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**IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBPROGRAMME 13 OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK  
FOR THE 2016-2017 BIENNIUM: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN**

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## INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), headquartered in Santiago, Chile, is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. Originally established by Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI) of 25 February 1948, it aims to contribute to the sustainable development of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. In June 1951, the Commission established the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico City, which serves the needs of the Central American subregion, as well as Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti; and in December 1966, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean was established in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. ECLAC also maintains country offices in Bogota, Brasilia, Buenos Aires and Montevideo, as well as a liaison office in Washington, D.C.

2. Pursuant to Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/2000/5, entitled "Organization of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean", the ECLAC secretariat (a) provides substantive secretariat services and documentation for the Commission and its subsidiary bodies; (b) undertakes studies, research and other support activities within the terms of reference of the Commission; (c) promotes economic and social development through regional and subregional cooperation and integration; (d) gathers, organizes, interprets and disseminates information and data relating to the economic and social development of the region; (e) provides advisory services to Governments, at their request, and plans, organizes and executes programmes of technical cooperation; (f) formulates and promotes development cooperation activities and projects of regional and subregional scope commensurate with the needs and priorities of the region and acts as an executing agency for such projects; (g) organizes conferences and intergovernmental and expert group meetings and sponsors training workshops, symposiums and seminars; (h) assists in bringing a regional perspective to global problems and forums and introduces global concerns at the regional and subregional levels; and (i) coordinates ECLAC activities with those of the major departments and offices at United Nations Headquarters, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations with a view to avoiding duplication and ensuring complementarity in the exchange of information.

3. The aim of Subprogramme 13 of the programme of work of ECLAC, "Subregional activities in the Caribbean", is to promote and strengthen development within the Caribbean subregion and enhance the subregion's cooperation with Latin American countries by achieving (a) improved capacities of policy makers from countries in the subregion to formulate, implement and monitor measures to overcome development challenges and promote economic diversification and social transformation; (b) enhanced capacity and technical expertise to follow up on the major international agreements in the economic, social and environmental fields, including follow up to the Mauritius Strategy for implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action; and (c) enhanced capacity of Caribbean governments and institutions to promote intra- and inter-regional cooperation and integration. In the light of this overall objective, normative as well as technical cooperation activities, in line with the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, more recently, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, were implemented by the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, in collaboration with United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, subregional organizations and other development partners.

4. Within this framework, the core functions of the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean are (a) to conduct research on economic and social development in the countries of the Caribbean and formulate proposals and recommendations relating to such studies (see annex 1); (b) to formulate proposals and render

technical cooperation to the countries and institutions in the subregion on a wide range of issues related to economic, environmental and social development (see annex 4); (c) to provide secretariat services to the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee; and (d) to prepare country notes on the subregion and contribute to studies and reports prepared by ECLAC (ST/SGB/2000/5). Activities were implemented in collaboration with and with input from other divisions and offices of ECLAC, United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, and various other development partners in the Caribbean. These included the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), the Caribbean Association of National Telecommunications Organizations (CANTO), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat, the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility Segregated Portfolio Company (CCRIF SPC), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the University of the West Indies (UWI).

5. This report highlights the activities carried out by ECLAC in the Caribbean subregion between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2017. Subprogramme 13 of the ECLAC programme of work 2016-2017 (“Subregional activities in the Caribbean”) covers the Commission’s work in Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, as well as Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands. Subprogramme 12 (“Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America”) includes activities conducted in the Caribbean member States of Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti. In addition, countries of the Caribbean were included in activities organized under many of the 12 other substantive subprogrammes of the ECLAC programme of work 2016-2017, namely: (a) linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation; (b) production and innovation; (c) macroeconomic policies and growth; (d) financing for development; (e) social development and equity; (f) mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development; (g) population and development; (h) sustainable development and human settlements; (i) natural resources and infrastructure; (j) planning of public administration; (k) statistics; and (l) support to regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations.

## **A. REGIONAL CONTEXT**

6. The countries of the Caribbean subregion faced a variety of development challenges over the last biennium owing to their social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities and low levels of resilience.

7. Their small, open and still undiversified economies, which have been affected by the recent recession in major export markets, are still striving to return to sustainable economic growth following the global economic crisis. Low growth, depressed domestic and international demand and a lack of robust investment in tourism and related services industries have brought high levels of unemployment, particularly among women and young people.

8. Countries of the subregion also face mounting public debt and severe fiscal challenges, with average debt-to-GDP ratios still in the unsustainable range. Such substantial debt burdens contribute to persistently high interest rates and restrain investment. This has also limited the capacity of Caribbean governments to deliver the full range of social services, raising concerns about erosion of the social fabric and the ability to meet the growing needs of vulnerable groups. Reducing significant levels of poverty and inequality also remains a major challenge for Caribbean countries.

9. The small island and coastal States of the Caribbean continue to be challenged with adapting to climate change and sea level rise, as well as the ever-greater risk of exposure to extreme weather events, which have increased in intensity. Related issues of energy and food security have gained prominence on the policy agenda, as the subregion seeks to reduce its heavy dependence on fossil fuel exploration and imports with development of biofuels and other alternative energy technologies.

10. Efforts to respond effectively to emerging demographic trends and to address the challenges more concretely have been hampered by the persistent lack of data. Policymakers have acknowledged the need to strengthen infrastructure and expand capacity for data collection and analysis on increasingly important issues such as migration rates and remittance flows, the informal economy, persons with disabilities, and gender-based violence. The use of information and communication technologies must necessarily assume greater importance as a tool for promoting more effective governance and public-sector management, particularly in small multi-island States. Policymakers have also reaffirmed commitment to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment and autonomy, the right to decent work and an adequate standard of living and attention to the needs of older persons and persons with disabilities.

11. Altogether, these challenges set the stage for supporting an integrated approach to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Samoa Pathway and the national development agendas of Caribbean countries.

## **B. SUBPROGRAMME 13: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN**

12. During the biennium, the subprogramme contributed directly to advancing the sustainable development process in the countries of the subregion and helped to shape the Caribbean response to the mandates established in the major global and regional development platforms to which they have committed. Another objective of the subprogramme was to respond directly to the most urgent development imperatives identified by each member State. This was done by offering technical and advisory services for capacity-building and institutional strengthening and by conducting the necessary research to guide appropriate policy intervention.

