



E/CEPAL/CDCC/52

19 February 1979

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Office for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

Fourth Session
Paramaribo, Suriname
21-27 March 1979

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC)

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UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean

I. PRIORITIES

Summary

1. At the Third Session of the CDCC, Member Governments accorded priority to seven (7) activities; hereunder is a brief resume of action taken but a more detailed report is given in Part II of this document which is a report by sectors of the Work Programme of the CDCC.

1. Elimination of language barriers: This matter has been pursued with the active collaboration of UNESCO, but no concrete action was possible both because of difficulties encountered in securing a suitable consultant as well as financing. (Paras. 28 and 29)

2. Maritime transport: Work has commenced on several areas with the active collaboration of the World Bank. A comprehensive census of traffic to and from all CDCC ports has commenced; UNCTAD and IMCO field missions were undertaken on the updating of the regional long term programme, the operation of inter-island and coastal vessels, promotion of shipping in the sub-region, prevention of pollution from ships, and maritime safety; several project proposals have been prepared and are being submitted for financing. (Paras. 76 - 86)

3. International trade: A survey has been carried out to determine the feasibility of establishing multi-national marketing enterprises. Notwithstanding the great diversity in economic and political system and development as well as the general lack of a trading pattern except within CARICOM, a possible strategy to be followed in the sub-region has been outlined and some sectors identified. (Paras. 92 - 96)

A feasibility study in two parts on the establishment of a Caribbean Office of Trade Information has also been carried out. (Paras, 97 - 100)

4. Caribbean Multinational Enterprise for the Production and Distribution of Printed and AudioVisual Materials:

- serious problems have been experienced in obtaining a co-ordinator for the team of experts to carry out the study; the services of a Colombian specialist has now been secured. (Paras. 66 - 67)

5. Caribbean Network of Educational Innovations for Development:

UNESCO completed a fact-finding mission to member states; the report together with a questionnaire that would facilitate follow-up work is now being circulated by UNESCO to member Governments.

6. Participation of Caribbean Women in Development: A project

has been submitted to the Voluntary Fund for the Decade of Women; this project includes both national and regional programmes on surveys, training, and research. This project has been approved in principle but to date funds have not been released.

7. Science and Technology: A meeting of Government experts convened in Port of Spain on 11-13 December 1978 approved draft statutes for a Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST). Member Governments have been asked to approve the statutes so that the CCST could be inaugurated during this session of the CDCC. UNESCO has offered to finance the first session of the CCST. (Paras. 30 - 33)

II. WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CDCC

A. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Co-operation in Information

2. The Third Session of CDCC requested the Secretariat to concentrate its efforts on the following:

- appointment of a Working Party to accelerate the establishment of a Caribbean Information System and formation of a Congress of Librarians;
- encouragement of member governments to strengthen their national information infrastructure by formulating national information policies, supported by the introduction of suitable legislation, continuing budgetary support and adequate machinery for implementation of such policies; and
- creation of adequate programmes designed to train information specialists at all levels.

3. The Secretariat was instructed to adopt a strategy which would guard against inhibiting the more advanced national systems but would, at the same time, give special attention to developing information services in the less developed countries. The impact of the Caribbean Information System would be to strengthen sectors of importance for regional and national development and to reduce the imbalance in the levels of disparity in information infrastructural development among the different Caribbean countries.

4. With assistance from UNESCO's Regional Adviser for Information Services, guidelines for the establishment and operation of an agricultural sub-regional network^{1/} were prepared and distributed to agricultural librarians and Ministries of Agriculture for their consideration. It is expected that a sub-regional meeting of experts will finalize the operational procedures. The proposal is that development of the Caribbean Information System should commence in the fields of agriculture (where

^{1/} ALBERTUS, Ursula. Caribbean Information System: Guidelines for the Establishment of Sectoral Systems (Agriculture); CEPAL/CARIB/78/6.

certain library and information infrastructure and basic tools for the development of a sectoral network already exist) and socio-economic planning.

5. Agricultural Information Network: The proposed Agricultural Information Network is to support agricultural planning, agricultural education, research, development and production by making timely and relevant agricultural information available in each country according to existing and potential user needs. These needs would be assessed continuously at the national level in collaboration with relevant national planning offices. The System is structured to provide for the co-ordination of existing agricultural libraries and information units at two levels: at the national level, the libraries to be co-ordinated by a national focal point, while at the sub-regional level they would be co-ordinated by a sub-regional focal point. The Caribbean Documentation Centre at the CDCC Secretariat will act as catalytic and monitoring agent.

6. The sub-regional focal point, selected primarily on its infra-structural advancement, is to concentrate inter alia on the overall planning, development and co-ordination of agricultural libraries in the region working in liaison with the Caribbean Documentation Centre. It should be responsible for producing the Caribbean Agricultural Bibliography and for providing technical assistance at the national level. Other individual agricultural libraries would be responsible for providing service to their users and for collecting and processing the national agricultural literature for input to the Caribbean Agricultural Bibliography through their national focal points. This "Co-ordinated decentralized" structure is to ensure that the agricultural community has access to publications produced at the national level, at the regional level, and also at the international level.

7. The Secretariat proposes, on ratification of these guidelines, to assess the financial and technical assistance requirements, working in close collaboration with the selected sub-regional focal point.

Attempts will then be made to secure funding from appropriate institutions for the total development of an agricultural information network.

8. Economic and Social Planning Information Network: The CDCC identified social and economic planning as a priority for promoting the development and integration process in the Caribbean. To provide decision-makers, planners and project implementers with effective information services, the regional information network for socio-economic planning must be designed to allow for the smooth transfer from manual to automated procedures. The network also must strengthen information infrastructure at the national level and secure compatibility among socio-economic information units in the region.

9. Some assistance is to be provided by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada, as part of an overall project to be co-ordinated by ILPES/CLADES, for training courses to assist library and information personnel in the Ministries of Planning and Development in the use of modern techniques which would standardize bibliographic procedures and systematize bibliographic control of socio-economic information, especially technical documentation prepared by government experts and technical assistance reports, thereby strengthening intra-Caribbean technical co-operation. The first training course is tentatively scheduled for May 1979, after which an information specialist from the CDCC Secretariat will travel to the various member states to assist where necessary in the setting up of specialized libraries.

10. Apart from initiating co-ordination in these two sectors, the Secretariat has sought assistance from UNESCO under its Regular Programme for the Working Party comprising two prominent Caribbean Librarians and an expert in computer systems analysis and telecommunications to design and cost a decentralized computer-based regional information system, initially covering the planning, agriculture, science and technology, industry and trade sectors. The System will be structured to provide compatibility among the different Caribbean

sectoral information networks, as they develop, and relevant international systems. It will also provide immediate steps to improve services offered to the region through current manual operations.

11. If the assistance is provided, the Working Party would spend three months, as from May 1979, doing field work in CDCC member and associate member countries, identifying areas of relative strengths and weaknesses in the resources and services offered in the selected priority sectors. The Working Party, the Computer Systems Analyst and the UNESCO Regional Adviser for Information Services will work closely with the Secretariat in detailing the final plan of operation for implementation at the national and regional levels.

