

E/CEPAL/CDCC/22

Second Inter-Agency Meeting  
Santo Domingo, 23 March 1977

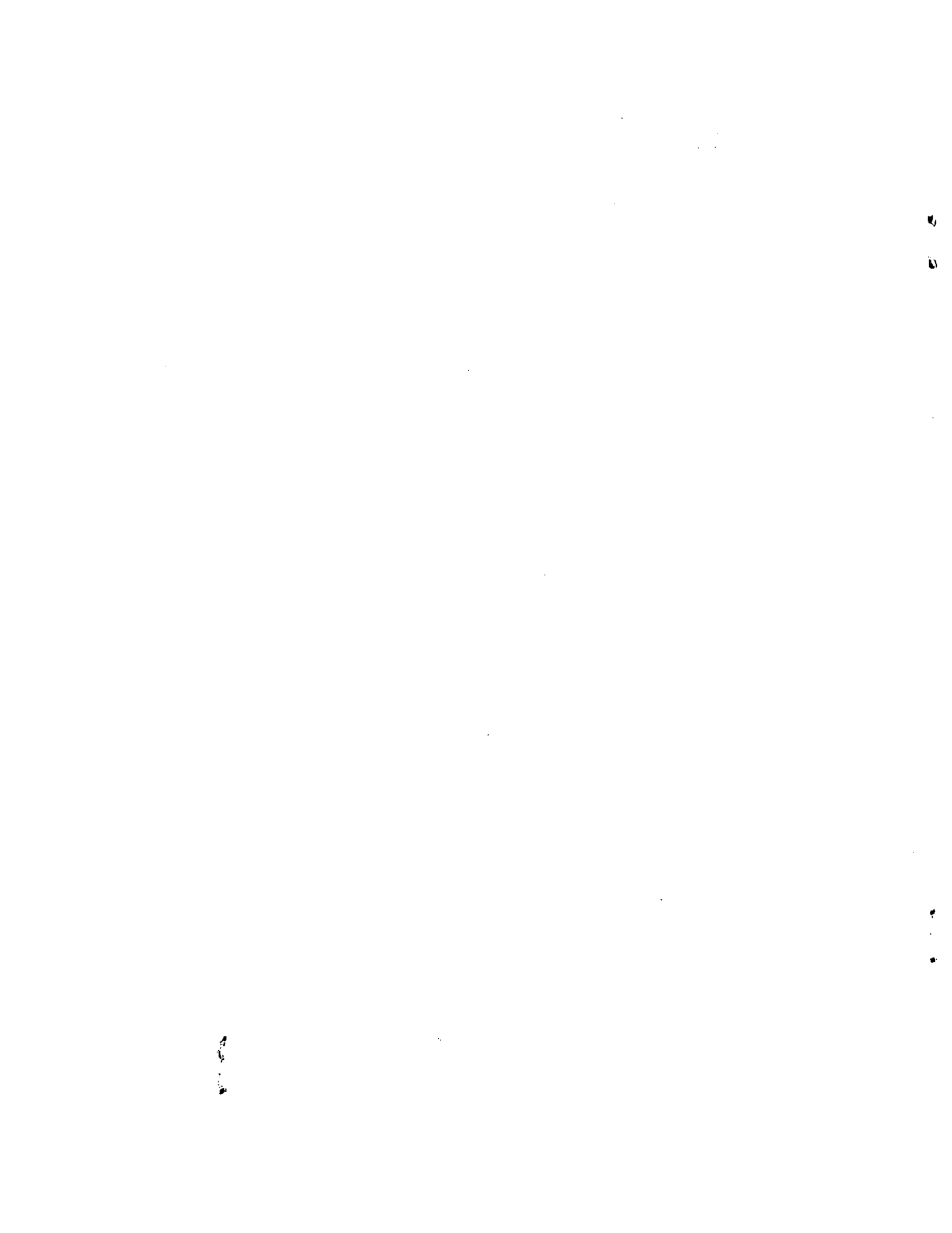


REPORT ON SECOND UNITED NATIONS INTER-AGENCY  
MEETING ON CO-ORDINATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE CDCC WORK PROGRAMME



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA



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Background

A United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Co-ordination for Implementation of the Work Programme of the CDCC was held in New York on 28-30 June 1976. Certain basic concepts underlying the Work Programme of the CDCC as mandated at its First Session in Havana, November 1975 were outlined. The possibilities of co-ordinating the on-going activities of the Specialized Agencies and other bodies of the U.N. with the Work Programme were considered and an attempt was also made to identify projects and resources that could be devoted towards implementing that programme.

