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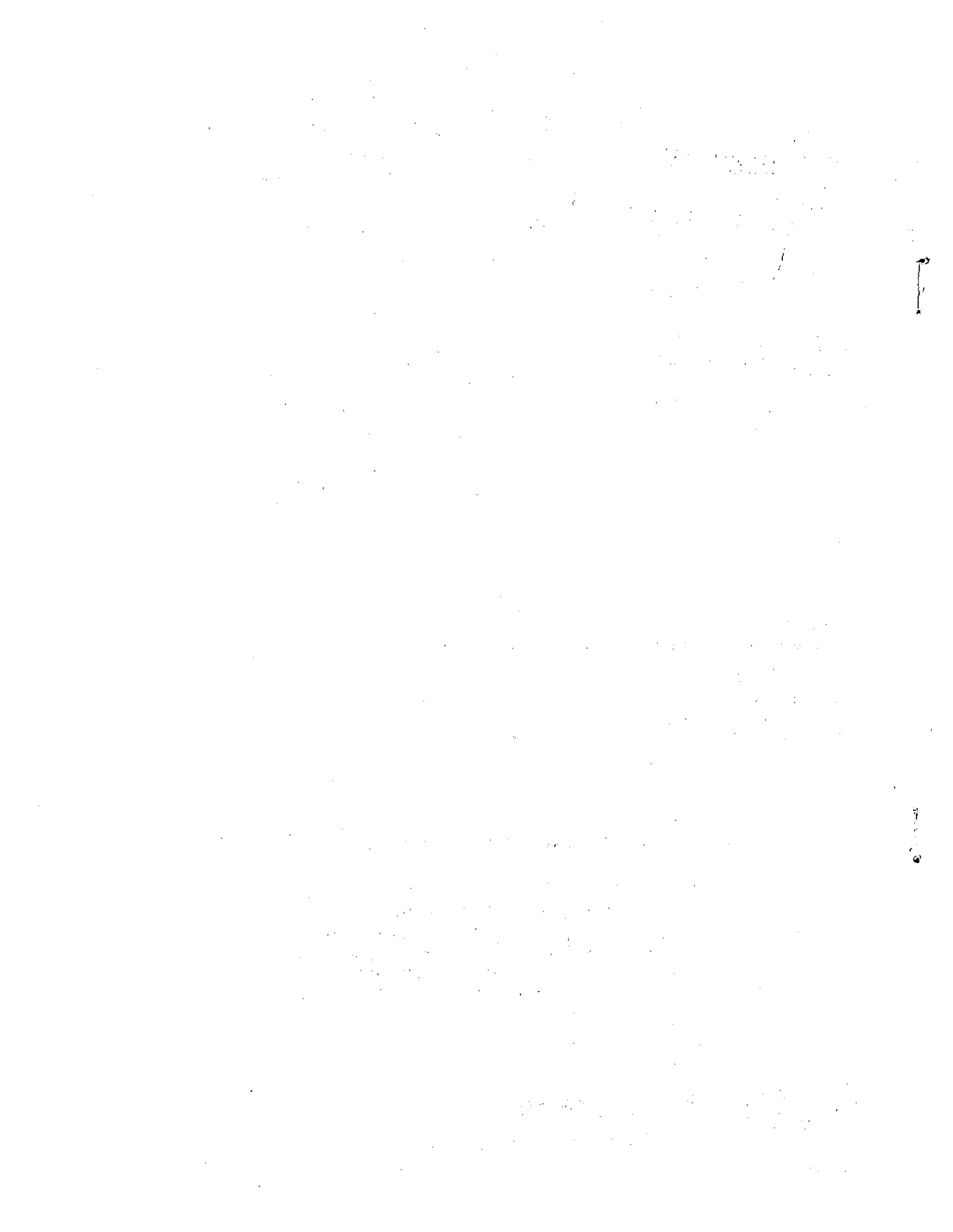
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME  
OF THE  
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC):

- I. PRIORITIES
- II. WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CDCC
- III. SPECIFIC AUTHORITY, ENDORSEMENT, SUPPORT AND OTHER ACTION REQUESTED FROM CDCC IN CONNECTION WITH THE SECRETARIAT'S WORK PROGRAMME



**UNITED NATIONS**

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean



## I. PRIORITIES

### Summary

1. At the third session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC), member governments accorded priority to seven Work Programme activities and the Caribbean Documentation Centre which supports these priority programme areas. Since then at every session, the priority given to these activities has been re-endorsed. Set out below is a brief summary of developments in each priority area since CDCC VII held in January 1983. A more detailed report is given in Part II of this document.