12. Recognising that regional co-ordination has to be built upon facilities existing at the national level, the UNESCO Regional Adviser for Information Services, in consultation with the CDCC Secretariat, has to date visited five member states and assisted these governments in formulating requests for assistance through UNESCO's Participation Programme.

13. In each of these countries, a Caribbean consultant mission will aim primarily at improving information service in the priority sector for which technical assistance was requested, but will also be expected to advise governments on the formulation, establishment and/or implementation of national information policies and on the appointment of an advisory body to be responsible for the co-ordinated development of a National Information System. In countries where requests for UNESCO Technical Assistance have still to be formulated, the Working Party will assess existing national information infrastructure and advise on improvement.

14. The Statutes for the Congress of Librarians have been drafted for consideration by a meeting of Caribbean experts.

15. UNESCO is considering a grant of \$15,000 for training in library and information services for the Less Developed Countries to enable them to participate in the Caribbean Information System.

16. Much of the work completed during the year under review has been in the planning and preparatory stage for implementation during the coming year. The strategy adopted is designed

- to strengthen national information infrastructure, either on an overall basis or in particular sectors, depending on the priorities and prevailing conditions in each country;
- to utilize Caribbean expertise and stimulate an endogenous process of development in library and information services;
- to co-ordinate technical assistance for the development of information infrastructure in the Caribbean, thus ensuring the application of common or compatible norms and procedures.

Establishment of Data Bank

17. The Third Session of the CDCC agreed that the proposed statistical data bank should be established, "taking into account existing facilities in the sub-region, initially on a manual basis, and then switching to a mechanized system ..."^{2/}. The Committee also agreed that two Statistical clerks should be appointed to commence manual preparation of the data.

18. The Bank is to collect and store macro data on a variety of subject matter areas. Because of this primary focus for the Bank and because of problems of confidentiality of data, micro data would largely be the province of the several national statistical offices. The Bank would be closely allied to the Documentation Centre and refer to the latter for country descriptions or position papers regarding various aspects of statistics, which would supplement the numerical data contained in the Bank..

19. At the Session, it was advised that the CDCC Secretariat should take a step-by-step approach, concentrating in the first phase on documentation of existing sources, and on compilation of references, abstracts and analyses for quick dissemination. At a later stage, computerization of the data base could be considered.

20. The Secretariat is aware of the efforts of other agencies and is striving for a diminution of duplication.

21. Identification of the data series that should be stored began since April 1978. Hopefully, the series will date back to 1965. The series identified will not all contain data in the short or even medium term. The presence of empty data sets will indicate the areas in which the need for the development of statistics in the region is still real. The periodicity of the data is indicated on the list.

^{2/} See "Report of the Third Session of the Caribbean Development Co-operation Committee" (Belize City, Belize, 12-18 April 1978) - Document E/CEPAL/CDCC/44/Rev.3; 24 April 1978, p. 35, para. 119.

The classification favoured by the CDCC Secretariat is that used in the United Nations Directory of International Statistics.^{3/} The major divisions of the classification are:

1. SOCIAL STATISTICS
 - 1.1 Social accounts statistics
 - 1.2 Environment statistics
 - 1.3 Demographic statistics
 - 1.4 Housing statistics
 - 1.5 Labour statistics
 - 1.6 Education, science and technology, culture, mass communication, recreation and entertainment statistics
 - 1.7 Health statistics
 - 1.8 Other demographic and social statistics
2. ECONOMIC STATISTICS
 - 2.1 National accounts and balances including Balance of Payments
 - 2.2 Agriculture, forestry and fishing statistics
 - 2.3 Industrial and construction statistics
 - 2.4 Trade statistics
 - 2.5 Transport, storage and communication statistics
 - 2.6 Finance
 - 2.7 Prices
 - 2.8 Other economic statistics
3. OTHER STATISTICS
 - 3.1 Public administration statistics
 - 3.2 Statistics on international organizations
 - 3.3 Other statistics, n.e.c.

22. Within each two-digit classification, the tables identified will receive a three-digit code. At a later stage, and with the required systems and programming expertise, the interface with the data base will be developed.

^{3/} Vide "Directory of International Statistics", Statistical Papers, Series M No. 56.

23. Simultaneous with the exercise of identifying data series, every opportunity has been taken to benefit from other Information Management Systems. These include the CANSIM and DATA BANK '73 systems, and active co-ordination with the Statistical Office of the United Nations in New York. The CDCC Secretariat has sought training for personnel who will work in the Data Bank and/or Documentation Centre. Such training is likely to be made available early in 1979.

24. Exploratory talks with persons in the data processing field have revealed the almost unanimous opinion that a large system such as the IBM/370 is what is needed. A similar opinion has been expressed in respect of the Documentation Centre's needs. These opinions must be examined further before a machine is acquired by the Secretariat to service both the Documentation Centre and the Statistical Data Bank.

25. Work on the documentation of existing sources of statistical data was undertaken late in 1978, the aim being to produce a document that would be an input into the Documentation Centre's referral services. This list of sources lends itself to sorting on any pre-determined basis. In addition a set of descriptions of the major statistical publications of the various countries has been prepared; which will obviate the need for the Documentation Centre to devote effort ab initio in this area.

26. The Manual Preparation of the Data: To date no work has commenced on the manual preparation of the time series, because of the inability of the CDCC Secretariat to provide the manpower necessary for the execution of the task. In the proposal presented to the Third Session of the CDCC, stress was placed on the need for obtaining the services of two Statistical Clerks. The possible sources of financing were identified as being UNDP/CEPAL. Given the restricted capacity of the Secretariat, the provision of two Statistical Clerks is a sine qua non to the manual preparation of the time series.

27. Preparation for the Longer-term Computerization of the Data:

Early in January 1979, a data processing consultant visited the Secretariat and examined the plans for the establishment of the data bank that would be automated in the not too distant future. The consultant addressed himself, at the request of the Secretariat to the design of an interface with the proposed data base, and the recommendation of the hardware required for the running of the data bank. The major problem still to be solved remains the question of what machine will be acquired by the Secretariat. The machine finally agreed on should service efficiently both the Documentation Centre and the Data Bank.

Removal of Language Barriers

28. The Third Session of the CDCC mandated

- a) organizing a Caribbean workshop on modern approaches to the teaching of foreign languages;
- b) convening similar national workshops;
- c) organizing a course for training translators/ interpreters.

29. In order to carry out these mandates it is necessary to engage a consultant to prepare the substantive aspects including preparation of curriculum and calendar of courses, securing services of lecturers, proposing criteria for selection of participants, supervising the preparation of teaching materials, and serving as supervisor for the Caribbean Workshop. This mandate is being pursued with the direct assistance of UNESCO, but much difficulty is being experienced both with the financing of the consultant and obtaining the services of a suitable person for the period involved.

Science and Technology

30. In accordance with the mandate given at the Third Session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) to proceed with establishment of a Caribbean Council for Science and

and Technology, a Caribbean Consultant Dr. Dennis Irvine, visited a number of CDCC countries and discussed the draft statutes for the Council. Subsequently, under the joint auspices of UNESCO and the CDCC a meeting of Government experts was convened in Port of Spain, Trinidad on 11-13 December 1978 to consider the establishment of the Council.

31. The report of this meeting which includes the revised statutes as agreed at the meeting is contained in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/47 which has been issued to all member Governments.

