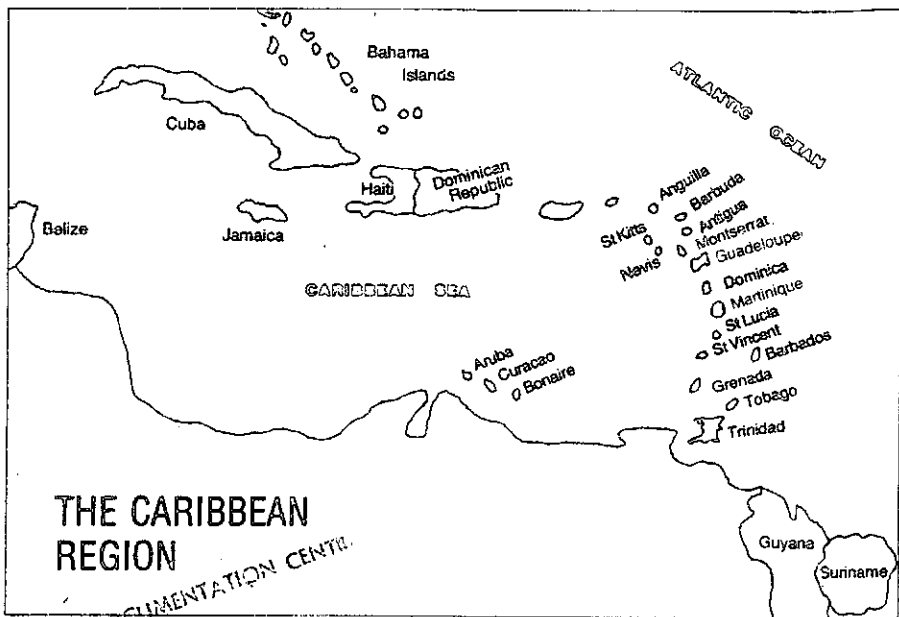
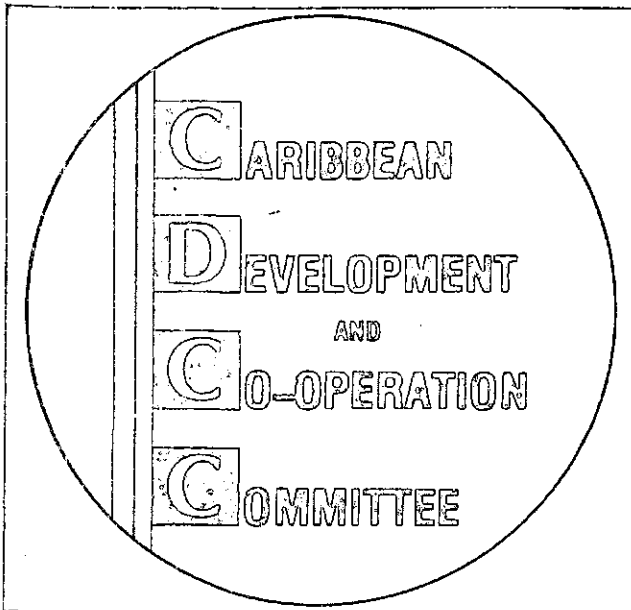


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ACTION ON CDCC RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE  
 SIXTH SESSION



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean



ACTION ON CDCC RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE

SIXTH SESSION

GENERAL

1. At its Sixth Session, the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) adopted four resolutions concerning:

- a) The membership of the Netherlands Antilles in the Committee;
- b) Co-ordination and Co-operation Activities to further the Implementation of the CDCC Work Programme;
- c) Measures for Strengthening the Secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee; and
- d) Increased CEPAL Support to Eastern Caribbean Countries.

A. Action on CDCC Resolution 8(VI)

2. The operative part of CDCC Resolution 8(VI) reads as follows:

"The Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee...  
Takes note of CEPAL Resolution 445(XIX) admitting the  
Netherlands Antilles as Associate Member of CEPAL;

Welcomes the Netherlands Antilles as an Associate Member of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee and looks forward to the further strengthening of its participation within the mechanisms established for co-operation".

3. On 18 June 1982, the text of the Resolution was transmitted to the Government of the Netherlands Antilles for its attention.

B. Resolution on Co-ordination and Co-operation Activities to Further the Implementation of the CDCC Work Programme (Resolution 9(VI))

4. The operative sections of this resolution relates to strengthening of the CDCC Secretariat and the Recommendations of the

United Nations Joint Inspection Unit, co-operation and co-ordination of activities between CDCC Secretariat and the CGCED, consultations with Caribbean subregional, intergovernmental groupings and a number of work programme activities. Action taken on these are stated below.

