-of-Spain, July 1992
  - (e)Meeting of Working Group of Non-Independent Caribbean Countries (NICCs), St. George's, December 1992
  - (f)Meeting on inter-organizational collaboration, St. George's, December 1992
  - (g)Chairman of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST)
7. Hemispheric relations:
- (a)The Caribbean and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
  - (b)Widening the Caribbean Community: Issues and considerations
  - (c)Caribbean-Latin American relations
- 8.The issue of special status for Island Developing Countries
9. Any other business
10. Date and venue of the fifteenth session of the CDCC
11. Adoption of the report of the fourteenth session.



### **Agenda item 5 - Review of the work of the organization**

(a)Recent resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and ECLAC which may be of special interest to member countries of the CDCC (LC/CAR/G.370)

69. In presenting the document under reference, the Secretary of the CDCC indicated that eight resolutions adopted at the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, deemed to be of special interest to representatives, were summarized with complete copies of the respective resolutions attached as annexes. These resolutions dealt with the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti; observer status for the Caribbean Community in the General Assembly; cooperation between the United Nations and SELA; implementation of the declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples; restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields; protection and security of small States; regional economic integration among developing countries; cooperation and coordination of specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations in their assistance to NSGTs.

70. In congratulating the secretariat for its useful work, representatives brought to the attention of the meeting a number of additional resolutions from the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, which might warrant their interest. Those related to the international decade for natural disaster reduction (46/149) and non-independent countries in the Caribbean (46/48). It was suggested that ECOSOC resolution (1992/43), relating to strengthening the work of the regional commissions, might also be of interest to the CDCC; as well as resolutions from the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, resolution 47/L.23, similar to resolution 46/7, but including an embargo on arms and oil destined for the military regime in Haiti. The Trinidad and Tobago representative brought to the attention of the meeting the recent General Assembly resolution on the removal of the embargo by the United States against Cuba.

(b)Action taken on decisions and recommendations of the thirteenth session of the CDCC (LC/CAR/G.371)

71. In introducing the document, the Secretary of CDCC noted that the paper provided a summary of activities undertaken since the thirteenth session and mandated by that session. He noted that some of those mandates had not yet been fulfilled since the work programme was now midway into the biennium. He also noted that actions taken on those activities proposed under agenda item 5 in the report of the thirteenth session of CDCC, relating to Puerto Rico, had been incorporated into the current list of actions taken. A number of issues were highlighted, such as the incorporation of social data into the economic surveys, the adoption of an integrated approach to economic and social planning, and the matter of revising the statutes of the CDCC to permit associate members to be counted in determining a quorum.

72. In the last-mentioned case, the Secretary of ECLAC indicated that the proposal was acceptable to the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, although it was necessary to have the formal procedures followed in order to have the statutes changed.

73. The meeting agreed that the first sentence of Rule 14 of the Constituent Declaration of CDCC be amended so as to read: "A majority of the members and associate members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting". It was agreed that the remainder of Rule 14 should remain unchanged.

74. Representatives expressed gratitude to the secretariat and to member countries for assistance provided in helping non-independent Caribbean countries to participate in UNCED. The representative of the United States Virgin Islands commended the secretariat for facilitating the convening of the First Meeting of the Working Group of NICCs in conformity with CDCC resolution 33(XIII). He also noted that other elements of the resolution had not been implemented, owing to a lack of resources and expressed the hope that resources could be identified to carry out that mandate.

75. With respect to the issue of Caribbean/Latin American relations, it was suggested that a formal agreement be established between OLADE and the CDCC. It was suggested that collaboration with OLADE would be particularly beneficial since the CDCC currently had no activities in the field of energy. Similar agreements should also be established with SELA and the secretariat was requested to report to the next meeting of the Monitoring Committee on progress made on those two initiatives.

76. In the field of ecology and the environment, the secretariat was asked to increase its contacts with the regional office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in Jamaica, since it had financial resources for such activities, and coordination would help to eliminate duplication in the respective programmes.

77. The secretariat was encouraged to continue to improve its outreach capability to the general public. It was noted that while some CDCC documentation was available at the level of officials, the profile of the CDCC with the general public remained low.

78. Regarding trafficking in illicit drugs, the secretariat was asked to provide more detailed information in order to assist governments to determine the relevance of CDCC's regional initiatives to those being undertaken by governments at the national level.

79. The meeting received an update on the most recent developments in the project dealing with the removal of language barriers. Noting that the Netherlands Antilles had spearheaded the project over a long period, the representative of that country traced the project from concept through to its current phase as a programme of activities. She made reference to Information Paper No. 4 on the subject, which had been prepared by her Government and circulated to the member governments present at the session. She noted that a formal project proposal was prepared in 1989

by the CDCC secretariat in conjunction with representatives of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles with a view to seeking funds. Funding was provided by the European Development Fund (EDF) to finance a preliminary study which was undertaken in July 1992, with the collaboration of the CDCC secretariat. Eleven CDCC countries were included in the study which would result in the formulation of a draft project document.

80. The meeting expressed strong support for the programme on the removal of language barriers, which provided an example of what could be achieved if a regional project was linked to the resources of other agencies. It was noted that those initiatives took on added relevance at a time when the widening of CARICOM was being considered. Mention was made of initiatives by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Jamaica and the University of the West Indies (UWI) at Mona, Jamaica, to establish a Latin American-Caribbean centre for the promotion of the Spanish language. In addition, information could be provided on initiatives being taken by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Jamaica with that same objective. Note was also taken of the tremendous assistance which had been provided by Cuba through the instrumentality of the Empresa de Servicio de Traductores e Interpretes (ESTI).

81. Another initiative which focused on the same objective was the proposed Regional Language Centre, to be established in Belize. The objective of locating the centre in Belize, a bilingual country in Central America, was to teach English to Spanish-speakers in Central America and Spanish to English-speakers, primarily in the Caribbean. While the numerous national initiatives reflected increased awareness of the issue, caution was expressed that the CDCC should be careful not to lose its regional approach to the programme.

82. In recording its appreciation to the Government of the Netherlands Antilles for continuing to take a lead role in the development of the project on Removal of Language Barriers and in particular for having secured funding from the European Community for the conduct of the feasibility study on that subject, the meeting endorsed the work which had been carried out so far, and took note of related activities reported upon by the representatives of Belize and Jamaica.

83. The meeting recommended that the subject of the removal of language barriers be included in reports by the secretariat on the implementation of the ECLAC/CDCC work programme and requested the secretariat to report to the fifteenth session of CDCC on the progress of the project.

84. The representative of the United States Virgin Islands noted, in connection with the update on preparations for the 1992 UNCED, that the initial response from the UNCED secretariat had not been favourable for the extension of observer status for associate members of regional economic commissions. He indicated that follow-up work had been done by the associate members of ECLAC in conjunction with ESCAP, resulting in a favourable decision.

85. The representative thanked the Government of Antigua and Barbuda for spearheading the initiative at the General Assembly level. He also thanked the CDCC member governments for their support for the resolution at the General Assembly.

(c)Review of the revised work programmes of ECLAC/CDCC for the 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 bienniums

86. The Secretary of the CDCC indicated that the work of both bienniums would be presented together, while representatives should take note of the information presented in the previous agenda item to understand what had been achieved since the last session of the CDCC. He noted that, given the long lead time necessary for programming, greater scope had been available to modify the programme relating to the 1994-1995 biennium than was possible for the current programme which was, in any case, already partly completed.

87. Accordingly, an effort was made to reflect the concerns of the CDCC in the 1994-1995 biennium in areas such as the focal points workshops, which would be conducted biennially and work on matters of particular interest to the Non-Independent Caribbean Countries. New priorities were also reflected in a reordering of the existing programme elements to give primacy to the following: Caribbean/Latin American cooperation; island developing countries; development planning; international trade and finance which would include an evaluation of the economic integration process, the financial sector and wider global concerns; the environment and, specifically, the nexus between the environment and development; and science and technology.

88. In the discussion that ensued, concern was expressed that while there was widespread support for current efforts to integrate women into development on a worldwide basis, there was the feeling that men were being in some way marginalized particularly in small island situations. The question was raised as to whether the studies on women in development would take that perceived marginalization into consideration.

89. The secretariat responded that that concern had not yet been taken into consideration in the work plan, but welcomed suggestions relative to that issue and to the methodology to be adopted for possible work in that area.

