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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



REVISED WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET 1985/86



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean



REVISED WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET 1985/86

Introduction

The draft Work Programme and Budget for the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) for the period December 1985 - November 1986 (LC/CAR/G.159(SEM.5/1) was discussed at the Fifth Plenary Session in Roseau, Dominica, 27-29 November 1985.^{1/} This revised document reflects discussions and decisions taken at the meeting.

Participants at the meeting noted that a number of countries of the subregion had still not become members even though they had participated in the meetings, and in some cases, the work of the Council. It was felt that governments needed to be more fully apprised of the work of the Council in light of developments in the subregion, since its establishment and for the Secretariat itself to be fully attuned to the role which member countries wanted the Council to play in assisting the technological and scientific development of the region.

It was proposed, therefore, that a series of consultations be undertaken by the Secretariat to:

- (a) Attempt to increase the membership of the Council;
- (b) Meet with Science and Technology Policy-makers at the national level to discuss the role of the Council and its future activities and development.

^{1/} The ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean serves as the interim Secretariat of the CCST.

Membership Drive and Consultation with Members

Budget

Membership Drive:

Travel to Dominican Republic, Bahamas,
Barbados, British Virgin Islands and
St. Kitts

Consultation with members:

Belize, Jamaica, Haiti, Antigua and
Barbuda, Grenada and Saint Vincent
and the Grenadines

US\$5,000

Estimated cost to be sought from extrabudgetary resources.

Assessment of
National Science and Technology Capabilities

The Council agreed that the Secretariat should undertake a study of Science and Technology Councils in the region with a view to identifying aspects of success or failure which could form the basis for additional recommendations aiming toward the successful operation of national science councils in the subregion.

With regard to the assessment of national science and technology capabilities, the Council agreed that any further action would be dependent on the proposed meeting with other agencies undertaking similar activities in the region, e.g. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), etc.

Budget

Evaluation Workshop

2 days

Travel and per diem of participants from
CCST member countries

Printing of documents

US\$6,000

Preparation of a Science and Technology
Journal/Magazine for the Caribbean

The CCST agreed that the Secretariat would continue the publication of the Science and Technology Newsletter. Copies would be sent to focal points to reproduce and distribute in their countries. CCST would continue discussions with appropriate bodies with a view to publishing a Science and Technology Journal/Magazine for the Caribbean.

The Secretariat should also contact national and regional institutions involved in preparing similar publications to provide source material for the Newsletter. Future issues should include a bibliography of publications relating to Science and Technology.

Budget

(Contingent upon joint activity with
other agencies in publishing Journal)

US\$2,000

A Caribbean Science Film Magazine

Viewed as an ongoing exercise, the CCST will attempt to produce the first issue in the coming year (see Document CDCC/CCST/84/9).

Budget

US\$7,000

Implications of Newly-Emerging Technologies

The Council expressed its doubts on the proposed new activity on computer conferencing, and requested that the Secretariat forward these doubts to member governments. It noted, though, that there was a need for an expressed policy on computers and proposed that the topic "Implications of computers and their use in the Caribbean" be included as an agenda item in the workshop on new and emerging technologies.

The workshop proposed for 1985 would now be held in March 1986 in conjunction with UNCSTD, UNESCO and CARICOM. A background paper prepared by the above mentioned agencies has been circulated to member states for consideration.

Budget (approved last year) US\$15,000

The Secretariat hopes to obtain funding from the UNDP/TCDC Unit.

Health, Nutrition and Pharmaceuticals

The proposed Workshop on the pharmaceutical sector had been postponed to March 1986 after consultation with various agencies and governments. Since member states continue to show interest, every effort will be made to convene the workshop as planned. Discussions were continuing with other organisations (see Aide Memoire of 1984 Programme) to ensure success of the workshop.

Budget

Total estimated cost (last year) US\$25,000

The Secretariat has been requested to seek extrabudgetary funds for this activity, in addition to seeking approval of \$2,000 for preparatory and co-ordinating activities.

Workshop total estimated cost (1984) US\$25,000

Preparatory activities 2,000

US\$27,000

Animal Feed Production

A joint project between the U.S. Virgin Islands and Saint Lucia was being developed involving the growing of tilapia aurea to be used as a protein source for mixing with bananas and coconut meal to develop a feed for pigs and possibly other animals. The CCST Secretariat had been asked to approach agencies, such as UNCSTD and FAO, for possible funding and had been requested specifically to provide information regarding possible TCDC activities in this venture.

If successful, the project could go a long way in reducing cost of animal feed and contribute to increasing pork production in the region.

Budget

Assisting with travel of Fisheries Officer/ Animal Husbandry Officer in observing fish culture methods in other countries (to be decided)	US\$2,000
Travel by CCST Officer to analyse project implementation	1,000
	<u>US\$3,000</u>

Workshop on Production
of Science Materials for Television

During the production of the films on Agro-industries and Information, it was recognized that production costs could be reduced substantially if filming could be done by local technicians. In most cases, some equipment was available but was either in poor shape, or trained technicians were not available to film at such short notice.

The Council proposed that a workshop be conducted on the preparation of material on science and technology to be used in television programmes, and the up-keep and maintenance of equipment, especially for the small member states of CCST.

The objectives are:

(a) To train technicians in the preparation of local programmes that could be aired at the national level;

(b) To have available trained technicians at the national level which would eliminate the cost of travelling with both equipment and personnel for filming regional projects.

Budget

Travel and DSA for 5 or 6 technicians for one week	US\$5,000
Resource persons	1,000
Miscellaneous	<u>1,000</u>
	<u>US\$7,000</u>

Other Projects

Conservation and Exchange of Germplasm of Crop Plants

The meeting noted the Consultant's report but deferred discussion pending response from member governments. It also noted the actions of other organisations in this area.

A Science and Technology Policy and Plan for the Region

The CCST would continue work on this important overall area based on the outcome of deliberations on this item on the agenda for the Fifth Plenary Session.

CCST would continue to co-ordinate its efforts with other agencies in the region such as CARICOM and UNESCO, in assisting to develop and strengthen technological capabilities in CCST member countries in the various aspects on science and technology highlighted in the plan.

Information Systems

The proposed Workshop on Micro-Computers had not been held. The Council felt that there was need for further planning and a clearer definition of the objectives, along with the co-operation of other agencies in the information sector. The CCST would continue to discuss with other agencies the possibility of holding a workshop next year.

Extrabudgetary funding would be sought for this activity.