#### i. Removal of Language Barriers

A progress report on the implementation of this priority project is being submitted for the consideration of the Committee (E/CEPAL/CDCC/108). A Regional Workshop was held in Curaçao in August/September 1983 and an Interim Co-ordinating Committee was established. At present efforts are being made to secure the funding necessary for the continued implementation of this activity. (paras. 21 to 22).

#### ii. Transport and Communications

A draft Caribbean Maritime Search and Rescue Plan has emerged from a series of meetings held in co-operation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Assistance continued to the UNDP/UNCTAD/IMO Project on the Development of Shipping in the Eastern Caribbean. The Secretariat has participated in missions to raise additional funds for the Caribbean Airport Maintenance and Operations Study (CAMOS). Funds were obtained for a pre-investment study on establishing a ship-breaking enterprise at Miragoâne in Haiti. A document was prepared for a joint project with the Maritime International Co-operation Centre (MICC) of Japan on a development strategy for the Eastern Caribbean Small Vessel Fleet. European private industry assistance in raising venture capital for the project idea "Floating Factories/Storage" has been secured. The mathematical groundwork for providing an easy-to-use management tool for governments' decisions on shipping policy was prepared. A survey paper on Caribbean Transport was prepared by the Secretariat and presented to the Congreso Panamericano del Transporte in

in Buenos Aires. A technical assistance mission was carried out in the Bahamas on urban transport problems. Guidelines were prepared by ECLA Santiago for the evaluation of transshipment opportunities using the example of Saint Lucia. (paras. 55 to 72)

iii. International Trade

An inventory of selected exportable products for CDCC non-CARICOM countries was being prepared on the basis of partial response to questionnaires completed by the countries.

Eighteen national draft guides on trade procedures were completed by the Secretariat (one for each CDCC country). These were reviewed at a technical meeting which recommended that they should be approved formally by Governments and published as a very useful reference document.

A Technical Expert Group Meeting on Trade Procedures was held in Havana 24-27 October 1983 with participants from CDCC countries, the CARICOM Secretariat and the Special Programme on Facilitation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD/FALPRO). Guidelines for a Caribbean plan on aspects of trade facilitation emerged from this meeting (CDCC/TCP/83/25/Rev.1) (paras. 73 to 82).

iv. Caribbean Multinational Enterprise for the Production and Distribution of Printed and Audio-visual Materials

UNESCO has approved funds for convening a meeting to discuss the Feasibility Study and the Draft Statutes which have been circulated to member Governments; of which three have replied favourably so far. Funding has been approved for the meeting and at present discussions on the date and agenda of the meeting are underway. (para. 51)

v. Caribbean Network of Educational Innovations for Development (CARNEID)

This project on "Educational Innovations" is being carried out within the regular programme of UNESCO and is therefore no longer a CDCC priority. Assistance for the priority project on language barriers is being given to the CDCC Secretariat through the co-ordinating office of CARNEID located in Barbados.

vi. Integration of Women in Development

The post of Social Affairs Officer, responsible for Women in Development Programmes was filled during the second part of 1983.

The new officer has begun familiarization visits and made contacts with major subregional organizations in the field. Attendance at major meetings has contributed to renewal or establishment of relations between the Secretariat and persons involved in Women and Development Programmes in the region.

The Secretariat, with the assistance of a consultant, prepared a pilot report on government investment in social services from which women benefit. It is hoped to extend this study to additional countries (pages 45-49)

vii. Science and Technology

During the period under review the Government of Belize deposited Instruments of Ratification of the Statutes of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) with the Secretariat, increasing the membership of CCST to eleven countries: Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. The Secretariat's activities are concentrated mainly on servicing the CCST and assisting in implementing its Work Programme. Work has begun on eight major research and operational projects (see pages 18-20).

## II. WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CDCC

### A. Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries

#### Co-operation in Information

2. The Committee at its Seventh Session expressed strong support for continuation of the work of the Secretariat in the field of information but cautioned against expansion of the system of sectoral information networks until the Secretariat was satisfied that the Caribbean Documentation Centre (CDC) and the CARISPLAN network had "the capacity to respond with sufficient speed" to the information needs of the users in the existing network of planning information centres.