The Second Session of the CDCC was held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic in March 1977; this session reviewed activities already taken and outlined a programme of activities for the period up to the third session. This programme was based on selected priorities from the programme approved during the First Session of the CDCC, projects arising from the New York session of the U.N. Inter-Agency Meeting, subsequent projects formulated by the CDCC Secretariat in conjunction with specific Specialized Agencies, and new proposals submitted by Member Governments.

Terms of Reference

In accordance with a decision at the First U.N. Inter-Agency Meeting and endorsed at the Second Session of the CDCC, the Second United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting was convened on 23 March 1977 in Santo Domingo, immediately following the Second Session of the CDCC. The session was devoted to working out a methodology and consideration of practical aspects of implementing the Work Programme, and to

receiving specific lists of projects and other inputs from U.N. Specialized Agencies and bodies towards the Work Programme.

### Methodology

Discussions centred around the political implications of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee, the interpretation of the Work Programme, the delineation of the respective roles and contributions of the Secretariat and the Specialized Agencies, jointly and severally, and the inter-relationships and functioning of regional and other institutions in the area connected with developmental problems.

### Framework

Despite its short existence, the CDCC affords a framework for direct consultation between the Governments in the region, although in some cases diplomatic relations do not exist among themselves. Certain practical consequences emanate from this political relationship and a few specific decisions at the Second Session of the CDCC relate directly, namely, the desire to initiate measures for the removal of language barriers and the facilitation of air transportation and other types of transportation within the region. These particular projects illustrate the concern of the Governments on questions of collaboration, communication and mobility.

### Role of Secretariat and UN bodies

It was suggested that a basic requirement for a regional approach to development will be the articulation by the Member Governments themselves of their priorities as well as the extent of their commitment in terms of resource inputs for regional co-operation. Also it was necessary to build on existing UN activity both in individual countries as well as in the integration movements, namely CARICOM, CDB, SELA and TCDC.

In this context it was suggested that Governments should supply to the CDCC Secretariat their priorities, then for the Secretariat to

examine and determine what is feasible at the regional or sub-regional level, and then feed this back to the Specialized Agencies for formulation in specific projects. Additionally, the Secretariat should initiate new areas of work susceptible to regional action, formulating these into regional projects, establishing some selectivity and priority before approaching the Agencies for action and implementation.

The corollary that the Agencies study the situation in the countries of the region and prepare a presentation on projects together with relative priorities was also suggested.

Since Governments are primarily interested in the solution of immediate problems it was felt that the Secretariat and UN bodies would be in a better position to undertake intermediate and long-term planning and to take an overall and integrated view. Thus it was necessary for the Agencies to list and furnish the Secretariat with possibilities for action as it is in this way that the Secretariat can get direction as to co-ordinating and then following up with each Agency the possibilities of inputs in order to articulate a co-ordinated and integrated programme.

It was revealed that the procedure adopted so far was that, in consultation with the Governments, the Secretariat prepared a broad ordering of priorities in the whole developmental spectrum. Out of this broad spectrum the Secretariat selected a short list of items which it considered could result in specific actions. It then proceeded to prepare a short outline identifying the specific tasks for implementing action and then proceeded to discuss these with the Agencies concerned. It was in this manner certain joint ECLA projects were formulated with UNESCO, ICAO and UNEP.

#### Mechanism of Work

It was agreed that what was necessary was a process of direct and continuous consultation between the Governments, Specialized Agencies and the CDCC Secretariat as this would enable the working

out of an integrated operational strategy. This would facilitate complementing on-going activities of regional institutions as well as bi-lateral activities between countries or between a country and a UN body. In its turn this would minimise duplication and overlapping, and would utilize to the maximum extent possible local expertise and would also promote self-reliance and horizontal co-operation.

The following specific mechanisms agreed to by the CDCC were endorsed -

- Setting up working groups or action groups to carry out specific technical studies and to formulate recommendations for the next CDCC session;
- Secretariat issuing a bi-monthly News Letter on activities of the CDCC;
- Visiting mission of the CDCC Secretariat prior to CDCC sessions to inform Governments of progress as well as to obtain from Governments their views on priorities.

The following additional mechanisms were suggested:

- Agencies creating an umbrella framework for all its individual projects as, for example, UNESCO Innovative Educational Network.
- In projects involving two or more agencies, appropriate priorities should be established and adequate consultations among the agencies involved carried out under the auspices of the CDCC Secretariat in order to formulate the specifics of each project including a determination of the resources needed and the modus operandi for implementation.

#### New Projects

New projects presented during the Second Session of the CDCC would require a very extensive process of consultation not only with the Governments proposing the projects but also with all other Governments and the relevant UN bodies.