13. As a result, the capacity of the countries to meet their development challenges was markedly increased, evidenced by the acknowledgement by specific member States of ECLAC policy and programme advice for action on such issues as: management and forecasting of public expenditure and revenue; design and promotion of strategies for financing energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, including the shift towards electric and hybrid vehicles and the diversification of the energy mix; development of the yachting sector; and restructuring of national offices for better monitoring and evaluation of SDG implementation. Recommendations were also provided to policymakers through technical studies on a number of issues, including opportunities for strengthening cooperation between telecommunications operators and national disaster offices in Caribbean countries; and prospects for blockchain-based settlement frameworks to address the threat that de-risking posed to Caribbean financial systems.

Furthermore, the assessments and capacity-building provided in the region under the subprogramme continued to support the repositioning of ECLAC as the lead agency for disaster assessment in the region.

14. Member States actively engaged in high-level consultations, exploring ways to strengthen subregional integration and increase trade as an effective vehicle for sustainable economic development in the Caribbean. Moreover, the established mechanisms for consultation and coordination of decision-making at the subregional level were used to undertake comprehensive reviews and assessments to shape subregional strategies in response to specific Caribbean concerns relating to the global development agenda. Examples of these were the twenty-sixth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, the eighteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, and the convening of the seminar Women's Empowerment and Migration in the Caribbean, in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and UNFPA, which took place on the eve of the thirteenth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo.

15. In addition, specific high-level consultations were carried out in the context of strengthening the framework for monitoring the implementation of the SIDS development agenda in the Caribbean. In this regard, examples included a workshop—jointly organized with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations and the CARICOM Secretariat—on the development of a set of core indicators, from among the global SDG indicators, for monitoring the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Samoa Pathway in Caribbean small island developing States, as well as a Caribbean symposium on mainstreaming SDGs in national development planning. The symposium led to the identification of gaps and institutional capacity constraints in planning for SDGs.

### **1. Sustainable development research and analysis**

16. Under the subprogramme, efforts to facilitate and support the shaping of subregional perspectives on key issues of interest and concern were continued through research on a range of economic, social and sustainable development issues and the convening of meetings, seminars and workshops of relevance to the Caribbean subregion. The studies, which provided recommendations to policymakers and decision-makers, were reviewed at ad hoc meetings of experts convened in programme areas which included the economy, de-risking, trade agreements, energy efficiency and renewable energy, ICT for development, sustainable development goals, disability, gender and inclusive social protection.

17. The annual *Economic Survey of the Caribbean* presents a comparative analysis of macroeconomic trends in the Caribbean member States against a backdrop of national, regional and international developments. The most recent edition provided policymakers with an in-depth discussion of the economic performance in the subregion and noted that growth in service sector economies was offset by a decline in the goods economies, which resulted in low overall economic growth in the subregion. It also showed that the subregion managed to decrease its unemployment rate relative to the previous year. The annual *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean* examines the main factors influencing the economic performance of the subregion in order to make short-term projections. The latest edition forecasts that overall economic growth will be triple that of 2016, but highlights some of the downside risks. The subprogramme also served to include a Caribbean perspective to ECLAC flagship publications, as well as the first *Annual report on regional progress and challenges in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*.

18. The study entitled “*A Framework for Caribbean medium-term development*” examined the key elements of a framework for Caribbean growth and development over the medium-term. It noted that while the Caribbean has made major adjustments in a challenging global environment marked by slower demand, it must pursue a new sustainable development framework that seamlessly integrates economic, social and environmental issues. This will be particularly important as countries seek to implement the Sustainable Development Goals.

19. The loss of correspondent banking services has severe impacts on the provision of key financial services on which individuals, businesses and government critically depend. The study entitled “*Economic impact of de-risking on the Caribbean: Case studies of Belize, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Antigua and Barbuda*” provided an in-depth examination of the nature of the problem and its effect on three Caribbean countries and suggested feasible short-and medium-term approaches to address this challenge.

20. The study “*Monitoring trade agreements: Improving export performance and promoting industrialization in the goods-producing economies of the Caribbean*” explored the recent trade performance of specific Caribbean countries under selected trade agreements, focusing on identifying the challenges and capacity constraints that enterprises in the subregion face in exploiting trade opportunities under free trade agreements (FTAs) and partial scope agreements (PSAs). It developed a strategic framework for addressing these challenges and constraints which could create a platform for economic diversification and export expansion and presented possible avenues for strengthening export expansion both at the intensive and extensive margins.

21. The study “*Barriers to identification and implementation of energy efficiency mechanisms and enhancing renewable energy technologies in the Caribbean*” provided an assessment of the region’s status with respect to energy efficiency and renewable energy and identified four main implementation barriers: regulatory framework and policies, informal institutions, costs and financing, and market barriers. Another study entitled “*Enhancing energy efficiency in national transportation systems*” noted that many Caribbean countries have initiated strategies and projects for deploying renewable energy technologies and enhancing energy efficiency and pointed out that efforts to transition from fossil fuel to renewable energy sources and to enhance energy efficiency in domestic transportation remained limited. It provided a roadmap for vehicle transition, including a multi-dimensional assessment of the issues to be considered and a description of potential funding alternatives.

22. Telecommunications services can provide invaluable support to disaster management efforts by facilitating communication, coordination and intelligence collection during emergency situations. The study “*Strengthening cooperation between telecommunications operators and national disaster offices in Caribbean countries*” suggested several areas for engagement between telecommunications operators and national disaster offices and recommended the development of more formalized frameworks for mutual support. Among other issues, it considered the need for improvements to information sharing practices, collaboration on public early warning systems and the inclusion of telecommunications operators in disaster drill exercises.

23. More than two years have elapsed since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the overall pace of implementation in the Caribbean has remained slow. The study “*Mechanisms to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Caribbean*” showed that Member States with formalized institutional arrangements for SDG implementation have recorded appreciable progress in mainstreaming SDGs and in building national ownership of the global agenda. It presented a template for establishing an institutional framework for SDG implementation in the remaining countries, highlighted the critical role of data in planning for sustainable development and called for a renewed focus on strengthening statistical capacities in the Caribbean to support the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda.