32. Attention is drawn to the following recommendation which is contained in the report:

"UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS

- (a) To CDCC member countries that they as a matter of urgency give provisional acceptance to the revised statutes for CCST as annexed to this report, in preparation for formal approval at CDCC IV in order that arrangements may be set in train for the holding of the First Session of CCST in June 1979.
- (b) To CDCC at its Fourth Session that it formally establish the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST), in accordance with the revised statutes annexed to this report, and immediately to inaugurate the CCST. At this formal inauguration the date should be approved for the holding of the First Plenary Session of the CCST.
- (c) To UNESCO that it provide full support to CCST for the initiation and pursuit of its activities.
- (d) To CEPAL that it take such measures as might enable it to effectively carry out the task of serving as interim CCST Secretariat, as provided for in Article 15 of the revised statutes.

- (e) To all other organizations and entities of the United Nations family and appropriate international inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, that they provide all possible assistance to the CCST.

33. The meeting also agreed to a suggested agenda for the First Plenary Session of the CCST and also suggested items which could be included in the agenda for the Second Plenary Session of the Council."

Council for Social and Economic Development

34. The Overall Work Programme of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) approved at the First Session of the Committee mandated a series of actions in the social sector. The Committee further instructed the Secretariat, during its second session at Santo Domingo, to elaborate a detailed Social Work Programme. On this same occasion, the Committee endorsed the Joint CEPAL/UNESCO Programme (E/CEPAL/CDCC/19) containing among other projects the creation of a Caribbean Council for Economic and Social Development.

35. At its Third Session in Belize, the Secretariat reported on the preparatory work for the establishment of the Council and informed that with the assistance of UNDP and UNESCO, a consultant had visited a number of CDCC member countries and prepared a feasibility study and draft statutes of the proposed Council. The Committee agreed that a meeting of a small number of Caribbean specialists should be convened to assess the proposals and consider the draft statutes. In execution of this decision, the Secretariat was fortunate to obtain UNESCO's agreement to finance an inter-governmental meeting of experts on the establishment of the Caribbean Council for Social and Economic Development. The meeting was scheduled to take place from 9 to 11 January 1979 in the Dominican Republic, under the auspices of the Government who had generously offered to host the event and provide interpretation facilities.

36. It was necessary to cancel this meeting when UNESCO informed the Secretariat that the findings in the feasibility study and the provisions of the draft statutes did not coincide with that Organization's understanding of the scope of the Council.

37. The Committee may wish to reiterate the mandates given at its second and third sessions with respect to the Caribbean Council for Social and Economic Development and if the Committee so agrees, the Secretariat would endeavour to propose for the consideration of member governments draft statutes for the Caribbean Council for Social and Economic Development, utilizing the model proposed for the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology, which were endorsed by the intergovernmental meeting jointly sponsored by UNESCO and CDCC Secretariats in December 1978.

Co-operation of Planning

38. The Third Session of CDCC mandated the convening of a meeting of planning officials of member countries. This meeting was held in Havana, Cuba on 25-31 January 1979; the report of the meeting, document E/CEPAL/CDCC/49/Rev.2, has been issued to all member Governments.

39. Attention is drawn to the following recommendations of the meeting.

"That the CDCC countries:

1. Reaffirm the importance of Caribbean co-operation in planning, as established at the Second Meeting of the CDCC, held in the Dominican Republic, and supported by the Third Meeting, in Belize - where it was proposed that this First Meeting of Caribbean Planning Officials be held - confirming the usefulness of this type of meeting, which has provided an opportunity to learn about the valuable contributions in planning that these countries have made and to have a fruitful exchange of ideas.
2. Note with satisfaction that the resolutions adopted at the Second Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning, held in Lima, Peru, November 15-18, 1978 provide an important contribution by the regional community to greater progress in planning, as a tool for achieving higher levels of development.

3. Raise the hierarchical level of planning and provide the required political and legal strength for the plans that are drawn up; give existing planning bodies an adequate institutional status and create new bodies where none exist, in order to attain high priority for planning activities. Pursue the efforts to adopt long-term, mid-term and short-term planning measures; provide an adequate link between planning and decisions on fulfilling goals and assigning resources, stressing the growing need to undertake common action in the face of the serious problems that exist on the international economic scene.
4. Stress the need to step up training in the field of planning by promoting the organization of national and sub-regional courses for training qualified planning personnel so urgently needed in the sub-region.
5. Recommend that the CEPAL (CDCC) and ILPES with their experience in this field, support the governments in setting up national training courses, and study, as an urgent question, the feasibility of establishing training courses in planning that could eventually lead to the establishment of a Sub-regional Planning Centre, considering the area's different languages and planning techniques. These training programmes should include direct participation by regional planning bodies, universities and training and research centres. The UNDP and other international and sub-regional organizations should be asked to give support to these training programmes.
6. Stress the need to make those changes in the socio-economic structures of the countries in the area that are required for implementing thorough, fruitful planning systems.

7. Point out the need for high governmental priority in giving attention to and controlling the plans that are drawn up, seeking the legal forms and methods that are appropriate to the concrete conditions that exist in each country, thus allowing for real, integral participation in the planning process by those directly linked to the productive process and its various elements, and by the rest of the Caribbean population.
8. Promote the clear, specific definition of mid-range and long-range economic and social development strategies in the different sectors of the national economy. Also promote the drafting of economic and social directives for the public bodies and guidelines to the other countries' productive units, seeking adequate co-ordination with the private sector in order to guarantee the attainment of the goals that have been set.
9. Strengthen the Caribbean Documentation Centre in order to permit the collection of reports, papers, methodologies, plans and development programmes drawn up by the sub-region's planning bodies. Closely link this Centre's work with the information and planning network that CEPAL/CLADES, ILPES and CELADE/DOCPAL are creating in conjunction with the regional planning bodies, the technical and financial support of the Canadian IDRC and the co-operation of the Government of Holland.
10. Develop long-term, mid-term and short-term methodologies for planning at the global, sectoral and regional levels.
11. Point out the high priority of the social aspects of planning and the need to eradicate extreme poverty and unemployment and to improve income distribution in the countries of the sub-region.

12. Point out that Caribbean planning co-operation should become the basic sub-regional tool for improving the work of the System of Co-operation and Co-ordination among Latin American and Caribbean Planning Bodies, established in Caracas in 1977 and supported by CEPAL Resolution 371 (XVIII).
13. Give special attention to defining joint actions in the economic, social and cultural spheres that may be incorporated in the development plans and programmes in order to speed up the process of co-operation and integration in the sub-region, considering the relations with the other Latin American countries and other parts of the world.
14. Seek the adoption of a consistent policy for handling foreign capital. Also, promote the greatest participation by national capital in order to achieve the objectives proposed in the development plans.
15. Keeping in mind the recommendations adopted in this meeting, request that the Secretariat of the CDCC, supported by ILPES, draw up a work programme on co-operation in planning, to be presented at the next CDCC meeting.

Special attention should be given in this work programme to the study that ILPES has suggested on progress and difficulties in planning, keeping in mind the direct participation of the Planning Offices, with the aim of improving the planning systems now being used in the area.