3. Concern was expressed as to whether the widely separated locations for processing the CARISPLAN data might not jeopardize the efficiency with which the Centre could respond to requests for information and whether the existing microcomputer fully satisfied the needs of the CDC. The Committee proposed that priority should be given to computerization of CDCC activities and that alternative solutions be examined in depth.

#### Activities accomplished

4. The following are the main activities accomplished:

(a) The Secretariat convened the Evaluation Meeting on the Caribbean Information System (Trinidad and Tobago, July 1983) to assess the use made of CARISPLAN in individual member states; to evaluate technical aspects of the system and its effectiveness in providing speedy access to relevant information; and to make recommendations for its future development. The report of this meeting is contained in Document E/CEPAL/CDCC/106.

(b) Workshops on Indexing and Abstracting Techniques for Effective Participation in the Caribbean Information System - Planning (CARISPLAN) were convened in Trinidad and Tobago in May 1983 and in Jamaica in January 1984.

(c) Training: Librarians from CARISPLAN focal points in Grenada, Montserrat and Jamaica benefited from the Secretariat's programme of in-service training during the period under review.

(d) Technical assistance was provided to Grenada (February 1983), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (March 1983), Dominica (March and October 1983) and Montserrat (February 1984) to assist in the preparation of project proposals for extrabudgetary funding to develop national documentation centres.

(e) Technical assistance was also given to Belize to assist in the development of a Planning Information Unit.

(f) CARISPLAN Abstracts: Volumes 7 and 8 were published during 1983.

(g) Current Awareness Bulletin: Preparation and dissemination of monthly issues of the Current Awareness Bulletin to alert users to recently published local and foreign material in areas of interest to Caribbean development.

(h) Preparation of Selected Bibliography on Integration Planning for Small States with Special Reference to the Caribbean (CEPAL/CARIB 83/2).

#### Other activities

5. Modernization and Strengthening of Industrial Property Systems: This component aims at assisting the Secretariat in establishing a Patent Information and Documentation Unit within the Caribbean Documentation Centre as well as taking steps towards the establishment of a multinational co-operation scheme in the field of industrial property administration. Consultations were held in Port of Spain between WIPO, ECLA and the CARICOM Secretariat. A WIPO/ECLA/CARICOM Secretariat mission visited five member states to assess the realities of the industrial property situation in these countries. An intergovernmental meeting will be convened in June.

#### Statistical Data Bank

6. Pursuant to its mandate to proceed with the establishment of a computerized statistical data bank, the Secretariat acquired a microcomputer for the purpose. The computer has been utilized on a full-time, eight hour basis,

to satisfy user demand for information through the storage and retrieval of bibliographic and numeric data.

Activities accomplished

7. Several documents have been produced to date using the word processing capability of the machine. The documents "Major Statistical Publications - Abstracts" (CEPAL/CARIB 83/1) and "Economic Activity in Caribbean Countries" (CEPAL/CARIB 83/2) were computer-generated and were disseminated to Caribbean governments, international organizations and other major users. The document "Economic Activity in Caribbean Countries" continues to be in great demand, and all 400 copies printed were rapidly exhausted.

8. In the area of data banking, the updating of time series continued as well as the classification of some statistical data. Updates were made in the following fields:

- (a) Demographic and social statistics;
- (b) National accounts;
- (c) Balance of payments;
- (d) Agriculture, forestry and fishing;
- (e) Mining;
- (f) Industrial statistics;
- (g) Construction and other economic statistics;
- (h) International trade.

9. Ancillary services delivered by the computer included the preparation and implementation of a mailing list program that prints mailing labels selectively.

10. At present there are a number of jobs that can profitably be done on the computer, but cannot now be accommodated because of full employment of the machine and available staff. A second computer has recently been acquired and will be utilized for word processing.

Activities proposed for the next period

11. During the next period, all jobs at present being done will continue and the first document containing statistical tables will be produced.



Specific authority, endorsement, support etc., requested

12. In view of the existing backlog of work, the amount of work still being produced manually which could be computer generated, and the possibility of utilizing the existing computer facilities more efficiently the Committee is asked to re-endorse the importance of the work of the Statistical Data Bank. In order to make more effective use of the existing computer facilities to improve office efficiency, the Committee is also requested to approve a request for a post for a data entry clerk. In this connection it should be noted that the word processing capabilities would also be increased and that provision of this post was recommended by the United Nations Administrative Management Survey Team.<sup>1/</sup>

Science and Technology

13. Science and Technology has been designated a priority area since the formation of the CDCC. During the period under review, the Secretariat concentrated on servicing the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST), a body for which the Office provides interim Secretariat services.