#### Specific Contributions by Specialized Agencies and UN Bodies

All organizations were requested to submit lists to the Secretariat of their projects and inputs. It was also suggested that additional lists

on subjects for consultation by the Secretariat with organizations should also be submitted.

During the course of the meeting the following agencies and bodies outlined proposals: UNESCO, ICAO, ILPES, PAHO, UNEP, ILO, UNCTAD, ESA/OTC, ITU, FAO, UNIDO. These proposals are contained in Appendix 1.

#### Statements

The following statements on general policy matters are appended:

Statement by Mr. Michael Potashnik (UNDP - New York)	:	Appendix 2
Statement by Mr. Jorge Viteri de la Huerta (CEPAL - Santiago)	:	Appendix 3
Statement by Mr. S. St. A. Clarke (CEPAL - Port-of-Spain)	:	Appendix 4

#### List of Participants

A List of Participants is contained in Appendix 5.





In addition to on-going activities of the United Nations Specialized Agencies and bodies, and the lists of activities contained in the documentation for the Second Session of the CDCC, namely, E/CEPAL/CDCC/11/Add.1,2 and 3, E/CEPAL/CDCC/19/Add.1, 2 and 3, the under-mentioned Agencies elaborated on some of the projects and identified further possible activities.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

1. Documentation Centre

- (a) UNESCO is prepared to finance in its regular programme a mission to identify existing resources and future requirements of the Centre;
- (b) UNESCO supports the meeting of Librarians and Documentalists to be held in 1977 and suggested as a source of finance the UNESCO participation programme.

2. Elimination of Language Barriers

- (a) UNESCO supports initial steps to create a Centre for Language Teaching, Interpretation and Translation with a unit concerned with research in Caribbean linguistics;
- (b) UNESCO has contracted a consultant to carry out a study on existing facilities for language training as well as the identification of target groups for teaching languages.

3. Co-operative Programme in Educational Development in

- UNESCO proposes to establish a net-working mechanism of innovative projects and activities in the Caribbean to facilitate economic and technical co-operation for development.

4. Caribbean Council for Science and Technology

- UNESCO will provide a consultant to determine the type of structure, objectives and statutes for a Caribbean Council for Science and Technology.

5. Council for Economic and Social Development

- UNESCO will provide a consultant who will assist to set up a Caribbean Council for Economic and Social Development.

6. Ocean Sciences

- UNESCO will consider sending a consultant to study coastal area projects in the region.

7. Life-long Education

- UNESCO will consider sending a consultant under its participation programme on the establishment of a Caribbean enterprise for production and distribution of printed and audio-visual materials. It would also consider a multi-disciplinary team for the establishment of the network of centres for cultural retrieval and animation.

8. Transnational Corporations

- If requested, UNESCO will undertake a survey mission to study the impact of transnational corporations on the social and economic development of the sub-region.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

ICAO will provide the necessary resources for implementation of the work plan contained in document E/CEPAL/19/Add.1, Joint CEPAL/ICAO Study on Air Transport in the CDCC countries.

The manpower study on Manpower Needs and Training Needs of the Americas, is being undertaken and it is proposed that such a study specifically oriented to the Caribbean will be undertaken after completion of the wider study.

Latin American Planning Institute (ILPES)

ILPES will consider mechanisms for the exchange of experiences in planning among CDCC countries on a sectoral basis - education, health, agriculture, environment and employment.

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

PAHO will explore with the CDCC Secretariat the possibility of extending on-going regional activities with CARICOM to include all CDCC countries not presently covered, especially in the fields of nutrition, epidemiology and environment.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

The joint UNEP/CEPAL Programme for Sound Environmental Management in the Wider Caribbean Area (document E/CEPAL/CDCC/19/Add.2) will be implemented; this involves inter-agency consultations in the preparation and implementation of the project.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Because of financial constraints, the immediate assistance that could be provided by ILO would be in terms of short-term advisers.

In conjunction with the CDCC Secretariat and relevant specialized agencies, attempts will be made to formulate a skills training component in each project. Sources for financing this input would need to be investigated.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

The proposals contained in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/11/Add.2 - in science and technology, agriculture, industry, transport and communications, regional co-operation, trade - were reiterated with the limitation that there was need for identifying resources for these projects. Further consultations with the CDCC Secretariat and other United Nations bodies were necessary for implementing the projects.