It is suggested that the next meeting go into technical aspects of planning and joint actions in order to promote co-operation and integration. These technical aspects should include the relationship between the spatial and physical aspects of planning, on the one

hand, and their relationship with overall planning; planning techniques in transportation; and planning techniques in the social sectors.

With regard to the topics related to joint actions to achieve the aims of integration and co-operation, it is recommended that the following topics be considered:

- Environmental Planning in the sub-region;
- The Possibility of Co-operation in the Maritime Transportation Sector;
- The Possibility of Co-operation in the Domestic Production of Foodstuffs, and the Possibility of Co-operation in Aspects of Social Development.

Moreover, it is recommended that Jamaica be the site of the Second Meeting of Planning Experts.

16. Suggest that the Second Meeting of Planning Experts of the CDCC member countries be held in the first half of 1980 and that the frequency of subsequent meetings be determined then.
17. Urge CEPAL, ILPES, the UNDP, other UN agencies, bi-lateral co-operation groups and sub-regional organizations to give their full support to the CDCC's activities in the field of planning.
18. In view of the foregoing, the CEPAL (CDCC) and ILPES should co-operate to facilitate the publication of the recommendations and documents of this first meeting, with the aim of helping to circulate them among the planners in the sub-region and other Latin American countries.

Urge the CDCC member governments to give full support to the implementation of the UNEP/CEPAL Joint Environmental Programme for the Caribbean in its preparatory phase.

In line with the foregoing, it is recommended that environmental parameters be taken into consideration in the planning systems already being applied in the area, at both the national and sub-regional levels.

19. Express their special appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Cuba, through its Central Planning Board (JUCEPLAN), for the excellent organization of the First Meeting of Planning Officials and also for all the attention given the delegates. Thank the CEPAL/CDCC and ILPES for their contributions to this event and urge them to step up their efforts to implement these recommendations.

Also thank the Consultants and Representatives of the International Agencies for the valuable contribution they have made to this meeting.

20. Recommend to the Fourth Session of CDCC to be held in Suriname in March 1979 to support the recommendations made at this meeting, and take the steps necessary for their expeditious implementation."

B. AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

40. Following the adoption at the Third Session of the CDCC of the strategy outlined in the Joint UNCTAD/UNAPEC/CDCC proposal entitled "Strategy for the Development of Producers/Exporters Associations in the CDCC Area" (E/CEPAL/CDCC/29/Add.1), the Secretariat, with the assistance of an UNCTAD Consultant, conducted a survey throughout the CDCC countries on the associations of producers and/or exporters of agricultural and livestock products. This survey was carried out with the intention of having a closer look at the nature, scope and functioning of the existing associations and the view of finding ways to bring them together and co-ordinate their activities. The findings of the study are contained in the reference document CEPAL/CARIB 79/2.

41. The recommendations contained in the document are of two kinds: those of a general nature, concerning the formal organization of the co-ordination process at the level of the CDCC region and, those on joint actions to be undertaken on specific crops or agricultural commodities to further regional development in agriculture.

42. In the first instance, the study clearly establishes the necessity for a greater regional effort within the framework of the CDCC in:

- i) The co-ordination of activities in Research and Development actually carried out on Crops and Livestock at institutions such as the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), the University of the West Indies (UWI), the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI) and the like in the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean, and the Universities and similar research centres in Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti. The results of such investigations should be made readily available throughout the CDCC area. In consequence, the study recommends:-

a) The strengthening of the co-ordination efforts at the CDCC Secretariat on Research and Development in and for the region through:

- the organization of periodical meetings of Research and Development institutions in the region; and
- the eventual publication or circulation of information among Research and Development centres in the region on findings, research in progress and experimental development programmes under implementation.

ii) The encouragement to be given to training programmes at various levels in the following areas: Agricultural Science and Technology - Livestock Science - Marine Biology and Fishing techniques. It is therefore recommended:

- a) the calling of a meeting of relevant CDCC countries' institutions to co-ordinate training programmes according to sectors;
- b) the incorporation at university level of the study of Marine Biology and Fishing techniques; and
- c) the inclusion at technical and university levels, for training purposes, of food processing technology.

43. The recommendation is made too, as a back-up to the effort at co-operation and co-ordination, that there should be action aiming at the training of technical staff for the improvement of management of Livestock; and that such training programmes be connected with the existing associations and co-operatives. It also is strongly recommended that there be greater co-ordination of initiatives, stemming from international organizations aiming at the promotion and development of intra-and-extra-regional trade.

44. In the second instance, the study made a series of recommendations according to products. Of these, the Secretariat would like to submit for the approval of the Committee the following ones on: Rice - Legumes, Vegetables, Fruits and Ground Provisions - Timber - Livestock and Citrus, because of the likely favourable impact the early implementation of the related suggested action programmes could have, in the medium and long terms, on the improvement of agriculture in the region, intra-regional trade and the development of the member countries' economies in general.

45. RICE - Due to the heterogeneity of rice producers/exporters in the region it is proposed the realization of an international meeting with the participation of representatives of the following countries: Guyana, Suriname and Belize. The meeting will have a preliminary and tentative character aiming at the following objectives:

- a) The co-ordination and co-operation at the production levels of the participating countries. Special emphasis should be put in the co-ordination and co-operation of Research and Development of rice production.
- b) Co-operation in information and documentation in subjects relevant to rice production.
- c) Co-operation and sharing of information on extra-regional markets, prices and standards related to packaging, grading and shipment of the product.

46. The proposed meeting could be held in the course of 1979. It could be of fundamental importance, if possible, the sending of an ITC expert on rice previous to the meeting to test other areas of interest and check the already expressed willingness to meet. Eventually, other areas of agreement on co-operation and co-ordination of joint marketing ventures may emerge from a first tentative meeting.

47. LEGUMES - Fruits, Vegetables, Ground Provisions. It is recommended to invite for a regional meeting of Marketing Corporations (Agencies) plus representatives of Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic and Suriname, aiming at the creation of a regional conference which may call for periodical meetings. It is suggested that this Conference (or Committee) should, at least, meet twice a year with the objective of:

- i) Co-ordinating intra-regional trade among the member countries;
- ii) Co-operating in the transfer of information and/or technology in areas such as: grading, packaging, labelling, quality control, shipping of perishable agricultural produce;
- iii) Co-ordinating and co-operating at the production level by attempting:
 - joint Research and Development Programmes;
 - joint purchasing of common inputs such as fertilizers, seeds and the like; and
 - eventually, joint processing of produce by starting with co-ordination and expansion of laboratories or processing plants where available; and
- iv) Co-ordinating the assistance coming from international agencies attempting to improve intra-regional trade.

48. LIVESTOCK - It is not feasible at this time to realise a regional association of livestock exporters. Nevertheless, it is recommended to have a tentative meeting aiming at co-operation on areas such as:

- Research and Development;
- Propagation of Breeding Stock; and
- Co-operation on aspects related to feeding stuff.

Countries to participate should include: Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Cuba and Belize.

49. Such a meeting could be organized under the umbrella of the University of the West Indies.

50. TIMBER - It is suggested that an expert's report be obtained prior to the calling of an international meeting with the participation of Guyana, Suriname, and Belize aiming at a Regional Timber Export Committee.