Activities accomplished

(a) Convening and servicing meetings:

14. The following meetings were held:

- (i) Third Executive Committee Meeting, 27-28 January 1983, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines;
- (ii) Fourth Executive Committee Meeting, 25 July 1983, Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles;
- (iii) Second Inter-Agency /CCST Meeting, 26 July 1983, Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles;
- (iv) Third Plenary Session, 27-29 July 1983, Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles;

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<sup>1/</sup> See United Nations Administrative Management Survey (AMS) Review Report June 1982.

(v) Fifth Executive Committee Meeting,

15-16 March 1983, Trinidad and Tobago.

(b) Workshop on "Agricultural Research Policy and Management".

15. This workshop was organized by ECLA/CCST on 26-30 September 1983 in Port of Spain, Trinidad. Participants included policy-makers, senior administrators from government ministries of agriculture, senior government agricultural research scientists and representatives of international and regional agricultural research agencies active in CDCC member countries. The final report of this Workshop has been published as document E/CEPAL/CDCC/107.

16. This Workshop was made possible through the generous financial support of the International Service for National Agricultural Research, the Swedish Agency for Research Co-operation in Developing Countries, the International Development and Research Centre of Canada and the Commonwealth Foundation, in addition to support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production of Trinidad and Tobago. The Secretariat would like to express its deep appreciation to the donors for this assistance.

17. Progress was made in the work of the eight projects approved by the Council (CCST) as indicated in the table below:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Actions</u>
I	Assessment of National Science and Technology Capabilities.	Member countries requiring help have received assistance from the Secretariat in implementing the Project. Data collected is being analyzed.
II	Establishment of a Science and Technology Journal of the CCST.	Preparations are in hand for the publication of the first issue of the Journal.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Actions</u>
III	Preparation and Exchange of Audio-visual Material for Education in Science and Technology.	Two films on science and technology in the Caribbean were completed and exhibited in Curacao in July; they are evoking favourable responses in Trinidad and Tobago as well as other countries.
IV	A Study of the Consequences of the Development of Energy Crops on Food Supplies in the Region..	Experts have surveyed the relevant areas, and their technical report has been submitted to agencies with requests for support of project proposal.
V	Conservation and Exchange of Germplasm of Crop Plants.	The consultant has prepared a regional survey of available facilities.
VI	Development of Agro-industries and Employment Opportunities, Particularly at the Rural Level.	The expert commissioned has assessed the relevant areas, and his technical report has been submitted to funding agencies for their support.
VII	The Potential and Limitations of Newly Emerging Technologies for Newly Developing Countries.	Following the initiatives of the CCST, a seminar workshop sponsored by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and UNIDO - "Seminar/Workshop on Technology Transfer, Management and Development and the Implications of Newly Emerging Advanced Technologies" was held 8-12 November in Trinidad and Tobago.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Actions</u>
VIII	A Science and Technology Policy for the Caribbean Region.	Co-ordination of Subregional Preparatory Meetings for the Second Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CASTALAC II).

Other activities

(a) Co-ordination of the work of the UNESCO/IOC Mission of Marine Science Experts

18. The Mission to selected CCST member countries to enhance Marine Science Capabilities scheduled for May 1984 will consist of experts from CCST countries as well as others from outside the region nominated by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.

(b) Mechanism for collaboration in Science and Technology between CCST and CARICOM

19. CCST was represented at the First CARICOM Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology held in Jamaica, 2-8 April 1983. An Interim Co-ordinating Committee (ICC) was established comprising representatives of Caribbean intergovernmental organizations including CCST and international agencies. At the ICC Meeting in Barbados, held from 31 August to 2 September 1983, CCST in its submission to the Committee recommended that:

- (i) The Inter-Agency Meeting which now forms part of the CCST calendar, could be formally institutionalized as the forum in which collaboration in science and technology among the various agencies could be implemented and strengthened.
- (ii) The CCST be given every assistance to allow its eight projects to be completed so that the results may be made available to all member governments and organizations within the shortest possible time.