United Nations Department of Economic and  
Social Affairs and Office of Technical Co-operation (ESA/OTC)

- (a) Planning - Joint discussions between Development Planning and Advisory Services in the UN and ILPES are proposed in order to define specific activities.
- (b) Youth Programme - Consideration could be given to expanding various youth programmes in the Caribbean region, especially advisory services, carrying out research and surveys into youth needs and organizations, and the establishment of co-operative arrangements and facilities for training youth workers.
- (c) Social Sector - The possibility of consultants to study methodologies to appraise the effectiveness of rural development programmes, evaluation of measures to increase popular participation in development efforts, and formulating guidelines to study innovative projects in rural development.
- (d) Tourism - Preparation of guidelines for tourism statistics and a study leading to proposals for the integration of national tourism development strategies into a coherent regional strategy.
- (e) Coastal Area Development - A programme on bio-physical and socio-economic mapping of information for marine environment and coastal management. Workshops, Seminars and training courses on specific themes or subjects related to coastal area development (e.g. methodology, coastal protection, natural hazards, inter-island transport problems, coastal planning) could be organized.
- (f) A limited amount of consultant funds is available in support of carefully selected programmed activities in the CDCC region.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

In carrying out the mandate for setting up working groups, it would be necessary to define the size, composition, specific subject matter, timing

and co-ordination of such groups. It is proposed that the CDCC Secretariat should work this out in conjunction with the ITU.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

If financing could be obtained, FAO would undertake the following studies on the marketing of agricultural products:

- (a) two months' consultant mission to identify an action programme for co-operation in export development, including identification of commodities; a seminar to discuss the main findings of the consultant and to agree on an action programme;
- (b) twelve months' export marketing development consultancy to assist in the implementation of an export development project, including advice on commodities, marketing arrangements, and in particular, on transport co-ordination. Attention would also be given to processed products and the expert should co-operate closely with the assistance which is being given on agro-industries.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

UNIDO will continue the implementation of 35 current projects in the region as listed in Annex 2 of document E/CEPAL/CDCC/11. Continuing assistance will be provided to the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute to strengthen its industrial and technological capability and to increase the range of services available to industry in the region. Likewise, expanded assistance will be provided to the Caribbean Investment Promotion Corporation to meet some of the objectives set by the CDCC. UNIDO has also offered the services of its interregional advisers in basic fields of industry such as engineering, metallurgy, chemical, petrochemical and fertilizer industries. Regional approaches are being explored in setting up industrial standards and norms and for the development of group training programmes that would serve the need of industry in the area.



ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
Office for the Caribbean  
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

Second Session  
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
UN Inter-Agency Meeting - 22 March 1977

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Statement by Mr. Michael Potashnik - UNDP  
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Thank you Mr. Chairman,

As you know UNDP has been corresponding with CEPAL now for the past year with respect to the organization and planned action of the CDCC, and as you know, and I think as Mr. Clarke and Mr. Mohammed would know, we have provided you both solicited and unsolicited advice with respect to the operational strategy which the CDCC and the ECLA Secretariat was developing.

Now the way we ourselves interpreted the Constituent Declaration of the CDCC, the spirit in which the CDCC was established, we had little doubt that the thrust and the success of CDCC would first and foremost depend upon the member governments themselves: the degree of their commitment, both in terms of resources and the extent to which they were prepared politically to co-operate in achieving the Work Programme which they had approved in Havana.

Now, with that view in mind we felt that it was the governments themselves, first and foremost, who should have been determining from the beginning the priorities of the Work Programme itself. Now granted the Work Programme once established in Havana was very broad, and needed to be scaled down so that some priorities within the Work Programme could be defined and under that an operational strategy also worked out. We had hoped to see the Governments articulate more fully those areas in which they were prepared to collaborate on the basis of their own assessments of their development priorities, and under assessment of their own resources which they were able to make available to lend to their common effort. That of course is the essential

element of TCDC, and it is not simply the lending of human resources, it also has to deal with making available financial resources when necessary to achieve their objectives.

We also felt that it was important to attempt to build upon what exists already in the region with respect to the work of the UN system. As you know, UNDP and the Agencies have collaborated at the country, at sub-regional and regional levels, and in the Caribbean, over the next five years UNDP will be providing a total of about \$82 million dollars for country programmes, sub-regional programmes, regional programmes, of one kind or another in the Caribbean.

We felt therefore, that on-going activities first and foremost should be examined. The institutions that have been built up over the years with government support should be examined to seek the extent to which they could lend themselves to the goals of the Committee. And then we felt that after that had been done, and that an assessment had been made there would be good reason to also consider new priorities and new activities which would obviously encompass the particular goals, and the difficulties that have been made obvious by the problems of communication, the need for establishment of networks, and so forth.