51. Such a Committee may represent an embryonic institution attempting to:

- i) Co-ordinate and co-operate on aspects related to the production of timber;
- ii) Co-ordinate and co-operate in Research and Development on timber and forestry, in general;
- iii) Carry out feasibility studies for the joint exploitation of waste processing aiming at the production of pulp, charcoal and chemical compounds; and
- iv) Exchange information about markets, prices and products.

52. CITRUS - Funds should be made available in the short term (six months) for the calling of a meeting of the British Caribbean Citrus Association (BCCA) country members^{4/} aiming at revitalising the Regional Association. Financial assistance may be asked from the International Trade Centre - UNCTAD, to organise such a meeting. That meeting could be the starting point for the following objectives:

- i) To expand the BCCA to other countries of the region, in particular, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti;

^{4/} British Caribbean Citrus Association (BCCA) whose membership is as follows: Citrus Growers' Association of Jamaica, Dominica, Belize, and Trinidad and Tobago.

- ii) To re-initiate Research and Development Programmes or co-ordinate efforts with regional research centres such as CARDI;
- iii) To expand the processing capacity for the making of concentrates and by-products of citrus, such as oils, essences, etc.;
- iv) To attempt joint ventures in the processing of fruits. Multinational firms may be encouraged in this sector; and
- v) To carry out studies aiming at sub-contracting marketing services between country members of the Regional Association.

58. As part of a continuing activity under the work programme, the Secretariat is distributing the third edition of its biennial publication "AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES - 1978" (CEPAL/CARIB 78/8), in the three languages of the CDCC. Data on prices are not included this time as projected, because of poor response to the mail survey carried out for that purpose.

C. INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

Industrial Development Survey

54. The Third Session of CDCC approved a proposal by UNIDO to undertake an industrial development survey with a view to developing a formal project for an industrial development programme. UNIDO fielded a Consultant from 13 November 1978 until end March 1979. The Consultant visited all CDCC member countries (except Cuba) with the following terms of reference:

- review the macro-economic conditions of the region and the relevant human/natural resources;
- carry out an overview study of the structure of the industrial sector in the region including the determination of the availability of statistics on industrial employment, output, value-added, capital-output ratios, etc.;
- review and assess the status of industrial infrastructural facilities, industrial institutions and industrial policies in the region;
- review geographic distribution of industry in the region;
- assess activities of currently established industries requiring special study and the desirability of their expansion for import substitution and/or export;
- examine possibilities for developing a common industrial strategy for the region;
- design the 'frame' of the forthcoming survey project indicating the type of experts needed, project duration to review specific industrial sub-sectors, work plans/programmes, foreign inputs/budgets and counterpart requirements;
- determine whether training of counterparts is required;

- determine the extent to which the project profiles should be developed for the final survey report;
- prepare a detailed draft project document.

At time of preparation of the paper the survey was still in progress.

D. SOCIAL SECTOR

Social Work Programme

55. In implementation of decisions taken at the Third Session of the Committee the Secretariat circulated the Social Profile of the CDCC Work Programme. No comments have been received so far. The Secretariat will continue to endeavour to secure a feedback from the specialists of the sub-region. The Social Profile to the CDCC Work Programme is one input for the proposed Caribbean Council for Social and Economic Development.

56. The Secretariat has also prepared a document on "Main Challenges of Social Development in the Caribbean"^{5/} which surveys the main trends of social development inherited during the times of colonisation or occupation by foreign powers of Caribbean countries, pointed out the implications in this respect of accession to independence and the relationship between labour and income distribution in the sub-region. The paper concluded that the main social challenge for the Caribbean as a whole resides in the ability of the CDCC member governments to effectively put into practice their policy of horizontal co-operation.

57. The Secretariat has resumed the studies on social structural changes on a country-by-country basis. The report on St. Lucia is under revision and preparatory work on Dominica has been initiated.

58. The Secretariat has progressed in the empirical study on the characteristics of the labour market in the Caribbean. A pilot study is being carried out in one member country and it is expected that the conclusions will justify a second case study to be initiated before the Fifth Session.

^{5/} "Main Challenges of Social Development in the Caribbean" (CARIB/INT 78/11).

Socio-Economic Analysis and Development Planning

59. A Joint CEPAL/CDCC/UNESCO Workshop on the Application of Socio-Economic Indicators to Development Planning in the Caribbean was carried out from 12 to 14 June 1978 in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.^{6/} Government nominees and social researchers drawn from member countries in which a social research institute was known to be functioning attended this Workshop. Representatives of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Joint UNEP/CEPAL Caribbean Environment Management Project, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Labour Organisation (ILO), PAHO/WHO participated in the event.

60. The Workshop was convened to consider a co-operative project of CEPAL/CDCC/UNESCO, to be financed partly by these organisations and partly by the member states through their own funds or UNDP assistance. Inputs from other United Nations bodies such as ILO, PAHO/WHO and UNICEF related to their respective field of interests would also be incorporated.

61. The project differs from current activities of the United Nations System in its proposed mechanisms for implementation. Socio-economic indicators would be researched and tested by government institutions, particularly Ministries of Development Planning and Statistical Offices and Social Research Centres. It aims at establishing constant dialogue between specialists dealing with theoretical and applied disciplines based on the use of socio-economic indicators.

62. The Workshop considered the creation of an informal network as a step in the right direction. It considered some topics for the search of socio-economic indicators and gave some guidance on this respect. It also noted the wealth of unexploited data available

^{6/} See Report of Joint CEPAL/CDCC/UNESCO Workshop on the Application of Socio-economic Indicators to Development Planning in the Caribbean (E/CEPAL/CDCC/45).

in the sub-region but stressed the need for the establishment of proper linkages: sectoral and centralised data collection system. The Workshop further underlined as a clear weakness of social planning and reporting the prevalent concern with sectoral planning and consequent neglect of broad societal goals.

63. Notwithstanding the need for progressing in the search for suitable indicators the Workshop agreed that most of the elements needed for social planning were present but what was lacking was the demonstrated conviction to come to grips with social concerns through a clearly stated social policy and social planning.

64. The Workshop therefore recommended - (a) to consider the project as a "seed" project designed to facilitate country projects and proposal for action of important magnitude, (b) to include a training component in methods for using indicators in social planning, (c) to undertake efforts to ensure support for the development of facilities for training in the Caribbean area.

65. Contact was also made with the ILO Employment and Development Department, which is presently considering the possibility of initiating the activities preparatory to the establishment of the informal network recommended by the Workshop.

F. EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The Caribbean Multinational Enterprise for the Production and Distribution of Printed and Audio-Visual Materials

66. The proposed feasibility study for the Caribbean Multinational Enterprise for the Production and Distribution of Printed and Audio-Visual Materials was given high priority by the Committee at its third session. The Secretariat faced severe difficulties to hire within the sub-region a Co-ordinator for the team of experts who would carry out the study. The Co-ordinator is expected to be knowledgeable of the processes for producing most cultural goods beside having abilities in more than one of the official languages of the CDCC member countries.

67. With the assistance of UNESCO International Fund for the Promotion of Culture, contacts have been made with a Colombian specialist who co-ordinated a similar venture on behalf of the government of his country. It is therefore expected that the feasibility study will be completed by June 1979, and that it will then be possible to circulate the results to member governments.