90. The representative of ILO indicated that his organization's approach was one of non-discrimination between the sexes, but that its programmes exhibited a preference for women in order to establish a balance. However, his organization would seek to redress that imbalance if the adjustment in favour of women had gone too far.

91. The UNFPA representative informed the meeting that gender concerns constituted an important element in all population and development programmes, although women remained the main focus. However, in the English-speaking Caribbean special attention was being paid to deal with the problem of minimal male involvement in family planning activities.

92. In response, the secretariat took note and indicated its intention to pursue the matter if such were the wish of the Committee.

93. In the discussion which followed it was suggested by one representative that the structure of the work programme of the CDCC should consist of two parts. The first should relate to basic

ECLAC work programme elements that responded to the activities and budgetary allocations as approved by the General Assembly. These should include activities such as economic surveys and studies and should be centred on the English-speaking Caribbean countries. The non English-speaking Caribbean countries of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic should be serviced by the ECLAC office in Mexico.

94. The second part should consist of the CDCC work programme which involved cooperation activities among CDCC member countries and which covered a group of countries wider in scope than the countries covered by the basic ECLAC work programme of the Port-of-Spain Office.

95. The major sources of financing should be provided by agencies and programmes of the United Nations, regional and intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations.

96. Agencies such as the UNDP had developed programmes and planning cycles on a country basis. Each country had an allocation of financial resources within the planning period, not all of which were fully utilized during that period. A member country suggested that funds of the agencies of the United Nations system might be pooled, with a view to achieving a more rationalized use among beneficiary countries, in that case, CDCC countries. Such a pooling and rationalized use of financial resources could promote greater cooperation among countries.

97. The CDCC needed to devise ways of collaborating with organizations to increase their level of effective participation. In order to achieve that objective, the secretariat would need to be adequately structured to:

- (a) Implement the work programme;
- (b) Eliminate language barriers within the region. To do so, the secretariat should not confine its activities to the English-speaking Caribbean, but should broaden its view of the task;
- (c) Utilize staff to promote and develop regional and country cooperation activities with adequate utilization of the available financial resources;
- (d) Establish working groups that reflected the priorities of the work programme and utilized the skills available to the CDCC. In that manner, more countries could benefit from more activities.

98. It was agreed that the structure of the CDCC should continue to provide for meetings of the Monitoring Committee, and meetings at officials and ministerial levels.

99. The Monitoring Committee should continue to keep track of the functioning of the secretariat. In addition to discussing matters dealing with work programming and funding, it should seek to promote wider cooperation among CDCC member countries, and between the

CDCC and Latin America. A meeting between organizations and governments should be convened one day prior to the meeting of the CDCC.

100. In response to a question as to whether the restructuring of the United Nations system would have implications for the staffing required to implement the work programme of the CDCC, the Secretary of ECLAC informed the meeting of the existence of several current proposals for restructuring the United Nations system. He stated that it was difficult to project the impact of the restructuring on the proposal for the restructuring of the CDCC's work programme and secretariat.

101. It was suggested by one representative that the recommendation which had been made in the discussion on the restructuring of the CDCC secretariat was in harmony with proposals for the restructuring of the economic and social sections of the United Nations. At the General Assembly, resolutions tended to seek to strengthen regional integration and cooperation and included considerations relating to staffing. That representative noted the inclusion in the debate of considerations of quality of staff in relation to the execution of the approved work programmes.

102. The secretariat noted the fixed nature of the staff complement which was due to budgetary constraints and informed the meeting of its attempts to attract extrabudgetary resources to widen the activities of the secretariat and provide the much needed services. The purpose of the meeting on inter-organizational collaboration and the participation of those agencies in the CDCC meetings were designed to achieve closer collaboration and maximize the delivery of assistance to the CDCC countries with a finite set of resources. The secretariat agreed that the scope of the Monitoring Committee, in addition to monitoring the work programme of ECLAC/CDCC, might include promotion of cooperation within the CDCC and between the CDCC and Latin America.

103. Collaboration with NGOs was considered to be of major importance. The secretariat informed the meeting that many donors were utilizing the NGOs for project execution and stated that the goal of the secretariat was to work more closely with the NGOs.

104. The secretariat had a collaborative relationship with OLADE and was seeking to strengthen that association. The secretariat clarified that access to UNDP country programme funding required the agreement of the countries involved. The secretariat informed the meeting of its efforts to forge links with other agencies. That modality of operation enjoyed the support of ECLAC's Headquarters in Santiago, Chile.

105. In response to a question about the ECLAC input into the ECOSOC resolutions on the strengthening of the economic commissions, the secretariat informed the meeting that the Executive Secretary of ECLAC had been in contact with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and had provided written proposals and suggestions as to how the role of the economic commissions could be strengthened. In addition, a resolution on that subject, adopted at the twenty-fourth session of ECLAC in April 1992, was transmitted to the Secretary-General. It was hoped that the restructuring process would result in the strengthening of the regional economic commissions. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC was closely following developments in that regard.

106. The meeting agreed that in keeping with resolution 20(IX) on future action of the CDCC, which urged the Subregional Headquarters to undertake consultations with member countries with a view to identifying specific cooperation projects, the secretariat should:

(a) Promote, with the cooperation of the developed countries, bilateral and multilateral projects in areas of common interest to the subregion;

(b) Promote more effective utilization of funds allocated to the programme and to specialized agencies of the United Nations system, with regard to special projects that might complement activities of member countries;

(c) Promote TCDC activities among member countries taking into account the resources of the countries and possibilities of cooperation; and

(d) Increase contact with CARICOM, SELA and OLADE with the aim of avoiding duplication of action and formulating small projects for execution based upon the priorities of member countries.

107. It was further agreed that in order to achieve the above-mentioned, it was necessary that the CDCC secretariat increase its contact with member countries; prepare regional projects in consultation with the countries based on the objectives and priorities defined by them; and carry out internal work designed to develop activities within the framework of the CDCC, and not only as an office of ECLAC for the anglophone countries of the Caribbean.

Update on efforts to continue the provision of technical cooperation in population and development to the CDCC member countries

108. In considering the future of the population and development programme, the secretariat informed the meeting that since future activities under that programme element were subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding, and in view of the uncertainty surrounding the future of the programme activities, it was considered appropriate, at that time, to consider the document "Update on efforts to continue the provision of technical cooperation in population and development to the CDCC member countries" (LC/CAR/G.380).

109. The meeting was informed that, over the past nine years, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat had successfully provided assistance to member countries in population and development activities, funded largely through a UNFPA regional project. The main issue under consideration was the possible termination of the work in that area at the end of 1992 due to decisions adopted by the UNFPA Governing Council and the resultant changes in UNFPA strategies and priorities. Action to retain the project began with CDCC resolution 32(XIII), in July 1991. That resolution urged the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to seek financial support for the continuation of the population

programme in the Port-of-Spain Office. The result was the continuation of the programme for one more year to December 1992.

110. Follow-up action continued at the caucus of delegations of member countries of the CDCC held in Santiago in April 1992, at which continuing concern was expressed at the impending termination of the work programme in population and development and the delay in finding a solution. At that meeting, the Executive Secretary proposed to provide temporary support to extend the services of the officer in charge of the programme for six months beyond 1992. At the special meeting of the CDCC Monitoring Committee in July 1992, alternative proposals were submitted to the Executive Secretary for continuing the project. In response he suggested two options: the use of extrabudgetary funds through the formulation of a technical cooperation project; and consideration of the incorporation of population and development in the ECLAC regular budget programme. In addition, the Executive Secretary confirmed his intention to provide limited funds for six months to partially bridge the gap until one of those options bore fruit.

111. The secretariat also made reference to the ECLAC/UNFPA Latin America and Caribbean regional meeting of government experts on population and development in Saint Lucia, during which experts from CDCC member countries took the opportunity to voice their concerns and urge ECLAC and UNFPA to find a way to continue the population and development support activities which had been provided to the countries through the CDCC secretariat.

112. At that meeting, the secretariat put forward a number of alternatives which were intended to maintain continuity in the population and development work programme for consideration by member governments. The meeting considered the following alternatives:

- (a) Formulation of a technical cooperation project proposal for ECLAC to elicit necessary funding (that could take between 12 to 18 months);
- (b) Caribbean government representation to UNFPA's Governing Council to seek an exception to the provision of funds to the subregion;
- (c) Inclusion of the subject of population and development in ECLAC's regular work programme;
- (d) As a partial bridging mechanism towards a more lasting solution consider:
  - (i) Utilizing ECLAC's proposal for a six-month extension of the demography expert's work programme in 1993; and
  - (ii) Approaching UNFPA to elicit temporary support for programme activities through the agency's Caribbean office.