Action taken on the Recommendations  
of the Joint Inspection Unit

5. It will be recalled that the Secretary General of the United Nations submitted to the General Assembly, at its Thirty-Sixth Session, the Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the subregional offices for Central America and Panama and for the Caribbean of the Economic Commission for Latin America.<sup>1/</sup> The comments of the Secretary General on the report were submitted at the same session.<sup>2/</sup>

6. The Joint Inspection Unit in its report analyzed the origins of the two subregional offices, their work programme, administration and organization, and relations with United Nations specialized bodies and regional intergovernmental organizations. The Inspectors directed their attention on the degree of the delegation of administrative authority from CEPAL Headquarters to both subregional offices as a derivative of General Assembly Resolution 32/197 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations System. By this resolution, inter alia Regional Commissions would become the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations System for their respective regions.

7. In this report the Inspectors observed among other things, that there was already a process of decentralization to the Subregional Offices. They considered, however, that the process should be increased if the new responsibilities of the Commission were to be achieved and in respect of the Caribbean Office, if it were to function effectively as both an extension of CEPAL and a Secretariat to the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee. The report contained 16 specific recommendations concerning matters related to programming, budgeting and co-ordinating. See the Annex to this report.

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1/ A/36/102 and Corr.1

2/ A/36/102/Add.1.

8. The Secretary General in his comments<sup>3/</sup>, emphasized that Regional Commissions, together with other organizational entities should be accorded greater administrative flexibility consistent with sound administrative and budgetary policies and in accordance with the provisions of relevant sections of General Assembly Resolution 32/197 and 33/202. The Secretary General noted a number of developments which had taken place and which were designed to increase the capacity of the Subregional Offices to function more effectively. He agreed that greater efforts should be made to strengthen the contribution of the entire United Nations system to the Work Programme of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) and undertook to introduce measures to achieve this objective. As part of this exercise, the United Nations Administrative Management Service (AMS) would carry out a survey in 1982.

9. In his subsequent report to the General Assembly at its Thirty-Seventh Session on this question<sup>4/</sup> the Secretary General noted that the United Nations Administrative Management Service (AMS) had carried out, in early 1982, a survey of the Subregional Office for the Caribbean in which inter alia it assessed the present authority of the Office in matters of personnel and finance. The AMS recommendations as regards the delegation of authority were similar to those of the Joint Inspection Unit. It should be noted that implementation of some of these recommendations will necessarily involve additional resources. A summary of the Secretary General's comments on the implementation of the principal recommendations of the JIU report are given below:

(a) Delegation of authority

10. Recommendations 9, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 16 deal with the delegation of authority on employment of General Service Staff, accounting procedures, the management of extra-budgetary resources and the rotation of professional staff within the CEPAL System.

11. The Economic Commission for Latin America (CEPAL) is continuing to examine its administrative practices and procedures with a view to ensuring effective and efficient operations of its subregional offices and has already

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<sup>3/</sup> See footnote 2 on page 2.

<sup>4/</sup> A/C.5/37/28.

initiated the implementation of various recommendations of the AMS survey report. Thus the JIU recommendations are being implemented by this procedure.

(b) Co-ordination and Co-operation

12. Recommendations 7 and 10 focus on co-operation between CDCC and other relevant bodies at the intergovernmental and secretariat levels; recommendation 8, inter alia deals with the frequency and timing of CDCC sessions; recommendations 10 and 12 call for enhanced government participation in the programming process.

13. Collaboration between CDCC and other Caribbean bodies, including CARICOM, CGCED and OECS, including ECCM is being actively pursued. Consultative meetings are regularly convened to discuss issues of general Caribbean interest. Members of CDCC also play an active role in the formulation of the Work Programme of the Caribbean Office through direct consultations with the Secretariat and at the CDCC and CEPAL plenary meetings.

(c) Resource requirements

14. Recommendation 6 states that, given the number of widely dispersed member countries of CDCC and the variety of languages represented, the Caribbean Office should be provided with adequate resources for travel and language services.

15. The request for adequate resources to meet the language and travel needs of CDCC will be given due consideration during the 1984-1985 biennium budget exercise.

Co-ordination between CDCC and CGCED

16. Action on this matter is reported in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/95/Add.2, paragraphs 6-10.

Consultations with CARICOM and OECS Secretariats and other Subregional Groupings. (Resolution 11(VI))

17. Operative paragraph 3 of the resolution states: "That CDCC Secretariat should enter into immediate consultations with the CARICOM and OECS Secretariats and with other subregional groupings whose work impinges on the CDCC, with the objective of establishing arrangements that would enable the CDCC Work Programme to be discussed with those bodies before it is put to the technical meeting of CDCC".

