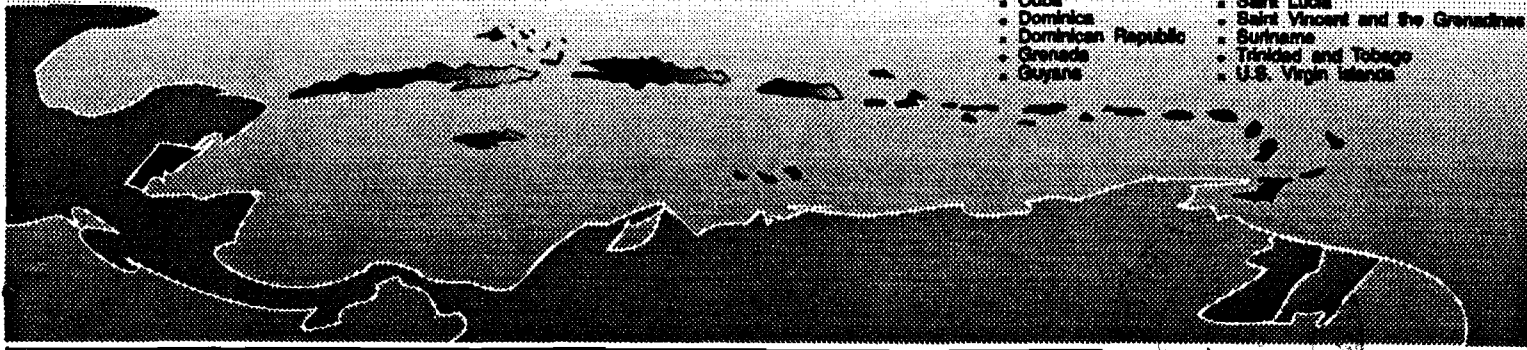




- Antigua and Barbuda
- Aruba
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Br. Virgin Islands
- Cuba
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- Montserrat
- Netherlands Antilles
- Puerto Rico
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- U.S. Virgin Islands