24. The number and proportion of persons with disabilities worldwide is expected to increase over the coming decades, primarily due to population ageing. The study entitled “Disability, human rights and public policy in the Caribbean: A situation analysis” examined the situation of persons with disabilities in the Caribbean and assessed national laws, policies and programmes in the context of relevant international treaties and agreements. It identified good practices, gaps, and priorities for action and provided policy recommendations to support governments in further addressing the issue of disability.

25. The publication “Advancing the economic empowerment and autonomy of women in the Caribbean through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” focused on the economic empowerment and autonomy of women and girls as a strategy for accelerating gender equality through SDG implementation, which provides the framework for mainstreaming gender issues into all stages of national policies and programmes. The paper highlighted some of the major challenges facing the Caribbean subregion in its efforts to achieve greater equality, particularly gender equality, and to promote sustainable development for all.

26. As population age structures change over the coming decades, it is estimated that the cost of providing public education, pensions and health care will increase significantly. The publication “Inclusive social protection and demographic change: The implications of population ageing for social expenditure in the Caribbean” examined how falling child dependency ratios and increasing old-age dependency ratios would affect the number of people receiving education and pension benefits, as well as how the changing age profile of the population would affect the demand for health services. The study also produced projections on the likely evolution of public expenditure in these areas in response to demographic changes.

27. Annex 1 lists the research publications produced under the subprogramme during the reporting period.

## **2. Caribbean Development and Cooperation**

28. Under the subprogramme, the twenty-sixth Session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee was successfully convened at the ministerial level. Representatives from 15 member States,<sup>1</sup> including six ministers attended the session. Representatives of five associate members,<sup>2</sup> as well as officials of the United Nations development system and regional organizations were also present. The Committee endorsed the recommendation of the fourth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable to create a task force to elaborate the details of a debt swap proposal for the Caribbean. A number of other issues highlighted in the Roundtable also served as a basis for stimulating relevant policy debate, particularly the threat to offshore and correspondent banking faced by Caribbean countries. The Committee also agreed to enhance support for capacity-building in disaster assessment and resilience-building strategies in the Caribbean, promote awareness of ageing in the subregion and ensure synergy in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Samoa Pathway in the Caribbean.

29. The Committee also considered the report of the seventeenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee, held in June 2015, and the summary of conclusions and recommendations of its technical-level meeting and adopted the programme of work 2018-2019, which was subsequently approved by ECLAC at its thirty-sixth session in Mexico City in May 2016. The Committee welcomed Sint Maarten, the newest associate member of ECLAC, as a member of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

<sup>2</sup> British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Sint Maarten, Turks and Caicos Islands.

30. The eighteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee, held in May 2017, brought together representatives from the Association of Caribbean States, Brookings Institute, CARICOM, the Caribbean Policy Development Center, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the University of West Indies and representatives of 16 national governments of the Caribbean to explore innovative ways to promote growth and development in the subregion, in a period of dynamic change. Two key action points emerged: (i) the issue of urbanization in the Caribbean; and (ii) creative thinking in the implementation of SDGs.

31. Policymakers and experts from member countries and partner institutions also attended meetings convened under the subprogramme on global forums and regional development issues affecting the subregion. At the seventh meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism for the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, it was decided to undertake a more in-depth analysis of the mechanics of strengthening the Technical Advisory Committee, with a view to expanding the mandate of the Mechanism to include monitoring of SDGs and the development agenda for small island developing States.

32. The fourth Caribbean Development Roundtable, a forum for development experts to examine new approaches to the challenges to the sustainable development of small developing states of the Caribbean, was convened with the theme “The debt burden: Balancing adjustment with sustainable development in the Caribbean”. The Roundtable focused on how best to advance the interests of the Caribbean within the context of three major agreements adopted by the international community in 2015: the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and the Paris Agreement on climate change. Participants also examined the ECLAC proposal on debt relief for the Caribbean through a debt-for-climate-adaptation swap and took note of proposals being developed by other institutions.

33. On the margins of the thirty-sixth session of ECLAC, a Caribbean consultation entitled “Shifting Frontiers: Shaping a sustainable development path for the Caribbean” was convened in Mexico City in May 2016. During the consultation, high-level Caribbean representatives attending the session were engaged on possible avenues for strengthening regional integration and making trade a more effective vehicle for sustainable economic development in the Caribbean. The representatives also considered new pressures of global shifts on small States and their impact on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and explored possible Caribbean responses.

34. Under the subprogramme, a seminar on women’s empowerment and migration in the Caribbean was jointly organized by ECLAC and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with UN-Women and UNFPA. The seminar, which was attended by ministers and representatives from ministries and bureaus of gender affairs of nine Caribbean countries, focused on addressing the impact of the stages of the migration cycle on the empowerment of women and girls. The outcome of the seminar informed the Caribbean position during the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in Montevideo, as well as the new regional agenda, the “Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030”.

35. A technical meeting to examine the economic autonomy of women in the Caribbean and the Caribbean preparatory meeting for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean were convened in July 2016 in Port of Spain. These meetings brought together senior officials with responsibility for supporting women’s advancement programmes and the promotion of gender equality in countries of the wider Caribbean and were attended by representatives from

governments, the United Nations development system, academia, and non-governmental organizations. The outcome helped to inform the development of a new regional strategy for the implementation of commitments on gender equality and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and also contributed to the finalization of a study on “*Advancing the economic empowerment and autonomy of women in the Caribbean through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*”.

36. Ahead of the Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean, a Caribbean preparatory meeting was convened in Port of Spain in June 2017. Participants at the meeting reviewed the status of implementation of regional and global agreements on population ageing and the rights of older persons based on an ECLAC study—as part of the global segment of the third review of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. They also approved a number of recommendations on social protection, labour market participation, health and social care which were designed to further the implementation of these agreements. The recommendations were subsequently presented as the contribution of Caribbean member States to the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean.