18. There is an ongoing process of consultations between CDCC, CARICOM, OECS and other subregional groupings. Following the adoption of CDCC Resolution 11(VI) on Increased CEPAL Support for the Eastern Caribbean Countries, a high-level Officer was appointed as Special Aide to the Director of the Caribbean Office, with special responsibilities for the Eastern Caribbean. A series of consultative visits were made to the Eastern Caribbean countries, and the OECS Secretariat. The report on those consultations, conclusions and recommendations are contained in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/95/Add.4.

19. As a matter of course, the Work Programme of CDCC is circulated to member Governments, Observer groups, including CARICOM, OECS, regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and organizations within the United Nations system. In accordance with the terms of the present resolution, the Proposed Work Programme for the Biennium 1984-1985 was sent to the CARICOM, CDB and OECS Secretariats. In mid-December the Deputy Director visited the CARICOM Secretariat and held preliminary consultations on the Work Programme.

#### CDCC Inter-Agency Consultative Meetings

20. By Operative paragraph 4 of CDCC Resolution 9(VI) the Committee decided that: regular consultations be held between the specialized agencies and the Chairman of CDCC, acting on behalf of the Committee, in order to stimulate the implementation of projects on technical and economic co-operation in the Caribbean region.

21. In this regard, letters were sent to United Nations departments and Specialized Agencies transmitting the terms of the resolution and requesting their comments and advice on ways to strengthen Co-ordination and Co-operation between the CDCC and themselves. The Secretariat noted that the last CDCC Inter-Agency Consultative Committee was held in Santo Domingo in 1977. It is hoped that during the present session arrangements can be made for convening the Fourth CDCC Inter-Agency Consultative Meeting.

#### The Development of a CDCC/FAO Fishing Project

22. The Committee, by Operative paragraph 5 of the present resolution called on its Secretariat, within the approved Work Programme for 1982-1983,

to develop proposals for projects of a multinational enterprise character in co-ordination with the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations. As a first phase, the Committee further called on the Secretariat to concentrate on the possibility of developing a fishing project in co-ordination with the Food and Agriculture Organization, on the basis of the proposal adopted at the Fifth Session of CDCC and with the support of the Sixteenth FAO Regional Conference.

23. The details of developments on this issue are outlined in the report on the Implementation of the CDCC Work Programme for 1982-1983, E/CEPAL/CDCC/95 paragraph 32.

24. The Committee's attention is drawn to a World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development to be held in Rome in 1984 to be organized by FAO. The Conference will review experiences, problems and issues in the management and exploitation of fisheries under the new regime of the Oceans, and will consider the prospects for development, including inland fisheries and aquaculture. The conference will also provide a forum for high-level discussion on policy issues involved and joint strategies and action programmes required. In preparation for the Conference, a series of special technical meetings will be held, culminating in an extended session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries in October 1983.

25. The Committee may wish to consider its involvement in the wider regional arrangements in the preparations for the Conference, and as appropriate in the implementation of its recommendations.

The Establishment of a Caribbean Multinational Enterprise for Book Production

26. The Committee called on the Secretariat to initiate inter alia within 1982, measures preparatory to the formulation of the draft instruments necessary for the establishment of a Caribbean Multinational Enterprise for Book Production and subsequently to convene a meeting for the discussion and approval of these instruments. The report of the Secretariat on developments in this area of its Work Programme is given in paragraph 53-54 of document E/CEPAL/CDCC/95. Briefly the UNESCO Fund for the Promotion of Culture, the funding agency, requested and received supplementary information from the Consultant, in relation to the inclusion of Haiti and the Dominican Republic in the study. The



CDCC Secretariat is awaiting the comments of UNESCO, a prerequisite for further action.

The Stimulation of the Exchange of Trade Information among CDCC Countries

27. Preliminary considerations on guidelines for the participation of non-CARICOM countries in the CARICOM/ITC Regional Trade Information Project have been prepared and will be discussed with CARICOM. Refer to Conference Room Paper No. 1. This undertaking responds to CDCC requests at its Third, Fifth and Sixth Sessions.

28. The preparation of an inventory of industrial products for CDCC countries has not been undertaken directly by the CDCC Secretariat owing to:

- a) the ongoing ITC/CDB Project on Export/Supply/Demand and Investment Promotion that in 1982 undertook national export/supply surveys of enterprises and products; this information could form part of the input for such an inventory; and
- b) the lack of a staff member in the industrial sector.