113. Several representatives commended the secretariat on the very comprehensive and lucid document and expressed their full support for the issues and sentiments contained in the document.



They also expressed their appreciation for the technical support provided by the secretariat in population and development and recorded their gratitude to UNFPA for the financial assistance provided, through the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat, to CDCC member countries.

114. The meeting recorded its full support for the recommendations and plan of action put forward in the document.

115. Support was expressed for the "bridging mechanism" of a six-month extension of the demography expert's work programme although concern was expressed that the length of that term was incompatible with the time-frame taken to accomplish action on any of the other recommendations, such as the 12 to 18 month time-frame for the achievement of project funding. A call was made for the commitment of the Executive Secretary to a modification of the length of that term to accommodate any delays that might occur in the execution of the other recommended actions and to ensure continuity in the provision of services in population and development to the CDCC member countries.

116. The meeting requested confirmation by the UNFPA representative of the offer, for the provision of temporary support to the population and development programme of the secretariat, made at a caucus held in Saint Lucia during the regional meeting on population and development. It also sought clarification on the amount of resources, indicated at that meeting, that were available to the subregional office.

117. Several delegates expressed support for the inclusion of population and development in the ECLAC regular work programme and accorded high priority to the subject. Further clarification was sought from the secretariat, however, on the question of resetting of priorities and the strategies concerning the need for approval of higher United Nations bodies.

118. Support was also expressed for the recommendation to formulate a technical project proposal as an interim measure and some representatives emphasized the need for a medium to long-term project duration.

119. The meeting enquired as to whether there was still a chance to effect changes in the decisions taken at the UNFPA Governing Council, as outlined in one of the recommendations for consideration in the document and it was suggested that a Caribbean representative to the United Nations might be identified to seek further information on the matter.

120. The representative of UNFPA, in response to requests for clarification on resource availability for subregional activities indicated that UNFPA was obliged to comply with global mandates and priorities stipulated by the Governing Council. Areas of priority and projects planned for the period 1992-1995 for the English-speaking Caribbean were outlined. He also confirmed the offer made to delegates in Saint Lucia and indicated his organization's willingness to continue collaboration with the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat in the provision of technical services in population to CDCC member countries.

121. The meeting agreed:

(a) That the CDCC assign high priority to the subject of population and development and include it as an integral part of the regular programme of work of the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat, beginning with the 1994-1995 biennium.

(b) Further, that in view of existing limited regular budget resources, the subject of population and development be included in the ECLAC regular work programme through an equivalent reduction of activities and resources in the social development sector.

(c) That in addition to the above, a bridging mechanism be adopted in 1993 that would involve:

(i) The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat making use of temporary vacancies that might arise as a result of special missions and assignments of its personnel to temporarily engage the expert on population and development;

(ii) Advantage being taken of ECLAC's proposal to earmark six months of short-term expert contract to supplement the above-mentioned use of temporary vacancies; and

(iii) On the basis of UNFPA's recent indications, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat approaching the Fund to elicit funding for short-term consultancies on specific population and development issues.

(d) That, in addition to and simultaneously with the above recommendations, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat formulate a time-limited technical cooperation project proposal for the provision of support to the CDCC member countries on specific population and development issues, and request ECLAC to make the necessary representations to multilateral and bilateral donors with a view to eliciting the required funding.

(d) Implementation of the work programme of ECLAC/CDCC for the 1992-1993 biennium (and for the period July-December 1991)

122. The secretariat presented the work programme document for the biennium (LC/CAR/G.369), noting that it was by now familiar to representatives and that since changes had earlier been made to reflect governments' policies, it would not need a detailed presentation. Moreover, many items had already been addressed elsewhere.

123. The secretariat was thanked for the assistance that it had given to member countries in various areas.

124. The secretariat, described the history, scope, objectives and institutional linkages of the Patent Information and Documentation Unit (PIDU), and informed that after several years of support, extrabudgetary funding, the main source of financing, had come to an end. PIDU was

currently funded on an ad hoc basis with ECLAC funds. Discussions were ongoing with several Caribbean governments and national institutions, with a view to assumption by a country of the functions and activities of PIDU. The services of the Unit would continue to be accessible to other countries and to subregional institutions. In the meantime, ECLAC would continue efforts to identify additional funding should national initiatives not come to fruition. Support was expressed for PIDU initiatives by several representatives. The meeting was informed of ongoing discussions in Jamaica in support of the national approach to PIDU assistance.

125. The Committee noted the importance of the dissemination of intellectual property issues to the general population via the media and urged the continued dissemination of the PIDU newsletter, PATNEWS, to the media.

126. The importance of copyright protection for income generation was stated and thorough knowledge of copyright legislation was viewed as crucially important to the prevention of wastage of financial resources expended unnecessarily on copyright matters. An important potential role of PIDU was highlighted in assisting the process of changing production patterns within the context of hemispheric and global developments.

#### **Agenda item 6 - Consideration of reports**

(a)Fifth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC, Port-of-Spain, January 1992

(b)Caucus of delegations of member countries of the CDCC, Santiago, April 1992

(c)Special meeting of the Monitoring Committee, Port-of-Spain, July 1992

127. The secretariat made a summarized presentation of the content of the documents represented under items 6(a), 6(b) and 6(c) noting that all three meetings reflected an opportunity for the secretariat to keep the governments informed of progress in its work programme. The secretariat requested that the contents of these reports be noted since many of the issues would be taken up under their substantive headings.

(d)The Caribbean in the United Nations system, with special emphasis on the CDCC: Workshop for national focal points of the CDCC, Port-of-Spain, July 1992

128. The secretariat presented the report of the workshop for national focal points of the CDCC which was held in July 1992 in Port-of-Spain, at the request of CDCC member governments.

129. The aim of the workshop was to acquaint the focal points with the inner workings of the secretariat. Two senior diplomats were retained as consultants to assist the meeting in understanding the functioning of the United Nations system. They provided a perspective on the current United Nations restructuring process, its implications for Caribbean countries and they participated in discussions relating to other aspects of the work of the secretariat.

130. The workshop agreed that a number of issues should receive more conclusive treatment. Those issues included the present restructuring of the United Nations, the identification of CDCC's "niche", the need for increased visibility of the CDCC secretariat and parity of treatment of the ECLAC Mexico Office with the Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean.

131. The secretariat informed the meeting that the paper on island developing countries had been prepared in response to the recommendation of the workshop and to resolutions approved at previous sessions of the CDCC.

132. Several representatives commended the secretariat for convening such an important workshop and expressed appreciation for the excellent and very useful report.

133. Some representatives highlighted areas of the report that should be given priority treatment in implementation. Those included the need for strengthening the CDCC secretariat, strengthening Caribbean and Latin American relations, more effective functioning of CDCC focal points, and the United Nations restructuring and its implications for the Caribbean subregion. Given the importance of those issues, it was agreed that the workshop for national focal points of the CDCC should be held on a biennial basis.

134. The Committee agreed that ways should be explored to address and incorporate issues and recommendations emanating from the workshop into the work programme of the CDCC.

135. Concern was expressed by several representatives about the impact which the United Nations restructuring exercise could have on Caribbean countries. It was suggested that ECLAC should conduct activities at the regional level, aimed at ensuring that Latin American and Caribbean social and development issues would be incorporated into the decision-making process and that the outcome would be shaped to the benefit of Caribbean countries. The attention of the meeting was drawn to the document entitled "Agenda for Peace" which had been submitted by the Secretary-General to the Security Council in July 1992. That document identified peace-keeping as one of the main items on the United Nations agenda which would influence the attention given to social and development issues, especially with regard to the Caribbean subregion.

(e)Meeting of Working Group of Non-Independent Caribbean Countries (NICCs), St. George's, December 1992

136. The Chairman of the Working Group of the NICCs presented the report of the first meeting of the working group, held on 7 December 1992, in Grenada. The report of that meeting is being issued under separate cover. He outlined the history of the issue in the context of the CDCC, and discussed the report presented to that meeting, highlighting the participation of the NICCs in activities, projects and studies of ECLAC/CDCC, the extension of observer status and/or associate membership to NICCs in regional and international forums and participation in programmes of the United Nations technical organizations and the General Assembly. The meeting was also informed of recent activities of the Working Group with special reference to its role in securing observer status at UNCED. The representative of the United Nations Secretariat provided an update on action taken by the General Assembly at the forty-seventh session, in particular the adoption of a resolution on cooperation and coordination of the specialized agencies and the international financial institutions associated with the United Nations in their assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Chairman of the Working Group expressed appreciation for the support shown by other members.

