E/CEPAL/CDCC/58/Add.3/Rev. 1 5 June 1980

Original: English

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

Fifth Session Kingston, Jamaica 4-10 June 1980



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC) FOR THE PERIOD JUNE, 1980 - JUNE, 1981

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CARIEBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC) FOR THE PERIOD JUNE, 1980 - JUNE, 1981

A. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Cooperation in Information

- 1. Provision of advisory services and training in order to promote the development of information centres in the national planning agencies, and co-ordination of these centres in order to provide greater access to development planning literature in the Caribbean countries.
- Organization of a workshop to evaluate the Caribbean Information System - Planning and its product CARISPLAN Abstracts.
- 3. Convening of a meeting of agricultural librarians in order to establish the Caribbean Information System Agriculture.
- 4. Convening of the first meeting of the Congress of Information Professionals.
- 5. Implementation of a cooperation programme with the World Intellectual Property Organization to assist the CDCC member countries to set up or to strenghten their national patent offices: discuss terms of references, duration, starting date, contributions from CDCC Secretariat, etc.
- 6. Co-ordination with WIPO on preparatory missions to Englishspeaking Caribbean countries aimed at the identification and
 assessment of the realities of these countries in the field
 of industrial property and patent documentation services.
 Date of preparatory mission: October or November, 1980.
- 7. Co-ordination with WIPO in the organization of a Seminar for the English-speaking Caribbean countries on the Industrial Property. Estimated starting date: April or May, 1981 (one week).

Development of Statistical Data Bank

- 1. Continuation of activity in data collection and building of time series.
- 2. Continuation of the preparation of the meta system:
 - (a) The perfecting of a directory of major publications by type of data and by country.
 - (b) The preparation of a catalogue that will store general information of a qualitative nature relating to the series stored.
- 3. The securing of training in data processing with particular reference to Data Base Management Systems.

B. AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

As a follow-up to the mandates given at the Fourth CDCC Meeting and in accordance with the recommendations contained in the UNCTAD Consultant's report entitled: "Trade Patterns and Policies of CDCC Countries in Rice, Legumes, Ground Provision, Fresh Vegetables and Citrus Products and Identification of areas for Joint Action,", the Secretariat is seeking approval of the Committee for the implementation of the following:

- 1. Convening of a general meeting in 1980 of Associations of Producers and/or Exporters Association of rice, legumes, fresh vegetables, ground provisions and fruits especially citrus with the explicit purpose of discussing and agreeing on the implementations of action programmes designed to boost national as well as regional production and trade of the above products.
- 2. Initiation under the newly created Caribbean Council for Science and Technology with the financial and technical support of UNDP, FAO, UNCTAD, ITC and TCDC Secretariat of the following activities:
 - (a) coordination and cooperation of agricultural research among CDCC countries with emphasis on fruits and vegetables followed by legumes and ground provisions:

- (b) application of a coordinated action programme geared towards the creation of a Regional Research Centre for rice (possibly based in Guyana):
- (c) coordination with CARICOM in the implementation of the long standing project of Caribbean Information Network on marketing of agricultural products extended to all CDCC countries:
- (d) organization with ITC/UNCTAD assistance of seminars for the purpose of training personnel of less developed CDCC countries in marketing of the same products in the more developed ones—such as Cuba, Dominican Republic and Jamaica using TCDC facilities.
- 3. Carrying out of a survey on existing agro-industrial activities in the CDCC area for the purpose of devising a comprehensive strategy for regional agro-industrial development in the 1980's and linkages with agriculture.
- 4. Together these would constitute initiation and coordination of a regional programme of technical, financial and administrative assistance, directed at increasing production and trade.

C. INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

- 1. Implementation of the Industrial Development Survey for the Caribbean: Executing Agenty, UNIDO.
 - 1.1 Discussions with UNIDO on the implementation of the Survey, terms of reference, duration of the field missions, starting date, etc.

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- 1.2 Consultations with CDCC member countries in order to define an institutional framework, specifically national counterpart for the survey team, and a consultative body among the development finance institutions or the industrial development cooperations.
- 1.3 Collaboration with UNIDO in the carrying out of the field missions.
- Preparation of the terms of reference for a study on the "Modernization of Small-Scale Industries in the Caribbean and to look for an executing agency (UNIDO or international co-operation through the Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries). This study could be carried out this year.
- 3. Preparation of a paper on Alternative Industrial Development
 Strategies for the CDCC member countries which would be discussed
 and improved in a meeting of experts to be held at the end of
 the year.