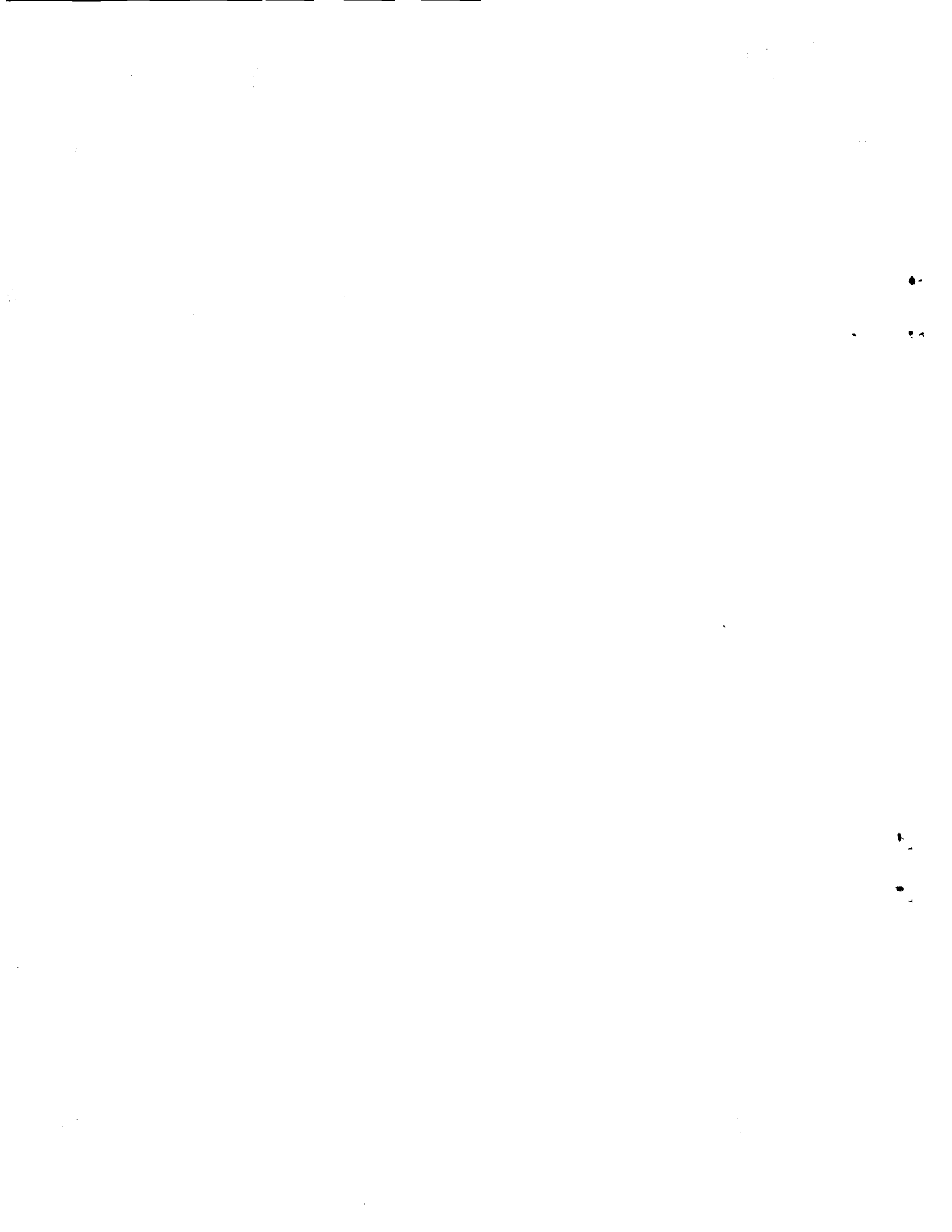
Fourteenth session of CDCC  
 St. George's, Grenada  
 8-11 December 1992

GENERAL  
 LC/CAR/G.377  
 CCST/92/8  
 22 October 1992  
 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR  
 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST) TO THE  
 CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC)  
 ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CCST  
 SINCE THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF CDCC**

2513 1992





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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CCST) TO THE  
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC)  
ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CCST  
SINCE THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF CDCC**

The following document presents the activities of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) Council for the period since the thirteenth session of CDCC to the present (1991-1992).

Reference is made to the following documents: the Minutes of the tenth Plenary Session of the CCST (CCST/91/4; LC/CAR/G.334); Report of the thirteenth Executive Committee Meeting of the CCST (CCST/92/3; LC/CAR/G.335); the tenth Annual Report of the CCST (CCST/92/5; LC/CAR/G.365); and the Minutes of the eleventh Plenary Session of the CCST (CCST/92/7; LC/CAR/G.367).

In addition, a brief summary of the CCST-convened Regional Seminar/Workshop to develop a Plan of Action for science and technology for the Caribbean is given since this activity is not reflected in the documents previously cited. However, a full report of this activity will be circulated to member countries upon completion.

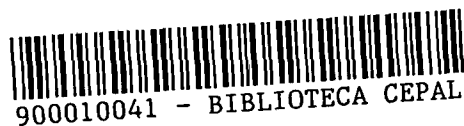
**REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CCST  
DURING THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1991 TO OCTOBER 1992**

**Officers of the Council 1991-1992; 1992-1993**

At the ninth Plenary Session held in Kingston, Jamaica in 1990, member countries agreed to a proposal that, in an effort to provide continuity and direction over a period of time longer than one year as mandated by the statutes, the officers of the Executive Committee be appointed, on an interim basis, for a three-year term and evaluated at the end of 1992. The officers elected for 1989-1992 were those elected at the seventh Plenary Session in 1987, and re-elected unanimously for the 1992-1993 term with the United States Virgin Islands becoming a new member at large.