137. The Meeting recommended that the Chairman of the CDCC, in consultation with the Chairman of the Working Group of NICCs, initiate contacts with the Chairman of the Special Committee of 24 with the aim of seeking formal collaboration between the two bodies in furtherance of the ongoing study by the Working Group on the access of NICCs to the United Nations system, and to report to the fifteenth session of CDCC.

Resolution 37(XIV) on this matter is included at Part 3 of this report.

(f)Meeting on Inter-organizational Collaboration, St. George's, December 1992

138. The report of the Meeting on Inter-organizational Collaboration, held on 7 December 1992, was presented and noted. The meeting received statements from the organizations interested in the CDCC work programme. It identified a number of areas in the CDCC work programme in which they agreed to collaborate.

139. By way of presenting additional information, the representative of the ILO noted that his organization was unique in that it had access to governments and the social partners (workers and employers). ILO's activities and future plans relevant to the ECLAC/CDCC work programme related to employment policies in the context of structural adjustment, establishment and strengthening of labour market information systems, small enterprise development and social security. Organizational changes were in train to facilitate an active partnership between the ILO and the social partners with the objective of making more effective and coherent interventions in country programmes.

140. Activities of direct relevance to the ECLAC/CDCC work programme being undertaken by FAO related to:

(a) The updating of the Regional Action Plan for Latin American and Caribbean countries to which ECLAC/CDCC's input was invited;

(b) The impact of structural adjustment policies on the agricultural sector, currently being examined in collaboration with UWI;

(c) Production transformation with equity, where a series of case studies would be carried out on small-farm agriculture in the region in 1993;

(d) Studies to determine the linkages between agriculture and other sectors; and

(e) Environment and development activities, relating to: the preparations for UNCED, such as sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries development in developing island countries; assistance to the OECS countries in preparing a treaty on the access and management of their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs); and preparation of national Tropical Forestry Action Plans (TFAP) in eight CARICOM countries, with financial assistance from the United Kingdom, Germany/GTZ, the

United States Department of Agriculture, CDB and FAO's own financing. An international roundtable for donor countries and agencies for funding 10 national TFAPs was planned for mid-1993.

141. In conclusion, the meeting was informed that the objectives of the organization were to support national efforts in food production, training and assistance in augmenting agricultural resources. Assistance would be forthcoming to member countries upon request.

142. UNFPA outlined its activities in the field of population and development, noting that its current focus on national programmes would be extended at the regional level if countries expressed the need for that to be done. The census data project with CARICOM was expected to be completed by late 1993, at which time it would provide useful inputs to national development planning. Collaboration among ECLAC/UNFPA/UNDP/UNICEF/CARICOM with regard to population and development programmes was noted.

143. The representative of the IMO outlined the main technical cooperation activities in the region in the maritime sector.

144. The Regional Maritime Safety Adviser project advised and assisted the countries of the region on maritime safety, the prevention of marine pollution and related matters. The project assisted CARICOM member States, though assistance could be extended to others in the region upon request. The project's activities kept regional harmonization very much in mind and the work reflected the relevant IMO (and other) international conventions in the maritime sector.

145. There was also a consultant based in Puerto Rico, who dealt with marine pollution matters as well as security with respect to the passenger cruise ship industry in the region.

146. A project was also in train in Panama to assist in the development of a system for the examination and certification of seafarers to international standards as per the relevant conventions.

147. Other IMO efforts in the region included:

- A Sensitivity Index Mapping project under the Global Environment Facility (GEF), in collaboration with the World Bank, which would assist in deciding priorities in the event of a pollution incident;

- A project dealing with the reception of garbage from ships in the region, particularly passenger cruise ships, to reduce pollution of the region's waters from that source.

148. The issue of the shipment of plutonium through the Caribbean, properly called Irradiated Nuclear Fuel (INF) was also discussed. The meeting was informed of two aspects involved in the transport of INF. Firstly, there was the question of whether INF should be allowed to move within a given region, or allowed to move at all, and the other aspect was that of safety standards applicable to the ship and the containers in which the INF was to be carried in the event that transportation did take place. Current international treaties indicated that, providing a ship remained outside a State's territorial waters and met current international safety standards, it was not legally possible to prevent its passage.

149. The matter had, nevertheless, been discussed by IMO's Marine Environmental Protection Committee (MEPC) at its thirty-third session and a joint working group of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the IMO and UNEP was currently reviewing the matter.

150. The meeting expressed appreciation of IMO's presentation and was promised documentation on the outcome of the deliberations of the IAEA/IMO/UNEP working group, to be made available to the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat for forwarding to CDCC member and associate member countries that were not members of the IMO.

151. It was suggested that participating organizations could be requested to provide a summary of activities and programmes with the CDCC and its members, for incorporation into a report to be prepared by the CDCC for consideration at a future meeting on inter-organizational collaboration.

(g)Chairman of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST)

152. The Chairman of the CCST reviewed the activities of the Council. He noted that its financial situation had constrained the implementation of the Council's work programme. Within the range of activities carried out, the following had, nevertheless, been achieved:

- (a) A number of science and technology publications had been produced, including the bimonthly production of the CCST newsletter;
- (b) Representation at several meetings had been maintained;
- (c) Advisory services continued to be provided to governments upon request;
- (d) The first issue of a compendium, giving information on some regional and international institutions and organizations working in the field of science and technology, had been produced;
- (e) A plan of action for the development of science and technology was being drafted based on national consultations conducted in the countries of the region.

153. With a view to examining the role of science and technology in the development process of member countries and assisting with policies and programmes for science and technology at the national level, CCST organized a series of national consultations. Following the national consultations, the CCST organized a seminar/workshop to evaluate the outcomes of the various national consultations and to develop a regional plan of action within the context of the regional science and technology policy which had been adopted by regional ministers of science and technology. A report on the outcome of the workshop was being prepared and would include a plan of action for the region to be submitted to member governments.

154. The important role that science and technology played in filling Caribbean needs and priorities was emphasized. The development of a project for the teaching of science and mathematics at the primary school level, with the objective of increasing the exposure of Caribbean students to these disciplines and thereby making them an integral part of Caribbean culture, was also described. Support for that initiative had been expressed by a number of national and regional institutions. The CCST had produced a compendium giving information on regional and international institutions and organizations within the field of science and technology.

155. A major activity of the CCST had been the science and technology extension service established for the delivery of industrial extension services as a pilot project within the OECS countries. The response from member countries had been overwhelming. UNIDO had supported the first phase of the project and, in collaboration with the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat, was in the process of revising it with a view to submitting it for financing.

156. The history of science and technology development in the region was the subject of a project developed by the CCST with substantial input from the Government of Cuba. Appreciation was expressed by the CCST Chairman for that assistance.



157. A programme between CCST and the Government of Puerto Rico, on the exchange of technical and administrative personnel, skills and know-how was currently in the pipeline.

158. The Chairman of CCST expressed his deep concern at present institutional, administrative, staffing and locational arrangements of the CCST secretariat which, he thought, had constrained the effectiveness of the Council. No definitive resolution of those arrangements seemed to be forthcoming despite long outstanding expressions of concern. He requested appropriate permanent administrative and institutional arrangements and an adequate staff complement which would include at least an executive secretary at the level of P5, a field officer at the P3 level, a research assistant and a secretary. The Chairman explained that most of those posts already existed and were utilized on behalf of CCST. It was therefore a redeployment of staff which was being requested. Only by such means would the full autonomy of the Council be secured in compliance with its statutes. The deep appreciation for past and present support of ECLAC was expressed.

159. Various representatives expressed support for the CCST, stating, however, that a clear decision was now needed regarding its future.

160. The secretariat recalled that the CCST was requested, at the thirteenth session of the CDCC and at the fifth meeting of the Monitoring Committee, to provide a set of integrated proposals relating to the Council, including its future work programme, so that CDCC member governments would have the basis on which to take the necessary decisions about its future. The secretariat reiterated that it had no authority to outpost its staff.