Now one of the reasons we felt this way was because we recognized that we have established a special commitment to the member governments of CARICOM, to the Caribbean Community and to its Secretariat, to devote our resources to strengthening the integration movement in the English-speaking Caribbean; and at the present time, we are spending approximately 25% of the funds available for regional projects for funding English-speaking Caribbean regional projects. In other words, in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat with whom we have carried out a programming exercise that began back in 1975, and in which most of the Specialized Agencies were consulted in the programming.

Now, what obviously concerns us is that the resources that we are making available to CARICOM do not become dispersed, that we do not in any way weaken the efforts we have put in already to strengthen that movement, and most of all that in attempting to build a wider Caribbean



Community, that the CDCC, or that the Secretariat itself be very careful so as not to undermine the role of CARICOM itself in promoting functional co-operation among its member governments. As you well know, that is one of the three major areas for which the CARICOM Secretariat is responsible, and through its different Ministerial Meetings CARICOM has, I think, shown itself to be an effective instrument for the promotion of co-operation among its member governments. And I think it behoves us in planning for the implementation of the CDCC Work Programme, that we be careful so as not to undermine, but rather to build and strengthen an institution that is now functioning for the major number of member governments of the CDCC.

Now, of course, it's not just CARICOM, it's also other associated regional institutions like the Caribbean Development Bank, with which UNDP has been associated from the beginning with the World Bank. We have committed over \$3 million to strengthen the Bank; it's a functioning institution; we are committed to them as well and to many others carrying out technical co-operation activities of one kind or another. Now, as I noted our assistance to the members of the CDCC will total in the 1977-81 period an estimated \$82 million. That covers the IPF of the countries concerned. It covers the regional projects which we are carrying out with the Agencies for CARICOM, and it also covers the allocations we make available to the ECCM Secretariat, which we are also attempting to strengthen. And, also to the individual islands who are funded out of the undistributed IPF.

Now, it seems to us that the areas where we can be of greatest assistance, and which we have indicated, I think, before on other occasions, is to apply the framework which we are trying to establish under the Resolution of the UN General Assembly to implement Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries. As you know, we have been requesting governments throughout the world to make available to us information on their resources for TCDC, both the provision of resources and the kinds of assistance which they would like to have. In that documentation there is a wealth of information which I think could be usefully examined by the ECLA Secretariat, as a first step, in acquainting

itself with the resources that are available in the countries concerned. I also think that UNDP can be helpful in seeking ways in which TCDC assistance from outside the region could be made available to the CDCC member governments for particular projects of technical co-operation. We also believe that an examination by the ECLA Secretariat in collaboration with the Specialized Agencies and ourselves, and with the governments concerned, of their stated priorities and country programmes, could serve as a means for arriving at an understanding of the possible areas of complementarity within existing resources - at least those made available by UNDP - and any additional resources which governments might wish to add, to put these projects and the expertise available at the service of the other members of CDCC.

In addition, we think that our special relation to SELA (we do intend to support the activities of SELA as you may know), will also enable us to work with you in establishing effective working relations with some of the Technical Committees of SELA, which could perhaps be requested to take into account the CDCC member government priorities, and could in fact be asked, given the resolutions already presented by the governments, to determine in what way SELA can work with CDCC, and some of the CDCC's own special committees to carry out some of the priority areas that have been identified. But it seems to me, at least at this point that - and here we are speaking in the family, and I think it's only fair to be frank - I do not feel that the Secretariat has yet articulated - I understand that it will be, but it still is not yet articulated - an operational strategy which permits UNDP and the Agencies to determine the most effective way that we can collaborate with you; that's my own personal view.

I still do not feel we have a clear sense of the priorities of action of the Committee. I do not think we have a clear sense of what the role of the ECLA Secretariat staff is with respect to the implementation of those priorities, and their role vis-a-vis UNDP and the Agencies, in the implementation of the programme. I don't think I understand clearly, but maybe the Agencies do, what the role of the Agencies is to be with respect to the implementation of the range of

priorities, except through what I have seen at this point, the identification of specific kinds of projects, and I think perhaps most importantly of all, the role of the Secretariat with respect to external funding agencies, and the extent to which ECLA will actively seek external support from bilateral sources for the implementation of the Work Programme.

It seems to me that there was a good deal of emphasis placed during the Technical Meeting on the need for a pragmatic approach to the implementation of this Programme. Now a pragmatic approach could perhaps be interpreted in different ways. A pragmatic approach could be one which takes advantage of what's available, no matter where it is, no matter where it leads if the resources are there, or a pragmatic approach could be one which sets its sights rather modestly and tries to achieve less, but does a good job at what it sets out to do.

