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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

First Session
Havana, Cuba, 31 October to 4 November 1975

Technical Level Meeting
31 October to 1 November, 1975

RAPORTEURS REPORT



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RAPPORTEURS REPORT

1. The Technical Level Meeting held during the First Session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee took place from 31 October to 1 November 1975 with the participation of the Experts designated for this purpose by the Member Governments of the Committee and observers from the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and other inter-governmental organizations that were invited to attend. The full list of delegations and observers is given in Annex .

2. At the opening of the meeting, the Executive Secretary of ECLA welcomed the participants and thanked the Government of Cuba for the generous hospitality extended to the Committee at its first session. He summarized the background leading to the establishment of the Committee and outlined the manner in which the secretariat suggested its work could be carried out, starting with the Technical Level Meeting, to fulfill the objectives that were being pursued. In this connection he stressed the importance of the deliberations that were being initiated as a means to promote greater co-operation among the countries of the sub-region and also to facilitate their co-operation and co-ordination with other Member Countries of ECLA and the United Nations at broader levels. He underlined as well the valuable work already carried out by existing inter-governmental organizations in the sub-region such as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Caribbean Development Bank and the East Caribbean Common Market (ECCM), whose efforts could be complemented by the new Committee. It was considered important that a very close co-ordination should be maintained among the secretariats of these and other organizations.

/3. The following

3. The following officers were elected:

Chairman: Héctor Rodríguez Llompart (Cuba)
Vice-chairmen: Benjamin Clare (Jamaica) and
George Rampersad (Trinidad and Tobago)
Rapporteur: Deryck Small (Guyana)

4. After consideration of the provisional agenda presented by the secretariat, the participants approved it with modifications as set out in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/1/Rev.1.

5. With respect to item 4 of the agenda "Consideration of Draft Rules of Procedure for the Committee", the Technical Level Meeting discussed this matter on the basis of the suggestions submitted by the secretariat in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/2 and E/CEPAL/CDCC/2/Add. 1. Various amendments and new rules were proposed in the course of the deliberations. Having been approved, the modifications were incorporated in the draft Rules of Procedure which the Technical Level Meeting is recommending for adoption at the Ministerial Meeting. The approved text is set out as document E/CEPAL/CDCC/2/Rev. 2.

6. Concerning item 5 of the agenda, which deals with the "Work Programme of the Committee, priorities, calendar of meetings and relations with other bodies of the region", the preliminary proposals presented by the secretariat in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/3/Rev. 1 were used as a basis for the discussions. Numerous additions and modifications were suggested by representatives of the Member Countries as well as by observers of inter-governmental organizations including CARICOM, the Caribbean Development Bank, and the United Nations specialized agencies. These observers also referred to the activities their respective organizations were already carrying out in the sub-region and assured the Meeting of their interest in continuing to assist the countries in this area and to co-operate with the Committee. General appreciation was expressed for the assistance offered. As a result of those discussions, the

/secretariat

secretariat was requested to readjust the preliminary proposals in the manner now reflected in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/Rev.2. This document as well as the "Constituent Declaration of the Committee" mentioned below also indicate the priority areas and specialized meetings recommended by the Technical Level Meeting.^{1/}

7. With regard to item 6 of the agenda concerning "Possible areas of co-operation of the Committee with other Member countries of ECLA referred to in paragraph 1 and 3 of ECLA'S resolution 358 (XVI)", after some discussion, the draft resolution on this subject was approved as contained in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/5 now submitted for consideration of the Ministerial Level Meeting.

8. In connection with item 7 of the agenda, dealing with "Co-operation of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies with the Committee", no specific resolution was felt necessary since the representatives of these organizations had already pledged their continuing support to the Member Countries and to the Committee itself during the discussion of its work programme.

9. A draft Constituent Declaration of the Committee, proposed jointly by the Delegations of Cuba and Guyana was considered. After discussion and some modifications it was approved as set forth in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/4 and is hereby submitted for consideration of the Ministerial Level Meeting.

^{1/} The list of the specialized meetings proposed will be issued separately as will be a Secretariat Note on the financial implications involved if these meetings and other suggested activities were to be approved by the Committee.

10. With reference to item 9 of the Agenda on the "Organization and Headquarters of the Permanent Secretariat of the Committee", the Chairman suggested, and it was so agreed, that those matters were already adequately dealt with in the Rules of Procedure approved by the Technical Level Meeting, particularly in Rule 9, and also by the pertinent statement made by the Executive Secretary.

11. In concluding its work the Technical Level Meeting agreed that the various documents which it had recommended for approval by the Ministerial Meeting be submitted to it together with this report.