161. In his response, the Chairman of the CCST indicated that a staff complement had been outlined so that the secretariat now had sufficient information to prepare a budget.

162. Representatives noted that the problems of the CCST were essentially related to organization and to finance. In the latter case, member governments did not have the resources to fully fund the Council, so it needed to tailor its activities to the resources available.

163. At the eleventh Plenary Session of the CCST, the United States Virgin Islands, an associate member of the CDCC, had been admitted to full membership of the CCST. It was suggested that that occurrence might have set an important precedent for possible future membership in other United Nations committees.

164. In conclusion, the meeting agreed to adopt a resolution which requested the CDCC secretariat to prepare in collaboration with the CCST a proposal setting out the administrative support arrangements required for the CCST, in keeping with the recommendations and decisions of the CCST and the CDCC. Resolution 38(XIV) on the matter was adopted by the meeting and is included at Part 3 of this report.

### **Agenda item 7 - Hemispheric relations**

165. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC, Mr. Gert Rosenthal, presented the secretariat's perspective on this agenda item and drew attention to the current momentum leading towards various forms of integration in the Latin American and Caribbean subregions. Two issues relating to trade arrangements were emerging, giving rise to questions requiring clarification if the region was to grasp the essential significance of current trends.

166. The first was the relationship between regional trade agreements and global trends, manifested in the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations. The question was posed as to whether the region was headed to more large-bloc arrangements, wherein the regional agreements would serve as the base towards building global arrangements, or whether in an alternative scenario, the regional blocs might be viewed as stumbling blocks to global trade. In short, regional arrangements might lead to a more open international trade system, on the one hand, or regional trade blocs might, on the other hand, be a deterrent to such a system.

167. The second issue pertained to the essential nature of the regional arrangements. They were reciprocal rather than unilateral in structure. The reciprocal arrangements of the present time were marked by their high levels of conditionality and warranted a special and efficient type of macroeconomic management. The Executive Secretary wondered whether such arrangements might assist the process of economic integration or rather divide the countries that were more advanced in the adjustment process against those which were less advanced.

168. Owing to the multiplicity of trade agreements within Latin America and the Caribbean, the process of achieving free trade might be made more difficult owing to existing structures that might hinder the reconciliation of regional trade regimes.

169. Present regional trade arrangements possessed both potentialities and risks. It would be necessary to maximize the potentialities while reducing the risks. In order to assist the countries in that important area of trade, ECLAC needed to undertake a great deal of research to better assist the countries in maximizing trade benefits while minimizing attendant risks.

170. The representative of CARICOM thanked the Executive Secretary of ECLAC for the clarity of his presentation and informed the meeting that such issues were of crucial importance to the entire region. Caribbean countries needed to closely examine regional priorities in the changing hemispheric trade scenario. Cognizant of that need, the CARICOM Secretariat was in the process of putting together a team of regional agencies in which ECLAC would be included, academics, and Caribbean luminaries in the area of international trade and development, for the formulation of a plan of action as to the way forward in that pivotal area. It was expected that that plan would be put to the Heads of Government of CARICOM at the next inter-sessional meeting.

171. Under that agenda item, three specific papers were prepared by the secretariat, as follows:

(a) The Caribbean and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

172. In presenting an outline of that document (LC/CAR/G.372), possible CDCC responses to NAFTA were discussed against the backdrop of global trends towards liberalization and regionalism in trade and investment arrangements. The secretariat made a number of proposals, suggesting that there might be a role for the CDCC in helping to inform the adjustment process in the Caribbean as well as its response to NAFTA.

173. The secretariat highlighted the main aspects of the document which were of direct relevance to CDCC countries and in conclusion, suggested that Caribbean interests lay in presenting a solid case for structural adjustment assistance through the activation of the investment and debt reduction components of the Enterprise of the Americas Initiative, rather than in seeking perpetuation of preferences under the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI).

174. Several representatives expressed appreciation for the high quality of the document. The representatives of the CARICOM Secretariat agreed with the general thrust of the options presented, but felt that a more complete analysis of the Common External Tariff (CET) structure within CARICOM would clarify the position of CARICOM countries relative to the eligibility criteria presented in the document. It was the CARICOM position that the current CET structure, as adopted at the recently-concluded special meeting of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, was better designed than previously to prepare manufacturers to face increased competition under trade liberalization. At the diplomatic level, in terms of the negotiating stance to be adopted, the CBI equivalency approach vis-a-vis Mexico under the NAFTA was a possible route to pursue. At the same time, the CARICOM representative emphasized that the investment and debt elements as proposed under the EAI remained of importance to the Caribbean subregion, even as the trade aspect was being pursued.

175. The meeting noted that many Caribbean countries might not be in compliance with the eligibility criteria presented by the United States as listed in the document. It was suggested that the CDCC secretariat might look at current trade scenarios of member countries relative to those criteria in order to measure the readiness of the countries for possible accession under the EAI or the NAFTA.

176. Accordingly it was suggested that CARICOM and non-CARICOM countries coordinate their negotiating positions with respect to the NAFTA, the EAI, and possible enhancement of CBI benefits. The fact that a joint Caribbean proposal, initiated by the United States Virgin Islands had been put forward for a "basket" of goods important to Caribbean countries, to be accorded special treatment equivalent to Mexico under NAFTA, was a hopeful indication of future joint negotiating initiatives.

177. The meeting agreed that the secretariat should continue to monitor global and hemispheric economic developments from the perspective of the member countries of the CDCC and produce reviews on this subject for the consideration of member governments.

(b)Widening the Caribbean Community: Issues and considerations

178. The paper (WP/92/6) was intended to facilitate discussion on the issue of Caribbean convergence. It provided a brief description of CARICOM, the largest integration movement of the Caribbean. A preliminary evaluation was made of the countries suggested by the Independent West Indian Commission (WIC) for inclusion in the proposed Association of Caribbean States.

179. The secretariat noted that institutional arrangements relating to widening were still somewhat unclear. The paper was therefore intended to facilitate an exchange of views by interested member countries, as to the most appropriate arrangements which might be fashioned to meet their needs.

180. In closing, the secretariat noted that increasing the level of cooperation and interaction among member countries was the main objective of ECLAC. It noted that the CDCC was formed with the objective of increasing, amongst its members, the level of familiarity, interaction and cooperation, which cut across the traditional groupings and patterns within the region. These goals would continue to take priority within ECLAC/CDCC and be applied to the proposed ACS, in accordance with the mandates provided by member governments.

181. In response to the presentation, it was noted that the main objectives of the CDCC coincided with the reasons for the proposed ACS. It was noted that cooperative activities were ongoing between CARICOM and a number of Latin American countries. In that regard, particular attention was drawn to CARICOM's relations with Central America and Venezuela.

182. The representative of the CARICOM secretariat informed the meeting that there was much scope for collaboration between the CARICOM and CDCC secretariats and noted that the CDCC work programme for the 1994-1995 biennium was consonant with activities being pursued within CARICOM particularly as it related to the programme element dealing with CARICOM-Latin American relations. The CARICOM representative expressed the desire that that particular programme element be brought forward to the present biennium. It was noted that the recommendation of the West Indian Commission was not definitive in terms of a structure for the proposed ACS. Recognizing the need for greater precision for an ACS structure, CARICOM had already begun the process of soliciting the views of regional governments, agencies and informed Caribbean individuals for the pooling and sharing of ideas regarding the way forward for the ACS. In light of the differing constitutional arrangements existing in the geographical area being considered, it was recognized that each country's involvement in the ACS would require individual consideration. The meeting was also informed of several collaborative initiatives between the CARICOM Secretariat and the Government of Mexico.

183. The secretariat noted the observations, with reference to their relations with CARICOM, made by the representatives of Cuba, Dominican Republic, Netherlands Antilles and Suriname and undertook to modify the document accordingly and to disseminate those papers dealing with hemispheric relations.

(c)Caribbean-Latin American relations

184. The third document described bilateral and multilateral relations between Latin America and the English-speaking Caribbean, collaboration within the intergovernmental institutional framework, reciprocal trade flows, obstacles to increased cooperation and potential for strengthened relations. An important area identified in relation to the latter aspect was the provision of assistance to Haiti, in terms of mobilizing support to, and locating resources for, technical cooperation. The secretariat noted the key role which might be played by ECLAC/CDCC as a unique forum for the promotion of bilateral and institutional functional cooperation between the two subregions.