Network for Cultural Retrieval and Animation

68. The CDCC at its Third Session requested that the preparatory studies for the establishment of the proposed Network of Centres for Cultural Retrieval and Animation be accelerated. A UNESCO Consultant visited during January/February 1979 some CDCC member countries to be briefed on the official views of the present modalities of cultural retrieval and animation, the policies designed in this respect, reactions to the proposed Caribbean network and the possibility of launching pilot centres.

Education and Development

69. The Joint UNESCO/CEPAL/UNDP Regional Project on Education and Development for Latin America and the Caribbean is progressing at a steady pace within the sub-region. The last bi-annual report of the project registered an agreement between the Ministry of Education and Culture in Guyana and the present implementation of "A Study of Social Values of Secondary School Students in Guyana", by a team of local specialists. The bi-annual progress report also informs of the completion of the study "Education and Development in the English-speaking Caribbean: A Contemporary Survey". This study has been already circulated to all CDCC member governments, as well as key institutions and specialists of the sub-region.

70. Discussions related to further relations with the sub-region are being carried out. In view of the progresses realized particularly in the English-speaking Caribbean, the organisation of a Latin America and Caribbean Regional Seminar on Literacy and Primary Education is under consideration. The Committee may wish to endorse this proposal and offer its joint sponsorship. Indication of a possible host country would also assist with working out the arrangements.

G. TOURISM

71. At the Third Session the Committee agreed "that a meeting of tourism officials of CDCC Governments and of regional inter-governmental organisations should be convened in order to identify priorities and elaborate a detailed programme of action to be undertaken in this area under the aegis of CDCC, taking into account ongoing national and regional projects, the proposals for studies by WTO, and proposals placed before the previous sessions of CDCC". Also at the First Meeting of the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development (CGCED) in June 1978 the question of tourism was considered and regarded as critical for several Caribbean countries.

72. Accordingly, the CDCC Secretariat raised this matter at the meeting of the Steering Committee on Technical Assistance of the CGCED on 31 August to 1 September 1978 and put forward a proposal for preparatory assistance for the identification of priorities and elaboration of the detailed programme of action needed for tourism in the Caribbean.

73. This preparatory assistance is required to draw up a project that is intended to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the tourism sector, both supply and demand, together with recommendations to maximise the economic benefits of tourism to Caribbean countries. It is expected that the results of this project would have a significant bearing on future activities on tourism both in the sub-region and in individual countries, e.g. the kind of infrastructure and plant needed, the scope and type of promotional activities, and the organisation of backward linkages.

74. The preparatory assistance would comprise:

- i) consultations on the objectives and scope of the proposed project with governmental and international agencies, regional bodies and major airlines; and
- ii) convening of a technical expert group to identify priority areas of study and draft a project document.

This study is estimated to cost US\$40,000.

75. This proposal was considered by a technical committee comprising representatives from the CDCC Secretariat, World Tourism Organisation, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, UNDP and the Caribbean Tourism Research Centre on 3 October 1978. The technical committee endorsed the proposal which is to be submitted to the next meeting of the Steering Committee of the CGCED scheduled for 15 to 16 March 1979 in Antigua.

H. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Maritime Transport

76. At the Third Session held in Belize in April 1978, the CDCC approved and gave a high priority to a programme of work as outlined in E/CEPAL/CDCC/35. This programme indicated nine areas where activity was anticipated between the third and fourth sessions.

77. Improvement and up-dating of the regional long-term programmes: UNCTAD and IMCO carried out a joint mission lasting three weeks in September 1978 in order to update the regional long term programme. An UNCTAD/IMCO project proposal is expected to be submitted to the World Bank Technical Assistance Steering Committee in March 1979. Other parts of the programme received attention at the same time.

78. Regional Traffic Survey: Data collection commenced in early January of a comprehensive census of traffic to and from CDCC ports. It is anticipated that the tabulations of this data will be available in June 1979. Funding for this project has been provided by UNDP and the work is being carried out by the CDCC Secretariat assisted by the CARICOM and the ECCM Secretariats. It is to be hoped that this pioneer work will be established on a continuous basis.

79. Small Vessel Shipping and Pleasure Craft (Inter-Island and Coastal Vessel Traffic): UNDP, as part of the World Bank Technical Steering Committee of the Caribbean Group for Economic Co-operation, agreed to provide preparatory assistance in the form of a consultant to devise a plan of action to improve the operation of Inter-Island and Coastal Vessels. The consultant was extensively briefed by UNCTAD/IMCO and visited the region during November and December 1978. An UNCTAD/IMCO project proposal was prepared and this is to be submitted to the Steering Committee at the next meeting scheduled for Antigua in mid March. It is to be hoped that funding will be made available at that time.

Study is
garbage!

80. UNCTAD/IMCO Proposal for the promotion of shipping in the CDCC Region: This proposal was presented in outline at the Third Session. In seeking funding it became obvious that further work was required to define the project. Although this item was raised at the First Meeting of the Technical Steering Group and other attempts were made to seek funding, no funding was obtained.

81. It was agreed that the proposal should be re-examined by UNCTAD and IMCO as part of the improvement and updating of the regional long term programme, that UNCTAD would present the revised proposal to the Fourth Session, and that the Technical Steering Group would reconsider it for funding at its next meeting.

82. Prevention and abatement of pollution from ships: IMCO continues to work with UNEP on this; the main IMCO activities are incorporated in the project proposals referred to above.

83. Maritime Safety: The low level of safety standards especially among inter-island vessels needs urgent attention and was a major concern to the UNCTAD consultant studying improvements to the fleet.

84. Accidents at sea and a number of unexplained losses of inter-island vessels caused concern during 1978. As part of the maritime programme IMCO offered to host a Regional Seminar on Search and Rescue in December 1978. Groundwork preparations for the seminar were carried out by IMCO and CDCC Secretariats but it had to be cancelled. The purpose of this seminar was to explain the proposed convention on Search and Rescue to be discussed by an IMCO Conference scheduled for Hamburg in the spring of 1979.

85. Maritime Training Institute: This Training Programme is restricted to English-speaking countries only. Although the urgency for reaching a decision is recognised and although the CARICOM Secretariat appointed a Working Party to consider alternative locations for the facilities, the Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Ministers of Transport deferred any decision in the hope that CARICOM Governments, some of whom have initiated unilateral action, can agree on the location. Maritime training facilities in the wider Caribbean area could be the subject of improvement.

86. Facilitation of trade procedures and documentation: The Trade Facilitation (FALPRO) Section of UNCTAD received a number of requests from CDCC countries for assistance. Consequently, a mission to the region visited in February 1979 to assess the problem and prepare solutions.

Civil Aviation

87. Civil Aviation: The programme of work mandated by the Second Session (E/CEPAL/CDCE/19/Add.1) continues as reported at Belize (E/CEPAL/CDCC/36). The First Meeting of Civil Aviation Experts was held at the CDCC Secretariat in July 1978 and a report of that meeting was circulated (E/CEPAL/CDCC/46). A Second Meeting was held in the ICAO Regional Office in Mexico City in January 1979 and recommendations are contained in E/CEPAL/CDCC/48. As requested by the Experts at the First Meeting, regional institutions and regional airlines were invited to the Second Meeting. The recommendations emanating from this meeting are as follows:

Recommendation 1

That the CDCC Ministers Responsible for Civil Aviation (hereinafter referred to as the Standing Committee) should meet on a regular basis to discuss matters of common interest in the field of Civil Aviation.