37. Annex 2 lists the meetings organized for the Caribbean under the subprogramme.

### **3. Technical cooperation for sustainable development**

38. Under the subprogramme, steps were taken in response to various requests from members. The Government of Grenada received technical support in drafting a strategy to develop specific non-tourism service sectors. As an extension of previous technical cooperation, advisory services were provided to Saint Kitts and Nevis on the design of a development strategy for the yachting sector and, subsequently, an implementation plan for the period 2017-2022. Advisory services were also provided to Grenada on the identification of non-tourism industries and subsectors in which the country has a competitive advantage and on the formulation of a policy framework and strategy for their development.

39. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines received assistance in the complete review and update of its national energy policy to accommodate anticipated diversification of the national energy mix and a technical review of the draft national energy policy of the Cayman Islands was conducted prior to its finalization. In Saint Lucia, a readiness study on the transition of its vehicle fleet to electric and hybrid was completed.

40. Technical assistance was provided to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in restructuring the Central Statistical Office into an independent national statistical institute. Furthermore, as part of the United Nations’ Mainstreaming Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) efforts in that country, support was provided in assessing the status of data and statistics for SDG implementation and monitoring. Similarly, a review of data and statistics monitoring was performed in Aruba to support the MAPS mission in that country. The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services of Trinidad and Tobago also received technical assistance in reviewing the 2014 poverty report, while the Government of Jamaica, through the Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO), benefitted from technical advice on best practices in implementation of an internal knowledge management system.

41. Under the subprogramme, ECLAC used its Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) methodology to estimate costs in response to requests from Belize following Hurricane Earl and from the Bahamas following Hurricane Matthew in 2016. After Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017, which also had severe impacts on the region, ECLAC responded to requests for disaster assessment from Anguilla, the Bahamas, the British Virgin Islands, Sint Maarten and the Turks and Caicos Islands. These missions were coordinated with different agencies of the United Nations system including PAHO and FAO, and with the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank.

42. The convening of workshops and seminars under the subprogramme contributed to building national capacities and awareness. To support member States in their commitment to building resilience to disasters through improved preparedness for disaster response, as articulated in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, several national and regional training courses were conducted in Latin America and the Caribbean. As a result, 267 officials of governments,<sup>3</sup> regional organizations and other United Nations agencies were trained in the conduct of post-disaster assessments using the DaLA methodology. In addition, under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding with CCRIF SPC, eight specialists involved in disaster management from Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Saint Kitts and Nevis received training on the disaster assessment methodology.

43. National officials and technical experts from Guyana, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname were trained in the use of REDATAM software for online dissemination of census data. Post-training support in REDATAM was also provided to the Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago to assist in making census data accessible online. Through the development account project *Strengthening technical capacity of public finance managers in select Caribbean States* under the subprogramme, national capacity-building activities were held for public finance managers in the application of methods and procedures to improve management and forecasting of public expenditure and revenue. In the implementation of the project, more than 80 public finance officials from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Saint Kitts and Nevis were trained in the use and application of Public Expenditure Review (PER) methodology in their ministries and government agencies to facilitate more accurate and in-depth analysis of their respective countries' budgeting and forecasting processes.

44. Through collaboration with the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission, a capacity-building workshop on trade data compilation and analysis was held for 32 senior officers from OECS ministries of Trade, Customs divisions, Statistics departments and other government agencies. Participants were introduced to a suite of trade software packages with the aim of strengthening their countries' abilities to analyse and interpret trade and trade-related data effectively and, ultimately, improving regional competitiveness.

45. Annex 3 lists the seminars and workshops conducted by ECLAC, while Annex 4 details the technical assistance provided to the countries of the Caribbean under the subprogramme.

#### **4. Resolutions of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee**

46. At its twenty-sixth session, the Committee adopted the following resolutions: Resolution 91(XXVI), "Enhancing support for capacity-building in disaster assessment and resilience-building strategies in the Caribbean"; Resolution 92(XXVI), "Promoting awareness of ageing in the Caribbean"; Resolution 93(XXVI), "Advancing a debt relief initiative for the Caribbean"; Resolution 94(XXVI), "Ensuring synergy in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway in the Caribbean subregion"; Resolution 95(XXVI), "Support for the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the Caribbean"; and Resolution 96(XXVI), "Welcome of Sint Maarten as a member of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee".

47. Consistent with the commitment to renew the delivery of assistance to member States to strengthen their capacity for risk assessment and resilience-building, and further to Resolution 81(XXV), an MOU was

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<sup>3</sup> Aruba, Barbados, the British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, the ACS, CCRIF SPC and CDEMA.

signed with CCRIF SPC, facilitating training for disaster management specialists from four Caribbean countries. In addition, in March 2017, a seminar on disaster risks and resilience building in the Caribbean was convened under the subprogramme to provide capacity-building in disaster assessments. A number of additional activities have been incorporated into the 2018-2019 programme of work of the subregional headquarters (resolution 91(XXVI)).

48. Efforts to raise awareness on the issue of population ageing in the Caribbean included the preparation of a Caribbean synthesis report on the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the San José Charter on the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the convening of a subregional review to assess progress in implementation. Further, as part of the subprogramme's aims to ensure inclusive social protection, a study was conducted on the implications of population ageing for social expenditure in the Caribbean and a policy brief prepared to raise awareness among policymakers and practitioners about the adoption of the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons and its role in the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons. Notwithstanding, the policy brief noted that there was a gap between relevant policies to benefit older persons and their implementation and cited insufficient funds and lack of human and political resources as the main causes (resolution 92(XXVI)).

49. Several parallel activities were undertaken under the subprogramme to advance the debt relief initiative. These included the convening of a meeting of the Task Force on the debt-for-climate- adaptation swap initiative and the publication of an issue of the Caribbean Development Report chronicling the history of debt in the subregion and its pervasiveness and offering solutions for the sustainable reduction of debt in the short to medium term. Further action to promote the initiative included a proposal to collaborate with the OECS Secretariat in the development of a pilot study of one country for subsequent presentation to the Green Climate Fund. A concept note and budget were sent to the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) Secretariat in Brussels for possible funding and discussions were ongoing. In addition, a presentation on the need for a debt-for-climate-adaptation swap for the Caribbean was held at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies at the University of the West Indies Mona Campus (resolution 93(XXVI)).