185. The representative of Belize made several clarifications on those sections of the document which were of relevance to that country. These included references to the levels of contact between Belize and Guatemala, and the proposed joint exploitation of Belize's exclusive economic zone. Several important developments in the strengthening of relations between the two countries were drawn to the attention of the meeting. In addition, appreciation was expressed for the support shown to Belize by Caribbean countries in that country's efforts to maintain sovereignty and territorial integrity.

186. The representative of Haiti noted that support from the Caribbean had been instrumental in the adoption of several resolutions on the situation of Haiti, mainly in the United Nations General Assembly, in the OAS and the ACP/EEC Joint Assembly.

**Agenda item 8 - The issue of special status for  
Island Developing Countries in  
the United Nations system**

187. The secretariat presented the document relating to that agenda item, which represented a response to a CDCC mandate calling for a review of the strategy for addressing the status of Island Developing Countries (IDCs). The document examined issues relating to, and the characteristics of, those countries, action taken at international and regional levels and options available for obtaining recognition of the unique problems faced by IDCs. It was stated that those special problems represented a basis for the designation of IDCs as a special grouping within the United Nations System. IDCs had, to date, not obtained special status within the United Nations system despite their efforts to do so. A Joint Inspection Unit survey had noted that despite the special status of small States they were, nevertheless, neglected economically and socially in the United Nations system.

188. The secretariat observed that IDC environmental issues had coalesced around the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) which had succeeded in acquiring and mobilizing financial

resources for environmental problems of IDCs. It was suggested that the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development (CGCED) might be one appropriate forum, among others, for tapping resources of the international system for addressing the economic and social problems of IDCs.

189. The paper concluded that IDC efforts to win special consideration from the international community might now need to become more targeted on issue areas which were more identifiably IDC issue areas; which applied more specifically to IDCs or which applied to them with exaggerated effect. Too many IDC presentations tended to include every identifiable development issue or policy imperative, of general developing country applicability. IDC-specific projects needed to be formulated for the consideration of identified segments of the traditional and non-traditional donor communities. Efforts needed to become more sector-focused where it appeared that circumstances might be conducive to such an approach; and more project-oriented in areas where the IDC relevance could be more easily demonstrated.

190. Several representatives commended the secretariat on the very comprehensive document and welcomed the initiative taken by the secretariat to make provision in the work programme for activities focusing on island developing countries.

191. The representative of UNCTAD informed the meeting of the content of his organization's report to the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly which was submitted in response to the General Assembly's request to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD for a report on the implementation of its earlier resolution on island developing countries. The report stressed the basic structural characteristics of IDCs and argued the case for special treatment in their favour. He supported the view in the secretariat's document that the question of differentiation for the benefit of IDCs was being resisted by large sections of the international community on the grounds that the problems faced by IDCs were common to developing countries in general and he noted that such opposition was increasingly receiving theoretical underpinning in the literature.

192. He informed the meeting that the report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had attempted to show that what differentiated IDCs from the generality of developing countries was a vulnerability that was particularly unique to island countries. He stated that technical work was taking place in UNCTAD and elsewhere, particularly in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), on the question of the measurement of vulnerability. If an acceptable overall index of vulnerability could be constructed, it would help in demonstrating statistically the essential fragility and precariousness of the economies of IDCs and provide a counterweight to the GDP per capita index now used to measure the need for, and the terms of development assistance.

193. The attention of the meeting was drawn to two draft resolutions emerging from the current General Assembly sessions. The representative of UNCTAD underscored the need to give greater precision to issues affecting islands and to define clearly what was expected of the international community. That was especially relevant in light of the fact that the first resolution did not take fully into account the consequences for IDCs of the evolving world economic situation relative to

their unique vulnerabilities and pointed out that the present bleak prospects for Caribbean banana exports was a case in point as those poor prospects were a direct consequence of changes in the international economic scene.

194. He also informed the meeting of the second draft resolution which called for the convening of a conference on sustainable development of island developing countries in Barbados in 1994. The suggestion was made that this meeting could provide a unique opportunity for the IDCs to voice their concerns and seek to influence the direction in which future development strategies might affect their environmental conditions.

195. The UNCTAD representative also indicated his organization's willingness to work with the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat in order to ensure that the IDCs benefited as much as possible from the conference.

196. The representative of the FAO also indicated his organization's willingness to assist the CDCC member countries in their preparations for the 1994 conference.

197. The meeting agreed that the secretariat should assume a more active role in regard to the issue of island developing countries from an operational and subregional perspective and for that purpose should maintain a closer collaborative relationship with UNCTAD and other United Nations bodies working on that and related issues.

### **Agenda item 9 - Any other business**

#### Restructuring of the United Nations

198. The meeting agreed to ask Mr. Gert Rosenthal, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, to initiate a discussion on the restructuring of the United Nations system.

199. In updating the meeting on the restructuring of the United Nations, Mr. Rosenthal noted that the initiative was proceeding on two levels, in a number of intergovernmental forums and at the level of the Secretariat. He noted that the two would need to go hand in hand, so that there was a meeting of minds between the governments and the Secretariat. He indicated that a number of overriding issues were being determined in the negotiations and those were as relevant to the CDCC, as to the United Nations as a whole.

200. The basic objectives of the United Nations had been stated in recent times to lie either in the realm of peace-keeping, with development issues left to the Bretton Woods Institutions, or conversely, that the United Nations should specialize in development and welfare issues. A consensus seemed to be emerging that the dichotomy between the two roles was false and that a

combination of both aspects would be needed. The Secretary-General had indicated that both aspects were inseparable from the basic goals of the Charter.

201. The competing tendencies of multilateralism, bilateralism and regionalism were also being considered. In recent times the tendency towards bilateralism had been strong, often conflicting with the multilateral approach, but there seemed to be a recognition that multilateralism was best suited to deal with the many issues on the global agenda with transnational implications. The United Nations was uniquely suited to tackle such issues.

202. The functions of the United Nations were sometimes seen to be either in the realm of practical actions or in the realm of ideas. That was also perceived to be a false dilemma, one which had plagued ECLAC, as well as the CDCC. The Executive Secretary noted that the best operations were rooted in a sound conceptual framework and the best ideas had been born out of trial and error. Obviously, the United Nations which had much experience to draw upon, would have to do both, to identify issues and come forward with proposals for their solution.

203. The geographical scope of the institution was also under consideration, specifically how best to relate substantively and organizationally to deal with global, regional and national issues.

204. The issues relating to resources constituted a major element of the debate. On one side were those who maintained that the Organization was over-funded, calling for a cut of about 50 per cent in staff. Others saw the need for re-deployment to ensure greater efficiency. It was recognized that the Organization had become fragmented at the institutional level, leading to the depletion of internal consistency. It was agreed that there was need for a stronger centralized command.

205. The area of decision-making constituted the final element in the debate. The issues focused on how decisions were made. Hopefully, the process would be pluralistic and democratic. A further issue element to be determined was how governments related to the Secretariat.

206. In so far as these issues were concerned, the Secretary-General had made a number of statements as to what he wanted to do, but the complementary responses of the intergovernmental forums had not so far been forthcoming.

207. In the social and economic areas, the Secretary-General indicated that the humanitarian aspects were inseparable from peace-keeping. The Organization would in future be organized along functional lines, in three main areas: operations, secretariat support and coordination, and information gathering to include statistics. In the last case, the objective of monitoring would be to design and create an early warning system, to alert the Organization to potential security and peace-keeping issues. The three functional areas would be decentralized to the national and to the regional levels. Unitary command would be in the hands of the Secretary-General, through the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC). The line of command from the global level to the field would take place through the country installations. The regional commissions would be used where economies of scale so indicated.



208. The General Assembly had not concluded its deliberations on the decision-making process. The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) was, however, likely to be the main decision-making forum in the socio-economic sphere, but would need to be more agile. The Commission on Sustainable Development had already been announced. It was likely that there would be fewer intergovernmental forums and a closer relationship between the Secretariat and such forums, whether in the economic or political spheres.

209. The Secretary-General had indicated his desire to conclude the initial phase of restructuring, before the current General Assembly concludes its work. An extraordinary session was to be convened to deal with the final implementation phase in February-March 1993.

210. In concluding, the Executive Secretary said that the next session might see a different CDCC, as the initiatives underway would affect what ECLAC was able to do in the Caribbean. There might, however, be more resources available, due to greater efficiencies effected within the system and greater decentralization of operations from New York.

