ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Office for the Caribbean

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1971-1973
ECLA GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Events during the first Development Decade indicate that the gap that existed between the developed and the developing countries in the 1950s, far from narrowing, widened even further. Many of the economic and social development problems that the developing countries then had to face still remain unsolved, and, in addition, new obstacles and complications have arisen which make it difficult to improve the living conditions of much of the region's population, to relieve the consequent social tensions, and to achieve rapid and independent growth.

Be this as it may, the fact that it obviously is possible to overcome the existing difficulties and that the progress already made in defining the problems and setting up institutional machinery to deal with them give grounds for optimism.

The ECLA secretariat can contribute to the United Nations Second Development Decade in four very important ways. It can:

(a) carry out the economic and social research needed to supply governments with basic data on how to mobilize their domestic resources and enable them to formulate an economic and social policy for that purpose;

(b) study problems of foreign trade and external financing and of international scientific and technical co-operation;

(c) provide governments or groups of governments, on request, with the technical assistance required to achieve the targets of the Second Development Decade;

(d) promote the training of local officials in certain spheres of fundamental importance to the Latin American countries.
In carrying out these tasks, the secretariat will endeavour to maintain even closer co-operation with other international agencies, particularly those of the United Nations family.

In reviewing the work programme, due attention has been paid to the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council since the previous programme was prepared. Special attention was given to General Assembly resolutions 2561 (XXIV) on public administration and management, 2564 (XXIV) on special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries, 2563 (XXIV) on the role of the regional economic commissions in the field of development planning during the Second United Nations Development Decade, 2571 (XXIV) on international development strategy, 2626 (XXV) on the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, 2641 (XXV) on the review and appraisal of the objectives and policies of the International Development Strategy, 2658 (XXV) on the role of modern science and technology in the development of nations and the need to strengthen economic and technico-scientific co-operation among States, 2683 (XXV) on the World Population Year, and 2687 (XXV) on the role of the regional economic commissions in the Second United Nations Development Decade; and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1409 (XLVI) on the Second United Nations Development Decade, with special reference to the social aspects, 1426 (XLVI) on the utilization of natural resources, 1427 (XLVI) on natural resources, 1483 (XLVII) on population policies in the Second United Nations Development Decade, 1486 (XLVII) on work programmes and priorities in the field of population, 1490 (XLVIII) on review of the activities of the United Nations system of organizations in the transport field, 1494 (XLVIII) on social policy and planning in national development, 1535 (XLIX) on development of natural resources, 1536 (XLIX) on the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 1538 (XLIX) on the application
of computer technology for development, 1547 (XLIX) on development and coordination of the activities of the organizations within the United Nations system, 1549 (XLIX) on prior consultations on work programmes, and 1556 (XLIX) on the Second United Nations Development Decade.
The distribution of resources for carrying out the programme in 1972 and 1973 includes an annual increase of 5 per cent in the number of new posts requested in ECLA's Budget Estimates in order to expand the work programme in a number of areas. The first increase of 5 per cent would cover one of the two alternatives for increases in the number of posts presented in the Budget Estimates for 1972-1973. The other alternative calls for a number of new projects in fields in which research needs to be stepped up, such as the environment, regional development, economic integration, industrial policy within the context of the Second Development Decade, and agricultural development, for which a further 3.2 per cent increase in resources would be required.

It should be noted that not all of the projects included in this work programme can be completed within the periods set; first, because there will probably be changes in priorities as a result of changing circumstances and because unforeseen requests for assistance from governments or groups of governments have to be dealt with, and secondly, because some of the additional resources requested in the Budget Estimates from 1972 and 1973 may not be approved. It must also be borne in mind that in setting out the projects, account has not been taken of the large number of vacancies normally existing in the secretariat because it is not possible to anticipate in which units these vacancies are likely to occur.

The Commission, therefore, may wish to confirm its policy that, while it is desirable to adopt as firm a programme as possible, it is also essential that the secretariat should be

1/ A list of these additional projects appears in the section "Other projects."
empowered to use its discretion in adapting programmes to circumstances as they may arise and to the staff and other resources available to it. Accordingly, the Commission may wish to authorize the Executive Secretary to modify or eliminate certain projects, or establish different priorities, should developments at present unforeseen make this desirable in his opinion. Such alterations should remain within the framework of the programme adopted by the Commission.