The following is a list of officers:

Chairman:	Jamaica	Gladstone Taylor
Vice-Chairman:	Cuba	Tirso Saenz
Honorary Treasurer:	Saint Lucia	Aloysius Barthelmy
Member:	Trinidad and Tobago	
	United States	
	Virgin Islands	LaVerne Ragster



## Membership

The membership of the Council is as follows:

Antigua and Barbuda	Jamaica
Belize	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Cuba	Saint Lucia
Dominica	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Grenada	Suriname
Guyana	Trinidad and Tobago
Haiti	United States Virgin Islands

The United States Virgin Islands submitted Instruments of Ratification of the Statutes of the Council on 25 July 1991, but was not admitted to the Council until 1992 because of the absence of the representative at the tenth Plenary Session.

## Funding

The Council's finances at the end of October 1992 stood at -US\$10,552.92. ECLAC continues to support plenary and executive meetings of the Council but these amounts have always been inadequate to meet the total cost of these meetings.

During the period under review Cuba, Dominica, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Saint Lucia paid contributions to the Council. The secretariat has been able to mobilize some funds for carrying out the work programme of the Council, but implementation is hampered by the tardiness of member countries in the payment of their contributions. For the convening of the Meeting to consider the development of a plan of action for science and technology for the Caribbean, assistance was obtained from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) and the Government of Saint Lucia but there is still a shortfall of approximately \$10,000.00 to be covered.

Arrears in contributions (US\$) are as follows:

1985 - 1991

<u>Country</u>	<u>Annual assessed contribution</u>	<u>Arrears</u>
LDCs		
Antigua and Barbuda	2,000	12,000
Belize	2,000	-----
Dominica	2,000	4,000
Grenada	2,000	14,000
Haiti	2,000	14,000
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2,000	10,000
Saint Lucia	2,000	-----
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2,000	12,000
MDCs		
Cuba	8,000	-----
Guyana	8,000	56,000
Jamaica	8,000	48,000
Suriname	8,000	56,000
Trinidad and Tobago	8,000	32,000
<b>T O T A L</b>		<b>266,000</b>

### Meetings of the Council

The Council held its thirteenth Executive Committee Meeting in Puerto Rico from 17 to 19 March 1992. The report of this meeting is presented in document LC/CAR/G.355; CCST/92/3. The eleventh Plenary Session was held in Saint Lucia from 12 to 14 September 1992 and the report appears in document LC/CAR/G.367; CCST/92/7.

## Secretariat

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean continued to supply interim secretariat services. ECLAC has budgeted the sum of US\$10,000 towards two plenary sessions per biennium. The Council wishes to record its sincere appreciation to ECLAC for providing these services.

At the tenth Plenary Session of the CDCC the Council was requested to settle all outstanding functional, operational and financial issues at its next session. In that respect the Council, at its thirteenth Executive Committee Meeting in Puerto Rico, recommended that, for the effective operations of the Council the secretariat should be operational in accordance with the proposal whereby "... the staffing costs for four persons - two professionals (P-5 and P-2), one research assistant and one secretary - be borne by ECLAC or the United Nations system. If this is so, the Council should therefore inform member governments of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) of its decision and instruct the secretariat to develop a mechanism to give effect to the proposal. This could be done in the form of a request to the United Nations, through the CDCC, to seek the redeployment of resources for staffing and other operational costs through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) which had initially provided the resources for providing the interim secretariat for CCST. Once the question of financing was settled, the selection of the location of the secretariat should be a simple matter".

That decision was communicated to the Chairman of the CDCC (see Annex I) who in turn communicated the decision of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, copied to the Director of the Port-of-Spain Office.

In response, the Executive Secretary proposed that the CDCC member governments undertake an examination of the whole subregional work programme during the next meeting of the CDCC. The Council wishes to implore CDCC member countries to lend their endorsement to the proposal and to provide the necessary support in securing the allocation of posts so that the secretariat can be established and function to deal with the many pressing problems of science and technology in the region.