Recommendation 2

The Standing Committee should initiate a programme of work encompassing the following areas:

- (a) Technical Co-operation and Manpower Development
- (b) Regional Service Improvements and Regulation
- (c) Policy Co-ordination and Promotion

In more detail, these objectives could include the following:

- (i) Improved standards of airline operation within the region and, concomitant with this, improved standards of safety.
- (ii) The necessity of supporting the regional airlines so that they may achieve greater economy and overall stability in their operations and provide better air services within the region, with greater choice

of schedule, higher frequency of service and adequate regularity and convenience for the public.

- (iii) The impact of Civil Aviation on a wider catchment area for overseas tourists with a greater overall rate of increase in tourism throughout the region, resulting, hopefully in an increased market share for long-haul regional carriers.
- (iv) The impact of improved air services on a possible extension of the tourist season and a greater spread of tourism among member states.
- (v) Improving standards of professionalism in all aspects of the air transport sector of the Caribbean and greater stability in employment.
- (vi) Decreasing dependence on overseas (North American and European) expertise in civil aviation during the next decade.
- (vii) A louder voice in the International Aviation Forum, with a greater recognition (world-wide) of the special problems and needs of the Caribbean.

The Standing Committee should consider the establishment of the necessary mechanism for carrying out the above duties, including possibly a permanent secretariat.

Recommendation 3

The Directors of Civil Aviation of the CDCC should meet on a regular basis to review and possibly resolve matters of common interest such as technical and operational problems.

Note: Secretariat service for the initial meetings of the Standing Committee and the Directors of Civil Aviation should be provided jointly by CDCC and ICAO.

Recommendation 4

In order to improve the operation of Regional Air Transport Services, CDCC governments should:

- i. Seek to conclude air services agreements amongst themselves;
- ii. Consider entering into multi-lateral agreement for the operation of air services among the territories of CDCC member states.

Recommendation 5

Recognizing the need for the improvement of Air Freight Services in the CDCC member states, CDCC governments should consider the liberalization of their regulations relating to non-scheduled operations with respect to air cargo.

Recommendation 6

Taking into consideration the need to facilitate the movement of aircraft, crew, passengers and cargo within the CDCC region, states should consider simplification and reduction of clearance documents; acceptance of the international E/D Card; improvement in terminal facilities; improvement in handling arrangements for in-transit passengers; standardization of regulations concerning agricultural products; and the harmonization of Security and Facilitation Programmes.

In order to achieve these facilitation improvements, member states should support fully their National Facilitation Committees and ensure that these meet at least twice a year.

Recommendation 7

CDCC governments should encourage regionally-based airlines to explore methods of commercial and technical co-operation including matters such as pooling of traffic, joint use of computers, maintenance agreements and any other form of co-operation.

88. Postal Services: Despite the continuance of complaints about poor mail services echoed in the press of several members, no government has asked for assistance in the establishment of a Post Office Users Council as proposed in E/CEPAL/CDCC/37.

89. However, progress has been made in efforts to establish a Restricted Postal Union in the English-speaking Caribbean. Two Postal Experts together with the UPU, CARICOM and CDCC Secretariat produced a proposal (which is now under consideration by governments). It is anticipated that a meeting will be held during the first half

of 1979 with interested governments and the UPU to discuss the constitution of the proposed Union.

90. It has been suggested that CDCC Postal Administrations issue an omnibus design to acknowledge the 5th Anniversary of the formation of the CDCC in 1980. Some administrations have already indicated their willingness to do so. The United Nations Postal Administration has suggested some designs and these are available for viewing. If an issue is to be made for this purpose, production time is usually 18 months. It is therefore essential that a decision or design be selected urgently.

J. COASTAL AREA DEVELOPMENT

91. See document E/CEPAL/CDCC/52/Add.1.

K. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

Multinational Marketing Enterprises

92. In accordance with the recommendations of the Group of 77 at the Conference on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries (Mexico City, September 1976), a Working Party on Trade Expansion and Regional Economic Integration among Developing Countries was convened by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD at the Palais des Nations, Geneva on 10-18 April 1978. The Report of this meeting stated inter alia that "the Working Party examined the three subjects highlighted in the Secretariat report (UNCTAD/ST/ECDC/2 paragraphs 20-61) referring to the establishment of a global system of trade preferences among developing countries, co-operation in State-Trading and the setting up of Multinational Marketing Enterprises."

93. In the context of the above, UNCTAD and CEPAL have undertaken a project to explore the possibilities of creating multinational Marketing Enterprises for semi and fully manufactured products in the Caribbean region.

94. Objectives: The main objective of the project will be to contribute to trade expansion and economic co-operation in the Caribbean region as a whole as well as:

- long-term objective - to promote the establishment of new multinational marketing enterprises among developing countries;
- immediate objective - to detect immediate opportunities open to developing countries to increase their foreign exchange earning by participating in the joint marketing and distribution of goods and services, and to strengthen existing ones.

95. Work Plan: The project included a visit to the following countries: Barbados, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti and Suriname with the following purposes:

To carry out a survey in order to detect:

- which economic activities are feasible to establish Multinational Marketing Enterprises for semi and fully manufactured products between two or more developing countries, with the aim of carrying out international trade operations with developed countries;
- taking into consideration that the constitution of Multinational Marketing Enterprises has a processal characteristic, in other words, there exists a mandate from the Governments in order to promote these forms of economic co-operation, it should also identify other new forms of co-operation which help the objective of creating managerial instruments of international actions.

96. The report of this survey CEPAL/CARIB 78/9 is in the process of being submitted to CDCC member governments and relevant agencies for comments and evaluation.

L. INTERNATIONAL TRADE

97. The Third Session of the CDCC mandated that special attention be given to the establishment of machinery for the exchange of trade information within the sub-region. The Committee accepted the offer that the UNCTAD/GAIT International Trade Centre would provide a consultant to undertake a study into the feasibility of setting up a trade information centre.

98. Two missions were undertaken; the first mission undertaken in August/September 1978 covered the English-speaking countries. The second mission undertaken in January/February 1978 concentrated on Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Suriname, CDB and CARICOM.

99. The main objectives of both missions were:

- to analyse the feasibility of establishing a Caribbean Trade Information Centre, which will serve as a focal point for co-ordinating and providing support for the exchange of information on production surpluses and shortfalls between countries of the region, with the ultimate purpose of fostering intra-regional trade;
- to determine the feasibility of expanding the scope of CTIC, to include additional trade information of common interest to the Caribbean countries or to individual countries in the region which do not have the necessary resources to obtain, process and disseminate such trade information by themselves individually;
- to assess the needs for trade information of identified target audiences in government and business sectors in the Caribbean Commonwealth CDB member countries;
- to identify the resources available within and outside of the region, that could be used to satisfy part of these needs;

- based on the above, and taking due account of work already done in similar areas and of the views expressed by regional organizations such as the CARICOM Secretariat, ECCM Secretariat, UNDP, the CDCC, to propose for implementation to CDB and ITC a realistic action-oriented regional trade information system that would take full account of the absorptive capacity of the participating countries, territories and target audiences.