211. In the discussions which followed, representatives expressed concern that resources to the regional commissions might be reduced, since the system was loath to reduce its staff complement. If the move to decentralize was taken, that might imply additional staff resources to the field, though that increase could be offset by the new emphasis on peace-keeping.

212. The timing for completion of the restructuring, set out by the Secretary-General, seemed optimistic to one representative, since the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) had considered the Secretariat proposals but had sent them back for reconsideration since they were thought to be too vague. The CPC was, however, not scheduled to meet again to reconsider the matter until May 1993.

213. The meeting agreed to adopt resolution 40(XIV) calling for strengthening of the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat. The resolution is included at Part 3 of this report.

#### **Agenda item 10 - Date and venue of the fifteenth session**

214. In considering the date of the fifteenth session, the question of whether ministerial sessions of the CDCC should be held annually or biennially was discussed. The argument against annual meetings, at ministerial level, was based on the number of meetings being held in the region to which ministers had to allocate valuable time. The argument in favour of annual meetings was that CDCC would continue to receive a high profile and its activities would continue to be subjected to regular scrutiny and oversight.

215. In response to the former point, representatives noted the difficulty currently being experienced in getting ministers to attend annual meetings. With respect to the second concern, representatives believed that regular meetings of the Monitoring Committee, as had been the norm,

and meetings of the CDCC at the level of officials in alternative years, would permit governments sufficient opportunity to oversee the evolution of the Committee's activities. It was also agreed that the statutes made provision for officials to represent their country at CDCC meetings, if so designated by their governments.

216. The Committee thanked the representative of the Dominican Republic for his offer to host the fifteenth session of the CDCC, in December 1993. The secretariat undertook to consult and inform Committee members of the details regarding that session, in due course.

### **Agenda item 11 - Consideration and adoption of the report**

217. The Committee considered and adopted the list of decisions and recommendations contained in Part One of this document, the report contained in Part Two and the resolutions contained in Part Three. The secretariat was requested to finalize the draft report and forward it to member countries for their comments as soon as possible.

218. The meeting adjourned.

**PART THREE****RESOLUTIONS OF THE SESSION****37(XIV) SUPPORT FOR NON-INDEPENDENT CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES'  
ACCESS TO THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM**The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the Report of the Chairman of the Working Group of Non-Independent Caribbean Countries (NICCs) presented at the First Meeting of the Working Group held in conjunction with the fourteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,

Recalling relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in particular resolutions 47/16 and 1992/59, respectively, which call for the facilitation of the participation of non-independent countries in programmes and activities of the United Nations, and which urge the executive heads of United Nations bodies to formulate with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned concrete proposals to assist non-independent countries, and to submit the proposals as a matter of priority to their governing and legislative organs,

Bearing in mind resolutions of the CDCC from the ninth through thirteenth sessions, and in particular resolution 33(XIII) which requests the ECLAC secretariat to seek resources to assist the working group in continuing its analysis of the criteria for NICCs' participation, and in initiating contacts with the governing councils of the United Nations specialized agencies/technical organs to determine the modalities for increasing NICCs' involvement in their respective work programmes,

Recognizing the decisions of some specialized agencies in conformity with the mandate given to them by the United Nations General Assembly to amend their terms of reference to provide for associate membership or observer status for non-independent countries,

Noting with satisfaction the approval by the United Nations General Assembly of decision 46/469 extending observer status in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to associate members of regional economic commissions,

Mindful of the reports of the United Nations regional seminars on development in the non-independent Caribbean, held in Barbados in 1990 and in Grenada in 1992, respectively, calling for United Nations specialized agencies to implement provisions for membership of NICCs, and for collaboration between the United Nations Special Committee of 24 and the CDCC Working Group

of NICCs on increasing access to the United Nations of those NICCs which are non-self governing territories,

1. Decides to adopt the Report of the First Meeting of the Working Group of NICCs;
2. Notes with satisfaction the inclusion of an activity for the provision of support to the NICCs, contained in programme element 13.1 on "Promotion of cooperation among member countries of CDCC and between the Caribbean and Latin America" of the 1994-95 draft work programme of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean;
3. Reiterates its request that the secretariat seek the resources to assist the Working Group in carrying out its analysis of the criteria for NICCs participation in the United Nations system, and to assist the Working Group in initiating contact with the governing councils of the United Nations specialized agencies/technical organs to determine the modalities for the inclusion of NICCs in their respective work programmes, and in convening a meeting of the working group to carry out its mandates;
4. Supports the inclusion of provisions extending observer status to associate members of regional economic commissions in the terms of reference of the relevant meetings, conferences, programmes and activities authorized by the United Nations General Assembly, ECOSOC, and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular, the "Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" and the "International Conference on Population and Development", so that the NICCs can draw the maximum benefits from the related activities;
5. Calls on the Chairman of the CDCC in consultation with the Chairman of the Working Group of the NICCs to initiate contacts with the Chairman of the Special Committee of 24 with the aim of seeking formal collaboration between the two bodies in furtherance of the ongoing study by the Working Group on the access of NICCs to the United Nations system, and to report to the fifteenth session of CDCC;
6. Requests the Chairman of the Working Group to report to the fifteenth session of the CDCC on the progress of its work.

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38(XIV) CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,

Reiterating the important role of science and technology in the economic and social development of Caribbean countries,

Recalling past resolutions and decisions of the CDCC regarding the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST), and in particular the decision of the CDCC at its thirteenth session, and the subsequent recommendation of the fifth meeting of the Monitoring Committee,

Noting the Report of the Chairman of the CCST to the fourteenth session of the CDCC, and the subsequent discussion,

Convinced of the necessity to strengthen the administrative and programming capacity of the CCST in accordance with the statutes of the CCST, and of the need for a number of posts to be provided for the staffing of the CCST secretariat,

1. Requests the CDCC secretariat, as a matter of urgency to prepare in collaboration with the CCST, a proposal setting out the administrative support arrangements required for the CCST, in keeping with the recommendations and decisions of CCST and the CDCC;
2. Further requests the CDCC to report on the action taken in pursuance of this resolution to the next meeting of the Monitoring Committee;
3. Calls on member countries of the CCST to pay up their subscriptions to the CCST.

#### 39(XIV) POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN

##### The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,

Reiterating the importance of integrating the population variable into development,

Recognizing that significant efforts in that respect have been undertaken in the Caribbean subregion in recent years through a technical cooperation project executed by the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat with financial support of the UNFPA,

Noting with concern that the previously mentioned project is scheduled to conclude at the end of 1992, and there exists many specific demands for technical cooperation in population and development activities,

##### Decides:

1. To assign high priority to the subject of population and development and include it as an integral part of the regular programme of work of the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat, beginning with the 1994-1995 biennium;

2. That, in view of existing limited regular budget resources, the subject of population and development be included in the ECLAC regular work programme through an equivalent reduction of activities and resources in the social development sector;

3. That, in addition to the above, a bridging mechanism be adopted in 1993 that would involve:

(a) The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat making use of temporary vacancies that might arise as a result of special missions and assignments of its personnel to temporarily engage the expert on population and development;

(b) Advantage being taken of ECLAC's proposal to earmark six months of short-term expert contract to supplement the above-mentioned use of temporary vacancies; and

(c) On the basis of UNFPA's recent indications, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat approaching the Fund to elicit funding for short-term consultancies on specific population and development issues.

4. That, in addition to and simultaneously with the above recommendations, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat formulate a technical cooperation project proposal for the provision of specific and time-limited support to the CDCC member countries on population and development issues, and requests ECLAC to make the necessary representations to multilateral and bilateral donors with a view to eliciting the required funding.

Expresses its deep gratitude to the UNFPA for the support that it has given to these activities in the past and its hope that it will continue providing financial assistance to the regular population and development activities to be undertaken by the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat.