## Publications

1. Minutes of the tenth Plenary Session of the CCST (LC/CAR/G.344; CCST/91/4).
2. CCST Newsletter Vol.7, Nos. 5 and 6, Vol. 8 Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

3. Problems and Prospects of South-South Cooperation in Science and Technology. Paper submitted to the Conference on Trends in the International Economy and their Implications for Caribbean Policy: Issues arising from the South Commission Report.

4. Financing of Science and Technology in Industry. Paper presented to the Fifth Annual National Conference on Science and Technology, Jamaica, 12-14 December 1991.

5. Problems of the Organization of Science and Technology in the Small States of the Caribbean. Paper presented to the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for the Least Developed Countries and other Small Developing Countries, Jamaica, 16-20 December 1991.

6. Report of the thirteenth Executive Committee Meeting of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology, held in Puerto Rico, 17-19 March 1992 (LC/CAR/G.355; CCST/92/3)).

7. Revised Compendium of Institutions and Agencies with Activities or Interests in Science and Technology (LC/CAR/G.332/Rev.1; CCST/91/1 Rev. 1).

#### **Meetings at which the Council was represented**

1. Biotechnology Conference, Tissue Culture Technology for Improved Farm Production, organized by Scientific Research Council, Jamaica, 30 September - 2 October 1991. Participation by CCST.

2. Regional Workshop on a Caribbean Biotechnology Agenda for the Valorization of Genetic Resources, Trinidad and Tobago, 15 - 16 October 1991. CCST to maintain links with IICA on follow-up activities.

3. The Fifth Annual Agricultural Research Seminar of Trinidad and Tobago, 7 - 8 November 1991. Participation by CCST. No follow-up required.

4. Fifth Annual National Conference on Science and Technology, Jamaica, 12 - 14 November 1991. A paper was presented entitled "Financing of Science and Technology in Industry".

5. Expert Group Meeting for the Establishment of the Caribbean Regional Marine Technology Centre, Caracas, Venezuela, 2-5 December 1991. Participation by CCST. (Report and conclusions available for discussion).

6. Regional Workshop on Agricultural Development, sponsored by the International Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), Trinidad and Tobago, 13 December 1991. A number of areas were identified by IICA which require immediate action. CCST, however,

was specifically given responsibility for follow-up action on: (i) Need for update on who is doing what and where in agriculture in the region; (ii) Information available for Latin America to the Caribbean; and (iii) Languages: within the framework of the ECLAC work programme, specifically, the project on the removal of language barriers.

7. Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for the Least Developed Countries and Other Small Developing Countries, Jamaica, 16 - 20 December 1991. A paper "Problems of the Organization of Science and Technology in the Small States of the Caribbean" was presented at this meeting. As a follow-up, CCST was asked to prepare a short document outlining possible areas of cooperation in science and technology within the framework of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) among the island States of the Caribbean, Pacific and African coast regions.

8. Seventh Annual Technological Literacy Conference of NASTS, Virginia, USA, 6 - 11 February 1992.

9. Interregional Conference of small island countries on Sustainable Development and Environment, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), held in Barbados, 7-10 April 1992.

10. Regional Agricultural Marketing and Investment Opportunities Seminar, organized by IICA, held in Trinidad and Tobago, 30 March-3 April 1992.

11. Saint Lucia National Science Consultation for Science Popularization, 10-12 April 1992.

12. "Islands 2000": The world of islands: What development on the eve of the year 2000, organized by the International Scientific Council for Islands Development (INSULA) in collaboration with UNESCO, held in Italy, 19-24 May. Paper presented.

13. Workshop on Food Preservation, organized by the University of the West Indies (UWI) and IICA, held in Trinidad and Tobago, 26-29 May 1992.

14. Caribbean Biotechnology Network Meeting, Jamaica, 6-8 July 1992.

15. The Island of San Andres, Providence and Santa Catalina in the new Context of Territorial Management, San Andres, Colombia 8-10 October 1992. Paper presented on science and technology cooperation in the region with specific reference to east and west Caribbean islands.



