

GENERAL
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16 May 1995
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Caribbean Meeting of Experts on
Implementation of SIDS Programme of Action
17-19 May 1995, Holiday Inn Hotel,
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

NOTES ON AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION

Expected outcomes of the meeting

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It is intended that by the end of the meeting, the following will have been achieved:

(a) Participants will be better informed of factors affecting implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action in the Caribbean;

(b) Priority actions for implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action will have been agreed and institutional and other responsibilities assigned;

(c) Mechanisms will have been agreed for follow-up action and for the coordination of activity within the Caribbean relating to the implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action.

Agenda items

1. **Opening ceremony**
2. **Adoption of agenda and organization of work**
3. **Review of implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action**

Mr Hollis Charles, ECLAC Consultant, will present a report containing the results of his consultations with representatives of governments and institutions regarding progress made in the implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action, in the context of Agenda 21. The paper will review actions taken at national, subregional and international levels in pursuance of the Programme of Action. It will identify implementation mechanisms and constraints on implementation, and make recommendations for more effective implementation.

Participants are encouraged to provide information on activities being undertaken, or planned, by their respective governments or institutions, in implementing the Programme of Action.

4. **Key issues for implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action in the Caribbean (in context of Agenda 21)**

- (a) **Capacity building**
- (b) **Information**
- (c) **Science and technology**
- (d) **Coordination**
- (e) **Finance**

A paper prepared by ECLAC/CDCC will identify issue areas in the SIDS Programme of Action (and Agenda 21) which are of special importance to the Caribbean and the meeting will discuss their significance in the context of problems of environment and development in the subregion. Identified discussants will speak to each of these in terms of its significance and capacity for resolution. The five issue-areas identified above are illustrative and not necessarily exhaustive. Additional issues which cannot be dealt with under those already identified can be added.

The issues selected may represent constraining or otherwise critical factors in the implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action. This session provides an opportunity to discuss these issues in depth, with a view to exploring their dimensions and ways of coming to grips with them.

5. **A policy framework and action plan for sustainable economic development in the small islands of the Caribbean**

This presentation by Mr Dennis Pantin of the University of the West Indies will propose a framework for sustainable economic development in the small islands of the Caribbean. It will critique the Programme of Action and will propose actions and priorities in the context of this Programme and Agenda 21.

This session is intended to encourage an exchange of views on the economic strategies and instruments available for the achievement of sustainable development and on the need for more coherent policy approaches towards this end.

6. The SIDS Programme of Action: Priority areas for action

On the basis of a background document by the CARICOM Secretariat and the discussion which will have taken place in preceding sessions, the meeting will agree on priority areas for action, identify the actions which are required and assign institutional or other responsibilities.

7. Mechanisms for coordination and implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action in the Caribbean

The meeting will agree on mechanisms for follow-up action and for the coordination of activity within the Caribbean. The meeting will also discuss arrangements for monitoring, reporting and reviewing the implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action at national, regional and international levels.

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

The Rapporteur (Mr Lance Carberry), will present the Conclusions and Recommendations for the approval of the Meeting.

9. Closure

Documentation

1. The main document before the meeting, **Review of the implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action**, prepared by Mr Hollis Charles, was previously circulated to participants.

2. **Other discussion documents** are:

- (a) *Key issues in the implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action, in the context of Agenda 21*, prepared by the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat;
- (b) *Policy approaches to the management of sustainable development in the Caribbean: Directions and priorities*, prepared by Mr Dennis Pantin of the University of the West Indies; and
- (c) *The SIDS Programme of Action: Priority areas for action*, prepared by the CARICOM Secretariat.
- (d) *Science And Technology dimensions of the SIDS Programme of Action*, prepared by the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat

3. **Information papers.** In response to a request from the organizers, papers have been submitted by governments and organizations on progress in implementing the Programme of Action. These papers have served to inform the main document, and have been reproduced for the benefit of participants.

4. **Additional background documentation** relating to the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, can be made available to participants on request.

Other

1. An informal meeting of organizations will take place following the conclusion of the meeting. This meeting will discuss inter-organizational collaboration in relation to the implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action

2. There will be a cocktail reception at the Holiday Inn on Friday 19 May 1995 at 6.30 p.m. in the Calypso Lounge.