The Commission may also wish to authorize the Executive Secretary, in duly verified and exceptional cases, to use resources for organizing conferences and for arranging meetings of working groups and panels of experts as he may see fit, providing that prior authorization has been obtained from the governments concerned and that consultations have taken place with any specialized agencies that may be interested. Conferences should be held only at the request of the majority of the member Governments, and within the limit of available resources.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The work programme sets out the activities of the ECLA secretariat by programme, sub-programme and project.

The programmes cover broad fields of activity the nature of which remains basically unchanged from year to year, for example "00: Economic development and research."

The sub-programmes have a time-span of approximately six years and their usefulness lies in grouping and integrating the various projects in an orderly fashion within a more clearly defined conceptual framework and period than those provided by

the programmes. An example of such a programme is "00-3; income distribution."

The projects mentioned which lead to specific results—for example, a study—can have an exploratory mission—within a period that can be estimated beforehand. Projects have a time-span of up to three years, and means that in theory the total number of projects listed in the present work programme constitutes the total amount of specific activities planned by the ECLA secretariat during the three-year period 1971-1973. An example of a project is "00-3; income redistribution policy in Latin America."

UNIT: Office for the Caribbean

PROGRAMME: 30 Economic development and research

The Office will continue to assign high priority to the task of assisting area governments in tackling the economic and social problems which arise as the Caribbean countries progress towards economic integration. This will involve inter alia, the continuing collection of data on these countries both for analysis as a step towards finding solutions to the main problems and as a contribution to projects being undertaken by ECLA's substantive divisions. Work will also be extended to the preparation of studies on specific questions.

As in the past, considerable emphasis will be placed on consultant and advisory services to governments in different fields, particularly in support of the integration programme. In the sphere of economic integration, the CARIFTA countries have already taken significant steps towards the comprehensive liberalization of trade. In addition, agreement has been reached on

3/ See also Economic Development and Research Division, Rio de Janeiro Office and Mexico Office.
a wide range of measures to coordinate the programme of co-operation in both the economic and the social fields.

Close collaboration is being maintained with the CARIFTA and ECCM Councils and secretariats on these matters. Consideration must also be given to the application of the trade agreements within the broader framework of overall development. Studies must continue in fields where specific requests have already been made by area governments. These include, inter alia, follow-up work on:

(a) feasibility studies on location of industries and establishment of integration industries;

(b) harmonization of fiscal and other incentives to industry; and

(c) the establishment of common external tariffs and the gradual development of a common trade policy.

In addition, urgent attention must be given to the policies and operation of the newly established Regional Development Bank for the Caribbean and to certain aspects of human resources development as they relate to the integration process.

In the area of economic development, research must continue into a number of sub-sectors. Of special importance are continuing studies in the fields of industry, tourism, agriculture and transport. The only work that has so far been done in the area of social development is that carried out by the Regional Adviser on Rural and Community Development. The current social situation in the sub-region makes it imperative that more in-depth study should be given to social problems on a continuing basis.
DESCRIPTION OF SUB-PROGRAMMES, 1971-1977

00-0 Economic Survey of Latin America

Material is prepared in support of the sub-programme under this title conducted at Santiago. The coverage will include Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the West Indies Associated States.

00-2 Development policy

Assistance is given to the less developed territories in formulating common development policies in key sectors, as required by the Agreement establishing the ECCM. Activities related to the "UNDAT-Caribbean" included here.

00-3 Income distribution

This sub-programme will incorporate some of the research undertaken in different fields at the national level. The object is to promote and support statistical research in the countries of the Caribbean, including joint operations with national institutions. The result of this work and other available sources of basic information will form the background for analyses of the characteristics of income distribution, and of changes in it which occur as a corollary of general economic development in selected countries.

00-8 Human resources

This sub-programme relates to studies in some areas for regional action in the field of human resources development.

01-1 Social aspect of development

This sub-programme is carried out with the assistance of the Regional Adviser on Rural and Co-operative Development. Given high unemployment ratios, young populations, and the social adjustments that must come with the re-structuring of the economies, social development is a matter of high priority.
The emphasis in the initial stages will be on social trends and manpower utilization.

01-7 Rural and community development

This sub-programme is carried out by a regional adviser, who provides advisory assistance in training and on some functional, organizational and administrative matters connected with rural development. Assistance also includes advisory services to governments on the organization of workshops at the national and sub-regional levels and short-term action-oriented study and research programmes.

02-1 Trade and development

This sub-programme includes another study in the series on prospects for growth in intra-regional trade, which will cover such areas as light engineering, simple assembly industries, artisan-type industries, etc., in addition, material is prepared in support of major studies being conducted by the Trade Policy Division at Santiago.