Now both of those approaches are perhaps called for, but I would suggest one concern that should be kept in mind, and that has to do with the collaboration which is expected of participating governments, because it seems to me that we have the duty and responsibility to be aware of the manner in which we seek the collaboration of the limited expertise available in the countries themselves. I don't think it would be fair for us to request governments to make available the limited expertise that they have on endeavours which are not well-thought through and which will not have a payoff for them. I think we could raise expectations which we cannot fulfil, unless we are very careful about that.

I think that's in summary my general views on the matter, and I hope that this was presented in our way of trying to be constructive, and at the same time to give you some sense of how we are at least seeing our role in the evolution of the Work Programme of the Committee. I would like to reiterate what Mr. Valdes said, that we are prepared to collaborate fully with you and give you our fullest support, and look forward to a very close and profitable and fruitful working relationship.



UNITED NATIONS INTER-AGENCY MEETING

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic - 22 March 1977

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Statement by Mr. Jorge Viteri de la Huerta - CEPAL  
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As we have been talking very frankly, if I may on a personal basis offer a couple of observations, with special reference to what our colleague from UNDP has said. Being a Latin American not from the Caribbean area but from Latin America, I also have had to learn in coming to the Caribbean about a number of things which I think all of us in one way or another must keep in mind.

There is definitely a political problem involved that we have to keep in mind in the context of the Caribbean. Indeed I would say that three years ago we would not have been able with or without the CDCC framework to prove within this area two projects that have been approved as of this session where I think that the reflection of the political will of the Governments has been exercised at this particular session and I think we should not underestimate the importance of this particular decision politically for each of the Governments involved. Both happen to be in my mind projects that cut across the interest of all of the agencies represented here and where we all have hope, I am sure, to have a multiplying effect to the benefit of all of the countries and of all the agencies concerned. One certainly has to do with the elimination of language barriers because unless this is really achieved the whole question of communications between the countries, let alone with the agencies and with the work programme that they are carrying out is simply an illusion so it was definitely one of the top priority projects which the Governments fixed as a top priority at Havana and which I think all of us should be thankful that in the process of ~~restoration~~ we have had full participation interest of the specialized agency concerned and that there has been an expression of willingness reiterated by Governments at this session

to the extent that within two or three days we have had an offer from Belize. There have been other countries that are supporting the idea of again getting UNESCO and the other agencies involved to pin this down so I take it that this is a very clear indication in a modest way, if you wish, but with a great multiplying effect potentially that is of interest to all of us.

I would say in connection with the project by ICAO on civil aviation, that again is of interest not just to all the countries but to each of us. I am sure that everyone of us had difficulties in circulating in the area, in coming to this meeting and in getting out of this meeting because this matter has not been settled yet; the question of air transportation and other types of transportation within the area and certainly one is thinking of communication and of a starting of what is already there but that simply is not operating right in terms of Governments, in terms of our own participation that if through the implementation of this particular project one were to come up, if the Governments really come through with the information that is required, as has been reiterated also and repeated at this meeting. This will be a test for the Governments but that if implemented it might be the establishment of a discipline of collaboration which I think is in the minds of all of us. It is a discipline of collaboration that is not easy to improvise from one day to the other because it has not happened and this is why I bring to the fore again the political situation. We are dealing with an area and with a membership in CDCC of some countries that do not even as of now have diplomatic relations amongst themselves. The case of Cuba coming into this meeting and other countries coming to this meeting without having yet full relationship amongst themselves; and if this forum gives them the possibility even in a modest way to start exchanging experiences and having talks and the conversations which do not take place exclusively in this room but took place while we were talking here, outside of this room, it is the type of evolution that I think all of us would welcome.

This brings me to a second point and I again beg forgiveness for extending myself but I think it is important to talk very frankly.

On the matter of self-reliance and to what extent can the Governments and the organizations that are working in the area really provide not only resources and political will but how can this become operational quickly with the expeditiousness that we would like. I think as far as Mr. Iglesias is concerned, at Havana and here, he reiterated what Mr. Valdes also reiterated, namely that it is not the intention of the ECLA Secretariat at any level to do anything, and I am sure that all of you share this view, that would in any way prejudice what is on-going activity on the part of institutions such as CARICOM, the Caribbean Development Bank and the other organizations that are already operating in the field. It was said once and time again and we believe it honestly, it is the accumulated experience of these organizations that may be built on. We have to try to complement it and the same applies of course to the type of arrangements that have been worked out, sometimes bi-laterally between countries or bi-laterally between a country and organization represented here whether it's UNDP or specialized agency. What we understand as coming out of this particular session is a clear-cut type of parameters as to how we are supposed to avoid duplication, overlapping, utilize to the maximum extent possible the local expertise, existing institutions; and we do have not a complete spelling out but a clearer spelling out, I believe, from this session especially in the section of the report that says "Conclusions and General Observations" as to how we are supposed to approach this effort at avoiding duplication and to emphasize one point that may not have been mentioned here that was brought up by political will of the Governments, of all of them without any exception. They would wish all of us to get into an exercise, they said, at least as a long-term objective. We should make it a shorter-term objective to establish uniform criteria as to how we approach the region to begin with. I do not think that there are many of us, if the question was put to us, where we all of us coincide as of right now exactly what are the covered countries and what is the geographical coverage of the