## **Work Programme**

Progress on the implementation of the work programme as approved at the tenth Plenary Session is given below.

### **CCST Newsletter**

Objectives: To share knowledge of new and significant information in the areas of:

- (a) Technical processes appropriate to countries in the region;
- (b) Projects in progress; and
- (c) Research results relevant to the development of the science and technology capability of the region.

The Newsletter continues to be published bimonthly. It still relies heavily on reprinted material despite appeals to member countries to submit contributions. Since the plenary session, six issues have been published: Vol. 7, Nos. 5 and 6 and Vol. 8 Nos. 1, 2 3 and 4.

In view of the poor response by member countries in contributing material for the Newsletter, the secretariat is suggesting that it be published quarterly, rather than bimonthly.

### **National consultations on science and technology**

Objectives: To examine the role of science and technology in the development process of member countries and to comment on the organization, policy and programmes for science and technology at the national level within the framework of the regional science and technology policy.

The National Consultation for Saint Kitts and Nevis was held immediately following the tenth Plenary Session. The National Consultation for Belize, scheduled for November 1991, had to be postponed at the request of that country and was held on 28-30 April 1992. The consultation was organized and financed jointly by CCST and UNECSO. The Secretary of CCST led the discussion on the theme "Mechanisms for the operation of science and technology programmes and projects".

### **Plan of action for the development of science and technology**

Objectives: To analyse the outcomes of the national science and technology consultations and to pool those results within the framework of prior regional and international activities in order to develop a plan of action, including programmes and projects, dealing with science and technology aspects of development in the

region. The plan is intended to strengthen those areas of need in member countries, assist in their individual development efforts while promoting regional collaboration and development.

Consultations have been held in Saint Lucia, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Belize. On completion of the consultations for Saint Kitts and Nevis and Belize it was intended that an evaluation workshop would be held to discuss the outcome of the consultations, however, the scope of the evaluation was developed into a regional Plan of Action for science and technology in the Caribbean.

The secretariat organized a seminar/workshop for this activity, to be hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 8-12 September 1992, immediately followed by the eleventh Plenary Session of the Council.

**Programme to improve the teaching of science and mathematics at the primary school level**

Objectives: To provide an evaluation and make recommendations on the status of primary level teaching, ultimately increasing the exposure of students to science and mathematics in order to assist in establishing science and technology as an integral part of Caribbean culture.

The secretariat held discussions with the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) and has developed a method to be used in workshops. An aide memoire for the workshop was submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. This document is contained as Annex I of this report. The secretariat has also facilitated discussions between the Curriculum Director at the University of the Virgin Islands and relevant persons in Saint Lucia. Support for the workshop has been received from the Grenada National College, the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College of Saint Lucia, National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST) of Trinidad and Tobago and the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill and Mona campuses. The secretariat is currently seeking funding for the programme.

**Science and technology extension service**

Objectives: To establish industrial extension services within the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries in collaboration with the Industrial Development Corporations (IDCs), the Produce Chemist's Laboratories (PCLs) and the National Development Foundations (NDFs) of these countries thus facilitating small business development programmes in the countries of the OECS in keeping with the objectives of the OECS Governments' Country Action Plans.

The project was approved at the Eleventh Executive Committee Meeting in April 1990 and further endorsed by the Council at the ninth and tenth Plenary Sessions.

The original project proposed was expanded and submitted to member governments and national agencies for comments and endorsement. Response in support of the project was received from the Governments of Saint Lucia and Montserrat, National Development Foundation of Antigua and Barbuda, National Development Foundation of Dominica, National Research and Development Foundation of Saint Lucia and the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC) (Small Enterprise Assistance Project).

UNIDO supported the first phase of the project: a review of the role and functioning of support services provided by industrial development corporations, produce chemists laboratories, agricultural development banks, national research and development foundations and small business development foundations. The beneficiaries were small businesses in the countries of the OECs.