100. The results and recommendations should shortly be submitted to the Governments.

N. ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Energy

101. At the Third Session, the Committee noted that work had begun on a project entitled "Formulation of a Sub-regional Energy Programme". Two documents have been prepared on the subject of Energy - CEPAL/CARIB/78/7 and CEPAL/CARIB/79/3; these papers are briefly summarized:

102. Caribbean Production and Consumption of Energy 1950-1976:

The quantitative picture in terms of level and trend, and the historical pattern of energy production and consumption in the Caribbean area (more specifically the CDCC area) between 1950 and 1976/77 is presented. This is the first step towards the objective of devising a programme for sub-regional co-operation. The scope is restricted to conventional commercial energy in as much as data is lacking in the area of non-commercial energy, such as fuelwood and charcoal, wind, solar, etc. Lack of data, particularly for several of the smaller countries, also affects the details of analysis.

103. Some of the main findings are:

- Production of primary energy during the twenty-six year period increased at an average annual rate of 5.5 per cent to reach a total of around 19 million metric tons of coal equivalent by 1976. On the other hand, consumption of commercial energy grew at a rate of about 4.4 per cent but now totals more than 28 million metric tons (coal equivalent).
- In quantitative terms, the energy gap, i.e., energy production minus consumption, was approximately 9 million metric tons of coal equivalent in 1976. This figure refers to primary energy production.
- The average annual foreign exchange costs of net energy imports over the two years, 1976-1977, for the Caribbean as a whole, has been estimated at over \$1,000 million. For CDCC countries only, the figure is nearly \$600 million.
- The "energy gap" is projected to reach \$1.3 thousand million by 1980 and \$2.8 thousand million by 1985. (These projections were made prior to the December 1978 price increases in crude petroleum).
- Trinidad and Tobago is the only energy surplus country in the region. A few countries have improved their positions but it is not expected that there will be any other energy surplus country in the region in the near future.

- In terms of self-sufficiency in energy, it is expected that the position of a few countries may improve by 1980 and 1985, however, for the majority of countries of the CDCC area, the position is expected to be considerably worse in 1985.

104. Energy costs have been severely limiting development in most countries of the region. Much foreign assistance available has had to be diverted to help offset the foreign exchange drain and merely to hold the current position in terms of economic activity. What seems to be needed is rapid attention in the area of non-conventional energy resources where the foreign exchange costs, and indeed, the total costs per unit of energy could be far lower.

105. Energy Resources of the CDCC Area: Available information indicate that the CDCC region presently is not very well endowed with energy resources. The major exception, so far as conventional energy resources are concerned is Trinidad and Tobago, with a surplus of crude petroleum and natural gas above current needs. Guyana and Suriname appear to possess high potential in hydro-power but these are only partly developed. Other countries seem to have some non-conventional energy resources but these need to be studied further. Increasing energy costs have stimulated investigations and accelerated the rate of development and exploitation in some countries - mainly in petroleum and natural gas and include the installation of oil refineries; some hydro projects have also been developed.

106. Small scale hydro-power projects and development of fuelwood and charcoal as energy sources hold extremely good prospects. Avoidance of small scale hydro-power projects apparently resulted from a fallacy that hydro-power means large capital-intensive projects. With respect to fuelwood and charcoal, the problem has been the historical deforestation and lack of conservation efforts, which make it necessary for conservation efforts to begin now. From the point of view of integrated economic development, there is the possibility to link energy development with attempts to alleviate the unemployment problem and to reverse the urban drift through numerous small scale projects in

rural areas. In this way providing for energy could be linked with flood control, etc.

107. With respect to non-conventional energy resources - the best prospects appear to be development of solar energy and utilizing biogas produced from waste material. The requisite detailed data are not yet available but the CDCC area is located in latitudes having preponderance of sunny days in any given year and substantial hours of sunshine during the day. Some work, including research, actual installation and even manufacture of solar heating equipment, has already been done in the area. But any comprehensive programme would require much more basic data, including actual daily insolation over a wider area than is now available for most countries.

108. With respect to biogas, bagasse and human wastes indicate the best potential, which in some cases would seem to exceed current electricity generation. It also offers the possibility to solve problems of waste disposal in situations of rapid urbanization.

109. There is little available data for assessing the potential of other sources of non-conventional energy, such as geothermal, nuclear, wind, ocean currents, ocean thermal gradients, etc.

Natural Resources (Minerals)

110. Work on this aspect was virtually suspended during 1978 owing to the pressure of other assignments and the overall shortage of resources including research assistance personnel. As from mid-January 1979 work has been resumed on the assembly and assessment of data on existing mineral resources.

Proposed Work Between the IV and V Sessions

A. Energy

111. 1. Preparation of a draft paper on energy uses in the CDCC area. This may involve a pilot study in one country followed by investigation in others.

2. Identification of areas feasible for co-operation and co-ordination on a regional or multi-country basis.
3. Convening a training seminar to evaluate and work out techniques and methodology for producing country energy balance sheets and for planning and forecasting energy needs.

B. Natural Resources (Minerals)

112.
 1. Assembly and assessment of data on existing mineral resources.
 2. Preparation of a draft paper on mineral resources.

TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

113. The Third Session of the CDCC mandated the holding of a comprehensive training workshop on Negotiations with and Regulation of Transnational Corporations. The United Nations Centre for Transnational Corporations has agreed to organize this workshop for participants from all CDCC member countries, but so far efforts have not succeeded in obtaining a member Government to host this workshop and provide the supporting facilities.

III. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Co-operation and Information

1. Establishment of information networks on Agriculture and on Economic and Social Planning: - designation of national and sub-regional focal points.
2. Design of a decentralized computer-based regional information system.

Data Bank

1. Approval of initial data series to be stored.
2. Approval of staffing requirements: - 2 statistical clerks and 1 key punch operator.
3. Acquisition of computer facilities.

Science and Technology

1. Approval of draft statutes and establishment of a Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST).
2. Convening of first meeting of CCST.

Co-operation in Planning

1. Support by ILPES and CEPAL to member governments in setting up national training courses.
2. Study feasibility of establishing training courses in planning and the possible establishment of a sub-regional planning centre.
3. Convening 2nd meeting of planning experts in Jamaica during first half of 1980.

Agriculture

1. Convening of meetings of associations of producers and/or exporters on the following products:
Rice;

Legumes, fruits, vegetables, ground provisions;
Livestock;
Timber; and
Citrus.

2. Co-ordination of research and training programmes.

Socio-economic Analysis and Development Planning

1. Creation of informal network of researchers to articulate on-going researches to undertake new research and disseminate the results.

Maritime Transport

1. Continuation of programme approved at 2nd Session of CDCC and assist in execution of projects formulated jointly by IMCO and UNCTAD.

Civil Aviation

1. Approval of the recommendations of the 2nd Meeting of the CDCC group of Civil Aviation Experts.

Energy

1. Convening a training seminar to facilitate and work out techniques and methodology for producing country energy balance sheets and for planning and forecasting energy needs.

Trans-national Corporations

1. Convening training workshop on negotiations with and regulation of trans-national corporations.