50. ECLAC, in its capacity as secretariat of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism, convened a special meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee with a view to strengthening the framework for monitoring the implementation of the SIDS development agenda in the Caribbean and achieving the Samoa Pathway outcomes as well as the Sustainable Development Goals. Under the subprogramme, a symposium was held on mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals in national development planning, a study was conducted on mechanisms to accelerate the implementation of the Goals and a workshop on accelerating the SDGs was organized to raise policymakers' awareness on advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (resolution 94(XXVI)).

51. Another notable activity was the development of a project proposal, which the Department of Economic and Social Affairs approved for funding, supporting the creation of synergies between the Sustainable Development Goals and the agendas of Caribbean small island developing States by improving the capacity of Caribbean countries to integrate SDGs and the SIDS agenda into coherent national development plans. The objective of the project was also to assist in improving the institutional capacity of Caribbean small island developing States to review and follow up the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SIDS agenda (resolution 94(XXVI)).

52. There were several avenues for supporting development in associate member countries. The Cayman Islands was a beneficiary of the recently completed GIZ Energy Project on promoting energy efficiency and strengthening financing for renewable energy and energy efficiency in the Caribbean. The Cayman Islands also benefited from training on the use of REDATAM for online dissemination of census data. Anguilla and Montserrat continued to be included in the economic research for the *Economic Survey of the Caribbean* and the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean*; efforts were underway to include other associate members (resolution 95(XXVI)).

53. Promotional activities launched under the subprogramme served to extend the Organization's reach in various communities and enhance awareness of its role as a development partner in the subregion. These activities included energy efficiency and renewable energy presentations to school children in the Caribbean and Latin America, a gender-based violence sensitization seminar in a local rural community and an evening of film which highlighted and explored some of the social challenges facing young and older Caribbean persons (resolution 95(XXVI)).

54. Various other initiatives and studies were undertaken in support of the development agenda of Caribbean small island developing States, including a seminar on science, technology and innovation for sustainable development, which explored innovation in transactions and financing in the Caribbean; capacity-building in information and communications technology for development (ICT4D) and in knowledge management through the holding of a Leaders Activating Research Networks (LEARN) workshop and the review of the JAMPRO knowledge management programme; a study on innovative financing for sustainable development in the context of the challenges faced by middle-income countries, which examined the impact of correspondent/de-risking banking on regional economies; and capacity-building for regional governments in monitoring trade agreements and trade performance through a workshop on the use of TradeCAN and MAGIC. Altogether, these interventions underscored the continued relevance of the work done under the subprogramme to respond to the development needs of the subregion (resolution 95(XXVI)).

### **C. ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN UNDER OTHER SUBPROGRAMMES**

55. Countries of the Caribbean participated in a wide variety of activities implemented under the 12 other subprogrammes of the ECLAC programme of work 2016-2017.

#### **1. Activities for Latin America and the Caribbean**

56. Member States from the Caribbean attended a number of intergovernmental meetings organized by ECLAC for Latin America and the Caribbean (see Table 2).

Table 2  
**Intergovernmental meetings organized by ECLAC for Latin America and the Caribbean**

| <b>Meeting</b>  | <b>Venue</b>  | <b>Date</b>          |
|---|---------------|----------------------|
| Fifty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean  | Santiago      | 26–28 January 2016   |
| Third meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean                    | Montevideo    | 5–8 April 2016       |
| Fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation  | Santiago      | 14 April 2016        |
| Twenty-sixth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee   | Basseterre    | 22 April 2016        |
| Thirty-first session of the Committee of the Whole  | New York      | 28 April 2016        |
| Thirty-sixth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean   | Mexico City   | 23–27 May 2016       |
| Fourth meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean                   | Santo Domingo | 9–12 August 2016     |
| Second session of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean                                  | San José      | 12–13 September 2016 |
| Third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean   | Santiago      | 4–6 October 2016     |
| Fifty-fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean   | Montevideo    | 25 October 2016      |
| Thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean   | Montevideo    | 25–28 October 2016   |
| First meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean   | Santo Domingo | 1 November 2016      |
| Fifth meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean                    | Santiago      | 21–25 November 2016  |
| Twenty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)                              | Santiago      | 25 November 2016     |
| Fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation   | Santo Domingo | 11 January 2017      |
| Thirty-second session of the Committee of the Whole   | New York      | 30 January 2017      |
| Intersessional meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (virtual) | Santiago      | 31 January 2017      |
| Intersessional meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (virtual) | Santiago      | 7 March 2017         |

| <b>Meeting</b>  | <b>Venue</b> | <b>Date</b>                    |
|---|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Sixth meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean                    | Brasilia     | 20–24 March 2017               |
| Sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation of ECLAC  | Mexico City  | 25 April 2017                  |
| Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development  | Mexico City  | 26–28 April 2017               |
| Intersessional meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (virtual) | Santiago     | 23 May 2017                    |
| Fifty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean  | Santiago     | 25–26 May 2017                 |
| Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons  | Asunción     | 27–30 June 2017                |
| Intersessional meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (virtual) | Santiago     | 13 July 2017                   |
| Seventh meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean                  | Buenos Aires | 31 July–4 August 2017          |
| Fifty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean  | La Habana    | 5–6 October 2017               |
| Sixteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)   | Lima         | 12 October 2017                |
| First Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)-China high-level academic forum  | Santiago     | 17–18 October 2017             |
| Second session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean  | Montevideo   | 25–27 October 2017             |
| Special meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development  | Santiago     | 7–9 November 2017              |
| Eighth meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean                   | Santiago     | 27 November<br>1 December 2017 |

57. The report of the twenty-sixth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee was submitted to the thirty-sixth session of ECLAC, held in Mexico City from 23 to 27 May 2016. On the basis of that report, ECLAC adopted resolution 705(XXXVI) (“Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee”), in which it took note of the resolutions adopted by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its twenty-sixth session, the recommendations formulated by the Monitoring Committee at its seventeenth meeting and the conclusions reached at the fourth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable, and urged the Executive Secretary to employ all measures necessary to ensure the full implementation of the aforementioned resolutions, recommendations and conclusions.