The project was revised in conjunction with UNIDO, as mandated by the tenth Plenary Session. UNIDO is in the process of submitting the project for financing.

#### **History of scientific and technological development in the Caribbean**

Objectives: To obtain a comprehensive view of the social, cultural and ecological significance of science and technology in the region from historical to present times, outlining pathways selected for the role of science and technology in development in the Caribbean.

This project was mandated by the Executive Committee in April 1990 to highlight the achievements of member countries in science and technology. At that time a core network was selected, comprising the members of the Executive Committee: Dr. Gladstone Taylor, Dr. Tirso Saenz, Mr. Aloysius Barthelmy in addition to Dr. Ulric Trotz of Guyana. The Core Group was subsequently expanded to include Dr. Winthrop Wiltshire, UNESCO Subregional Advisor to the region and Dr. Diego Loinaz, Executive Director, Corporation for Technological Transformation (Corporation for Technological Transformation (CTT)).

The Core Group was scheduled to meet in Puerto Rico as part of the thirteenth Executive Committee Meeting, but was unable to do so because of the unfortunate absence of two members. The Executive Committee nevertheless reviewed an action plan for the project developed by Cuba, which serves as Chairman of the project.

Contact was also made with other researchers in this field, including Dr. Thomas DeGregori of the University of Houston and

author of "Technology and the economic development of the African frontier".

A draft project was prepared by the secretariat in keeping with the requirements of international funding agencies. The project was submitted to several funding agencies.

#### **Compendium of organizations and institutions**

Objectives: To provide member countries with information on the activities and services provided by some regional and international organizations and institutions in the area of science and technology and financing.

The secretariat had produced the first issue of a compendium giving information on some regional and international institutions and organizations working in the field of science and technology. The publication was updated and distributed as document LC/CAR/G.332 Rev.1; CCST/91/1 Rev.1.

#### **Other activities**

1. The secretariat has had discussions with the Corporation for Technological Transformation (CTT) of Puerto Rico, the University to the Virgin Islands, COLCIENCAS of Colombia and Professor Vishnu Persaud of the Sustainable Development Chair at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica with a view to undertaking joint activities.

2. During discussions with various members, it was felt that a need existed for training in project preparation and analysis, as well as for immersion-type training in foreign language capability. With regard to project preparation, the Council held discussions with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to assist in developing a training programme. Discussions are also under way with Cuba, Venezuela and Colombia with respect to intensive courses of very short duration for language training, bearing in mind that science and technology personnel may not be able to leave their jobs for long periods of time.

3. The secretariat solicited nominations from Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to participate in "YAPALLO", a mobile science exhibition of interactive exhibits, including experiments and activities developed by NIHERST of Trinidad and Tobago. Nominations were received from two countries, representatives of which visited the exhibition in April 1992. As a consequence, the Government of Saint Lucia is actively pursuing the possibility of hosting the exhibition in that country in the foreseeable future.

4. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico at the thirteenth meeting of the CCST Executive Committee, presented an offer of cooperation

whereby the CTT of Puerto Rico and the CCST would work towards designing an exchange programme to enable professionals and government personnel from Puerto Rico and CCST countries to collaborate on the basis of an exchange of technical and administrative personnel thus providing opportunities for contact and networking and the transfer of knowledge, skills and know-how. At this meeting also, the Executive Committee mandated the secretariat to organize a mobilization mission to inactive member countries. The secretariat consequently arranged a mission to Puerto Rico, Barbados, Guyana and Suriname; this mission subsequently had to be postponed. The Council is in the process of determining the modalities by which the mobilization mission can be effected.

5. The secretariat provided advisory services to Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Antigua and Barbuda on their national science and technology work programmes and with the science and technology components of their national plans.

