RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE AT ITS NINTH SESSION

85-6-951
The Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee,

Mindful of the fact that the majority of its member countries are small island developing countries,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolutions concerning island developing countries, including resolution 39/212 which recognized the difficult problems faced by island developing countries,

Recalling further the resolutions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on this subject, including resolution 138 (VI) which recognized that many of the handicaps suffered by island developing countries are due especially to their smallness, remoteness and archipelagic character,

Aware of the findings of the first Non-Aligned Meeting of Experts on Small Island Developing Countries, held in Grenada in September 1983, that the particular political, economic, social and cultural problems faced by such countries derive from their colonial history and are aggravated by their specific geographic situation,

Re-emphasizing the special problems linked to insularity, including inadequate transport and communication links, the proneness to natural disasters, the fragility of their ecosystems, and the difficulties encountered in the effective management of ocean space,

Bearing in mind that in addition to the difficulties posed by insularity, smallness is associated with a number of other constraints including small internal markets, with consequent diseconomies of scale, extreme economic vulnerability to external factors, limited resource endowment, heavy dependence on one or a few commodities or services, emigration of skilled personnel, inadequate and high per capita cost of infrastructure, administration and other essential services,

Noting that both General Assembly resolution 39/212 and UNCTAD resolution 138 (VI) requested the competent organs and organizations of the United Nations system, and in particular the Regional Commissions, to take adequate measures to respond positively to the particular needs of island developing countries,

Recalling CDCC resolution II (VI) which requested the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to establish an appropriate relationship with the Organization of East Caribbean States to support the development efforts of the less developed countries of the Eastern Caribbean,

Noting with grave concern that increasingly the small island developing States of the Caribbean subregion are being denied access to the concessionary resources of international funding agencies,
1. Decides that the CDCC should play an increasingly active role in promoting the economic and social development of small island developing countries within the Caribbean subregion;

2. Calls upon the organizations of the United Nations system, and in particular the financial institutions, to take account of the special circumstances and needs of these small island developing countries in the allocation of resources;

3. Requests the Director of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean to formulate, in consultation with the small island developing countries which are members or associate members of the CDCC, together with other CDCC members and appropriate regional and subregional organizations, a programme of specific measures to assist these countries in overcoming the difficulties which derive from their insularity and smallness;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to seek special budgetary and extrabudgetary resources to enable ECLAC, through its Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, to undertake as a matter of urgency a programme of specific measures in support of the development efforts of small island developing countries which are members or associate members of the Commission;

5. Also requests the Executive Secretary, through the Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, to identify TCDC solutions for problems which hinder the development of the small island developing countries of the CDCC and to promote TCDC activities both among the CDCC member countries and with other countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region which support the development efforts of the small developing island countries;

6. Further requests the Executive Secretary to organize and facilitate cross-regional interchange of information and experience, in full co-operation with regional and subregional organizations;

7. Urges all CDCC member States to co-operate in the elaboration and application of the programme of specific measures indicated in paragraph 4 above, as well as to participate in TCDC solutions to problems affecting the small island developing countries;

8. Requests the Director of the Subregional Headquarters to report to the CDCC at its tenth session on the implementation of this proposed programme of specific measures in support of the small island developing countries, which are members or associate members of ECLAC and CDCC;

9. Decides to keep this issue under review at its tenth session.
The Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee,

Having considered the efforts made during the ten years of the existence of the Committee and acknowledging the contribution made to those efforts by the ECLAC Secretariat,

Recalling CDCC resolution 13 (VII) "Functioning of the CDCC Secretariat" which, inter alia, requested certain specific action on the part of the ECLAC Secretariat and established a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of mandates and decisions of the CDCC,

Noting the relative lack of success of that proposed mechanism,

Decides:

1. To establish an open-ended Review Committee, consisting of the Offices of the ninth session of the CDCC as the core institution, to review the implementation of the CDCC's mandates and decisions;

2. That the terms of reference shall be as follows:
   a) To review the work of the CDCC from its inception, with a view to evaluating existing priorities and other work programmes;
   b) To examine activities of agencies and other bodies in relation to the work programme of the CDCC in respect of programme co-ordination;
   c) To examine the role and function of the monitoring mechanism of the CDCC established at its seventh session;
   d) To submit recommendations on items a), b) and c) in time for the tenth session of the CDCC;
   e) To deal with any other matters relating to the programme of work and functioning of the CDCC;
   f) In the discharge of the above mandate, the Review Committee will consult fully with the Secretariat of the Port of Spain Subregional Headquarters of ECLAC, whose Director should be an ex-officio member of the Committee;
   g) The Secretary of CDCC should also serve as Secretary of the Review Committee.
The Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee,

Taking into account resolution 358 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean which created the Committee,

Recalling resolution 7 (V) of the Committee adopted on 10 June 1980 which mandated the immediate strengthening of the ECLAC Subregional Office to enable it to carry out the necessary functions as Secretariat to the CDCC and to exercise the authority required to respond more efficiently to the needs of the Committee,

Conscious of the particular needs and interests of the Caribbean countries within the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Having assessed the efforts made during the 10 years of the Committee's existence, and acknowledging the contribution made to those efforts by the ECLAC Secretariat,

Noting with concern that member countries of the CDCC are increasingly being denied access to the concessionary resources of international agencies,

Reaffirming the need to ensure the necessary co-ordination between the CDCC and other agencies engaged in international co-operation in the Caribbean and to promote greater co-operation among its member countries in accordance with CDCC resolutions 12 (VII) and 13 (VII),

1. Expresses its gravest concern over the application against CDCC member countries of the concepts of graduation and selectivity, which constitute an obstacle to their access to much-needed resources for their economic and social development;

2. Requests the Director of the Subregional Headquarters to consult with the member countries of the CDCC so as to determine areas of common interest with a view to increasing co-operation, in accordance with CDCC resolution 12 (VII);

3. Further requests the Director of the Subregional Headquarters to strengthen and intensify the working relations of the CDCC with such organizations as CARICOM, OECS, OLADE and SELA through joint activities and projects of interest to the governments of the subregion;

4. Calls on the Director of the Subregional Headquarters to undertake adequate consultations with CDCC member countries in order to identify specific co-operation projects within the Caribbean subregion and with other Latin American countries, to be funded by United Nations agencies and programmes as well as their national counterparts;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) the need to enhance inter-agency co-operation within the United Nations system in respect of CDCC programmes;

6. Urges the Executive Secretary to seek additional resources from outside the subregion in order to implement specific projects of interest to member governments, as approved by the CDCC;

7. Instructs the Director of the Subregional Headquarters to develop a substantive programme of work for island developing countries in the region based on the studies already carried out by UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNITAR and other organizations, with a view to including such a work programme in the next budget cycle;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to identify TCDC solutions for problems which hinder the development of the countries of the CDCC and to promote TCDC activities both within the CDCC subregion and with other countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region which support the development efforts of the CDCC countries;

9. Further requests the Director of the Subregional Headquarters to keep CDCC member governments informed of the progress achieved in the implementation of the CDCC work programme, through the production and dissemination of quarterly reports;

10. Urges the CDCC member governments to strengthen the Secretariat of the Committee by assigning experts from their governments to carry out specific projects, and to explore various possible means of financing for this purpose;

11. Reaffirms the need for the governments of CDCC member States to assist in securing implementation of CDCC recommendations and decisions through appropriate follow-up action by Caribbean representatives in the United Nations system;

12. Decides to review the action taken on the present resolution at the tenth session of the CDCC.