It should be noted that in the period 1980-1981 the CDCC Secretariat prepared several monographs on the industrial sectors of Caribbean countries.

29. Since the resources to adequately discharge the actions required by this resolution and, at the same time, carry out the activities in the programme of work for 1982-1983 are not totally covered by the regular budget, and no extra-budgetary resources are available at present, draft project proposals on the development of export-oriented activities and joint export enterprises were prepared in January 1982. They were considered by CEPAL's Project Evaluation Committee in May and finally put to the consideration of potential donor governments in September.

30. The proposed activities for 1983 include the initiation of a register of products traded within the wider Caribbean region and an inventory of tradeable products in an effort to assist countries in the promotion of export-oriented activities.

31. Close co-ordination with ITC, CDB and CARICOM is seen as the key to any measure of success in this area in the face of these organizations' ongoing activities on export promotion in the Caribbean.

C. Resolution on Measures for Strengthening  
the Caribbean Development and Co-operation  
Committee Secretariat

32. The Committee adopted Resolution 10(VI) which in its preambulatory paragraph recalled its Resolution 7(V) on strengthening the CDCC Secretariat, noted that its Secretariat already had a servicing and co-ordinating role and needed to be an executing agency. In its operative paragraph, the Committee:

"Recommends the establishment of a focal point with the following tasks in each member State in which such a facility does not already exist:

- a) Centralizing and collecting all information from the Secretariat of the Committee relating to its own activities and those of the Economic Commission for Latin America in general and serving as a "letter box" to and from all relevant ministries and agencies;
- b) Working with the Secretariat in monitoring regional projects and carrying out an initial evaluation of such projects on a quarterly basis;
- c) Establishing channels enabling the Secretariat within its competence, to obtain information required by it at any given moment and, by the same token, facilitating the provision of information required by the focal point from the Secretariat".

33. On 14 June 1982, the Secretariat transmitted the text of this resolution to the member governments of CDCC for their attention. To date only one Government has responded, identifying a "focal point" for communicating with the Committee.

34. In accordance with the operative paragraph of this resolution, the Secretariat requested information from the Specialized Agencies and subregional

groupings on regional and subregional projects in CDCC countries. The same letter invited comments from those bodies on matters related to closer co-ordination and co-operation. The response has been encouraging and it is expected that the dialogue will continue in a forthcoming Inter-Agency Consultative Meeting.

#### Environmental Management

The Secretariat has not been directly involved in activities in this field since the termination of the Joint CEPAL/UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme. However, general interest is maintained in the subject through the activities in agriculture, energy and natural resources and science and technology units.

Members will recall that during consideration of this subject at the Sixth Session of the CDCC, the Secretariat reported that a Ministerial Level meeting was held at Montego Bay, Jamaica on 6-8 April 1981. The Secretariat had secured and circulated to CDCC member countries, copies of the final report of the Meeting. In addition, it was reported that the Project Co-ordinator had visited those countries that were not represented at the Jamaica meeting. It was noted that the meeting adopted an Action Plan for the Caribbean Environmental Programme, which inter alia designated the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) as the "organization responsible for the Co-ordination of the Action Plan", and decided on the establishment of a Regional Co-ordinating Unit, in Jamaica.

The Secretariat was informed by the Geneva Office of UNEP, that the follow-up activities since the adoption of the above-mentioned Caribbean Action Plan include the following:

In December 1981, the Committee established to monitor the Action Plan identified programme priorities for the implementation of the Plan and a meeting of legal experts initiated a review of the draft Convention for the Protection of the Caribbean Environment and a Draft Protocol for Co-operation in Combating Oil Spills. At a subsequent meeting, the legal experts concluded revision of the Draft Convention and Protocol and recommended their submission to a Conference of Plenipotentiaries for adoption and signature.

Joint projects related to environmental education, and to oil spill beach cleaning methodology for smaller Caribbean countries, were initiated with the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) respectively. The co-operative project between UNEP, CARICOM and PAHO in the areas of Coastal Water Management and monitoring activities through the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute in St. Lucia was continued.

The Secretariat was informed that the above-mentioned Conference of Plenipotentiaries has been scheduled for March 1983.

Report on the Subregional Offices for  
Central America and Panama and for the Caribbean of  
the Economic Commission for Latin America

SUMMARY OF MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

Mexico Office

Recommendation 1: The Mexico and Caribbean Offices should exchange ideas and experience on a more consistent basis and should work more closely together on common problems (paras. 21 and 50).