6. Workshop/Seminar to develop a Plan of Action for Science and Technology for the Caribbean.

**BRIEF REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR/WORKSHOP TO DEVELOP  
A PLAN OF ACTION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR THE CARIBBEAN**

A regional Seminar/workshop to develop a Plan of Action for Science and Technology for the Caribbean was organized by the CCST in collaboration with UNESCO, UNIDO and CARICOM and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia. The Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) graciously contributed towards the publication of this report.

The workshop's objectives were:

1. To examine the recommendations of the national consultations on science and technology, initiated and supported by the CCST, held in Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.
2. To develop a systematic long-term Plan of Action for scientific and technological aspects of development in the region in accordance with the CARICOM Science and Technology Policy adopted by Ministers responsible for Science and Technology.
3. To identify areas of cooperation and collaboration among regional organizations and countries.
4. To examine mechanisms for establishing or strengthening linkages between organizations and institutions conducting research and development and the industrial and commercial sectors.
5. To examine the experiences of Latin America in establishing science and technology structures e.g. the Consejo Nacional para Investigaciones Cientificas y Tecnologicas (CONICYT), the Colombian Institute for Science and Technology (COLCIENCIAS), as major staging points for directing science and technology activities in the state.
6. To provide the framework and impetus for private sector participation in the development of technology in the region.
7. To assist in the diversification efforts of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and CARICOM States.
8. To assist the countries particularly the smaller ones in identifying priorities for action with their own national development plans.

The workshop was attended by representatives of the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the United States Virgin Islands.

The following organizations were also represented: UNESCO, UNIDO, UNEP, UWI/CAEP, CARDI, CARICOM, CDB, CSC, CEHI, CONICYT of Costa Rica, OAS, Saint Lucia Chamber of Commerce and the Saint Lucia National Commission for UNESCO.

A number of observers and consultants also attended.

The action plans will provide the direction for the future work programme of the Council within a long-term perspective and provide member countries of CCST with the basis for developing national plans in science and technology development, technical assistance, collaboration and popularization.

After two days of presentations and general discussions five working groups were established to formulate action plans in specific areas of expertise from which both regional and national plans would be drawn.

The five groups are as follows:

GROUP I: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

GROUP II: A) MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
B) NATURAL RESOURCE UTILIZATION  
C) ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

GROUP III: A) HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
B) SCIENCE EDUCATION  
C) POPULARIZATION OF SCIENCE

GROUP IV: TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, ADAPTATION AND INNOVATION

GROUP V: SECTORAL COLLABORATION

Some of the recommendations coming out of the meeting are:

- The integration and coordination of national science and technology efforts.

- The need for national science and technology activities to address the technology development needs of both the formal and informal sector.

- The need for an active process to indigenize imported technology in order to effectively use technology to satisfy the needs of society in a competitive global environment.

- The need for a scientific and technological approach to goal setting, policy formulation and problem solving by involving scientists and technologists at all stages in the development/formulation and implementation of national plans for social and economic development.

- International and regional Saints, such as UNESCO/UNIDO/CCST, should support development and application of methods for assessing the science and technology needs of key economic and social sectors of Caribbean countries.

- International and regional Saints, such as UNESCO/CCST/CARICOM, should assist countries in conducting institutional analysis to determine the most efficient organization and means of implementation of national science and technology functions and activities.

- National governments should be encouraged to create a senior-level post of Science and Technology Advisor and a Science and Technology Council, attached to the Office of the Prime Minister or other relevant office, to assist and advise all public and private sector agencies on science and technology needs and the science and technology implications of government policies and actions.

- International and regional institutions should assist governments in developing national extension services which facilitate contact and two-way transfer of knowledge between enterprises in the formal and informal sectors and science and technology institutions.

In an attempt to devise a plan of action to incorporate science and technology into national and regional agendas, we begin by identifying the problem areas and specific science and technology needs which will enable decision makers to incorporate science and technology solutions to some of their more pressing environmental/development problems. The problem areas are:

- A wide variety of technical disciplines including biology, marine ecology etc and facilities and resources to train scientists in living resources management.

- Appropriate human resource needs assessment that can relate to national plans/policies.