Representatives from nine CDCC member States,<sup>4</sup> including four ministers and three associate members<sup>5</sup> took part in the thirty-sixth session of ECLAC.

58. At the same session, the Commission also adopted resolution 700(XXXVI) establishing the Forum of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development as a regional mechanism to follow up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its means of implementation, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The Economic and Social Council subsequently endorsed the establishment of the Forum in its resolution 2016/12. The first meeting of the Forum was organized in Mexico City in April 2017 to support member States' efforts to integrate SDGs in national development planning. A key objective of the Forum was to strengthen data and statistical systems in the region to ensure effective monitoring and measurement of progress in SDG implementation. Representatives from 13 States members of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee<sup>6</sup> took part in the meeting and, on 26 April, attended the "Caribbean consultation on implementing the SDGs". Belize reported to the Forum on the preparation of its voluntary national review for the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

59. The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, at its twenty-sixth session in Basseterre in April 2016, adopted Resolution 94(XXVI) requesting the secretariat of the Commission, "through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and in collaboration with the relevant agencies of the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community, to provide the institutional support to facilitate synergy in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway at the national and regional levels". Pursuant to that resolution and in line with the objective of the Forum noted above, member States are currently receiving technical assistance under the subprogramme—in collaboration with other divisions of ECLAC—in developing integrated long-term development planning that incorporates SDGs, building institutional frameworks for SDG implementation at the national level, and strengthening statistical capacity for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## **2. Activities for the Caribbean**

60. A number of cooperation activities in the Caribbean were conducted by the substantive divisions at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago and by the subregional headquarters in Mexico between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2017 and are included in annex 5.

## **D. CONCLUSION**

61. The programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 focused on economic, social and sustainable development issues in the region, and on statistics and knowledge management. The 2018-2019 activities undertaken will increasingly be organized in collaboration with a range of ECLAC divisions and development partners in the Caribbean, and will continue to focus and build upon the achievements of the previous biennia, paying particular attention to supporting the progress of Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

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<sup>4</sup> Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis.

<sup>5</sup> The British Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Sint Maarten.

<sup>6</sup> Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

## Annex 1

**LIST OF PUBLICATIONS**

- Preliminary overview of the economies of the Caribbean 2015-2016 (LC/CAR/L.503)
- A framework for Caribbean medium-term development (LC/CAR/L.506)
- Economic Survey of the Caribbean 2016 – economic recovery in the Caribbean: The dichotomy of goods and service economies (LC/CAR/L.507)
- Barriers to identification and implementation of energy efficiency mechanisms and enhancing renewable energy technologies in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/W.11)
- Energy efficiency policies in the Caribbean: a manual to guide the discussion (LC/CAR/W.12)
- Identification of mechanisms for financing of energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives to increase investment in the Commonwealth of Dominica (LC/CAR/W.13)
- Identification of mechanisms for financing of energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives to increase investment in Saint Lucia (LC/CAR/W.14)
- Strengthening cooperation between telecommunications operators and national disaster offices in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/1)
- Enhancing energy efficiency in national transportation systems – A readiness analysis for Saint Lucia (LC/CAR/TS.2017/2)
- Preliminary overview of the economies of the Caribbean 2016-2017 (LC/CAR/TS.2017/3)
- Assessing the opportunities for enhanced integration of the associate members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/4)
- Promoting energy efficiency in government transportation systems – A transition roadmap and criteria for a readiness analysis (LC/CAR/TS.2017/5)
- Mainstreaming disaster risk management strategies in development instruments – Policy briefs for selected member countries of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (LC/CAR/TS.2017/6)
- Women’s empowerment and migration in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/7)
- Advancing the economic empowerment and autonomy of women in the Caribbean through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (LC/CAR/TS.2017/8)
- Economic Survey of the Caribbean 2017 (LC/CAR/TS.2017/9)
- Caribbean synthesis report on the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the San José Charter on the rights of older persons in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/10)
- An analysis of the art and craft sector and its potential for sustainable tourism development in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/11)
- Disability, human rights, and public policy in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/12)
- Monitoring trade agreements: improving export performance and promoting industrialization in the goods-producing economies of the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/13)
- Inclusive social protection and demographic change (LC/CAR/TS.2017/14)
- Economic impact of de-risking on the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/15)

- Planning for the 2020 round of population censuses in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/16)
- A global value chain analysis of offshore medical universities in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/17)
- Caribbean development report (LC/CAR/TS.2017/18)
- Mechanisms to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/19)
- A study on the creative industry as a pillar of sustained growth and diversification (LC/CAR/TS.2017/20)
- Review of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism for the implementation of the small island developing States development agenda in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2017/21)

## Annex 2

**MEETINGS CONVENED BY THE SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
FOR THE CARIBBEAN**

| <b>Meeting</b>   | <b>Venue and date</b>             | <b>Participating members and associate members</b>  |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Special meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism   | Port of Spain<br>5 April 2016     | Barbados, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago  |
| Fourth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable   | Basseterre,<br>21 April 2016      | Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Sint Maarten and Turks and Caicos Islands |
| Twenty-sixth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee  | Basseterre,<br>22 April 2016      | Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Sint Maarten and Turks and Caicos Islands |
| Regional dialogue on energy efficiency and renewable energy policy in the Caribbean  | Port of Spain<br>17 May 2016      | Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Cayman Islands  |
| Expert group meeting on strengthening cooperation between telecommunication operators and national disaster offices in Caribbean countries | 15 June 2016<br>Port of Spain     | Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Puerto Rico and Montserrat   |
| Technical meeting to examine the economic autonomy of women in the Caribbean   | Port of Spain<br>26 July 2016     | Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago  |
| Meeting to evaluate the GIZ project on sustainable energy in the Caribbean   | Port of Spain<br>8 September 2016 | Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  |
| Expert group meeting on disability, human rights and public policy   | 11 April 2017<br>Port of Spain    | Barbados, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Cayman Islands   |
| Eighteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee                                      | 19 May 2017<br>Port of Spain      | Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba, British Virgin Islands and Curaçao  |