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#### 40(XIV) STRENGTHENING THE ECLAC/CDCC SECRETARIAT

The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,

Taking into account, the ongoing exercise to restructure and revitalize the economic and social sectors of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/197 which sets forth the important role and functions of the regional commissions in their respective regions,

Also recalling ECLAC resolution adopted at the twenty-fourth session in April 1992 on "Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: Role and functions of ECLAC",

Mindful of the important decisions taken by the Secretary-General to reorganize the secretariat units dealing with economic and social matters at Headquarters, and his announcement in document A/47/753 that a high-level official had been designated to deal with decentralization and "strengthening of the regional presence of the United Nations",

1. Reiterates the importance to the regional and subregional activities carried out by ECLAC/CDCC secretariat;
2. Calls on the Secretary-General and the appropriate intergovernmental bodies to strengthen the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat by such measures as decentralizing posts and resources;
3. Requests the Chairman of the fourteenth session of the CDCC to transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

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Annex 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS  
LISTE DE PARTICIPANTS  
LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES

A. Member States  
Etats Membres  
Estados miembros

ANTIGUA:  
Head of delegation:

Ambassador Lionel A. Hurst  
Permanent Representative of Antigua  
and Barbuda to the United Nations

BELIZE  
Head of delegation:

Mr Lawrence A. Sylvester  
Director, International Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms Rubiceli Perera

CUBA  
Head of delegation:

Sra Noemi Benitez y de Mendoza  
Vice-Presidente  
Comite Estatal de  
Colaboracion Economica (CECE)

Mr Ramiro Leon Torras  
Ambassador Lazaro Cabezas

DOMINICA  
Head of delegation:

His Excellency  
The Honourable B. C. K. Alleyne  
Minister of External Affairs



Ms Judith Pestaina

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Head of delegation:

Mr Miguel A. Rodriguez  
Subsecretario de Estado  
Secretaria de Estado de Relaciones  
Exteriores de la Republica Dominican

Mr Leonardo A. Abreu Padilla

GRENADA

Head of delegation:

His Excellency  
The Honourable Francis Alexis  
Minister of Legal Affairs  
and Attorney General  
Ministry of Legal Affairs

Mr William Joseph  
Mr Raphael Joseph  
Mr Desmond John

HAITI

Head of delegation:

Mr Jean-Robert Herard  
Director of Political Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Haiti  
Washington D.C.

JAMAICA

Head of delegation:

Mrs Cordell Wilson  
Director  
Caribbean and Americas Department  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
and Foreign Trade

Ms Gail Mathurin

SAINT LUCIA

Head of delegation:

Mr Johannes Leonce  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Castries

SURINAME

Head of delegation:

Mr Michel Kerpens  
Deputy Head  
Department of International  
Organizations  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Paramaribo

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Head of delegation:

Mr Harold Robertson  
Foreign Service Officer  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Port-of-Spain

B.

Associate members  
Membres associés  
Miembros asociados

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Head of delegation:

Mr Otto O'Neal  
Head, Development Planning  
Development Planning Unit  
Road Town, Tortola

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Head of delegation:

Ms Joelle de Jong-Mercelina  
Head  
International Organizations Division  
Foreign Relations Office  
Willemstad, Curacao

UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

Head of delegation: Mr Carlyle Corbin  
Representative for External Affairs  
Office of the Governor  
St Thomas

C. United Nations Secretariat  
Secrétariat de l'Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
Secretaría de las Naciones Unidas

Department of Political Affairs

Mr Kenneth Jordan, Political Affairs Officer

D. United Nations Bodies  
Organismes des Nations Unies  
Organismos de las Naciones Unidas

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Mr Jan Wahlberg, Resident Representative, Barbados

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Mr K. V. R. Moorthy, Director for the Caribbean, UNFPA, Jamaica  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Mr George E. Williams, Interregional Adviser, UNCTAD, Geneva

E. United Nations specialized agencies  
Institutions spécialisées  
Organismos especializados

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Mr Rodrigo Santo Cruz, Director FAO/ECLAC Agriculture Division, FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Chile

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Mr Mario Trajtenberg, Director ILO Office for the Caribbean, Port-of-Spain

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

Captain A. R. N. Macauley, Head, Africa/Caribbean Section, IMO, London  
Captain W. B. Rial, IMO Maritime Safety Adviser for the Caribbean, IMO, Port-of-Spain

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Mr Derick S. Haniph, UNIDO Country Director, UNIDO, Barbados

Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO)

Ms Maria Barker, Acting Caribbean Programme Coordinator, PAHO/WHO, Barbados

F.	Other intergovernmental organizations Autres organismes intergouvernementaux Otros organismos intergubernamentales
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Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM)

Ms Fay Housty, Chief, Economic Research and Policy Section  
Mr Arthur Gray, Foreign Affairs Officer

Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)

Ms Dorla Humes, Chief Country Economist, CDB, Barbados

Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB)

Mr S. C. McHale Andrew, Special Assistant, Governor's Office

Organization of American States (OAS)

Mrs Dorel M. Callender, Advisor, Economic and Social affairs  
Mr Francis A. McBarnette, Director, Resident Representative

Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)

Mr Gregory Renwick, Chief of Trade and Economic Policy, OECS/EAS, Antigu

G. Special invitees  
Invités spéciaux  
Invitados especiales

Special Committee of 24

Ambassador Renagi Lohia, Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations and Chairman of Special Committee of 24

Ambassador Dr Martin Adouki, Permanent Representative of Congo to the United Nations and Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee of 24

F. ECLAC system  
Système de la CEPALC  
Sistema de la CEPAL

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Mr Clyde C. Applewhite  
Mr Lancelot Busby  
Mr Daniel Blanchard  
Ms Barbara Boland  
Mr Trevor Harker  
Mr Roberto Jovel  
Mr Swinburne Lestrade  
Ms Joan Neil  
Ms Adriana Valdes

Caribbean Council for Science  
and Technology (CCST)

Mr Gladstone Taylor, Chairman

Annex 2

## LIST OF DOCUMENTS

- LC/CAR/G.284/Rev.1 Work programme of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean for the 1992-1993 biennium
- LC/CAR/G.359 Report of the caucus of delegations of member countries of the CDCC
- LC/CAR/G.360 Report of the fifth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC
- LC/CAR/G.363 Report of special meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC
- LC/CAR/G.368 Draft provisional agenda
- LC/CAR/G.368/Add.1 Annotated provisional agenda
- LC/CAR/G.369 Implementation of the work programme of ECLAC/CDCC for the 1992-1993 biennium
- LC/CAR/G.370 Recent resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and by ECLAC which may be of special interest to member countries of the CDCC
- LC/CAR/G.371 Action taken on decisions and recommendations of the thirteenth session of the CDCC
- LC/CAR/G.372 Report of the workshop of national focal points of the CDCC
- LC/CAR/G.372.Add.1 Report of the workshop of national focal points of the CDCC - Summary of suggestions and recommendations
- LC/CAR/G.373 The Caribbean and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
- LC/CAR/G.374 The issue of special status for Island Developing Countries
- LC/CAR/G.375 The Patent Information and Documentation Unit (PIDU): Background, activities and directions for the future

LC/CAR/G.377 Report of the Chairman of the CCST to the CDCC on the activities of the CCST since the thirteenth session of the CDCC

LC/CAR/G.378 Draft work programme of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean for the 1994-1995 biennium

LC/CAR/G.379 Latin American and Caribbean relations

LC/CAR/G.380 Update on efforts to continue the provision of technical cooperation in population and development to CDCC member countries

LC/CAR/G.383 Draft work programme of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean for the 1994-1995 biennium - Resource requirements and sources of funding

WP/92/6 Widening the Caribbean Community: Issues and considerations

#### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

LC/CAR/G.342 Report of the thirteenth session of CDCC

LC/CAR/G.376 Economic overview of Caribbean Countries - 1991



Annex 3

## LIST OF ACRONYMS USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
ACS	Association of Caribbean States
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CBI	Caribbean Basin Initiative
CCST	Caribbean Council for Science and Technology
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CDCC	Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
CET	Common External Tariff
CGCED	Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development
CPC	Committee for Programme and Coordination
EAI	Enterprise of the Americas Initiative
ECCB	Eastern Caribbean Central Bank
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EDF	European Development Fund
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

ESTI	Empresa de Servicio de Traductores e Interpretes (Translation and Interpretation Service Enterprise)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IDC	Island Developing Country
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INF	Irradiated Nuclear Fuel
MEPC	Marine Environmental Protection Committee
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NICC	Non-Independent Caribbean Country
OAS	Organization of American States
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OLADE	Organización Latinoamericana de Energía (Latin American Energy Organization)
PAHO/WHO	Pan-American Health Organization/World Health Organization
PIDU	Patent Information and Documentation Unit
SELA	Sistema Económico Latinoamericano (Latin American Economic System)
TCDC	Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries
TFAP	Tropical Forestry Action Plan
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UWI	University of the West Indies
WIC	West Indian Commission