Caribbean area. Each one would have a different interpretation given the situation of his particular agency, and yet I think the countries that were represented here are expecting us in some way to help them as a catalytic agent to not only come up with self-reliance but self-reliance in a collective way without their having to commit themselves politically yet, even to having diplomatic relations amongst themselves, but that we should provide like in the case of the language barriers project, like in the case of ICAO, with operational projects that can be matured where, as far as I know, up till now, there has been no question as to whether they should include or exclude certain countries or peoples or CARICOM or non-CARICOM countries. Everyone has agreed that the whole Caribbean population and all of the countries should be involved.

I am sorry if I have extended myself but I think that more or less reflects what has been in the mind of Mr. Iglesias and I think also Mr. Valdes at Havana and now, but it does not solve all of our problems. I think we have to endeavour to pin down this methodology to be able to work operationally close together at least from our point of view, no different in terms of level, Santiago, Port-of-Spain. There is an honest desire to get together through these meetings, outside of these meetings, in the broader meetings of ECLA, in the specialized agency meetings to the point where we can come together as a family, we call it the "kitchen group" in CEPAL to bring out recipes that we hope are palatable to Governments, palatable also to our own organizations but more important digestible and not illusory in terms of very nice dishes that in the end do not give the nutritional inputs that are really required for the Caribbean zone.



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Office for the Caribbean  
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

Second Session  
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Statement by Mr. S. St. A. Clarke  
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It seems to me that there are several points which while presented separately derive from one central concern; and the central concern if my interpretation is correct, is how to interpret the Work Programme of the CDCC and along with that the role of the Secretariat. Beyond these two is the question of how any single agency can get started with making some positive and concrete contribution.

First, I should point out that the Work Programme possibly bears an incorrect name, in fact, it spells out a whole range of possibilities that the governments felt were possible as subjects for co-operation, given the political situations in the Caribbean. As such, it is an enunciation of the scope of activities that they envisaged would be possible to undertake within the Caribbean. There is no time limit on that Work Programme, and some parts might not be realized in 10 or 15 years. It might be of some assistance if I spell out very simply the approach I have adopted in finding ways to implement it.

First, in consultation with the governments we got from them the indications that the ordering of the categories represented in their view an ordering of priorities, admittedly a very broad ordering of priorities. It ranks technical co-operation, agriculture, industry, social and then education and culture, health, transport and communications, ending up with regional co-operation, trade and natural disasters. I mention this because in any process of collaboration, technicians always begin by proposing forms of economic co-operation, and within this they begin by proposing trade.

Second, given this very broad ordering of priorities, the governments made it clear that the priorities were not meant to be rigid in the sense that one could not tackle the third or the fourth category, before tackling the second. And, they also made it clear that such choices would relate directly to resources that were possible from the side of the UN, and the capacity that each government itself could contribute towards implementing whatever activity is indicated.

Consequently, out of our consultations we selected a short list of things which we considered could result in specific actions. This is an approach we adopted very consciously, as distinct from the traditional approach of drafting project outlines. Having decided on the specific actions, which in our view related closely to the natural and urgent needs in the area, we then endeavoured from the Secretariat to prepare a short outline, identifying the specific tasks for implementing the action, and this became the basis for discussion with the concerned agency. This is how the ICAO came into the picture; this was how UNESCO came into the picture; this was how UNEP came into the picture; this was how ILO came into the picture.