03-6 General studies relating to integration in the Caribbean area

This sub-programme is carried out by a regional adviser, who will assist the CARIFTA countries, individually and collectively in matters relating to the development of intra-regional and extra-regional trade, and in the conduct of workshops.

03-7 Consultation and advisory services to inter-governmental bodies and participation in meetings of inter-governmental bodies and of member Governments

The number of subjects on which governments consult ECLA has steadily increased, and advice now covers not only the application of trade agreements, but also the formulation of policy regarding the next step in the economic integration process. During 1971-1973 activities in this area will include follow-up work on the reports of the industrial evaluation team and the
harmonization of incentives team; these reports have already been presented to the governments.

05-0 Industrial development

The ECLA/UNIDO team conducted an industrial evaluation in the CARIFTA countries, at their request. The report has been studied by Governments, and they have indicated their need for follow-up studies in identifying specific industries for location in the less developed territories, and in some specific industry sectors identified in the studies. In-depth analyses will also be undertaken in agro-based industries and small-scale light engineering industries, and advisory services will be provided in these fields.

06-6 Co-ordinated agricultural development

Efforts will be concentrated on assisting Governments that request it in implementing the Protocol on the Marketing of Agricultural Products. Attention must also be given to the problem of agricultural development and the diversification sought under the CARIFTA and ECCM regimes; the problems of land reform, with particular attention to land tenure systems and land taxation; and on long-term agricultural development and planning with special reference to the rationalization of production.

08-1 Transport and regional integration

Further progress towards integration in the Caribbean depends to a large extent on improvements in the transport sector; possible improvements must therefore be sought. In addition, the studies initiated on the Caribbean basin Programme will continue well into the 1970s.

08-2 Maritime transport

A regional adviser will assist governments on matters relating to the operation of maritime transport, as regards both
schooner traffic, and the West Indies Shipping Service (now in process of reorganization).

08-7 Tourism

The countries participating in the CARIFTA Agreement have already decided to pursue a policy of development of regional tourism. The economics of tourism have so far been given only meagre attention, and little is known of the burdens of external loan servicing, the impact of tourism on payments for imports, and the balance of payments, or what benefits it might bring national economies.

09-4 Basic Statistics

In response to requests from the smaller territories of the Caribbean, assistance is being given in improving the quality of basic economic statistics. It is geared to tackling some of the problems arising out of the process of economic co-operation; for example, the decision to adopt a common external tariff based on the BTN necessitated the conversion of the customs tariff in ECCM countries.

A specific aspect of this sub-programme is assisting the statistician of these territories in implementing the decision to utilize separate classifications for tariff and statistical purposes (formerly both were based in some form on the SITC).

11-1 Seminars, workshops and courses on public administration

The pace of the integration process requires a fairly rapid formulation of solutions to administrative problems, and government officials must be equipped to deal with the new situation. A series of workshops are planned for research, exchange of experience, training and the formulation of policy recommendations. In the main they will be conducted by the regional advisers with support from the ECLA secretariat and such assistance as is available from universities in the Caribbean.
LIST OF PROJECTS, 1971-1973

(Projects marked with an asterisk will be carried out only if the additional resources requested for 1972 are approved and all vacancies are filled).

Whittingham (2mm). Research Assistants assisted by Rampersad (1mm), Clarke (1mm)

Advisory services on development policy (00-27)
Advice is given to governments that request it, priority being given to the formulation of uniform policies as contemplated in the ECCM Agreement.
Formerly Regional Economic Adviser - now incorporated into UNDAT-Caribbean activities
Initiation: 1968 Authority: ECLA 184 (IX) and 288 (XIII) Completion: Continuing activity Priority: High

Income distribution in the Caribbean (00-37) (new project)
The first study in this series will be initiated in 1972. One or two of the larger countries of the sub-region will be selected, the choice depending on availability of basic data. The study will be extended with two other countries in 1973.
Whittingham (5mm) in 1972
Initiation: Early 1972 Authority: ECLA 229 (X), 233 (X), 263 (XII) and 290 (XIII) Completion: Late 1972 Priority: High
The problem of unemployment and its impact on economic development in the Caribbean (ECLA 272/4)

A study will be undertaken on the problems of unemployment and its impact on economic development. This problem assumes major proportions in the Commonwealth Caribbean; unemployment in individual countries being estimated to range from 12 to 20 per cent of the labour force. The study would cover the major causes of unemployment and measures to remedy them.