- To retain science and technology resource personnel in the Caribbean.

- To create a programme of awareness of the need to carefully evaluate technology choices based on guidelines and checklists working in close cooperation with private sector agencies such as manufacturers associations and chambers of commerce. This programme should include project activity utilizing the media as well as training seminars for specific audiences.

- To enhance collaboration among and between various sectors at the national and regional levels.



- A cadre of well trained, confident managers and planners reoriented to maximizing use of national resources in all sectors developed.

The work programme of the Council for the next few years will be drawn primarily from the recommendations of the meeting with the collaboration of other institutions and agencies.

The CDCC is asked to note and comment on any or all aspects of this report.



November 21, 1991

Mrs. Cordell Wilson  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and  
Foreign Trade  
85 Knutsford Boulevard  
KINGSTON 5

Dear Mrs. Wilson:

Re: Report on the Caribbean Council for  
Science and Technology (CCST) Discussion  
on the Establishment of a Permanent  
Secretariat

You will recall that the Twelfth Plenary Session of the Caribbean Development Cooperation Committee (CDCC) mandated the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) to resolve the problem of the interim status of the Secretariat in order to effectively deal with the issues of Science and Technology (S&T) and the development process of the region.

The Council, therefore, at its Tenth Plenary Session held in St. Kitts and Nevis, 23-24 September, 1991, dealt with the matter at length under Agenda Item 6. The ensuing discussion made three basic points:

- 1) that the present interim arrangement seriously affects the Secretariat's ability to fully address the CCST's work programme;
- 2) the mobilization of funds for the implementation of the Council's work and the organic linkages between the Council, CDCC, ECLAC and other supporting agencies remain indispensable to the long term survival of the Council;
- 3) that any other arrangement should not require significant increase in country contribution nor should it result in the diversion of funds from projects to personnel costs.

Taking these points into consideration and with due regard to the renewed awareness of the role of S&T in the development process of our countries, further discussions with representative and other prominent persons suggest that the following course

...2



November 21, 1991

Mrs. Cordell Wilson  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and  
Foreign Trade

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of action should be pursued in order to attempt to resolve the question of a functioning permanent secretariat for the Council.

- a) that the CDCC governments agree to indicate to ECLAC that through the reallocation of resources, the post of Science and Technology Officer now within the ECLAC system be allocated to the CCST to serve as Executive Secretary. Additionally, one Research Assistant and one Secretary with posts now existing in ECLAC, Port-of-Spain, should also be allocated to CCST on a full-time basis.

The modality by which this could be done would have to be discussed with the ECLAC-CDCC and possibly a formal proposal be made to the ACABQ in New York for a decision.

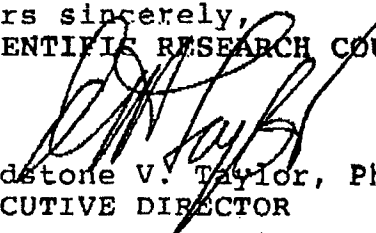
Without going into the history of posts, it may be recalled that the initial post serving the CCST was at the P5 level. It may be wise for the long term benefits of the Council to request a return to that level for the post-CCST Executive Secretary.

When this is done then the question of the relocation of the Secretariat can be advanced, as this may involve the establishment of a new duty station for the UN. Nevertheless, in so far as Jamaica already has UN agencies stations there, it may not be difficult to effect a move to another country.

I am informed that ILPES and CELADE operate under similar arrangements and so we could study these organs to make the case for the allocation of resources. Secondly, ECLAC does have people outposted in countries of Latin America, other than Santiago, and the methods used for these can also be noted.

No doubt, Foreign Ministries, especially the New York operations, will have to present our case to ECLAC and the ACABQ and play a critical role in the establishment of a permanent Secretariat for the CCST, which, is after all, a creation of the CDCC.

Yours sincerely,  
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCIL



Gladstone V. Taylor, Ph.D.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