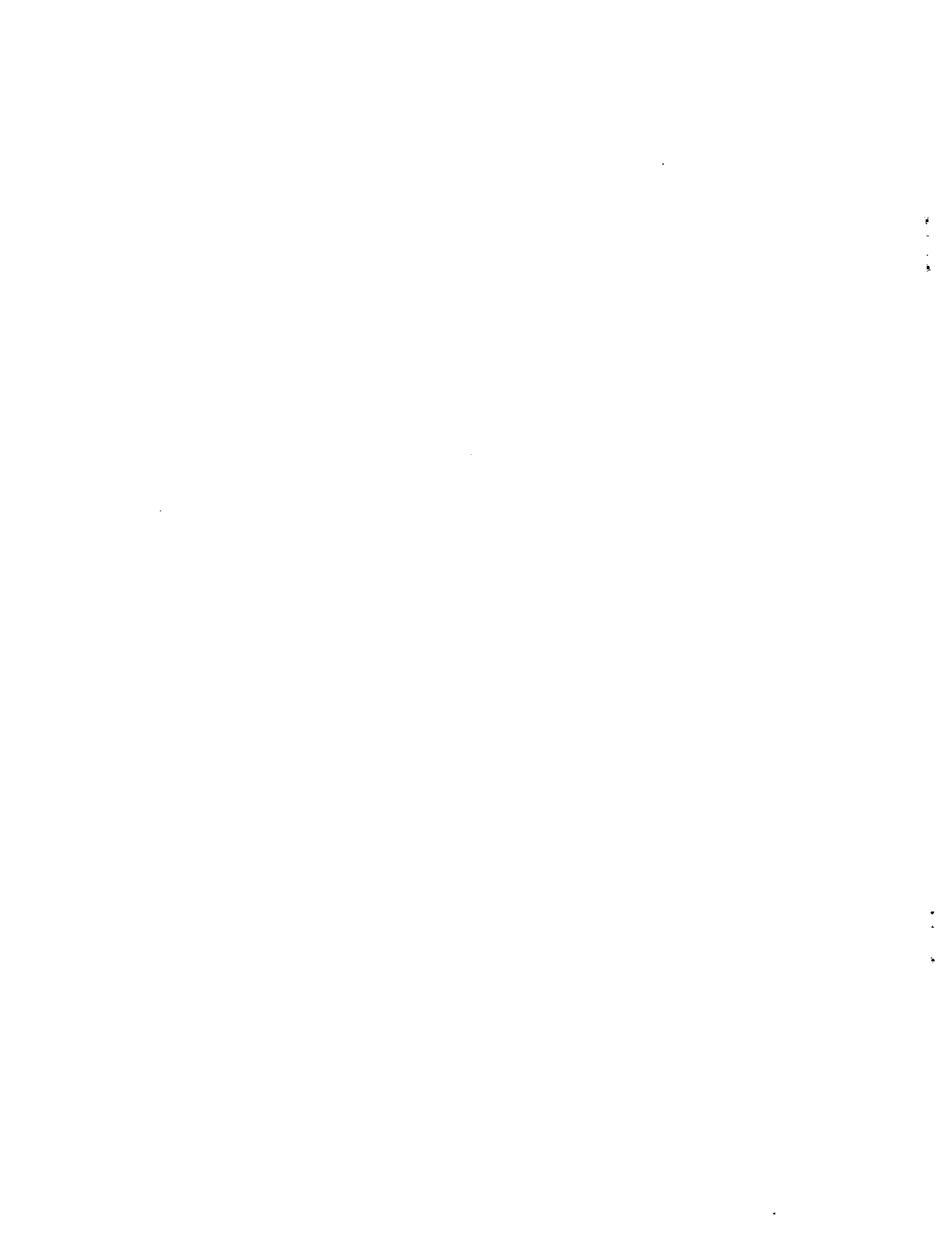
The extent to which we have been able to progress beyond this brief outline has been influenced by a variety of factors. First, the extent to which any agency has found itself in a position to make a specific commitment of input. Secondly, it depends on the method of operation of the agency itself. Third, it depends on the ease with which the agency, on the one hand, the ECLA Secretariat on the other, and somewhere in-between the government officials, can come down to a precise understanding of what is to be done.

Now, I have outlined this in some detail because it stands in direct contrast to the alternative approach of trying to formulate a large programme indicating specific slots for agencies relating to their areas of expertise. In fact, the approach of outlining the Work Programme activities from that aspect, while it would be technically satisfying would be totally impossible of implementation. It is very necessary in this whole exercise to recognize that a gearing process has got to be gone

through. Gearing in the sense that the CDCC Secretariat has got to arrive at a point where it can handle its responsibilities capably. Gearing in the sense that we have got an inventory of the capacities within the countries; and even more important the extent to which they are prepared to commit the capacity at the regional level. And gearing in the sense that the United Nations family of organizations come gradually to understand what it is that the governments are asking us to do. They are not only asking us to do things, but they are also asking us to do them in a particular way.

I have not addressed myself to the questions specifically, rather I have merged them and given an overall reply, and I am now ready to answer each question specifically if it is felt that they should be asked again.

Thank you.



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