D. SOCIAL SECTOR

Council for Social and Economic Development

As an alternative measure to the establishment of a Council for Social and Economic Development along the lines of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology, the Committee may wish to transfer the implementation of the ideas related to this exercise to the mechanism being evolved by the Meeting of Planning Officials which recommended the creation of a small executive committee to monitor and supervise the development of working groups dealing with specific matters of interest for socio-economic planning. If the Committee so agrees and in view of the expected importance of applied and policy oriented research in such a context, consideration could be given to the need of allocating some proportion of the resources available to foster the development of basic social and economic research,

Integration of Women in Development

The CDCC programme for the integration of women into development should continue along the same lines outlined in paragraphs 39-53. However, the programme needs additional human resources as well as technical and financial assistance if it is to have an impact on the situation of women in the region.

The following areas/activities are short-term priorities:

1. Training: A project proposal to improve the skills of officers of women's bureau (desks, departments) and private organizations in the preparation and implementation of projects was prepared and presented to the Voluntary Fund for the Decade of Women. The proposal was approved and the project is to be implemented before the end of 1980. With this project, an important area of training, namely, training in project identification, preparation, implementation and evaluation would be covered. The next steps would be to follow up the trainees in each country, and help them organize local training workshops.

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The resolutions on training for women in development planning (E/CEPAL/CDCC/63) have to be implemented in coordination with, and the assistance of, ILPES. It is necessary to have a Consultant to prepare the courses for planners and for experts on women in development, including materials, technical guides, etc.

Close contacts have to be maintained with CARICOM in the field of training, since this institution has financial resources specifically for training.

The training needs of women's bureau and non-governmental organizations should be investigated in order to develop workshops. Finally, these groups also require training in simple methods and techniques of data collection and analysis and in the dissemination of information.

2. Research, Data and Information: A great deal more could be accomplished by the programme if more and better data were available on the situation of women in the Caribbean region. There is a great need to collect data and information and design ways for using them effectively within and outside the Secretariat. The current research being done by ISER (Barbados) will provide the programme with adequate data but these will not be available for some time. Besides, there are other sources (individuals, institutions) which are producing research, studies, reports, that do not find their way to the programme or cannot be used effectively. Mechanisms for the "capture" of these types of materials have to be instituted. In this regard a closer collaboration with the Caribbean Documentation Centre should be worked out, but unfortunately this does not seem possible at the present time due to constraints, e.g., human resources, in the programme for the integration of women.

One possible and simple way of collecting data is through the existing programmes of the Secretariat, specifically in statistics and demography. The programmes in the social sector, energy, industry and agriculture are also relevant. Efforts should be made to have, whenever possible and in those programmes, data disaggregated by sex, for example. Programme officers should make an effort to insist on collecting data related to women through their contacts with Governments.

The programme needs to have a <u>profile of women in each country</u>, guidelines for which will be designed by the Secretariat. The Governments would be required to actually draw up the profile.

The dissemination of the data and materials collected is a necessary link in the chain. Existing media in the region should be fed (Caribbean Features Syndicate: Women and Development Unit --- WAND --- Bulletin: ISER's Journal, etc.) and for this the existing network of women could be of assistance. There is always the possibility of establishing a special instrument for the programme newsletter, etc.

- 3. Women in Development Planning: The appropriate recommendations of the meeting on women in development planning (E/CEPAL/CDCC/63) should be implemented. By "appropriate" it is meant those recommendations which fall under the work programme of the Caribbean Office, since most of them are to be implemented by the Governments themselves. The following are the recommendations which relate to the work programme: a) to undertake a study on the integration of women into development planning in general and in each sector in particular: agriculture, energy, and employment; b) to establish a network of planners in the region for the interchange of materials and information, holding of meetings, evaluation of progress, and consultations: and c) to introduce the subject of women in development planning into the CEPAL-ILPES system. The field of women in development planning needs to be worked out thoroughly in conceptual and theoretical terms.
- 4. <u>Collaboration and Cooperation</u>: To be continued and strengthened with CARICOM, WAND, ISER, CIM, women's bureau in Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Dominica, St. Kitts. Collaboration and cooperation activities were initiated with the University of Suriname and will be developed in the field of women in development planning. It is very important to attain collaboration and cooperation within the UN system, especifically with UNDP in the Caribbean.

F. EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Taking into account the recommendations of the Meeting of Planning Officials related to Social Planning, the efforts being carried out by ILPES in the same field, the basic CDCC mandates related to Education and Culture as well as the difficulties faced by the Secretariat to implement a priority project such as the Caribbean Enterprise for the Production and Distribution of Printed and Audio-visual Materials, together with the proposed Network of Centres for Cultural Retrieval and Animation, the Committee may wish to recommend the creation of a small working group on social planning where problems of social sectoral planning (social welfare) would be considered together with the issues raised by the need of engineering the emergence of new social habits capable of counteracting the negative legacy of colonialism and neocolonialism. This approach will allow on the one hand more pragmatism in the formulation and implementation of projects such as those mentioned in the chapter, and at the same time, it will ensure that analyses of the quantitative aspects of planning will receive constant inputs from the consideration of the qualitative combinations of factors which account for the Caribbean specificity.

Labour Market Studies

The Secretariat has completed the first phase of its investigations into an approach to labour market studies suited to the Caribbean. This phase consisted of an empirical analysis of a labour force survey carried out by the Trinidad Central Statistical Office, in order to determine the most important cleavages in earnings from employment. This finding will be used to determine non-normative minimum wage, which will allow the furtherance of the labour market study. The first findings will be tested in other Trinidad surveys and circulated for comments from local scholars. The Committee may wish that this research be incorporated in the future work programme of the working group on manpower planning foreseen by the Meeting of Planning Officials.

H. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

1. Meeting of Ministers of Transport

It was agreed at the Fourth Session in Suriname that a Meeting of Ministers of Transport shall be held to consider the recommendations of the Civil Aviation Experts and to take decisions on other aspects of the Work Programme. The financial implications of resolution 399 (XVIII), which approved the report of the IV CDCC meeting, contemplated US\$137,000 for meetings and seminars to be carried out by CDCC during the 1980/81 biennium Nevertheless, the funds were not approved by the General Assembly.

By resolution 390 (XVIII) the Commission approved a series of three sub-regional meetings of experts to study facilitation problems, one of which was programmed for the Caribbean. In an effort to make it possible to service a meeting of Ministers of Transport, provision has been made to schedule the facilitation meeting immediately prior to the meeting of ministers, combining in this way the travel of secretariat staff to service both meetings in addition to permitting the payment of travel expenses of national experts.

2. Meeting on Search and Rescue

It was explained at the Fourth Session that a Meeting on Search and Rescue had to be cancelled due to a lack of interest by the CDCC.

It was agreed that efforts should be made to hold the meeting as early as possible. Following discussions with IMCO, it seems likely that the meeting can be held in the first quarter of 1981. Barbados has indicated an interest in hosting this meeting.

3. Establishment of Caribbean Postal Union

It is proposed that the CDCC Governments shall formally inaugurate the Caribbean Postal Union later in 1980. In view of the benefits to be derived from this, CDCC Governments are asked to ensure that appropriate legislation be prepared as a matter of priority to enable establishment of the Union.

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4. Staff for CDCC

The Second Session of CDCC approved the establishment of an additional post in Transport Communications to enable the work of the sector to proceed as rapidly as desired. No additional post has yet materialised. Governments are urged to take the necessary steps both within CEPAL and at New York to ensure this post be established without further delay.

A. ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Energy

During the rest of the 1980/81 period work will be done on the following tasks:

- 1. Instituting a system of regular data collection in this field and incorporation of these data into the records of the Statistical Data Bank.
- 2. Increased attention will be given to widening and deepening cooperation and coordination efforts both within the UN system of organizations and other organizations such as CLADE, CSC, CARICOM, CDB, etc. in the spirit of the Constituent Declaration as well as with sub-regional programmes such as the US/AID Caribbean Alternative Energy Programme.
- 3. More aggressive attempts will be made to secure funding and other resources under the TCDC schemes during the current year.
- 4. The Secretariat will make a contribution to the ECLA regional report and meeting on the Impact of Oil Price Increases on Oil Deficit Latin American Countries.
- 5. The Secretariat will contribute to the work of ECLA in reporting annually on the energy situation in Caribbean countries as part of the overall Latin American report.

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6. The Secretariat will also make a contribution to the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy scheduled for August, 1981.

Natural Resources

During the 1980/81 intersessional period the Secretariat proposes to do the following:

- 1. Complete the trial Report on Inventory of Mineral Resources. A Draft Preliminary Report has been completed in manuscript form but there are significant gaps in the data.
- 2. Efforts will be made to identify projects feasible of implementation under the TCDC scheme and to seek out donors of financing as well as of technical expertise.

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