| <b>Meeting</b>  | <b>Venue and date</b>                | <b>Participating members and associate members</b>   |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Launch of the energy efficiency database programme for Latin America and the Caribbean and capacity building workshop on energy efficiency indicators               | 25–26 May 2017<br>Kingston           | Barbados, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines                                      |
| Caribbean preparatory meeting for the Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons  | 1–2 June 2017<br>Port of Spain       | Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Sint Maarten   |
| Expert group meeting to consider an analysis of the art and craft sector and its potential for sustainable tourism development in the Caribbean                     | 26 July 2017<br>Port of Spain        | Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago  |
| Expert group meeting: an analysis of offshore medical universities in the Caribbean   | 26 September 2017<br>Port of Spain   | Barbados, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago                            |
| Expert group meeting on monitoring trade agreements: improving export performance and promoting industrialization in the goods-producing economies in the Caribbean | 8 November 2017<br>Port of Spain     | Belize, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago                                 |
| Expert group meeting: an assessment of the challenges to Caribbean offshore financial centres   | 9 November 2017<br>Port of Spain     | Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Kitts and Nevis  |
| Expert group meeting on inclusive social protection and demographic change  | 21 November 2017<br>Port of Spain    | Grenada, Guyana, Barbados, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago         |
| Meeting of the Task Force to advance the ECLAC debt for climate adaptation swap initiative  | 23–24 November 2017<br>Port of Spain | Jamaica, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago   |
| Expert group meeting on planning for the 2020 round of censuses in the Caribbean  | 1 December 2017<br>Port of Spain     | Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Aruba and British Virgin Islands |
| Expert group meeting on the music and film sectors in Jamaica   | 4 December 2017<br>Port of Spain     | Jamaica  |

## Annex 3

**SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS CONVENED BY THE SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
FOR THE CARIBBEAN**

| <b>Title of seminar/workshop</b>  | <b>Venue and date</b>                                      | <b>Participating members and associate members</b>   |
|---|--|--|
| Training course on disaster assessment methodology (Arequipa and Ica, Peru)   | 3–5 February 2016<br>Arequipa<br>8–10 February 2016<br>Ica | Peru   |
| Training course on disaster assessment methodology (Panama City)  | 18–19 February 2016<br>Panama City                         | Panama   |
| Training course on disaster assessment methodology (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)   | 1–4 March 2016<br>Rio de Janeiro                           | Brazil   |
| Regional workshop on the use of REDATAM for the online dissemination of census data   | 4–15 April 2016<br>Kingston                                | Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Cayman Islands  |
| Training workshop on energy efficiency and renewable energy policy in the Caribbean   | 18 May 2016<br>Port of Spain                               | Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Cayman Islands  |
| Seminar on science, technology and innovation for sustainable development – Exploring innovation in transactions and financing in the Caribbean | 1–3 June 2016<br>Port of Spain                             | Barbados, Dominica, Haiti, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Bermuda and Montserrat  |
| Training course on disaster assessment methodology – Paraguay   | 1–3 August 2016<br>Asunción                                | Paraguay   |
| Caribbean seminar on women’s empowerment and migration in the Caribbean   | 25 October 2016<br>Montevideo                              | Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Turks and Caicos Islands   |
| Leaders Activating Research Networks (LEARN) workshop-Caribbean   | 24 November 2016<br>Port of Spain                          | Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Curaçao  |
| Training course on disaster assessment methodology - Association of Caribbean States  | 24–27 January 2017<br>Port of Spain                        | Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba and British Virgin Islands  |
| Caribbean symposium on mainstreaming the sustainable development goals in national development planning   | 14–16 February 2017<br>Kingston                            | Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Sint Maarten and United States Virgin Islands |

| <b>Title of seminar/workshop</b>   | <b>Venue and date</b>             | <b>Participating members and associate members</b>   |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Seminar and training course on disaster risk management - Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency | 14–16 March 2017<br>Saint Michael | Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago   |
| Workshop to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals implementation in the Caribbean                 | 18 May 2017<br>Port of Spain      | Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba, British Virgin Islands and Curaçao |
| Workshop on TradeCAN, MAGIC PLUS and WITS  | 14–16 November 2017<br>Kingstown  | Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Montserrat  |

## Annex 4

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
FOR THE CARIBBEAN**

| <b>Dates</b>                        | <b>Member or associate member and description of assistance</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>          |  |
| February–<br>December 2017          | Study to analyse the economic impact of de-risking on the banking sector   |
| 14–16 November 2017                 | Training course: Data compilation and analysis to inform trade policy formulation, negotiation and implementation for the Ministry of Trade and the Customs department   |
| <b>Barbados</b>                     |  |
| 24–27 January 2017                  | Training course: Planning for Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Assessment Methodology in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (co-organized with the Association of Caribbean States (ACS)) |
| <b>Bahamas (The)</b>                |  |
| September–<br>November 2017         | Damage and Loss Assessment in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria (co-organized with the Inter-American Development Bank).  |
| 29 October–<br>4 November 2017      | Assessment of the capacity of the Bahamas to design and implement an institutional framework for mainstreaming SDGs in national development processes.   |
| <b>Belize</b>                       |  |
| 26 September 2016–<br>30 April 2017 | Study on identification of challenges and capacity constraints faced by industries in the sub region in exploiting trade opportunities provided by free trade agreements and partial scope agreements and development of a strategic framework to address same |
| February–<br>December 2017          | Study to analyse the economic impact of de-risking on the banking sector   |
| <b>Dominica</b>                     |  |
| 24–27 January 2017                  | Training course: Planning for Disaster Risk Management & Disaster Assessment Methodology in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (co-organized with ACS)   |
| 14–16 November 2017                 | Training course: Data compilation and analysis to inform trade policy formulation, negotiation and implementation for the Ministry of Trade and the Customs department   |
| <b>Grenada</b>                      |  |
| 23 March–22 July 2016               | Study on the non-tourism services sector in Grenada, in order to determine the subsectors in which the country has a competitive advantage; to develop a broad policy framework and strategy for developing these subsectors.                                  |
| 24–27 January 2017                  | Training course: Planning for Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Assessment Methodology in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (co-organized with ACS)                                       |