Dependent on having Social Affairs Officer (5mm) - assisted by Ramsaram Pundit

Initiation: Late 1971
Completion: Early 1973
Authority: ECLA 263 (XII), 288 (XIII) and 290 (XIII)
Priority: High

Social trends in the Caribbean (XII-XIII)

Material on the Caribbean will be collected on a continuing basis for inclusion in the annual Economic Survey the 1973 Report on the World Social Situation. The information will focus on demographic and urbanization trends, housing, education (including vocational training), youth development, social welfare service and migration of trained personnel.

Dependent on Social Affairs Officer (4mm in 1971) assisted by Balakrishnan

Initiation: Late 1971
Completion: Continuing
Authority: ECLA 230 (X) and 288 (XIII)
Priority: High

See also projects 01-41 "Social aspects of employment policy" (Social Affairs Division), 06-2 "Rural employment and unemployment in Mexico" and 04-092 "Employment situation in Central America" (Mexico Office), and 05-81 "Macro-economic aspects of industrial growth" (Industrial Development Division).
Closely related to the 1971 study on unemployment will be a study on manpower utilization and requirements. During 1972 it is proposed to undertake a study in these series to examine the requirements for skills in the light of social and economic change.

Dependent on Social Affairs Officer (11mm in 1972) assisted by Rampersad (12mm in 1972)

Initiation: January 1972  
Completion: March 1973  
Authority: ECLA 288 (XIII)  
Priority: High

Advisory services on rural and community development (01-79)

Advice is given to government that request it on social and rural animation, training, and some administrative matters.

Balakrishnan (12mm)

Initiation:  
Completion: Continuing  
Authority: ECLA 290 (XIII)  
Priority: High

Advisory services on trade policy and integration (02-18)

The regional adviser will advise governments and regional secretariats that request it on trade policy and the formulation and implementation of common tariffs.

Liebich (12mm)

Initiation: January 1971  
Completion: Continuing  
Authority: ECLA 291 (XIII)  
Priority: High

Prospects for growth in intra-regional trade; the problems of small-scale industry in CARIFTA (05-02)

As a follow-up of the 1970 study on prospects for growth in intra-regional trade in selected agricultural commodities,

See footnote 4.
it is proposed to examine the problems of small-scale industry, with special reference to integration. The study will cover such areas as light engineering, simple assembly industries and artisan-type industries.

Whittingham (6mm) 1971 assisted by other staff

Initiation: January 1971
Completion: March 1972
Authority: ECLA 254 (XI) and 288 (XIII)
Priority: High

* Location of small-scale industry (05-081) (new project)

One aspect of the report on industrial evaluation which requires urgent follow-up work relates to the location of industries in the less developed territories. During 1971 it is proposed to initiate a detailed study on identifying viable industries which can be located in these territories, and devising special measures for facilitating their establishment.

Dependent on Industrial Affairs Officer - (6mm) 1971

Initiation: March 1971
Completion: Early 1972
Authority: ECLA 253, 254 (XI)
Priority: High

* Regional integration industries (05-082) (new project)

As a follow-up to the project undertaken in 1971, it is proposed to examine problems associated with the location of regional integration industries. The intention is to devise measures for minimizing polarization in the industrial sector, and promoting the equitable distribution of these large-scale industries.

Dependent on Industrial Affairs Officer (11mm) in 1972

Initiation: March 1972
Completion: Mid-1973
Authority: ECLA 290 (XIII)
Priority: Medium
Implementation of the Protocol on the Marketing of Agricultural Products has raised some initial problems which call for the formulation of a long-term policy. The CARIFTA countries propose to initiate phased studies to meet this need, but these efforts must be supplemented by more broadly based studies, especially in the area of agricultural diversification. During 1971 it is planned to undertake the first study in this broad field. The central problem to be investigated would be ways and means of lessening the area's dependence on the major export crops; this would involve preliminary examination of prospects in mixed farming, food production and supply of raw materials to area industries.

*Prospects for diversification in co-ordinated agricultural development (06-67)*

Initiation: Late 1971
Completion: Mid-1972
Authority: ECLA 251 (XI), 254 (XI) and 288 (XIII)
Priority: High

*Land tenure systems and land taxation in the Caribbean (06-68) (new project)*

The purpose of this study is to make policy recommendations on these questions in connection with agricultural diversification and development. This sub-project would be carried out by a consultant and is estimated to require six man-months.

Initiation: Late 1971
Completion: Mid-1972
Authority: ECLA 225 (X) and 228 (XIII)
Priority: High
Agricultural specialization and complementation (06-691) (new project)

This study would follow up and utilize the results of sub-projects 06-07, 06-08 and 06-692. It would consist of mapping out a broad programme for agricultural development in the sub-region, taking into account the possibilities for specialization and complementation that have been identified, soil types, and the suitability of the different territories for different agricultural activities.