Recommendation 2: UNDP should strengthen its collaboration with the Mexico Office in programming for the sub-region. The Mexico Office should also keep UNDP Resident Representatives better informed of CEPAL activities in their respective countries of appointment (paras. 22, 24 and 47).

Recommendation 3: The Office should establish closer links with Planning Ministries, without however diminishing its contacts with Ministries of Economy (paras. 27 and 48).

Recommendation 4: Consideration should be given to the preparation of a host agreement defining the relationships between the Government and sub-regional office (para. 33).

Recommendation 5: In the light of present money values and to facilitate some management decisions in the field, the ceilings of \$5,000 and \$20,000 which limit the responsibility of the Mexico Office and the CEPAL Contracts Committee respectively for purchases and contractual services should be raised (para. 41).

Caribbean Office

Recommendation 6: Given the number of widely dispersed Member Countries of CDCC and the variety of languages represented, the Office should be provided with adequate resources for travel and language services (paras. 66, 67, 76, 116 and 123).

Recommendation 7: A more formal arrangement with CARICOM and ECCM, as well as with other sub-regional groupings whose work impinges on CDCC's, should be introduced whereby the CDCC draft work programme would be discussed with those bodies before it is put to the technical preparatory meeting of CDCC. This would reduce possibilities of duplication and encourage complementarity in programming (para. 66).

Recommendation 8: The work programme should be so presented as to allow easy identification of sources of technical assistance and funds, costs, staff required, estimated duration and phasing of projects, planned outputs and measurement indicators. The elaboration of a four to six-year medium-term plan for CDCC would also provide a good perspective against which to judge the work programme. CDCC might consider the feasibility of holding a biennial, instead of annual, ministerial meeting, prior to the Commission's meeting (paras. 69, 70 and 105-109).

Recommendation 9: Taking into account the distance and the difficulties in communications between Santiago and the Caribbean Office, Santiago should:

(i) delegate to the latter authority to take decisions on matters concerning general service staff such as medical clearances, short-term appointments and special services agreements, the preparation of proposals for promotions, and the general well-being and administration of staff (paras. 81 and 82);

(ii) review the weaknesses in the present system of financial management in order to strengthen the capacity of the Caribbean Office to take charge of its financial affairs. As part of this review, the Caribbean Office should be allowed to make its views known to the Office of Financial Services at UN Headquarters (para. 87); and

(iii) ensure that the financial procedures in force take proper account of the cash needs of the Caribbean Office (para. 89).

Recommendation 10: The UN system's contribution to the CDCC work programme should be strengthened, on lines proposed in 1978, inter alia, by:

(a) the holding of regular, perhaps biennial, meetings with technical and programme personnel of the agencies with the aim of consulting them and harmonizing the CDCC work programme with agency programme plans;

(b) having such consultations at such time as would allow the proposals to be fed logically into the CDCC work programme;

(c) the Caribbean Office's securing adequate assurances of support, from individual ministries of the several governments, for the proposals in the work programme when these eventually come before governing bodies of the UN system for adoption (para. 97).

The Nexus with Santiago

Recommendation 11: The staffing of professionals at Santiago ought better to reflect the national composition of the sub-regions (para. 102).

Recommendation 12: Santiago should ensure that Government representatives become more organically involved at the level of the Commission in identifying and setting the priorities for the region, in finding the right mix of regional and global projects they will support and in testing the financial implications of their proposals in order to plan better for their needs (paras. 104-107).

Recommendation 13: Several options to strengthen staff resources of both sub-regional offices suggest themselves: a conscious policy of staff rotation; short-term assignments of qualified Santiago staff to the sub-region; and re-deployment of Santiago staff. Successful implementation of a policy of strengthening staff experience by work in different sub-regional offices pre-supposes that they offer viable conditions of service. The sub-regional offices should be able to rely on Santiago for the necessary administrative and substantive support in seeking improved conditions of service (paras. 34 and 110-115).

Recommendation 14: Santiago should consider investing in specialist staff on a fixed-term basis where particular programmes have been identified by the sub-regions as of medium or long-term value, but where support of the relevant Specialized Agencies is lacking (para. 120).

Recommendation 15: The sub-regional offices should be empowered to negotiate the acquisition of extra-budgetary funds for their programmes, subject to procedures which, while preserving the UN Headquarters' and Santiago's overall responsibilities with regard to the acceptance of such funds, recognizes as the main criterion, the need to encourage results in the field (paras. 124-128).

Recommendation 16: Any percentage of extra-budgetary funds retained by Santiago as its share of support costs should reflect support work actually performed (para. 129).