| <b>Dates</b>                            | <b>Member or associate member and description of assistance</b>  |
|---|--|
| <b>Guyana</b>                           |  |
| 9–22 October 2016                       | Training workshop on the development of REDATAM applications for the dissemination of population and housing census data   |
| 22–24 November 2017                     | Assessment of the capacity of Guyana to design and implement an institutional framework for mainstreaming SDGs in national development processes.  |
| <b>Jamaica</b>                          |  |
| 2–16 April 2016                         | REDATAM workshop: creation of database and applications development for the 2011 census data dissemination through the Internet using REDATAM webserver  |
| 29 November–<br>12 December 2017        | Review of the knowledge management programme of JAMPRO Trade and Investment Jamaica.   |
| 4–6 December 2017                       | Support to the Government of Jamaica in hosting the Dialogue for Development Lecture Series on launching the process of “Localising the SDGs in Jamaica”   |
| <b>Saint Kitts and Nevis</b>            |  |
| 2–16 April 2016                         | REDATAM workshop: creation of database and applications development for the 2011 census data dissemination through the Internet using REDATAM webserver  |
| Finalized on 24 March<br>2017           | ECLAC initiated the preparation of a Yachting Development Implementation Plan.   |
| February–<br>December 2017              | Study to analyse the economic impact of de-risking on the banking sector   |
| 8–10 November 2017                      | Assessment of the capacity of Saint Kitts and Nevis to design and implement an institutional framework for mainstreaming SDGs in national development processes.   |
| 14–16 November 2017                     | Training course: Data compilation and analysis to inform trade policy formulation, negotiation and implementation for the Ministry of Trade and the Customs department   |
| <b>Saint Lucia</b>                      |  |
| 20 July–20 September<br>2016            | Enhancing energy efficiency in national transportation systems. A readiness analysis for Saint Lucia   |
| 24–27 January 2017                      | Training course: Planning for Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Assessment Methodology in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (co-organized with ACS) |
| 14–16 November 2017                     | Training course: Data compilation and analysis to inform trade policy formulation, negotiation and implementation for the Ministry of Trade and the Customs department   |
| <b>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</b> |  |
| 25–26 August 2016                       | ECLAC prepared a new National Energy Policy for the government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.  |
| 9–22 October 2016                       | Training workshop on the development of REDATAM applications for the dissemination of population and housing census data   |
| 24–27 January 2017                      | Training course: Planning for Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Assessment Methodology in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (co-organized with ACS) |

| <b>Dates</b>                        | <b>Member or associate member and description of assistance</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 14–16 November 2017                 | Training course: Data compilation and analysis to inform trade policy formulation, negotiation and implementation for the Ministry of Trade and the Customs department   |
| <b>Suriname</b>                     |  |
| 9–22 October 2016                   | Training workshop on the development of REDATAM applications for the dissemination of population and housing census data   |
| 26 September 2016–<br>30 April 2017 | Study on identification of challenges and capacity constraints faced by industries in the subregion in exploiting trade opportunities provided by free trade agreements and partial scope agreements and development of a strategic framework to address same  |
| <b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>          |  |
| 26 September 2016–<br>30 April 2017 | Study on identification of challenges and capacity constraints faced by industries in the sub region in exploiting trade opportunities provided by free trade agreements and partial scope agreements and development of a strategic framework to address same |
| 1 December 2016–<br>31 January 2017 | A methodological review of the Trinidad and Tobago 2014 poverty report   |
| 24–27 January 2017                  | Training course: Planning for Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Assessment Methodology in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (co-organized with ACS)                                       |
| <b>Anguilla</b>                     |  |
| 16–21 October 2017                  | Damage and Loss Assessment in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria   |
| <b>Aruba</b>                        |  |
| 24–27 January 2017                  | Training course: Planning for Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Assessment Methodology in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (co-organized with ACS)                                       |
| 16–20 October 2017                  | Assessment of the capacity of Aruba to design and implement an institutional framework for mainstreaming SDGs in national development processes.   |
| <b>British Virgin Islands</b>       |  |
| 24–27 January 2017                  | Training course: Planning for Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Assessment Methodology in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (co-organized with ACS)                                       |
| 12–18 November 2017                 | Damage and Loss Assessment in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria   |
| <b>Cayman Islands</b>               |  |
| 2 April–16 April 2016               | REDATAM workshop: creation of database and applications development for the 2011 census data dissemination through the Internet using REDATAM webserver  |
| 25–28 September 2016                | ECLAC reviewed the National Energy Plan for the Government of the Cayman Islands   |
| <b>Montserrat</b>                   |  |
| 14–16 November 2017                 | Training course: Data compilation and analysis to inform trade policy formulation, negotiation and implementation for the Ministry of Trade and the Customs department   |

| <b>Dates</b>                    | <b>Member or associate member and description of assistance</b>          |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Sint Maarten</b>             |  |
| 21–27 October 2017              | Damage and Loss Assessment in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria |
| <b>Turks and Caicos Islands</b> |  |
| 6–11 November 2017              | Damage and Loss Assessment in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria |

## Annex 5

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY OTHER DIVISIONS OF ECLAC**

| <b>Dates</b>               | <b>Member or associate member and description of assistance</b>  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Cuba</b>                |  |
| 17–21 January 2016         | Provision of technical assistance to the Government of Cuba in the areas of ageing and care  |
| 18–21 June 2017            | Provision of technical assistance for the strengthening of two value chains  |
| 21–23 November 2017        | Provision of technical assistance in the strengthening of the tomato canning value chain.  |
| <b>Dominican Republic</b>  |  |
| 12–15 April 2016           | Provision of technical assistance to the Cabinet for the coordination of social policies   |
| 2–7 June 2016              | Provision of technical assistance on cross-border transport operations with the Dominican Republic and Haiti   |
| 30 October–5 November 2016 | Provision of technical assistance to the National Statistical Office on poverty and vulnerability indicators   |
| <b>Haiti</b>               |  |
| 17–20 April 2016           | Provision of technical assistance (follow-up) in the area of social protection   |
| 4–7 December 2016          | Provision of technical assistance at the request of the Government of the Republic of Haiti and the Central Bank, with the delivery of a workshop on value chains. |