Dependent on Agricultural Affairs officer

Initiation: Early 1973
Completion: Late 1973
Authority: ECLA 288 (XIII)
Priority: Medium

Prospects for general livestock farming (06-692) (new project)

It is proposed to undertake another study in the series "Prospects for diversification in co-ordinated agricultural development." The topic will be the prospects for general livestock farming, including dairy farming, and it will be based on the results of the study on land tenure systems and the recommendations for land tenure reform.

Dependent on Agricultural Affairs Officer assisted by Clarke

Initiation: Early 1972
Completion: Late 1972
Authority: ECLA 288 (XIII)
Priority: High

Transport survey of the Caribbean Basin (08-17)

The purpose of this project is to draw up a phased transport development programme and to carry out feasibility studies for infrastructure projects having priority within the regional system. During 1971 it is proposed to undertake a preliminary survey of transport problems in relation to the expansion of regional trade, with the aim of drawing conclusions on which recommendations for future action in respect of maritime and air transport could be based.

Ambrozek with whatever additional assistance obtainable

Initiation: January 1971
Completion: Late 1971
Authority: ECLA 289 (XIII)
Priority: High
Expert/Working Group on Transport Policy in the Caribbean 1971 (B) (08-19x)

The purpose of this meeting is to help formulate recommendations on the modernization of the schooner fleet in the Eastern Caribbean, with particular attention to minimum safety requirements, cargo protection and handling, schooner design and motive power; transport policies of CARIFTA and ECCM; integration of maritime and air transport services in the Caribbean Basin; and investment requirements for transport infrastructure in the Caribbean Basin. The meeting will be attended by twelve participants and will last ten working days. It will be held in Port of Spain in 1971.

This format is provisional.

Initiation: Authority: ECLA 251 (XI), 288 (XIII), 289 (XIII) and 290 (XIII)
Completion: Late 1971 Priority: High

Regional advisory services to governments on maritime transport (08-27)

The Regional Adviser on request of governments, gives assistance on matters relating to the improvement of inter-island shipping, and advises on a wide range of matters related to shipping.

Initiation: 1971 Authority: ECLA 251 (XI), 288 (XIII), and 291 (XIII)
Completion: Continuing Priority: High

Regional advisory services on ports and harbours (08-28) (new project)

This corresponds to a regional adviser who will follow up on the work initiated by a similar expert provided on short-term
basis under bilateral assistance to ECLA.

Initiation: January 1971
Completion: Continuing

Basic statistics (09-47) (new project)

As part of a continuing task, work will be done on building up the basic statistical series for use in the Office's research and advisory activities. Assistance will also be given to the statistical offices of the Associated States in improving the quality of their basic statistics.

Whittingham (3mm) in 1971 and 1972 respectively. From 1973 dependent on a Statistical Officer.

Initiation: Authority: ECLA 196 (IX) and 197 (IX)
Completion: Continuing activity
Priority: High

Co-operation in the organization of training programmes (11-17) (new project)

The Office co-operates with governments and regional secretariats in the organization of training programmes at the sub-regional and national levels. These programmes are conducted to provide area officials with a higher level of expertise in certain technical fields related to national development efforts and the overall integration programme.

Dependent on a portion of the time of each of the Regional Advisers.

Initiation: 1970
Completion: Continuing

Authority: ECLA 288 (XIII)
Priority: High

Projects completed, 1969-1970

00-01 Economic Survey of Latin America, 1970 (Caribbean Area)

00-47 The role of domestic savings in the financing of economic development

01-1 Social aspects of development

11-18 Seminar on Central Services to Local Authorities.
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### Projects

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1. **Basic Statistics**

   - Basic statistics (09-47) (new project)
   - A  R  N

2. **Training and Education**

   - Training programmes (11-17)
   - Management, substantive support and technical co-operation activities
   - A  R  N

**Total:**

- 1971: XX
- 1972: XX
- 1973: XX

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### Notes

- This unit has a General Service complement of one professional post. In addition, the Government of Tobago finances seven additional local level posts.

- Includes two provisional posts approved for 1970.

### Abbreviations:

- A, B, C: High, medium and less priority;
- G, N: Continuing, new project;
- R, N: Recurrent, non-recurrent project;
- P: Professional;
- C: Consultant;
- RA: Regional Adviser;
- EB: Extra-budgetary.

### Note:

Projects marked with an asterisk can be carried out as planned if new resources are made available.